TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Florida A&M University (FAMU) student Tresia Walters was presented the Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award in Agricultural and Natural Sciences at the 72nd Annual Meeting of the Florida Academy of Science for her paper titled *Phylogenetics Analysis of Aestivales (Planchon) American Native Grapes by DNA Microsatellite Profiling*.

"I was elated to find out the news that I had won the award at the Florida Academy of Science," said Walters. "I'm very proud of this achievement."

Walters, a native of St. Kitts and Nevis, is an outstanding graduate student in the College of Engineering Sciences, Technology and Agriculture (CESTA). She is the recipient of both the Excellence Award and the CESTA Research Forum Award in 2007.

She will be graduating this summer with a master in science degree. Her thesis research is agriculture science/plant science in the area of grape DNA profiling. After graduation, Walters plans on pursuing a career in biotechnology or a related field.

**About the Florida Academy of Sciences**

The Florida Academy of Sciences, Inc. was founded in 1936 as a non-profit organization. The Academy is the Florida Affiliate of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and is the only organization in Florida that represents all disciplines of sciences.

The Florida Academy of Sciences, Inc. sponsors the Florida Junior Academy of Science to encourage young scientists, publishes the Florida Scientist, a quarterly journal distributed to its members and libraries world wide, and sponsors an Annual Meeting to give members opportunity to present papers, honor their peers, and participate in multidisciplinary scientific exchanges.