

# FSU Names New Chancellor

## Anderson takes reigns of university

By L'Asia Brown  
Features Editor

Throughout the week of spring break, the sun shone bright and the wind blew lightly. Spring began its awakening with blooming flowers, hints of green grass, and warm breezes. On Friday, March 7, 2008, heavy rains, strong gusts, and bites of chill took hold of the campus. "Rain has always been associated with a rebirth," explained James A. Anderson. And a rebirth it was for Fayetteville State University on the memorable Friday morning. At approximately 2:15pm, in the Rudolph Jones Student Center, the UNC Board of Governors introduced Dr. James A. Anderson as the 11th chief executive officer of Fayetteville State University.

Dr. Anderson is a professor of psychology and former vice provost and vice president of the University of Albany in New York. He will succeed Chancellor Lloyd V. Hackley, who serviced as interim president following Dr. T.J. Bryan's resignation. Dr. Anderson will assume his duties on June 9.

As highlighted from the UNC Information Press in recommending Anderson to the board of governors, Bowles said: "Over the past three decades, James Anderson has distinguished himself as a dedicated teacher, seasoned administrator, and proven leader. He has taught and held key leadership positions at some of our nation's finest public universities—including North Carolina State University—and has earned a solid reputation for creative thinking, great integrity, and a passionate commitment to helping students success academically and reach their full potential. He also comes highly recommended by two UNC Chancellors who have worked with him and know him well—Jim Oblinger and Charlie Nelms—so we are not hiring a resume. We are getting the real deal. Dr. Anderson clearly understands the many challenges—and the many opportunities—facing Fayetteville State University and

the surrounding community, and I am convinced he has the vision and the know-how to FSU to the next level. I am delighted to bring him back to North Carolina and thrilled that he has agreed to join our leadership team."

Dr. Anderson is no stranger to the forefront on leadership. He served from 2005-2007 as UA's Vice President for Student Success and Vice Provost for Institutional Assessment and Diversity. The new chancellor was able to lead UA's university efforts to advance the academic success and learning, promote diversity and inclusion, and strengthen community partnerships and outreach, outlined by the UNC Press Release.

Dr. James Anderson was raised in Washington D.C. Anderson majored in psychology at Villanova University in Pennsylvania, graduating in 1970. In 1980, he progressed to earn a doctoral degree in the same field from Cornell University, located in New York. Anderson began his tenure as leader early in his career. He chaired the Department of Psychology at Xavier University in New Orleans from 1976-1983, before joining Indiana University of Pennsylvania as a Psychology Professor, as mentioned in the new chancellor's press biography.

In 1992, he began an 11-year tenure as Vice Provost for Undergraduate Affairs at North Carolina State University. Dr. Anderson was credited with leading a revision of the general education curriculum, as well as the development of the First Year College, the Honors Programs, The Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning, the Minority Engineering Program, and the NC State Initiative, among other notable works, writes the UNC Information Release.

In 2003, Anderson was recruited to Texas A&M University, a major land-grant institution serving more than 46,000 students, as Vice President and Associate Provost for Institutional Assessment and Diversity. He held that post un-



Photo by L'Asia Brown

*Dr. James Anderson shakes hands with local leaders following the press conference naming him the new chancellor of FSU*

til joining the University of Albany in 2005.

Active in professional, civic, and higher-education organizations, Anderson's research and writing have focused on the assessment of student learning, as well as the impact of diversity on student learning, retention, and overall institutional effectiveness. He is the author or co-author of three books.

A former American Council on Education (ACE) Fellow, Danforth Fellow, and National Learning Communities Fellow, he has been honored with the Outstanding Contribution to Higher Education Award (2005) from the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators and the Outstanding Service Award (2004) from the Commission on Human Resources and Social Change of the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges. He currently serves on the Board of Trustees of Villanova University and the advisory board of the International Center for Student Success and Institutional Accountability.

Anderson is married to Nancy Anderson, a former administrator at Lansing Community College and former Assistant director of admissions at NC State University.

They have three daughters: Arie, a nurse living in New Orleans; Amina, a student also living in New Orleans; and Jennifer, an administrator with the Michigan Department of Corrections, as all stated from UNC Information Press Release on March 7, 2008.

Fayetteville State has earned its spot as a great local establishment responsible for the forming of admirable citizens, and Dr. Anderson just may be that inspiration FSU needs to launch a national reputation for mastery and excellence. Res Non Verba. Deeds Not Words. Only time will tell if Dr. Anderson says what he means...and means what he says.

### Chancellor Profile

**Attended college:** Villanova, Cornell

**Experience:** Professor of Psych  
Department Chair  
Vice Provost  
Vice Univ. Pres.

**What he brings to FSU:** Years of experience managing universities and working directly with students' education. Understands the importance of diversity and progressive addition of university programs.