The 2008 Florida Statutes

1004.40 College of law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University.--

(1) A college of law is authorized at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University.

(2) The college of law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University must be operated in compliance with the standards approved by nationally recognized associations for accredited colleges of law.

(3) The college of law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, to the extent consistent with the standards required by the American Bar Association or any other nationally recognized association for the accreditation of colleges of law, shall develop a law library collection utilizing electronic formats and mediums.

(4) The college of law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University shall develop and institute a program that is consistent with sound legal education principles as determined by the American Bar Association or any other nationally recognized association for the accreditation of colleges of law and that, to the extent consistent with such sound legal education principles, is structured to serve the legal needs of traditionally underserved portions of the population by providing an opportunity for participation in a legal clinic program or pro bono legal service.

(5) The Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University Board of Trustees and the Board of Governors may accept grants, donations, gifts, and moneys available for this purpose, including moneys for planning and constructing the college. The Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University Board of Trustees may procure and accept any federal funds that are available for the planning, creation, and establishment of the college of law. If the American Bar Association or any other nationally recognized association for the accreditation of colleges of law issues a third disapproval of an application for provisional approval or for full approval or fails to grant, within 5 years following the graduation of the first class, a provisional approval, to the college of law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, the Board of Governors shall make recommendations to the Governor and Legislature as to whether the college of law will cease operations at the end of the full academic year subsequent to the receipt by the college of law of any such third disapproval, or whether the college of law will continue operations and any conditions for continued operations. If the college of law ceases operations of the college of law pursuant to this section, the following conditions apply:

(a) The authority for the college of law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University and the authority of the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University Board of Trustees and the Board of Governors provided in this section shall terminate upon the cessation of operations of the college of law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. The college of law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University shall receive no moneys allocated for the planning, construction, or operation of the college of law after its cessation of operations other than moneys to be expended for the cessation of operations of the college of law. Any moneys allocated to the college of law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University not expended prior to or scheduled to be expended after the date of the cessation of the college of law shall be appropriated for other use by the Legislature of the State of Florida.

(b) Any buildings of the college of law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University constructed from the expenditure of capital outlay funds appropriated by the Legislature shall be owned by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund and managed by the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University Board of Trustees upon the cessation of the college of law.

Nothing in this section shall undermine commitments to current students receiving support as of the date of the enactment of this section from the law school scholarship program of the Florida Education Fund as provided in s. 1009.70(8). Students attending the college of law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical
University shall be eligible for financial, academic, or other support from the Florida Education Fund as provided in s. 1009.70(8) without the college’s obtaining accreditation by the American Bar Association.

(6) The college of law at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University shall be dedicated to providing opportunities for minorities to attain representation within the legal profession proportionate to their representation in the general population; however, the college of law shall not include preferences in the admissions process for applicants on the basis of race, national origin, or gender.

History.--s. 185, ch. 2002-387; s. 94, ch. 2007-217.