Happy August! We are gearing up for a brand new semester here at Prairie View A&M University, and it is going to be a great one. For starters, we are anticipating our largest freshman class and possibly our largest enrollment ever. We are also welcoming a host of new faces to our university’s platform of faculty and staff—we know they will do great things! August is also the time for Prairie View to send out another group of productive people. Following Summer Commencement on August 12, we will confer some 250 plus new Panthers into the alumni fold. We applaud our new graduates for their hard work, and we know they will make PV proud.

In the coming weeks, back-to-school activities begin with Academic Technology’s first-ever Sharing, Managing and Advancing Relevant Technology (S.M.A.R.T.) Summit. It is scheduled for August 17-18. Our annual Faculty and Staff Convocation is a few days later on August 21. Last month, alumni attending University Day during the 43rd National Convention were informed of all the latest happenings at PVAMU with updates from the president’s office, business affairs, and academic affairs. Many of the attendees who sent us feedback thoroughly enjoyed hearing about wonderful things happening at Prairie View and all of the exciting things to come.

Speaking of excitement, we are wrapping up summer activities. In case you missed it, for the past three months, our campus was constantly buzzing with students learning and exploring all of the different fields PVAMU has to offer. About 1,500 students took part in Summer Outreach non-residential camps. In addition, this year was the first time PVAMU hosted eleven different Summer Bridge programs, ranging from Panther Pride to a variety of programs within each of our eight colleges and schools. More than 700 incoming freshmen took part in the Summer Bridge program. We also hosted dozens of students from two of our partnering school districts, Mansfield and Aldine ISD’s, for a leadership conference. You can read more about this event in our new “FYI” section.

Since it is August, we are getting close to the Marching Storm’s road to New York City this November for the 2017 Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade. So far, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends, have donated more than $425,000, which is getting very close to our overall goal. We appreciate all who have donated and all who still wish to donate. Thank you!

In short, we are soaring through 2017, but with flying colors! Keep up the great work, and keep igniting your passion for PVAMU.

Flecia M. Nave
MS. MICHELLE HILL
Associate Vice President
for Enrollment Services
Evans Hall
(936) 261-1060 | mihill@pvamu.edu
Reports to: Dr. Felecia M. Nave, Provost & Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Ms. Michelle Hill is the new Associate Vice President for Enrollment Services at Prairie View A&M University. As AVP for Enrollment Services, she will lead the Offices of Recruitment, Admissions, Strategic Partnerships and K-12 Outreach, and the Registrar in a large-scale multi-platform enrollment and marketing campaign, while continuing to modernize and automate PVAMU’s current admissions and student services.

Hill said, “Our strategy will be data-driven while measuring our performance with a “student-first” culture. Our team is committed to meeting enrollment goals established by the university’s leadership. Initially, I will be evaluating and assessing the current environment, and then seeing where we can modernize and enhance the student experience from beginning to end. In the short time I have been here, I have already met with teams in all of the departments we will work with, and they are amazing people who are very talented and committed to PVAMU.”

Hill hails to PVAMU from the Southern University System in Louisiana where she was Assistant Vice President for Online Enrollment Services. Prior to that position, she served in several leadership roles and capacities within enrollment management departments at a 2- and 4-year college, and at a university system-level from recruitment, outreach, admissions, orientation, testing, financial aid, and online degree programs.

Hill earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mass Communications and a Master’s in Public Administration from Southern University and A&M College. The Plaquemine, Louisiana native is currently pursuing a Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership with an emphasis in Higher Education Leadership from Grand Canyon University.

“...I am looking forward to collaborating with PVAMU’s faculty, staff, and alumni to foster student success by connecting undergraduate, graduate students, and adult learners, and their families, to resources that open doors to a first-rate education and opportunities that are fundamental to the ultimate student experience.”...
College of Business Hosts Fraud and Forensic Accounting Workshop

By Marchita Shilo

Prairie View A&M University’s College of Business hosted its first-ever Fraud and Forensic Accounting Workshop on July 31-August 1 at PVAMU’s Northwest Houston Center (NWHC) The workshop provided a comprehensive coverage of forensic accounting, a growing area of practice, in which the knowledge, skills, and abilities of advanced accounting were combined with investigative expertise and applied to legal problems.

“More than 50 people attended the workshop, which was conducted by Dr. Larry Crumbley, an adjunct professor in PVAMU’s Department of Accounting, Finance, and MIS,” said Dr. Rahim Quazi, associate director of PVAMU’s Northwest Houston Center. “Dr. Crumbley is the author of more than 65 books and 370 articles. In fact, his latest book, Forensic and Investigative Accounting: 7th Edition, was published in 2015, so he is a well-versed scholar on this subject.”

The workshop featured new fraud schemes, numerous examples and stories, and many forensic techniques and tools. The workshop also provided clear, step-by-step guidance on how to investigate and interview, detect and prevent various types of fraud, work with attorneys, and perform as an expert witness.

“Professor Crumbley is a national expert. He has held many successful seminars, similar to this one, at Louisiana State University, where he is also an emeritus professor,” said Dr. Munir Quddus, dean of the College of Business and associate provost of the NWHC. “We were encouraged to have him lead the workshop here at PVAMU.”

Certified public accountants, internal auditors, fraud examiners, forensic accountants, governmental accountants, attorneys, and other accounting/auditing professionals and educators attended the two-day workshop, some from other cities.

“Working with PVAMU’s Office of Continuing Education, we arranged for the participants to earn continuing education units, or CEUs, that they need annually to keep their certified public accountant licenses,” said Quddus. “We hope the participants had a good experience.”
Dr. Sesha Kethineni, professor and department head at Prairie View A&M University’s College of Juvenile Justice and Psychology, attended the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Vienna, Austria. She was invited to represent Criminologists without Borders, an affiliate of the American Society of Criminology of which she is an avid member and former chair of the international division of the society.

“The theme for this year’s meeting focused on comprehensive and integrated crime prevention strategies such as public participation, social policies, and education in support of the rule of law,” said Kethineni. “In addition, there were several side events organized, which included life skills training through sports for youth crime prevention, gender and organized crime, human trafficking, law enforcement and youth intervention, cyber-crime, and drug trafficking, among other topics.”

More than 1,000 researchers and policy makers from around the world attended the meeting May 22-26. Kethineni, however, was the only faculty member represented from Texas.

“It was my first time attending this meeting, and it was a privilege to represent Prairie View,” said Kethineni. “It was also interesting to observe how diplomats, cyber crime experts, and crime prevention specialists from various countries were able to come up with the best practices in crime prevention and see how the UN addressed the issues.”

While there, Kethineni was also able to discuss possible collaboration opportunities between PVAMU and various researchers who attended the meeting.

“Additionally, I met with an internship coordinator for the UN about possibly recruiting PVAMU undergraduate students as interns,” said Kethineni.

The UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice meets every year and the UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice meets every five years. The next Congress meeting is in Japan in 2020.
Cooperative Extension Program Hosts Bullying Awareness Workshop in South Texas

By Marchita Shilo

This month’s focus on service comes just in time for the start of a new school year.

“Prairie View A&M University hosted two bullying awareness workshops over the summer at Jim Hogg County Courthouse in Hebbronville and dozens of people, parents, and their children, came out,” said Ashley Megan Gastineau, Family & Consumer Science Extension Agent, Webb County.

PVAMU sponsored the workshops because, believe it or not, bullying can start as early as preschool. Gastineau believes it is vital to educate everyone on what bullying is and how to prevent it.

“Unfortunately, bullying has increased our nation’s suicide rate,” said Gastineau. “However, by conducting these workshops and spreading awareness on the basics of this topic, parents and their kids will be able to recognize the signs of bullying and know how to take action to end it.”

The bullying workshops are part of the university’s Cooperative Extension Program. You can find out more information by calling (956) 523-5290 or by liking PVAMU’s Cooperative Extension-Webb County page on Facebook.
In case you missed it, Prairie View A&M University finance instructor Danny J. Harvey won a $25,000 TD Ameritrade Emerging Program Grant, and a trip to Wall Street. According to TD Ameritrade, only institutions of higher education with a “strong commitment” to educating future financial professionals receive the prestigious award.

“The basis for this invitation and trip to New York City was Mr. Harvey’s emerging financial literacy program, which he started in the spring of 2016,” said Dr. Munir Quddus, dean of the College of Business.

In the June edition of Academic Insights, Harvey explained the program in detail.

“Every month, I take a group of PVAMU students to a local high school. With my help and lesson plans, they are able to teach younger students about the basic principles of money management, including how to create a budget, save money, pay off student loans, raise credit scores, file taxes, and plan for retirement. I believe our role as an institution of higher learning is to take what we’ve learned to the public, especially to youth, because they are our future.”

Harvey and Quddus traveled to New York on July 18, along with PVAMU’s mascot Sasha, as part of the grant-awarding celebration. They toured Wall Street, met leaders and professionals in the financial service industry, and spent time in the Nasdaq office near Times Square.

“Throughout the day, there were also a number of programs, including panels and a presentation from the CEO of TD Ameritrade,” said Quddus. “Of course, the grand finale was our participation in Nasdaq’s closing bell ceremony, which was streamed live.”

According to Quddus, PVAMU’s College of Business was one of only two universities/business schools in attendance that received grants to improve their financial planning programs. The rest of group consisted of student scholarship recipients from universities across the nation.
Five Prairie View A&M University students, along with ten other selected undergraduates from Texas A&M University and various universities across the nation, attended the Research and Extension Experiences for Undergraduates (REEU) Fellowships in Water Quality this summer. The REEU summer program, which was hosted at TAMU in College Station, provided students with hands-on learning experiences in water quality, exposure to careers in agricultural research and extension, and a pathway to graduate school.

During the course of four weeks, students conducted research in groups, covering different topics within the field of water quality and waste water treatment. As an added bonus, they received three hours of course credit, a $2,500 stipend, free housing at TAMU, a meal allowance, an internship experience with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, and a $250 travel allowance to present their research at a water quality conference this upcoming school year. Three students from the group will eventually be selected to go on an all expenses paid five-week study abroad program in Leuven, Belgium.

PVAMU students are encouraged to apply for next summer’s Water Quality REEU program at pvamu.edu/cahs/reeu or email Dr. Ali Fares at alfares@pvamu.edu if they have questions related to the program.
By Marchita Shilo

Intel has invited Prairie View A&M University to participate in its three-year, $4.5 million HBCU grant program.

“The purpose of the grant is to encourage our students to pursue and remain in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) fields,” said Dr. Pamela Obiomon, department head and professor in PVAMU’s Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. “Minorities are underrepresented in the technology field, so Intel has set a goal to counteract the trend with this new grant.”

According to a press release from Intel, the company will use $3.9 million towards PVAMU and five other HBCUs taking part in the program, Florida A&M University, Morgan State University, Howard University, North Carolina A&T State University, and Tuskegee University.

“Some of our students in the Departments of Computer Science and Electrical and Computer Engineering will receive scholarships as part of the grant,” said Obiomon. “We’re also looking to establish an innovation center, update our laboratories and equipment, make improvements to our project-based courses, and improve our programs to increase student excitement and retention efforts.”

Intel is also planning to host programs, workshops, and research experiences at each school to bring the universities and the technology industry closer together to ensure students are prepared with the necessary skills to enter the tech workforce.

“We’re excited to work with Intel because the company is cutting edge and state-of-the-art,” said Obiomon. “Not to mention, we use a lot of their products. This will be great.”
Over the summer, Prairie View A&M University was bustling with excitement from the Class of 2021.

“We had a total of six orientations for freshmen students, and they all ran smoothly,” said Jonathan McKissack, program coordinator for New Student Orientation. “We started and ended each one on time, and the energy from these future Panthers was great.”

In case you missed the May issue of Academic Insights, we talked about how New Student Orientation, which falls under the newly created Office for Academic Engagement and Student Success, would be revamped and condensed this year to make the onboarding process more efficient.

“In previous years, there were more than a dozen orientation dates during the spring and summer. This year, we had about half of that number, and a majority of the dates were maxed out. We had nearly 400 students at each of the final four orientations – that’s a record for PV,” said McKissack.

As with all of PVAMU orientations, faculty and staff covered three main bases: financial aid and scholarships, housing, and advising and class registration.

“Our number one goal was getting these incoming freshmen registered for fall classes, and we certainly accomplished that goal,” said McKissack.

Future Panthers and their families attend NSO on June 16, 2017.
By Marchita Shilo

More than 100 kids from Mansfield and Aldine Independent School Districts visited Prairie View A&M University for the Office for Strategic Partnerships and K-12 Outreach’s Leadership Conference.

“About 40 students from Mansfield ISD were here July 17-18,” said Dr. Talitha Lewis, Director of Strategic Partnerships and K-12 Outreach. “As for Aldine ISD, this was actually their second time participating in the conference. Last time, they brought 80 kids, and this time, they brought about 120 kids from July 27-30.”

If you’ve been a faithful Academic Insights reader, Lewis compared the Leadership Conference to Elementary School Day and Middle School Day, where young ones are educated about college life at PVAMU.

“For the Leadership Conference, it’s all about rising seniors from our partnering school districts,” said Lewis. “These students attend team-building, financial aid, and admissions workshops in PV’s academic buildings. They also get to stay in PV’s dorms, eat in the cafeteria, and participate in recreational activities – they get the full college life experience for two to three days.”

Lewis said the PVAMU community should be on the lookout for more Leadership Conferences this upcoming school year.

“This particular conference is part of each district’s Memorandum of Understanding agreements with PV,” said Lewis. “We try to spend a whole year working with these students in their senior year. The Leadership Conference is an excellent way for them to ask questions, spark their thinking about attending college, and really, showcase what Prairie View has to offer.”
Starting this fall, the Dr. Felecia M. Nave, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, will sponsor a Women’s Leadership Lecture Series entitled Persistence and Resistance: Women Leading the Way.

“When it comes to the barriers that may be holding women back from achieving greater representation in academic and professional leadership roles, we must prepare students to function effectively in a culturally diverse and global community by infusing principles of diversity and equity throughout the learning process,” said Nave.

Focusing on the advancement of women locally, nationally and globally, the Women’s Leadership Lecture Series will showcase interdisciplinary work by a variety of eminent women speakers who have successfully challenged, and continue to challenge structures that have traditionally promoted gender inequity.

“The purpose of this series is to enhance possibility by bringing in high-profile women leaders to share their insights on current gender equity issues related to their area of work,” said Nave. “The objective is two-fold; (1) to provoke discussion and debate about a range of topics that gives participants the ability to think autonomously about key issues that require women to persist and resist in this country, and (2) strengthen the relationship between Prairie View A&M University and the nation’s leading women thought leaders.”

On August 25, the inaugural speaker will be Dr. Lesia Crumpton-Young, Vice President for Research and Sponsored Programs at Tennessee State University.

“Dr. Crumpton-Young’s lecture is titled, ‘Smart Moves for Smart Women: Strategies for Ensuring Career Success,’” said Nave. “In September, we will host Dr. Laura Murillo, President and CEO of the Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. She will join us during Hispanic Heritage Month to discuss women of color in small businesses.”

Seminars for the Women’s Leadership Lecture Series will be held on PVAMU’s campus from 2-3 p.m. on the fourth Friday of every month. Everyone is welcomed to attend.
in case you missed it...

Open House & Meet

July 12, 2017

The Prairie View A&M University family was invited to come out and meet Dr. Ruth J. Simmons, who was named Interim President of PVAMU this summer. To read Simmons’ complete biography, visit pvamu.edu/president.

Photo by Jourdan B. Scruggs
in case you missed it...

National Alumni Association Sponsors University Day
July 21, 2017

PVAMU alumni attending University Day during the 43rd National Convention received updates from the president’s office, business affairs, and academic affairs.
Dr. John R. Williams
41 Years of Service
Brailsford College of Arts and Sciences
Professor, Chemistry
Director, Office of Distance Learning

What has PVAMU meant to you?
“I first came to Prairie View A&M in 1964 as a rising Junior from the Mary C. Womack High School in Longview, Texas as a participant in a National Science Foundation-sponsored Summer Science Program in Chemistry. Little did I know that I would return in 1976, straight out of graduate school, for my first job. I originally planned to stay two years, but that quickly turned into three years, four years, five, six, and so on. I now have four generations of students! That being said, when you commit your total professional life to one organization, you develop an allegiance and a sense of family. You develop a deep affection for “The Hill.”

Dr. Clinnon Harvey
45 Years of Service
Office of Academic Engagement and Student Success
Developmental Education
Associate Professor, Mathematics

What has PVAMU meant to you?
“Prairie View A&M University has been my life for the past 45 years. When I first stepped foot on campus, coming from Bonham, Texas, I was just a little old country boy! Dr. Stewart, who was head of the Mathematics Department at the time, took me under his wings, and I got my bachelor’s and master’s degrees. Then, I went to work at NASA as a computer analyst, while obtaining my doctorate from the University of Houston. In the end, I came back to PVAMU because it just seemed like the place I should be.”

Mr. Lee R. Coleman
41 Years of Service
Whitlowe R. Green College of Education
Assistant Professor, Educational Leadership and Counseling

What has PVAMU meant to you?
“PVAMU has afforded me the opportunity to do what I love to do, and that is teaching. After obtaining my degrees from PVAMU, I taught in the public school system, and then I joined the US Army. Upon leaving the military, I went on to become a chemical analyst. However, in the end, I returned to Prairie View, and I have been here ever since. I love it.”
**Dr. Willie F. Trotty**  
40 Years of Service  
Whittowe R. Green College of Education  
Professor, Educational Leadership and Counseling

*What has PVAMU meant to you?*

“I started working at PVAMU back 1977, after finishing my doctorate degree. Since then, I have had numerous opportunities for professional growth, and I have been able to make many contributions to the growth of the university. I have really enjoyed my time at PVAMU; otherwise, I would not have stayed 40 years!”

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**Dr. Hylton G. McWhinney**  
34 Years of Service  
Brailsford College of Arts and Sciences  
Professor, Chemistry

*What has PVAMU meant to you?*

“Upon researching Prairie View A&M University more than 34 years ago, I was told that it was one of the premiere HBCU’s in the US. I completed a bachelors’ degree and a master’s degree in Chemistry at PVAMU, before heading to Texas A&M University to get a PhD in Analytical Chemistry. However, the traditions and potential of PVAMU enticed me to come back and begin my instructional career in Chemistry. Over the years, this university has provided me with wonderful mentors and their consummate support towards the enhancement of the professorial aspect of my professional development.”

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**Dr. Wendy I. Bergin**  
22 Years of Service  
Brailsford College of Arts and Sciences  
Associate Professor, Music & Theatre

*What has PVAMU meant to you?*

“Before starting my career at PVAMU, I had been working as an adjunct instructor at four different schools. Coming here to Prairie View meant stability. I like teaching, and I get to conduct the PVAMU Orchestra and the PVAMU Wind Ensemble—I get to do all of the things I like to do.”
Apply for 2018 Jefferson Science Fellowship Program

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine is accepting applications for the 2018 Jefferson Science Fellowship program. Tenured, or similarly ranked, academic scientists, engineers, and physicians from U.S. institutions of higher learning can apply at sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/Jefferson. The deadline for 2018-2019 program year applications/nominations is October 31, 2017.

FINA 2003 Wall Street 101

The College of Business is offering a new course for all PVAMU students: FINA 2003 Wall Street 101. This course will introduce fundamental knowledge of financial markets with hands-on learning and trading experiences using the Bloomberg Terminals and StockTrak Virtual Trading platform.

Students will obtain a Bloomberg Market Concepts certification, and they will learn real life trading through simulation.

Tuesdays & Thursdays 3:30 p.m. - 4:50 p.m. (Fall 2017)
Agriculture and Business Multipurpose Building, Room 112 (Trading Room)

Spotify is back with The Opening Act

The Opening Act is a conference for talented sophomores, juniors, and seniors who attend an HBCU, and who are interested in the music-tech and media industries. The event is a three-day experience, November 2-4. Students can find out more information and apply at 2020shift.com/the-opening-act by September 2, 2017.

Testing Center Certified by National College Testing Association

Prairie View A&M University’s Testing Center received certification from the National College Testing Association. The NCTA currently has more than 2,000 members, representing over 650 post-secondary institutions and more than 50 corporations and certification agencies in the United States and Canada. Read more about the certification program at ncta-testing.org.
August 8  |  NWHC Alumni Initiation Pinning Ceremony
August 10 |  Last Day of Class (2nd Summer, 10-Week Sessions); Main Campus Alumni Initiation Pinning Ceremony
August 11 |  Final Examinations; Commencement Rehearsal
August 12 |  Commencement
August 15 |  Final Grades Due (10-week Session)
August 17-18 |  Technology Summit
August 21 |  Faculty and Staff Conference
August 24 |  Regular Registration Begins for Fall 2017 (1st 8-Week, 2nd 8-Week, 16-Week Sessions)
August 28 |  Class Begins for Fall 2017
Aug 28 - Sept 2 |  Late Registration, Drop/Add Period
September 4 |  Labor Day (University Closed)
September 6 |  General Student Assembly
September 13 |  Late Deadline to Apply for Fall 2017 Graduation; Late Deadline for Graduating Undergraduates to Submit Application for Tuition Rebate
October 16 |  Final Examinations, Last Day of Class (1st 8-Week Session)
October 17 |  First Day of Class (2nd 8-Week Session)
October 19-21 |  Mid-Semester Examination Period
October 24 |  Mid-Semester Grades Due (Fall 2017); Final Grades Due (1st 8-Week Session)
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Commemoration Convocation
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ANNUAL FACULTY AND STAFF CONVOCATION
AUGUST 21, 2017

Technology Summit
AUGUST 17-18, 2017

PROVOST’S WOMEN’S LEADERSHIP LECTURE SERIES KICKOFF
Fall 2017