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Faculty & Staff News - January 1997

Prairie View A&M University

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Prairie View A&M University. (1997). Faculty & Staff News - January 1997., *Vol. 1 No.4* Retrieved from <https://digitalcommons.pvamu.edu/faculty-and-staff-news/10>

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NASA and PVAMU say to HBCUs: Join The New Frontier In Telecommunications!

by Bryan H. Barrows III

The message came through loud and clear December 5 and 6, at a "Vision 2000... Toward Educational Excellence Through Technology" conference held at the Wyndham Greenspoint Hotel and the Prairie View A&M University Northwest Graduate Center at the Compaq Computer Corporation. The message was to **minority institutions ... come on in ... the water is fine!** The Minority University-Space Interdisciplinary Network (MU-SPIN), PVAMU/NASA Southwest Regional Network Resources and Training Site (NRTS) and the Compaq Computer Corporation joined forces to present a glimpse of the 21st Century to Historically Black Colleges and Universities from around the state.

Presiding officer, Dr. John R. Williams of PVAMU, said, "I welcome you to this conference sponsored by the Minority University-Space Interdisciplinary Network. It is important that we form more effective partnerships among ourselves, with business and government if we are to be full participants in the communications technology revolution that is occurring before our eyes." He further stated, "NASA is reaching out to HBCUs to become more involved in its research and development efforts." One approach involves use of seven Network Resources and Training Sites (NRTS) strategically placed around the country. The training sites provide regional leadership in the development of technology infrastructure on the campuses of HBCUs and other institutions which serve large minority populations. The NRTS site at PVAMU provides leadership to its partners in such areas as installation and/or upgrade of internet resources, computer hardware, staff training, maintenance and support of campus network resources.

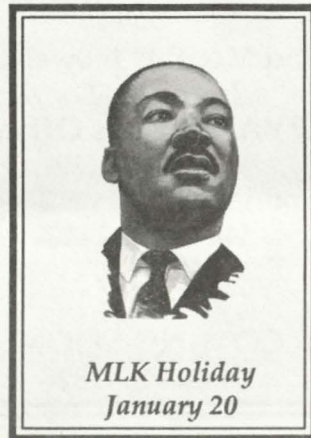
Dr. Williams presented James Harrington from the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (Greenbelt, Maryland) who serves as director of the MU-SPIN Program. Harrington gave a brief overview of the goals and the strategic plan of MU-SPIN. Williams also presented consultant, Dr. Ely Dorsey, professor of information systems within the School of Business at Howard University, who spoke about socio-technological change. Dorsey noted that initiatives such as MU-SPIN can offer brilliant research and technology but that human systems often tend to stand in the way of their effectiveness. Therefore, he believes that HBCUs must be committed to the concept of change (when it is necessary).

The dinner speaker on Thursday evening was State Representative Sylvester Turner who expressed the necessity for HBCUs to become active players in the technology development efforts of this state.

The Friday morning session was hosted by the Higher Education Marketing Division of Compaq Computer Corporation. The session included a tour of the production facilities and an overview of emerging technological developments in higher education from a leader in educational technology.



Dr. Willie Trotty, Dr. John Williams and State Rep. Sylvester Turner confer.



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FACULTY STAFF NEWS

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COMING SOON!

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Nuclear Regulatory Commission Seeks Faculty and Student Participation

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Faculty and Student Research Participation Program is seeking HBCU faculty and students for research, education and training opportunities at federal laboratories and for on-campus research.

The purpose of the NRC/HBCU Research Participation Program is to introduce faculty and students from HBCUs to research and development activities of the federal government. Participants conduct hands-on research using state-of-the-art equipment not usually found in most campus laboratories. Projects relate to individual academic majors, professional goals, and the ongoing research and development of the facility. Participants are encouraged to develop partnerships and collaborations that promote research at HBCU campuses, enhance teaching skills of faculty and encourage students to seek advanced degrees in science, engineering and technology.

The program offers research opportunities in more than thirty different areas of study from engineering, health physics, seismology/geotechnology, human factors, hydrogeology, technical writing, structural geology, materials/metallurgical engineering, computer science, mathematics and risk/performance assessment.

Full-time undergraduate participants receive stipends of \$300 per week, graduate students receive \$400 per week and faculty members receive monthly stipends equivalent to either their monthly university salaries or \$3,400, whichever is greater.

The application deadline for summer research participation is **January 12, 1997**, and the deadline for "on-campus" research is ongoing. For application materials or more information, contact **Elizabeth Kittrell**, project manager, (423) 241-3319. On Internet, go to <http://www.ora.gov/seed/seedfact.htm>.

Research Expanding At PVAMU

Research Expenditures Top \$11 Million

It is well known among colleges and universities that institutions of higher education either thrive or perish based upon their capacity to perform research. Therefore, it is considered that the amount of research expenditure impacted by such an institution is a sure sign of overall effectiveness. Accordingly, Prairie View A&M University has announced in a report to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board that the Historically Black University (HBU) has seen a rise in its overall rate of research expenditure from Fiscal Year 1994-95's level of \$7,847,915 to \$11,045,026 in 1996. Such an increase is deemed nothing short of phenomenal.

According to Dr. Willie F. Trotty, Dean of the PVAMU Graduate School and Director of University Research, "We are pleased and delighted that our figures show such a hefty increase in the rate of research expenditure. I congratulate the faculty and staff members who have worked long and hard to make it possible. And, as an institution of the first class, we expect to continue to place PVAMU in the forefront of research in the years to come."

Areas showing the largest percentage of research expenditure were engineering, the physical sciences, agricultural sciences, and food/fiber/agricultural products. Other significant sources of research expenditure were environmental sciences, mathematical sciences, computer science, medical science, the arts & humanities, business administration, education, energy, biotechnology, materials science & engineering, aerospace technology and environmental science.

Shell Oil Gives \$5,000 to PV

College of Nursing

Students in the College of Nursing are beaming with enthusiasm as Shell Oil Foundation representative, Jackie Baker, R.N., M.S.N., recently presented a check for \$5,000 to provide operating support for the college. This is the second year Shell has contributed to the College of Nursing as a part of a continuing effort to assist PVAMU students in developing to their fullest educational and professional potential. In addition, Shell Oil Company supports nursing students for summer internships as well as during the community health nursing practicum each semester.

The PVAMU College of Nursing, accredited by the National League of Nursing, is pleased to have 52 seniors for December graduation



Shell Oil Company Foundation presentation of check for \$5,000 November 21, 1996 to the College of Nursing. From left to right, Brian Williams, Wendy Rankins and Christopher Molo; Standing, from left to right, Ernest Moore, Timothy Carter-Flowers, Jackie Baker, Lillian Bernard, Dollie Brathwaite and Ron Hines.

and is expecting at least 43 graduates for the May '97 commencement. The faculty are actively engaged in the development of a graduate program, conducting minority health research projects and involved with students

in various community service activities. There are over 500 pre-nursing students enrolled at the main campus, according to Dr. Dollie Brathwaite, dean of the College of Nursing.

American Business Women's Association Seeking New Members

Surveys of the workplace show that the average person changes jobs about seven times in a lifetime of work and tends to shift career paths up to three times during the same period of time. In view of such statistics, the American Business Women's Association is an association which hopes to help individual workers grow and develop to full potential. With 90,000 members and 1,600 chapters nationwide, the ABWA has been instrumental in helping women gain lifetime professional advancement and personal growth.

Betty Fant (Hempstead), is working to open a Hempstead chapter of the ABWA and is extending an invitation to PVAMU women employees who are interested in helping to build this new community initiative.

The new chapter meets the third Tuesday of each month at the Tai-Yan Chinese restaurant in Hempstead, at 6:30 PM for a social time. Dinner begins at 7:00 PM. A variety of interesting speakers are planned for the monthly meetings ahead. For more information, call Betty Fant at (409) 826-3268 or (409) 826-2411, ext. 251. The next meeting is set for January 21, 1997, at 6:30 PM.

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JANUARY 1997

Wednesday, January 8
Registration for New Students

Thursday-Friday, January 9-10
Regular Student Registration

Saturday, January 11
Registration for Weekend and Off-Campus Classes

Monday, January 13
University Instruction Begins

Wednesday, January 15
Late Registration/Course Changes Begin

Saturday, January 18
Late Registration and Course Changes End

Monday, January 20
University Holiday
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr's Birthday

Wednesday, January 29
College of Business Career Forum
Hobart Taylor Building, 9:00 AM

Thursday, January 2
Fiscal Affairs Office Opens for paycheck dispersal
9:00 AM-12:00 Noon

Friday, January 3
University Opens For Business

Sunday, January 5
Residence Halls Open for New Students

Wednesday, January 8
Residence Halls Open for Returning Students

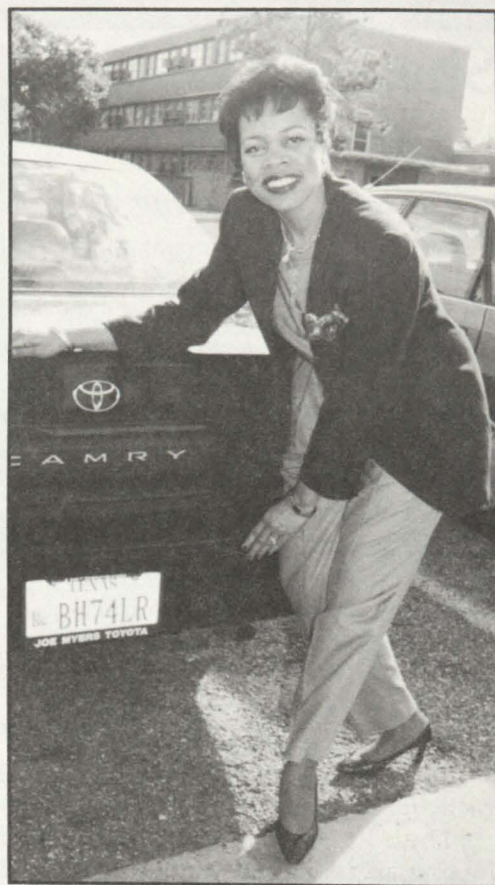
Monday-Wednesday, January 6-8
Orientation for New Students

Tuesday, January 7
Houston Nursing Registration

Men's Basketball Schedule

Month	Opponent	Location	Time
January	Jackson State University	PVAMU	7:30 PM
	Alabama State University	PVAMU	7:30 PM
	Grambling State University	Grambling, La.	7:30 PM
	Mississippi Valley State University	Itta Bena, Ms.	7:30 PM
	Alcorn State University	PVAMU	7:30 PM
February	Southern University	PVAMU	7:30 PM
	Oklahoma Baptist University	PVAMU	7:30 PM
	Texas Southern University	Houston, Tx.	7:30 PM
	Jackson State University	Jackson, Ms.	7:30 PM
	Alabama State University	Montgomery, Al.	7:30 PM
	Huston-Tillotson College	PVAMU	7:30 PM
	Grambling State University	PVAMU	7:30 PM
March	Mississippi State University	PVAMU	7:30 PM
	Alcorn State University	Lorman, Ms.	7:30 PM
	Southern University	Baton Rouge, La.	7:30 PM
	Texas Southern University	PVAMU	7:30 PM
	TBA	SWAC Tournament	Dallas, Tx.

For more information, call the Sports Information Office at (409) 857-2114.



University License Plates
Carolyn Bradley-Oliver, pictured above, proudly displays her University License plates.

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Call (409) 857-4091

Texas Organization of Black County Commissioners To Meet January 11th At Prairie View A&M University

The Texas Organization of Black County Commissioners will have a "General Membership Meeting", Saturday, January 11, 1997. The meeting will be held 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, in the Public Events Room of John B. Coleman Library.

Among the major items on the agenda will be the HB 146: Paul Quinn Transfer, HJR 16: Abolition of Constitutional County Offices and the HB 1863: Welfare Reform Bill.