This summer, we have a constant flow of students taking classes and attending New Student Orientations, Summer Bridge Programs and Camps. Dozens more are going global in Study Abroad – we have groups in China, Paris, and Cuba, to name a few.

Across the nation, our students are taking part in summer research programs, internships, and seminars. In our previous issue, we mentioned Romaine Knight, a rising senior Finance Major who won first place in CUNA Mutual Group’s national competition. Over the next few months, he will be interning with CUNA, participating in Goldman Sachs’ Undergraduate Camp with fellow Finance Major Brenda Bermudez, and he just wrapped up his experience at the Yale School of Management’s Emerging Leaders Seminar. Romaine was one of 40 selected from 1000-plus applicants for the conference.

A few weeks ago, Governor Abbott appointed PVAMU’s Ervin Bryant, a third-year History major, to be the next student regent for The Texas A&M University System. This honor is a first for the University. There are more student accomplishments to mention, and you can find them enclosed in this issue.

On the technology side, we rolled out PVAMU’s new Intranet for faculty and staff members. It is inside PVPlace at pvamu.edu/pvplace. And, speaking of PVPlace, it was recently revamped. I encourage you to examine and utilize the upgrades. Likewise, you will notice improvements in Wi-Fi connectivity in many places on campus, including the MSC, Library, Stadium, Rec Center and Bowling Center.

PVAMU is busy working on its reaffirmation of accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). The University was fully accredited initially in 1934 and has since undergone self-evaluation processes for reaffirmation of accreditation every ten years to assess our commitment to upholding high academic standards in each component of our mission as a land-grant University. This process has been extremely effective, and we look forward to our upcoming results.

Like every month, a lot is happening at PVAMU. As always, we invite you to join in on the conversation and share your stories, too.
Prairie View A&M University’s Army ROTC Program has flourished in recent years, and most of its success is due to Lieutenant Colonel Reginald Williams. Williams joined PVAMU back in 2016 as a department head and a professor of Military Science.

“I’ve been in the Army for 19 years, and I have never seen such an aggressive program as we have here at PV,” said Williams. “I take part in our physical training exercises, or PTs, with my students, and I must say that I’m in the best shape of my life.”

During the past two years, the Army ROTC program has commissioned dozens of cadets, put a select number of students through the Army’s rigorous Airborne School, and sent a cadet abroad to Estonia for cultural studies.

“In about 24 months, our University may also see its first female minority combat arms officer, which is a spectacular accomplishment,” said Williams. “Unfortunately, there’s a stigma in the Army that says that minorities can’t be successful in the combat realm. But, as a 19-year infantryman with three combat tours and a Ranger Tab, I want my students to know that this is an avenue where they can absolutely be successful; they can do it.”

Williams says his motivation for training the next generation of soldiers is simple.

“The Army is a small place; it’s also a family business. There is a high chance that I will run into my students again in the future. This means, the better officer I can create, the better they will be able to serve in the Army,” said Williams. “Eventually, when I do take off this uniform for good, I want to make sure the officers who come from PV can continue to help protect the blanket of freedom that we hold onto so dearly here in America.”

LTC Williams will conclude his assignment at PVAMU in July. In his next job, he will command a battalion in Ft. Bliss, Texas. He will be responsible for the training and certification of National Guard and Reserve units deploying in support of operational missions.
Nursing Students Use Photography to Encourage Change

By Marchita Shilo

Dr. Michelle DeBose, an assistant professor in Prairie View A&M University’s graduate Nursing program, recently presented at the 14th Annual Faculty Development Conference in Lexington, Kentucky. Her topic: Community Engagement and PhotoVoice: Innovative Teaching Strategy Incorporated into a Graduate Level Nursing Course.

“At the workshop on May 10, I shared with other faculty members the process of obtaining a service learning grant and how I implemented the project in the fall semester,” said DeBose. “Twelve students in my graduate level nursing course, NURS 5003: Transcultural Family Health Care in Rural and Urban Settings, participated and used PhotoVoice methodology to explore cultural dimensions of health care delivery in urban and rural settings.”

DeBose’s students primarily explored Asian American and Mexican American groups, along with those in the subculture group of homelessness. They documented their findings using pictures.

“Using these images, my students were able to learn about and appreciate the culture and diverse needs of each population. They were also able to identify each group’s health care needs,” said DeBose. “In the future, many of them will be able to provide cultural exclusive health education to these groups when they encounter them as practitioners.”

In regards to the PhotoVoice method, DeBose said, “By using this innovative strategy, PhotoVoice is successful for teaching students to think critically and participate in research. My students experienced what it is like to be both a participant and a researcher. They also learned that their lived experiences through these photos could influence policy.”

A few of DeBose’s students plan to solicit Houston’s mayor to see if they can work with the city to address homelessness and the health care needs of that population.

To find out more about PhotoVoice, visit photovoice.org.
Archery Certification, 4-H Money-Making Projects, and Sausage Making 101 – these are just a few programs Prairie View A&M University’s Cooperative Extension Program has sponsored over the past few months.

“These programs fall under the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s 4-H Program,” said 4-H Program Specialist Dr. Joice Jeffries. “The goal is to provide people with life skills, leadership, volunteer, and character education opportunities to help them become productive citizens. 4-H members learn by doing, and all programs provide ‘hands-on’ opportunities for participants.”

Jeffries works with Extension agents, 4-H members, volunteers, and stakeholders in dozens of counties across Texas to support monthly programs that address current and trending issues.

“For example, during our archery workshop last month, we had about 30 adult volunteers and students come to PV’s campus to learn about the bow and arrow from experts from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department,” said Jeffries. “At the end of the day-long event, they applied to receive certification from USA Archery. In turn, this will enable them to teach this skill to people in their communities and lead 4-H archery projects. They will also enjoy other benefits such as improved physical fitness and upper body strength, as well as enjoying nature and their surroundings, thus, improving their overall health.”

What makes these 4-H programs even better is that they provide research-based information to participants.

“We follow scientific guidelines from the USDA and use other research-based information to provide high-quality experiences and hands-on trainings and workshops with the citizens of Texas so they can live better and healthier lives,” said Jeffries. “The 4-H program has been around since the early 1900s, and its mission has remained the same – to improve the consumer’s decision-making process, help reduce the risk of chronic diseases with physical education, and teach people how to enjoy a better life overall, giving them the life skills they need to be successful and self-sustainable. Moreover, our youth are equipped with skills to ‘lead for a lifetime!’”
Faculty, Staff and Student STANDOUTS

The Honors Program is proud to announce that our student has been accepted into the Fall 2018 Class of Engineering Education Graduate Program at Purdue University, Industrial Engineering Graduate Program at Texas A&M University, and the Management Science and Engineering Masters program at Stanford University.

The Honors Program is proud to announce that our student was accepted into the Vanderbilt Institute for Nanoscale Science and Engineering (VINSE) Summer 2018 Program at Vanderbilt University. In this research program, Ms. Livingston will spend ten weeks working closely with VINSE faculty on research projects in cutting edge areas of nanoscale science and engineering.

The Honors Program is proud to announce that our student has been accepted into the Fall 2018 Graduate Program in Health Care Administration at Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, Arizona.

The Honors Program is proud to announce that our student has accepted a healthcare internship with International Medical Aid (IMA) in Mombasa, Kenya for Summer 2018. The IMA is a not-for-profit organization that provides healthcare internships abroad for undergraduate students. For four weeks, Ms. Williams will be doing rotations in a local hospital, performing basic clinical skills within the community, and hosting educational health seminars.

The Honors Program is proud to announce that our students advanced to the quarterfinals in the 25th Annual Honda Campus All-Star Challenge.

The Honors Program is proud to announce that our student was accepted into the 2018 Summer Research Opportunity Program (SROP) at Northwestern University. In this research program, Ms. He'Bert will spend eight-weeks in a competitive research experience.
Governor Appoints First Student Regent from Prairie View A&M University

Ervin Bryant of Spring has been appointed the next student regent for The Texas A&M University System by Governor Greg Abbott. He replaces the outgoing student regent, Stephen F. Shuchart of Houston.

Bryant is the first student regent ever appointed from Prairie View A&M University, where he is a third-year student in the university’s Honors Program majoring in history with a minor in political science. A very active member of the Prairie View community, Bryant is a member of the Phi Alpha Theta National History Honor Society, the Blackstone Pre-Law Society, and Student Government. He is also the president of the Prairie View A&M Debate Team and the founder of The Panther Party Community Service Group.

To read the full press release from The Texas A&M University System, visit news.tamus.edu/governor-appoints-first-student-regent-from-prairie-view-am-university.
PVAMU Holds First-Ever PI Bootcamp

By Karen Cotton, Manager for Research Marketing and Communications, Office of Research, Innovation and Sponsored Programs

The Office of Research, Innovation and Sponsored Programs (ORISP) and the Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) collaborated to present the first Principal Investigator (PI) Boot Camp. Laurette Foster of CTE and Karen B. Cotton of ORISP planned the PI Bootcamp, which was three power-packed days of information on successful grantsmanship and exploring various ways of using technology and social media for research.

Those attending participated in interactive lectures, panel discussions, directed readings, and small group sessions. Sessions included on-campus proposal development resources such as research compliance, undergraduate research, export control, reading proposal solicitations, and the multitude of resources available at the John B. Coleman Library.

External professional speakers guided participants through the process of using social media to expand their circle of influence and for informing the world about the innovative research they are doing. At the end of the three-day PI Bootcamp, which was made possible by funding from Title III Federal Programs, most participants created a Twitter account and are ready to use social media as part of their goal of professional branding as researchers. David Vuletich, from the Education Advisory Board (EAB), shared information on speaking to persons who are not subject matter experts to help them understand the importance of their research.

Visit pvamu.edu/blog/principal-investigator-bootcamp and gopro.com/v/wM12r7DR2pBI to see more.
COLLEGE NEWS

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Dean Hosts Book Reading Contest

The College of Business held its most successful Dean’s Book Reading Contest to date. Fifteen students registered for the contest and received the book, “Mindset: The New Psychology of Success,” by Carol S. Dweck, Ph.D., provided by Dean Munir Quddus. Six students, Romaine Knight, Anthony Limbrick Jr., Cabina Woods, Jordan Davis, Tiara Johnson, and Kartez Rowel completed a minimum 1,500-word count original written book review and a 5 to 10-minute digital presentation. Knight, Limbrick, and Woods placed in the top three; Knight won an iPad, and Limbrick and Woods each won a cash prize. This was the contest’s eighth year since its inception in 2011.

ROY G. PERRY COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

PVAMU Hosts Mission-Critical Big Data Analytics Workshop

The third edition of the Mission-Critical Big Data Analytics Workshop took place May 15-16, at Prairie View A&M University. “Hosted by the Electrical Engineering Department, the workshop covered state-of-the-art research and development in deep learning and high-performance computing for big data analytics, especially for mission-critical applications,” said Interim Dean Shield B. Lin. “Students received tutorial sessions with hands-on training, and four research thrust teams from the CREDIT center did technical presentations. Collectively, there were some great researchers, including Team 1: PVAMU Cloud Computing Research for Big Data Analytics, Team 2: RF Spectrum Surveillance using Deep Learning, Team 3: Hierarchical Transfer CNN for IoT, and Team 4: Real-Time Video Analytics using Mobile GPU on UAVs. We also had a poster session and a demo session presented as well.”

President Ruth Simmons delivered the opening speech for the workshop, and Dr. Barbara Chapman, a professor from Stony Brook University, Dr. Jaret C. Riddick, director of the U.S. Army Research Lab, and Theresa Kushner, senior vice president of Dell, served as keynote speakers. For more information, visit credit.pvamu.edu/MBDA2018.
Ten Students Commissioned into U.S. Army, Navy

On May 11, Prairie View A&M University conducted a Joint Commissioning Ceremony for its Army ROTC and Navy ROTC programs.

“With our guest speaker, Navy Veteran and former mayor of Prairie View, Frank D. Jackson, we honored the hard work, dedication, resilience, and duty of cadets turned officers,” said Lieutenant Colonel Reginald Williams, department head and a professor of Military Science. “The road to success is never easy, and the perseverance of these young men throughout undergrad in the Army ROTC Panther Battalion has shined brightly to act as a light through the tunnel for their upcoming duty assignments and preparation for their careers.”


“These outstanding graduates of Prairie View A&M University are highly motivated to commence their respective careers in the armed forces and to develop further mentally, morally and physically to assume the highest responsibilities of citizenship and government service,” said Dean Danny R. Kelley.

In August, the PVAMU Army ROTC program will commission four more cadets, and in the spring of 2019, it is anticipating its largest class in over ten years.
This spring, over 800 students were recognized at Prairie View A&M University’s history-making commencement celebration at Panther Stadium. “To all of the graduates, let the world witness your excellence,” said 2017-2018 SGA President Kendric D. Jones. Historian, author, curator, educator, and director of the Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History and Culture Lonnie G. Bunch III served as this year’s Commencement speaker.
in case you missed it...

The 369th Experience
May 28, 2018

On Memorial Day, six Marching Storm members presented as part of the 369th Experience band in New York. PVAMU’s David Otinwa, David Burrows, Shawn Smith, Aaron Cosse, Christopher Quiroz, and Jacob Paul Tatum and dozens of other HBCU student musicians are a part of the band, which commemorates the 100th Anniversary of the WWI Regiment Harlem Hellfighters Band.

To read more about PVAMU’s involvement in the 369th Experience, visit pvamu.edu/academicaffairs and click on the June 2017 issue of AI.
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>June 4</td>
<td>First Day of Class, Late Registration and Drop/Add</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 7</td>
<td>Last Day to Withdraw from Course(s) without Academic Record (Summer 2018 1st 5-week Session)</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 19</td>
<td>Last Day to Withdraw from Course(s) without Academic Record (Summer 2018)</td>
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<td>June 27</td>
<td>Late Deadline to Apply for Summer 2018 Graduation (ceremony participation)</td>
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<td>June 28</td>
<td>Application Period Begins for Summer 2018 Degree Conferral (no ceremony participation or listing in the program)</td>
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<td>July 4</td>
<td>Independence Day (University Closed)</td>
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<td>July 6</td>
<td>Final Examinations, Last Day of Class (Summer 2018 1st 5-week Session)</td>
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<td>July 9</td>
<td>First Day of Class, Late Registration and Drop/Add (Summer 2018 2nd 5-week Session); Final Grades Due (Summer 2018 1st 5-week Session)</td>
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<td>July 12</td>
<td>Last Day to Withdraw from Course(s) without Academic Record (Summer 2018 2nd 5-week Session)</td>
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<td>Aug 6</td>
<td>Final Exams, Last Day of Class, Last Day to Apply for Degree Conferral Only (no ceremony participation or listing in the program), Late Deadline for Graduating Undergraduates to Submit Application for Tuition Rebate</td>
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<td>Aug 8</td>
<td>Final Grades Due (for graduation candidates)</td>
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<td>Aug 10</td>
<td>Final Grades Due (for all other students)</td>
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<td>Aug 11</td>
<td>Commencement</td>
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<td>Aug 23</td>
<td>Regular Registration Period Begins (Fall 2018)</td>
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<td>Aug 27</td>
<td>First Day of Class, Late Registration and Drop/Add</td>
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NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

APRIL 27    JUNE 15
MAY 18     JUNE 27*
JUNE 8     JUNE 29
JUNE 13*    JUNE 29

*Transfer Orientation Dates

pvamu.edu/orientation

SUMMER CAMPS & PROGRAMS
JUNE – JULY

pvamu.edu/summer

Commencement Convocation
AUGUST 11
2018

First Day of School
FALL 2018: AUGUST 27