

ORLANDO BUSINESS JOURNAL

THE LIST

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

RANKED BY NUMBER OF DIPLOMAS GRANTED 2015-2016

College or university	Address Telephone	Total number of graduates for all programs ¹	Associate degrees awarded	Bachelor degrees awarded	Master's degrees awarded	MBA's awarded	Other degree programs ²
1 University of Central Florida <i>ucf.edu</i>	4000 Central Florida Blvd. Orlando 32816 407-823-2000	16,654	Not applicable	13,206	2,196	182	1,070
2 Valencia College <i>valenciacollege.edu</i>	1768 Park Center Dr. Orlando 32835 407-299-5000	11,023	7,728	55	Not applicable	Not applicable	3,240
3 Seminole State College of Florida <i>seminolestate.edu</i>	100 Weldon Blvd. Sanford 32773 407-708-4722	6,671	3,191	244	Not applicable	Not applicable	3,236
4 Full Sail University <i>fillsail.edu</i>	3300 University Blvd. Winter Park 32792 407-679-0100	5,711	155	3,873	1,210	Not applicable	473
5 Rollins College <i>rollins.edu</i>	1000 Holt Ave. Winter Park 32789 407-646-2000	999	Not applicable	633	207	159	Not applicable
6 Lake-Sumter State College <i>lssc.edu</i>	9501 U.S. Hwy. 441 Leesburg 34788 352-787-3747	852	779	32	Not applicable	Not applicable	41
7 DeVry University <i>devry.edu</i>	7352 Greenbriar Pkwy. Orlando 32819 407-345-2800	404	21	182	124	52	25
8 Adventist University of Health Sciences <i>adu.edu</i>	671 Winyah Dr. Orlando 32803 407-303-7742	357	37	258	55	Not applicable	7
9 Webster University Metro Orlando <i>webster.edu/orlando</i>	501 W. Church St. #400 Orlando 32805 407-869-8111	276	Not applicable	Not applicable	209	67	Not applicable
10 FAMU College of Law <i>law.famu.edu</i> 	201 Beggs Ave. Orlando 32801 407-254-3268	120	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	120
11 Palm Beach Atlantic University <i>pba.edu/orlando</i>	4700 Millenia Blvd. #100 Orlando 32839 407-226-5955	87	Not applicable	39	48	Not applicable	Not applicable
12 American University of Leadership <i>edu.aulm.us</i>	507 S Hiawassee Rd. #113 Orlando 32835 407-801-5140	3	Not applicable	1	Not applicable	2	Not applicable

¹ 2015-2016 academic year

² Programs include adult education diplomas, professional and vocational certificates, doctorate, juris doctorate.

How FAMU's LeRoy Pernell plans to continue the College of Law's path toward a bright future

BY DENISE HICKS

Research Director, Orlando Business Journal

When LeRoy Pernell first arrived to take over the position as dean and law professor in January 2008, there were many in the community who thought that the new law school in town wouldn't succeed.

But the Florida Agriculture & Mechanical College of Law not only has been a success, it also has achieved national recognition for its diversity and programs.

Although he returned to the faculty full time in June 2015, Pernell now is back at the College of Law after being appointed interim dean and professor of law in May.

Here, he shares some of the college's key accomplishments, thoughts on the institution's future, and how perseverance and focus will move FAMU's College of Law into the next century:

What are some of the law school's key accomplishments in the past 12 months? National recognition for outperforming "predictors" regarding success on the Florida Bar examination, increase in law school applications, and expanded practical and skill-training opportunities.

What are some key factors that help the law school attract and retain top students? Our strong commitment to improving attention to social justice and preparing students for the practice of law, while maintaining a high-quality and affordable legal education, thus producing motivated students with manageable debt loads.

What type of professors do you look to attract to keep up with the law school's growth? We seek out faculty with both the experience and the commitment to provide, by example and instruction, the training needed to immediately enter the practice of law.

Have there been any unique challenges? We have successfully fought against the unusual national drop in law school applications and negative images often associated with legal education today.

As a historically black college, has the law school partnered with schools or communities in Central Florida's underprivileged areas to encourage interest in attending? Yes, at both the college and K-12 level, we have offered a constant stream of programs designed to encourage a career in law and to look toward FAMU as the door to that path.

What is your vision for the future growth of the law school? I see the FAMU College of Law as one of only four state law schools in Florida



LeRoy Pernell

and the only state law school for Central Florida. Additionally, we are the law school that, because of our unique mission, will provide cutting-edge leadership in both preparing advocates for positive transformative change in our society and in serving communities and the profession with answers and ideas through our faculty expertise to bring about those changes.

Since you became dean, what has been your most memorable "aha" moment? When I first came here in 2008, there were doubters and critics, including in the press, who questioned whether this new law school would succeed. It is most memorable to me that we not only succeeded as a fully accredited school (on time), but that we did it while achieving national recognition for diversity and programmatic success.

What would you like the Central Florida community to know about the FAMU College of Law? We are here to stay, succeed and expand. Our resources and expertise are here to serve Central Florida, and to provide access to resources not readily available elsewhere.

What is the most essential skill you need to do your job as dean of the law school? Focus, commitment to a vision and patience

Who do you go to for advice? As a Christian, I constantly seek spiritual guidance first. I also depend on and invite the viewpoints of other colleagues, including other deans here and around the country.

How are you tackling the current economic challenges that colleges and universities have been facing? I have been in academia for over 40 years. I have seen over that time many economic and cultural cycles. Perseverance and focus will go a long way in getting you through. It is also important, however, to learn lessons from each cycle about the fundamental changes that are wrought. Law school and higher education as a whole cannot prosper in the 21st century with a 20th century model of finance and instructional modality. Fundamental changes have occurred in how we learn and what we need to learn.

Is there a favorite anecdote, saying or quote you would like to share? I have been fond of quoting that great sage Yoda from "Star Wars" when he tells Luke Skywalker, "There is no try, only do!"

What do you like best about the job? I most enjoy watching our graduates march across the stage in recognition of their degree and thinking about their positive future and the role that we played in it.

What do you like least about the job? I really miss not teaching and writing more. I also miss being in the courtroom. I am, at heart, a trial attorney who became an academician, not the other way around. I also dearly miss not having more control over my personal time. I am a very private person.

First choice for a new career? After 40 years-plus, there are few careers that would be new. I would certainly enjoy any opportunity to impact in a positive way how the legal system can better meet, on both the criminal and civil side, the needs of persons whose voices are seldom heard.

What is the most influential book that you have read? Ralph Ellison's "Invisible Man"

What is your favorite cause? The rights of the incarcerated and the positive pathway for successfully getting out of the system

What is the best advice you didn't take: Study French more. Despite years of French in high school and college, my first trips to France showed me that I knew just enough to get in trouble.

The world would be a better place if only: There were better understanding that the human difference between those who have the most and those who have the least is non-existent. Our oppression of others is dictated by our fears and self-centered greed and not by any rightful notion of being better than anyone else.

Words I live by: Nehemiah 6:3: "I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down."