

FSU awards businesswoman Grace Dansby with honorary doctorate



Byron Dobson, Democrat senior writer 8:23 p.m. EDT August 9, 2016

Dansby's contributions have helped establish several FSU initiatives



(Photo: Howard Lax/FSU Photography Services)

Grace Dansby, one of Tallahassee's most successful business investors, philanthropists and community supporters, was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree Tuesday by Florida State University.

Dansby becomes the 130th person to receive an honorary degree from either Florida State University or one of its predecessors since its founding 165 years ago.

Dansby attended Florida State University in 1947-1948 and has made the university a major recipient of her philanthropic efforts. In 1984, she made a large contribution to the Sliger Endowment in Economics. Three years ago, her donation helped establish the Sherrill and Grace Dansby Scholarship Endowment for Medical Education. Her husband, Sherrill Dansby, died in 2012.

[Read more about Grace Dansby in the citation \(https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/3009473-Honorary-Doctor-of-Humane-Letters-Grace-Dansby.html\)](https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/3009473-Honorary-Doctor-of-Humane-Letters-Grace-Dansby.html)

Dansby is one of the founders of Southern Bank and Super-Lube. Her civic involvement includes serving a decade as chair of the Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare Foundation's Board of Trustees.

She initiated and became general chair of the hospital's first annual Golden Gala and has served on the event's executive committee for the past 33 years.

"You took your civic-mindedness a step further, using your considerable financial means to leave Tallahassee better than you found it with your far-reaching philanthropy," the FSU citation read. "Never seeking the spotlight, you gave out of a desire to move institutions forward and demonstrate leadership."

She is credited with serving on the committee that helped launch the University Center initiative and in playing a major role raising money for the Unconquered Statue on campus.

Dansby and her husband also provided 750 acres and Piney Z Lake to the city of Tallahassee for public access.

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