The College of Education extends a hearty welcome to Dr. Genniver C. Bell as she begins her role as Dean. Throughout her career, Dr. Bell has been committed to excellence in education. She holds particular expertise in higher education policy issues, organizational behavior, legislative processes, and accreditation. Her special interests include social justice, school reform, public policy, and advocacy. With her experience as a public school, university teacher and administrator, Dr. Bell brings a wealth of knowledge in regard to quality education.

Dr. Bell holds a B.A. in Art from Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and an M.A. in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies and an Ed.D. in Educational Administration and Supervision from Clark Atlanta University in Georgia. She recently served as an Associate Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Foundations at Fayetteville State University in North Carolina. Prior to this position, she served as the Chair of the Department where she led her team to successfully obtain NCATE accreditation of the Graduate School of Administration and Doctoral Educational Leadership Programs. During her tenure at Fayetteville State University, Dr. Bell served as the Editor of The Facilitator, a peer-reviewed journal published by the School of Education. She held office on the Faculty Senate and acted as one of two Faculty Assembly Delegates to the University of North Carolina Faculty Assembly.

Additional faculty experience includes tenure as Professor of Educational Leadership at Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego, California. At this institution, Dr. Bell served as Editor of Education Leadership and Administration: Teaching and Program Development, a refereed journal of the California Association of Professors of Educational Administration. Previously, she also was the Director of the Graduate Center for Western New Mexico University in 1990, a state consultant for the Department of Education, and a School Administrator for the New Mexico Commission of Higher Education. Her responsibilities included legislative collaboration, policy development, program review, and accreditation. Dr. Bell served as the Director of Faculty Services in the Office of the Provost, at the University of New Mexico. In this capacity, she led the oversight of identifying and resolving faculty issues. She also provided professional development experiences for school and district administrators throughout New Mexico in her role as the Executive Director of the New Mexico Project LEAD (Leadership in Educational Administration and Development).

With her leadership now here at FAMU, the College will continue to provide students with optimal instruction, advisement, and opportunities for diverse on-site experience. Dr. Genniver Bell’s expertise will act as a strong foundation...
“When you are at the top of the mountain, where do you go from here?”

…. was the message of the FAMU College of Education’s new Dean, Dr. Genniver C. Bell, for the Annual Faculty Pre-Service Retreat held in fall 2008. The answer presented was that the journey up the mountain is rigorous and never-ending. When one mountain is reached, there are always more to climb. The goal is to reach the highest peak, which ultimately will bring the explorer closest to the sky and beyond.

This year’s fall semester began on August 27, 2008. The College’s administration, faculty, and staff are motivated and prepared to plan and to provide the highest quality programs that will properly prepare students as effective, professional educators.

Continuing this challenging message, the first faculty meeting held in September, Dean Bell set the goals for the 2008-2009 academic year. Five initiatives were prioritized and include: enhanced student service to ensure retention and maximum preparedness; operational policies and procedures that ensure equality, efficiency, and quality; professional development to ensure that faculty is knowledgeable with current domestic and global issues, trends, and best practices; accountability to ensure state and national program approval; and joint collaboration to ensure student enrollment.

The 2008-2009 academic year promises to be one of excellence. With the sky as the limit, the College of Education professional educator team is ready and willing to ensure that it has the proper knowledge, skill, and resources to overcome each obstacle and make persistent attempts to reach the highest mountain, i.e., the peak of success. Faculty and administrators are unified in their commitment to taking the past accomplishments of the College of Education and bringing programs to a new

FAMU’s enrollment has experienced a record-breaking enrollment growth since 1986. In 1985, enrollment was 5,100. Statistics for 2008-2009 shows the preliminary total enrollment at 11,839.

On June 10-12, 2008, faculty members from the Department of Elementary Education and Prekindergarten/Primary Education Program attended a Summer Institute for University Faculty sponsored by the Florida Department of Education.

During the “Building Linkages” seminar, current updates on the Department of Education’s priorities, new legislation for special education issues, and ESE administrative rules were provided.

Drs. Fontaine, Washington, Newell, Ansley, and Dixon

In addition, attendees were able to become more proficient in the RTI (Response to Intervention) process supported by school districts throughout the state.

More information on RTI can be found at www.florida-rti.org and at http://www.rtinetwork.org/.

Pilot districts and schools are currently implementing RTI. Training has been provided to teachers, counselors, and administrators.

Faculty members gained insight on RTI and began the discussion on methods for integrating information on RTI within college coursework such as behavior management courses.
FAMU ALUMNI CHARON KIRKLAND
TEACHER OF THE YEAR 2008
FOR ATLANTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

King Young Women’s Leadership Academy; and
High School Teacher Kori M. Ellis of Grady High School.
The three professionals were honored at the annual Teachers of the Year Awards Ceremony held at Maynard Holbrook Jackson High School.

Ms. Kirkland began her teaching career in the Atlanta Public Schools System in 2001 at E. L. Connally Elementary School, where she won the honor of Project GRAD Master Teacher Award for 2002. For two years, she served as a consistency management, cooperative discipline student cadre advisor, and as the third grade chairperson.

She moved to Woodson Elementary in 2005 and served as a leadership team chairperson, cooperating teacher for student teachers, mentor/coach to her peers, and co-chair of the Positive Behavior System. Ms. Kirkland also volunteered as a Girl Scout Troop Leader and poetry coach.

Previously, Ms. Kirkland received the Employee of the Year and Keeper of the Vision Awards. She earned her B.S. in elementary education at FAMU, a master’s degree in urban teaching leadership from Georgia State University, and an educational specialist degree in instructional technology from the University of West Georgia.

The FAMU College of Education congratulates our fine graduate, Ms. Charon L. Kirkland. We are proud of all her endeavors and accomplishments!

Students as College Teachers

The five graduate students in EDE 5265, Emergent Trends in Teaching the Basics, presented the results of their research to undergraduates at Edward Waters College on Friday, November 14. In addition to the targeted audience, faculty from Florida Memorial University, Bethune-Cookman University and the University of North Florida were eager participants in the activity. Each FAMU student had chosen a topic to research. Mary Carr made a PowerPoint presentation on “Engaging African-American Males in Reading.” Shama Grimmage’s research concerned teaching math and science in urban elementary schools. Valarie Joiner used a math game to engage students in her topic “Reading Mathematics.” Diane Keaton used Bingo to drive home her point about the use of differentiated instruction with English language learners. Kenner Wilcox used a vibrant poster to help visual learners understand strategies for teaching vocabulary to all students in an inclusion classroom. The students were accompanied by their instructor, Dr. Serena Roberts. The trip was sponsored by Teachers for a New Era as a partnership activity with the other HBCUs in the state.

EDE 5265 Students Presenting
Florida A&M University (FAMU) named the Teachers, Advisor and Advanced Teacher of the Year for 2007-2008, for their significant contributions to the university. The announcement was made at the FAMU Fall Faculty Planning Conference.

“Florida A&M University has a magnificent faculty,” said Cynthia Hughes Harris, provost and vice president for academic affairs. “It is an honor to recognize seven of our colleagues that truly personify “Excellence With Caring.” The Teachers of the Year from the College of Education are Nancy Fontaine, Ph.D., a tenured associate professor in the College of Education, Elementary Education Department and Jorge Olaves, better known as Coach “O,” has managed the Rattler Aquatic Center at FAMU for more than 19 years.

The Advanced Teacher of the Year is Thyria Ansley, Ph.D., a tenured associate professor in the College of Education, Elementary Education Department. She has worked at FAMU for 15 years.

Summer Opportunity at the Bronx Zoo

In summer 2008, Valerie Joyner, a FAMU College of Education student, was selected to participate in a mini-internship experience at the Bronx Zoo in New York City. On July 10, 2008, she arrived in the Bronx and was taken to Fordham University dormitory where students from Historically Black College and Universities would reside for the next 10 days.

Previously, students had completed a four-week distance learning course online. Assignments included website readings, research and online discussions. After arriving at the Zoo, students attended their first class meeting, Conservation Biology for Educators. The first subject studied was the exotic jaguars! They learned about their habitat, the threats of their survival, and how they are at risk of being killed by ranchers who believed them to be a threat to their cattle. They participated in other exciting educational activities, created a drama skit, and had the opportunity to walk around the Bronx Zoo. Another interesting activity was the visit to the Madagascar exhibit.

In the second meeting, Beyond the Campus: Using Animal Themes to Motivate Learning Across the Disciplines, students kept a scientific daily journal, created lesson plans, created a drama skit, participated in class activities, and selected/researched a topic for their final presentation. During this unit of study, students collected scientific data, tested the PH level in the Bronx Zoo water, and created a lesson plan using scientific method.
DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Patricia Green-Powell facilitated several presentations during the fall 2008 semester including: “Beyond Education: Problems, Consequences, and Solutions” at the Florida Juvenile Justice Education Institute and Southern Conference on Corrections; “Instructing and Mentoring the African-American: Notes from the Field” at the American Institute of Higher Education’s Annual Conference; “An Analysis of One State’s Use of Race Neutral Policies to Achieve Diversity” at the Think Tank for African American Progress; and “The Rewards of Mentoring” for the American Association of University Women. She recently published a chapter in *Supervision: A collaborative approach to instructional improvement* by K. T. Henson, entitled “Rallying Support.”

The Faculty of the Department of Business and Technology Education welcomed Dr David White, a graduate of Ohio State University. Dr. White is an Assistant Professor and Coordinator of the Department’s Technology Education Program. He has aggressively moved toward updating and promoting the Technology Education program with the submission of a proposal requesting Title III grant funding for equipment and software. In addition, he is scheduled to present a paper entitled, “How STEM Can Assist ‘At-Risk’ Learners” at The International Technology Education Association Annual Conference in Louisville, KY in March of 2009.

Business Education students were invited to work with faculty and students at Fairview Middle School on September 29, 30 and October 1, 2008. Fairview Middle School students were taught how to make a digital video using Windows Move Maker software showcasing stories from their Language Arts class. Thanks to teachers Ms. Peggy Caudeaux, Mr. George Pratt, Mr. Robert Little, Dr. David White and Ms. Racquel Harrell.

Mr. William Cotton serves on the Presidential Inaugural Committee and designed and created cases to accommodate the ceremonial scepter and medallion that will be used as part of the Presidential Inaugural festivities. These items will be placed in the Meek-Eaton Black Archives Center and Museum for continued use, as needed. Mr. Cotton has a reputation of integrity, skill, and creativity and we pride ourselves on his work ethic that builds lasting relationships with members of the FAMU community. Mr. Cotton is an adjunct professor in our Technology Education program.

Dr. Dawn Dennis joined Dr. Charles Ervin, Chair, Department of Secondary Education; Dr. Donald Palm, Asst. Vice President, Academic Affairs; and others in attending the Institute for Academic Leadership in Holly-In-the-Hills, Florida. The Institute was hosted by Florida State University and was held October 12-15, 2008.

Dr. Theresa Shotwell was selected for a team Sloan-C Conference Minority Scholarship. She joined Dr. Elizabeth Davenport, Dr. Patricia A. Green-Powell, and Dr Nancy J. McConnell in representing the College of Education at a conference in Orlando, Florida.

Ms. Wonda Martin will serve as the Phi Beta Lambda advisor for all student members.

Dr. Oare’ Dozier-Henry, presented a paper at the Metanexus Conference in Madrid, Spain. Metanexus is an interdisciplinary organization of scientists, educators, philosophers, and clergy who seek to understand the relationship of the disciplines. Dr. Dozier-Henry’s paper capitalized on her interest in globalization, and addressed the current emphasis on science and technology, a shift away from the importance of human agency and ontological meaning.