Florida A&M University (FAMU) is a key national institution that fills industry’s labor requirements and serves as a source of assistance in the modernization of existing industries by providing research, technological expertise and economic development.

FAMU Industry Cluster has one of the strongest and loyal Cluster memberships of all HBCU institutions. Within the Cluster relationship, corporations and minority institutions address mutual concerns. They also collaborate to meet specific needs in developing a diversified workforce. The concept of cooperation between industry and academic institutions focuses on the purpose of increasing the institution’s ability to provide the corporate community with highly qualified and well-rounded employees.

This unique partnership provides FAMU with financial and programmatic support for academic programs and workforce development while providing opportunities for companies to serve on advisory boards, participate in curriculum design, and access students for internship programs. Furthermore, FAMU produces the kinds of graduates that satisfy industry needs and accesses corporate expertise and resources. Students develop industry standard skills and experience prior to joining the workforce. Another advantage for FAMU is that it is the only HBCU in the State of Florida Educational System that has a strong tradition of corporate relationships. Its faculty and staff participate in partnership activities on a systematic basis, have industrial experience and maintain industry contact. Industry Cluster companies play a central role at Florida A&M University because the mission of the university is tied to the development of specialized skills in minority populations. Cluster partners gain effective lines of communication with core academic departments as a means for fulfilling their commitment to higher education, and a structured approach to increasing recruitment and visibility on FAMU’s campus. The faculty of the university works in both industry and education through technology development and research projects. The corporate partners gain employees who are more productive and possess leadership abilities. Students receive job offers at high relative wages, and the close ties between faculty and employers and informal labor market information networks assist the college placement services. In terms of financial support, the university receives equipment, programmatic and scholarship support, and access to industry-specific knowledge. Thus, the FAMU Industry Cluster benefits the school, the industry, the region, and the students.

The guidelines and procedures to manage the Cluster are embodied in the framework for achieving measurable results. The focus of this strategy is in three parts as follows:

- An enhanced infrastructure on which to build the programs
- A framework for administration of the Industry Cluster Program
- A system that tracks progress by outcomes

The general information for members is provided in a 24 page booklet and also posted on
the Industry Cluster website.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

**Committees**
This section addressed committee participation and succession of committee members to the Key Executive Council. An implementation component – the Development Committee – was added to the committee structure. These two committees are made up of volunteers from the Cluster membership.

The **Key Executive Council** serves as the advisory body to the President of the University and is responsible for the strategic direction of the Cluster. The **Development Committee** comprises of sub-committees such as program planning, budget/dues committee, recruitment, sponsorship and communications. These sub-committees provide operational support to the FAMU staff within the areas in which they volunteer. However, they do not assume responsibility for the roles ascribed to staff of FAMU and are not responsible for making decisions relative to budgets, dues collections and other in-house responsibilities. They volunteer to assist in facilitating the programs and supporting the needs of FAMU to enable the university to be responsive, as well as maintain and grow the programs. These volunteer committees function like other membership committees within the academic units. The committee roles and responsibilities, and the guidelines for appointing members to the committees are circulated to the members each year and are kept in the Industry Cluster office.

**Program Administration**
The general procedures and guidelines for the Industry Cluster program is produced as a spiral bounded document and distributed as needed to members. Essential components of the guidelines can also be found on the Industry Cluster website. These include procedures and guidelines for recruiting Industry Cluster partners and to access the university leadership.

**Member Orientation**
The senior partners such as Boeing, Ford, Guidant and others present under such themes as “Becoming a Campus Champion for FAMU Within Your Organization”, “Generating a Successful Campus Plan” among other useful and important topics. The development of new members by mentoring companies and the development of Corporate Champions, who are being oriented to champion FAMU’s agenda throughout their workplace, is part of the orientation process.

**Campus Plans**
The Associate Vice President of Corporate Relations assists the partners with developing a campus plan from their corporate strategic plan on a one-on-one basis. These campus plans are kept in the partners files.

**Membership and Semi-Annual Meetings**
One meeting is held in the fall and one in the spring. These meetings are held to provide a forum for networking and information sharing opportunities. The registration fees for these meetings are $100.00 for members and $150.00 for nonmembers. Registration information is available on the Industry Cluster website and completed registration forms can be emailed or faxed directly to the Cluster Program Assistant. Cluster membership **annual fees** are $1,500.
Cluster membership application forms and meeting registration forms are found on the Cluster website and can be requested from the Cluster Office. Once completed the forms can be emailed, faxed or mailed along with the annual membership or meeting registration fee.

Dues Collection
The invoices for dues are distributed at the end of May of the current fiscal year for payment by July 30th of the next fiscal year. Thereafter, a reminder is distributed by email and fax each 30 days for the first three months (June 30, July 30, August 30) until the dues are paid. However, only Cluster partners who have fulfilled their dues commitment by August 30, 2006 are eligible to receive benefits such as complimentary tickets to football games for the current season.

Complimentary Tickets
Policy and Procedures
This section provides for the management of the FAMU Industry Cluster complimentary football tickets. The University and the Industry Cluster advisory board has revised the policy and procedures relative to complimentary tickets for all football games to allow for the efficient and effective management of the resources available within the Cluster program in particular and the university in general. Please note that the issuance of complimentary football tickets according to this policy depends on the availability of funds in the Industry Cluster budget for the purchase of football tickets from the Athletic Department.

Complimentary Ticket Policy
Issuance of complimentary tickets must be conducted in accordance with Section 112.3148(5)(b), Florida Statutes, reference to acceptance and reporting of gifts.

A total of four (4) tickets for stadium seating shall be issued as follows:

- Two (2) complimentary tickets for any one (1) game of your choice shall be issued to each Cluster member company in good standing (current dues fulfilled).

- Two (2) complimentary tickets for the Homecoming game shall be issued to each Cluster member company in good standing (current dues fulfilled) and in attendance at the Fall Cluster Meeting.

Complimentary tickets to Cluster members are intended for personal use only. All other tickets must be purchased. To purchase additional tickets contact the Cluster office.

Complimentary tickets will be mailed the week of the game or may be picked up from the Office of University Development, Suite 203 Lee Hall on Friday before the Homecoming game between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

COMMUNICATION
Website
The website is updated semi-annually to accommodate the meeting dates.

MISCELLANEOUS
New initiatives are implemented and tracked for 12 months before they are integrated into the system and results reported. However, there are quarterly reviews and calibration of the system and programs. Additionally, a provisional report is compiled for analysis and documentation.
FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY

Cluster Events

Derek McGowan, Campus Relations Manager presents a plaque for outstanding services to Ryan Scott, president of National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) student organization as FAMU administrators look on.

Ryan Scott, president of National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) student organization, Michael Bush, Director of Purchasing and Derek McGowan, Campus Relations Manager of Lockheed-Martin Corporation following a presentation to the FAMU/FSU College of Engineering to support special students projects, scholarships and the Industry Cluster Program.

FAMU students participate in NASCAR’s 2007 Bud Shootout at the Daytona International Speedway. The initiative was apart of the NASCAR Day at the Track Event to introduce students to career opportunities at NASCAR. Participants were (back row) James Jeffries, a mechanical engineering major; Aaron Brown, a business major, Kristopher Rodgers, an electronic engineering major and Jesca Horton, an industrial engineering major with Lindsay Bowen and Dave Finley of NASCAR.
Tallahassee, FL. – Students in Florida A&M University’s (FAMU) School of Business and Industry (SBI) won first place at the 13th Annual National Black MBA Association (NBMBAA) Case Competition defeating teams from Columbia, University of Chicago, New York University, Penn State and Purdue.

This is the first time FAMU has entered the NBMBAA case competition.

FAMU is the only university in the state of Florida that competed in the national competition. The competition featured 30 teams from across the country, including Case Western Reserve, Brandeis, Emory, Georgetown, Georgia Tech, Johns Hopkins, NYU, Penn State, Univ. of Southern California and Ohio State University.

Sponsored by Chrysler, the case study was built around a real business issue dealing with labor relations, hourly wages and health care. Each competing teams were given four weeks to prepare an analysis and presentation. Students presented their solutions and defended their analyses before a panel of senior executives, who evaluate the teams on presentation skills, thoroughness, and creativity evident in the analyses.

"A lot of the schools participate every year, and so there's rivalry between each school, and so each one wants to outdo the other," said Kim Harris Jones, vice president and chief controller at Chrysler. “Schools go away with bragging rights. It's clearly a competition, and everyone puts their best foot forward."

Each member received $5,000 and a crystal award. FAMU team members included Dominique Drake, Davida Jones, and Mitch Brooks. The team advisors were Drs. Joycelyn Finley-Hervey and Shawnta Friday-Stroud. The team spent quite a bit of time preparing for the competition.

“We spent about 20 hours a week for three weeks preparing for the competition,” said Brooks. “It felt great to showcase FAMU to the country.”

Dominique Drake, team leader, stressed that during the first two weeks it was a little complicated preparing for the competition.

“For the first two weeks of practice, we had to prepare over the telephone because Davida was in California, Mitch was in Washington, D.C. and I was in Panama,” said Drake. “The hard work paid off. We showed others that FAMU produces top quality students.

Team member Jones echoed Drake.

“Our win truly proves that hard work and dedication does paid off,” said Jones. “I was happy and thrilled when we were one of the 6 finalists of 30 teams. This proves the caliber of students that are in SBI.”

Dean McKinley-Floyd was just as excited as the students.
FAMU in the News:
FAMU Students win First Place at the National Black MBA Association

“This is just the latest in a winning tradition of excellence in case competition for the School of Business and Industry,” said McKinley-Floyd. “I am very proud of the team members.”

Since 1992, the National Black MBA Association Case Competition has awarded more than $300,000 in scholarships to minority business students, and helped more than 1000 MBA students gain access to otherwise unknown scholarship, mentoring and employment opportunities.
Washington, D.C. – When Speaker Nancy Pelosi recently announced three new senior staff members to her Speaker’s office in the nation’s capital, one of them was a Rattler who will be helping to make things happen in the House on The Hill.

Cheryl Parker Rose, senior advisor, will serve as Pelosi’s director of Intergovernmental Affairs.

“These three individuals bring impressive credentials and knowledge as well as national and state experience to the Speaker’s operations,” Pelosi said. “I look forward to working closely with each of them as we address the priorities of the American people.”

It was on another hill in Tallahassee that Parker Rose grew up: on the Southern side of the Florida A&M University campus, near the spot where the university’s new Recreation Center now sits. She obtained her early education in local schools before graduating with honors from Florida A&M University.

“Congress’ role in addressing the critical issues confronting our country has never been more significant,” Parker Rose said. “With Speaker Pelosi leading the way, Democrats are answering the American people’s call for a new direction.”

Parker Rose has broad experience in state government and at the federal level. She most recently served as a senior policy advisor to former Iowa Governor Tom Vilsack. She also worked on strategic initiatives for the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), where she specialized in education, health care, and economic issues, according to Pelosi’s office.

From 2001 to 2005, Parker Rose was Counsel and Director of Policy for the Democratic Governors Association. She was also the Director of the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs at the Department of Education during the Clinton Administration. Before coming to Washington, Parker Rose worked in the Florida State Legislature.

She already has clear ideas about her new job, she says.

“I look forward to strengthening the partnership between the House and our country’s state and local elected officials so we may continue to work together to increase opportunity and prosperity for all Americans.”

Parker Rose, who now resides in Arlington, Va., also has a juris doctorate from the Florida State University College of Law.
FAMU in the News:
FAMU Has Been Selected as the Tom Joyner Foundation School of the Month for January 2008

Tallahassee, FL. — Florida A&M University (FAMU) has been selected as the Tom Joyner Foundation School of the Month for January 2008. The Tom Joyner Foundation, a major driving force in raising money for historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) since 1998, will host an aggressive fundraising campaign for FAMU.

Donations are being accepted now. All donations received through the end of January 2008 will count towards the campaign. To make a donation to FAMU, checks should be payable to the FAMU Foundation, Inc., Post Office Box 6562, Tallahassee, Florida, 32314 and in the memo line put Tom Joyner School of the Month.

The foundation, formed by the nationally syndicated radio personality Tom Joyner, said FAMU was chosen as part of its ongoing effort to assist FAMU in broadening and strengthening its efforts to raise money to help keep students attending FAMU.

As one of the Tom Joyner Foundation School of the Month, FAMU will receive funds raised from listeners, alumni and other interested parties during the month of January 2008. Throughout the month, the Tom Joyner Morning Show, which airs in 115 markets around the country reaching nearly eight million listeners every week, will promote the university and award scholarships to deserving students.

“The foundation is really happy to work with FAMU,” said Tom Joyner, a graduate of Tuskegee Institute and the foundation chairman. “The college has a wonderful history and this foundation is all about making sure students are able to stay in school.”

The Tom Joyner Foundation has raised more than $25 million over the past seven years to help thousands of students at some 80 colleges. The foundation has assisted every HBCU, which is defined as any historically black college or university that was established prior to 1964, whose principal mission was and is the education of black Americans.

“We are extremely excited about our selection as a school of the month,” said FAMU President James H. Ammons. “We want to set a new record for this campaign and we are confident that our alumni, friends and supporters will make it happen. Increasing the number of scholarships for our students is a high priority.”

FAMU, founded on October 3, 1887, as the State Normal College for Colored Students, began classes with fifteen students and two instructors. Its destiny is to become an institution of higher learning, striving toward even greater heights of academic excellence. Today, Florida A&M University is one of nine institutions in Florida's State University System, and excellence - "excellence with caring" - remains its goal.

For more information, call (850) 599-3491.