Kelvin Lawson Bio

Kelvin Lawson is a native of Gadsden County and a 1985 graduate of the Florida A&M University (FAMU) School of Business and Industry (SBI), with a B.S. in Business Administration.

He started his career with a small division of Bristol Myers, Drackett Products. His professional career has taken him across this country and around the world. Today, he is the executive vice president of Business Development for Channel Partners and coordinates the sales and business development efforts for both Apollo Retail and BDS Marketing Connected Solutions. He has an extensive background in both consumer-packaged goods and sale agency organizations, having worked for Johnson and Johnson, Schering Plough, and Acosta Sales and Marketing.

Lawson is completing his third term as chair of the FAMU Board of Trustees (BOT). He was first appointed in March 2011. During his BOT tenure, Lawson has served as chair of the Budget, Finance, and Facilities Committee and chair of the Athletics Oversight Committee. He was the driving force in convincing the Florida Board of Governors to waive its policy on presidential searches, allowing the FAMU Board of Trustees to choose its 12th President.

Under his leadership and collaboration with President Larry Robinson, Ph.D., the University has implemented a stronger system of accountability, metrics, and dashboards to track and monitor performance. Additionally, the University has a strengthened relationship with the Florida Board of Governors and many other State University System partners.

He is involved in board activities with several other organizations. He serves on the Board of Truist Bank, North East Florida Region, the Board of the Boys and Girls Club of Northeast Florida, and is a founding member of Knots 4 Kids, a mentoring group for young boys. Due to his involvement with Truist Bank partnering with the FAMU Advancement team, the University was able to secure a $1.2 million grant to help drive student success.

Trustee Lawson and his wife, Donna Lawson have two daughters. One is a recent FAMU grad, while her sibling is entering her senior year at the University.