



Dr. Walter S. Davis

From 1943 until his retirement in 1968, Walter S. Davis led Tennessee State University through an era of tremendous growth-in areas as multifaceted as academics, facilities and worldwide recognition. Tennessee Agricultural and Industrial State College achieved University status in 1951, and the Tennessee Board of Education elevated the University to a full-fledged land-grant university in 1957. Under Dr. Davis's leadership, 24 new buildings were constructed on the campus, and it was during his tenure that athletes from Tennessee State University commanded the attention of the nation and the world by winning national championships in football, basketball and swimming, and the national titles and Olympic medals in track and field.