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## Commencement Convocation Exercises - December 1996

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# PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

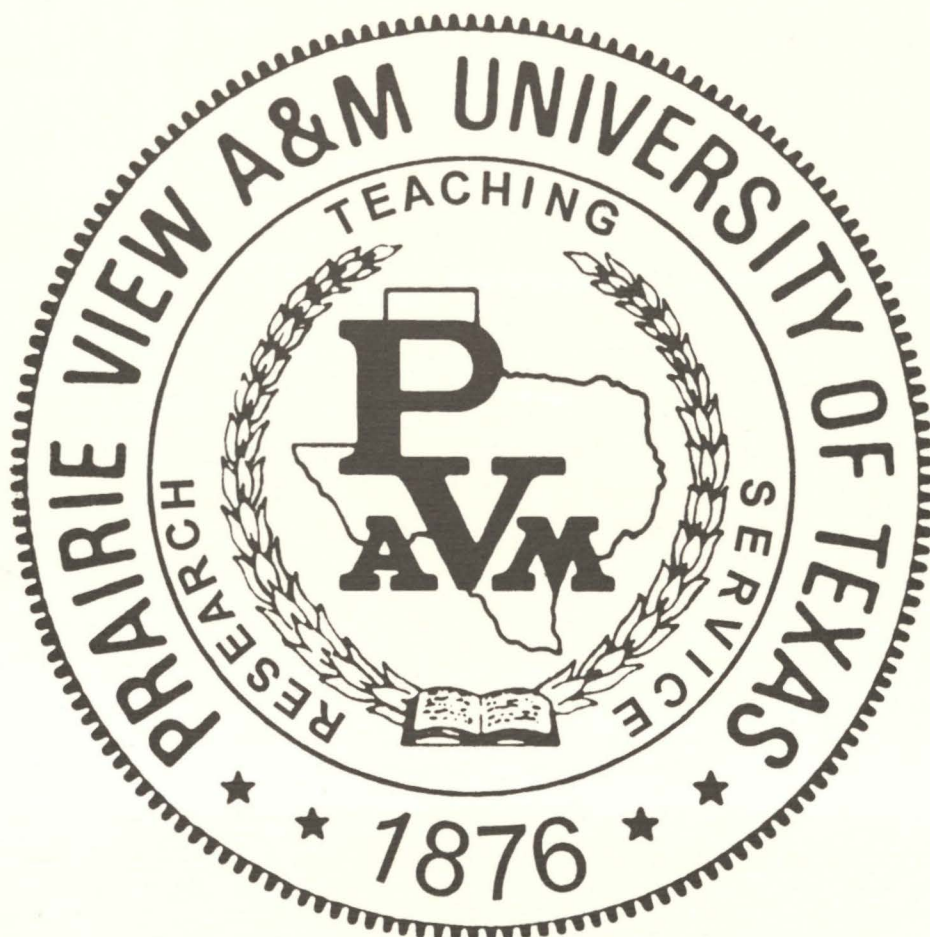
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

PRAIRIE VIEW, TEXAS

ONE HUNDRED TWENTIETH YEAR

## COMMENCEMENT CONVOCATION

(THE FIRST FALL COMMENCEMENT)



WILLIAM "BILLY" J. NICKS BUILDING  
SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER FOURTEENTH  
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY SIX  
TEN-THIRTY O'CLOCK

## **TO OUR GUESTS**

Commencement is a significant and solemn event, recognizing years of study and sacrifice. To make this ceremony more meaningful, we ask all guests and participants to avoid unnecessary conversation and movement during the exercises.

Please withhold your applause during the presentation of degrees until each degree group is acknowledged and the candidates have returned to their seats.

Following the singing of the Alma Mater, there is a Recessional for the platform party and all degree recipients. We ask the audience to remain seated during this period.

For your assistance, an Emergency Medical Services station is available in the Field House. Please ask an usher for assistance.

# THE COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM

*Presiding:* Dr. Charles A. Hines  
President, Prairie View A&M University

ORGAN PRELUDE ..... Dr. Danny R. Kelley

## THE CONVOCAATION PROCESSION

COMMENTATOR FOR THE PROCESSION ..... Dr. E. Joahanne Thomas-Smith  
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

ACADEMIC PROCESSIONAL: "War March of the Priests" (Athalia) ..... *Felix Mendelssohn*  
Dr. Danny R. Kelley, Organist  
Dr. Marion Henry, Marshal

Marshal

The Dean of Benjamin Banneker Honors College

Faculty

Candidates for Degrees in the Graduate School

Candidates for Degrees in the College of Agriculture and Human Sciences

Candidates for Degrees in the College of Arts and Sciences

Candidates for Degrees in the College of Business

Candidates for Degrees in the College of Education

Candidates for Degrees in the College of Engineering and Architecture

Candidates for Degrees in the College of Nursing

President's Party

INVOCATION ..... The Reverend Charles H. Lewter, Jr.  
Dean, University Chapel

NATIONAL ANTHEM ..... *Frances Scott Key*

## GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD OF REGENTS

AND AUTHORIZATION FOR CONFERRAL OF DEGREES ..... Mrs. Alison Brisco  
Member, TAMUS Board of Regents

GREETINGS FROM THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM ..... Dr. Barry B. Thompson  
Chancellor

INTRODUCTION OF THE COMMENCEMENT ORATOR ..... President Charles A. Hines

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS ..... The Honorable Garnet F. Coleman  
Texas House of Representatives  
District 147, Harris County

MUSIC: "Lift Every Voice and Sing" ..... *Roland Carter*

THE UNIVERSITY CONCERT CHOIR

Jan Taylor, Director

PRESENTATION OF THE DEAN OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL ..... Dr. E. Joahanne Thomas-Smith

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

FROM THE GRADUATE SCHOOL ..... Dean Willie Trotty, Ph.D.

PRESENTATION OF THE DEANS

OF THE UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE ..... Dr. E. Joahanne Thomas-Smith

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FROM:

THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

AND HUMAN SCIENCES ..... Dean Elizabeth Noel, Ph.D.

THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES ..... Dean Edward W. Martin, Ph.D.

THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ..... Dean Barbara P. Jones, Ph.D.

THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION ..... Dean M. Paul Mehta, Ed.D.

THE COLLEGE OF

ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE ..... Interim Dean John Fuller, Ph.D.

THE COLLEGE OF NURSING ..... Dean Dollie Brathwaite, Ph.D.

THE CONFERRING OF DEGREES ..... President Charles A. Hines

ALMA MATER: "Dear Prairie View" ..... *Fuller-Sibelius*

RECESSIONAL: "Pomp and Circumstance" ..... *Edward Elgar*

(Audience Seated)

# THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

## BOARD OF REGENTS

MARY NAN WEST .....	Chairman	Batesville
T. MICHAEL O'CONNOR .....	Vice-Chairman	Victoria
ROBERT H. ALLEN .....		Houston
ALISON BRISCO .....		Houston
JOHN H. LINDSEY .....		Houston
FREDERICK D. MCCLURE .....		Dallas
DON POWELL .....		Amarillo
M. GUADALUPE L. RANGEL .....		Corpus Christi
ROYCE E. WISENBAKER .....		Tyler
<i>Secretary of the Board of Regents</i> .....		VICKIE RUNNING

## SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION

<i>Chancellor</i> .....	BARRY B. THOMPSON
<i>Deputy Chancellor for Finance and Operations</i> .....	RICHARD LINDSAY
<i>Deputy Chancellor for Academic Institutions and Agencies</i> .....	LEO SAYAVEDRA
<i>Vice Chancellor for Dean of Engineering</i> .....	C. ROLAND HADEN
<i>Vice Chancellor for Agriculture and Life Sciences</i> .....	EDWARD A. HILER
<i>Vice Chancellor for Business Services</i> .....	TOM KALE
<i>Vice Chancellor for Research, Planning and Continuing Education</i> .....	J. CHARLES LEE
<i>Vice Chancellor for Facilities Planning and Construction</i> .....	WESLEY E. PEEL

## PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

CHARLES A. HINES .....	President
E. JOAHANNE THOMAS-SMITH .....	Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs
WILLIE TEMPTON .....	Vice-President for Administration and Finance
VIVIAN SMITH .....	Interim Vice-President for Student Affairs
CAROLYNE BRADLEY-OLIVER .....	Director of Institutional Development
DOLLIE BRATHWAITE .....	Dean, College of Nursing
JOHN FULLER .....	Interim Dean, College of Engineering and Architecture
BARBARA A. P. JONES .....	Dean, College of Business
EDWARD W. MARTIN .....	Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
M. PAUL MEHTA .....	Dean, College of Education
ELIZABETH NOEL .....	Dean, College of Agriculture and Human Sciences
JEWEL PRESTAGE .....	Dean, Benjamin Banneker Honors College
WILLIE TROTTY .....	Dean, Graduate School

# CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES<sup>1</sup>

## COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN SCIENCES

### CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS

#### *Sociology Curriculum*

DOUGLAS, BRIGGITTE CHARLENE Fort Worth JACKSON, JANICE R. Houston

### CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS IN SOCIAL WORK

BARNETT, HOLLY C. Fort Worth TURNER, DEVIN EARL Dallas  
LARKIN, OLETHEA RENEE Jasper WALKER, CONNIE L. Killeen  
SCOTT, BARBARA ANN Dallas WALLACE, PATRICIA YVETTE San Antonio

### CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURE

#### *Agricultural Economics Curriculum*

LEWIS, SEAN GARFIELD Jamaica, W.I. SHELLBERG, MONIQUE College Station  
LEWIS, JERETHA A. Prairie View

#### *Agriculture and Human Resources Curriculum*

DONAHUE, GENE COLEMAN Houston SMITH, LORNA DYANN El Paso  
ONGUDU, PETER DACHO Prairie View

#### *Animal Science Curriculum*

UN, THAVANN Houston

### CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN DIETETICS

#### *Human Nutrition and Food Curriculum*

ACHIAA, RITA M. Houston HENSON, SHEILA ESTELLE San Antonio  
ADAMS, MELONIE Los Angeles, CA HUMPHREY, TRENNAH BAHNEÉ Houston  
EVANS, DONNA DENISE Port Arthur

### CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HUMAN SCIENCES

#### *Human Development and the Family Curriculum*

BURKE, FRIEDA R. Houston

## COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

### CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS

#### *Communications Curriculum*

DAVIS, DORIAN CAMBRIDGE Houston

<sup>1</sup> As final action cannot always be taken by the time the program is printed, the list of candidates given here is tentative only. The University reserves the right to withdraw or add names.

† The golden-colored cord represents undergraduate candidates graduating with academic honors.

‡ The burgundy and gray cord represents undergraduate candidates graduating from the Benjamin Banneker Honors College.

*Communications — Journalism Curriculum*

WILLIAMS, LASHONDA RENÉE Houston

*Communications — Radio/Television Curriculum*

DAVENPORT, LASHAN G. Kansas City, MO

*English Curriculum*

BELL, HONRÉ L.	Houston	HUMPHERY, LAMONT ANDRÉ	Houston
CARR, JACQUELINE D.	Houston	MORGAN, COREY L.	Dallas

*Geography Curriculum*

STEWART, SHAUNDA MONIQUE Houston

*History Curriculum*

DIRDEN, STEFFAN D.	Camden	WADSWORTH, KENNETH LEE	Cypress
FOSTER, ANTHONY KEITH	Dallas		

*Music Curriculum*

FLANNIGAN, EDWIN ALDRIN Houston

*Political Science Curriculum*

CLEMONS-COLLINS, KIMBERLY	Fairburn, GA	SHEPHERD, CHARLES EVERETT, JR.	Houston
HORNSBY, SHONTAVIA SHONET	Taylor		

*Spanish Curriculum*

HERNANDEZ, DIANA G. Houston

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF MUSIC

*Applied Music Curriculum*

THOMAS, NORMAN LANDERS Houston

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF  
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

*Biology Curriculum*

COLLINS, ANGELA GAIL	Fort Worth	LOGAN, ORLANDO	Houston
FORD, KRISTEN	Detroit, MI	MARTIN, ELVA MELISSA	Ontario, Canada
HARRIS, GENIA KAY	El Campo	WICKRAMATUNGE, NARENDRA CHANNA	Pattison
JEFFERSON, REGINALD GERARD	Angleton	WILLIAMS, NORMAN G.	Houston
JORDAN, ADRIENNE CHANELLE	Missouri City	WOODARD, ERIC LYNN	Wharton

*Mathematics Curriculum*

KING, CANDICE RAE	Dallas	STELLY, CLASSONIA GENEÉ	Port Arthur
ROGERS, JOHN RUSSELL	San Antonio		

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

BELL, VANESE MISHAVN	Corpus Christi	GILLIAM, PETRÉ S.	Woodruff, SC
BENFORD, D'ARCY N.	Waco	HALL, JONCHEA M.	Houston
DERRICK, TANAGELA	Odessa	IVERY, CANDANCE LORAINÉ	Dallas
EUSTACE, KARRYN E.	Houston	GLOVER, FRED A DENISE	Hempstead
FORD, KENYA LASHUN	Bryan	JEFFERY, DE KEISHA	Hockley
GATLIN, CHRIS	Houston	LEWIS, ROMAN PARIS	Fort Worth



MERRETT, ROBBIE ARTIES  
PHILLIPS, FREDRICK ALONZO

Killeen  
Fort Worth

ROBINSON, DINAH NICHELLE

Liberty

## COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

### CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

#### *Accounting Curriculum*

DEASON, MALCOLM J.	Lufkin	MITCHELL, MECCA MESCHET	Converse
FERGUSON, EUTHALIE	Nassau, Bahamas	SANDERS, RAMONDA DIANE	New Boston
HERNDON, STEPHANIE DEANNA	Dallas	SIMS, CARY	Bellville
MAYES-JACKSON, JUANITA	Hempstead	WALKER, KAREN T.	San Antonio
JOHNSON, SERMONDO	Tyler	WARREN, JULIA ELIZABETH	Missouri City
LEWIS, BELINDA	Chicago, IL		

#### *Administrative Information Systems Curriculum*

EVANS, RUSSELL BRIAN	Brenham	JACKSON, TERRENCE N.	Houston
JACKSON, TAMIEKA MONIQUE	Karnack	OYETEJU-SOLOMON, CLEMENT OLUMIDE	Houston

#### *Finance Curriculum*

ATTA, FRANKLIN K.	Prairie View	IROKU, BETTY C.	Jersey City, NJ
HICKS, LAVETTA B.	Southfield, MI	LAMOTHE, ISIDORE J., IV	Longview

#### *Management Curriculum*

BLAND, VERNON L.	Houston	WOMACK, CHONTELL C.	Dallas
JASPER, PATRICIA DOREEN	Cincinnati, OH		

#### *Marketing Curriculum*

JEFFERSON, GERALD ANDRÉ, II	Fort Worth	WARD, PORTIA	Lake Jackson
MCCRAY, MARION LEROY, III	Houston	WILFORD, HILARY M.	Houston

## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

### CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

#### *Health Curriculum*

GRAHAM, BRIAN DANIEL	Lumberton	SCOTT, RODRICK A.	Galveston
MORRISON, STEVEN ALEXANDER	Longview	STUBBS, ALLISON KRISTEN	El Campo
SCOTT, ARVITTA LORRAINE	Houston		

#### *Human Performance Curriculum*

CASMER, MICHAEL SHAWN	Dallas	SCOTT, ARVITTA LORRAINE	Houston
GARNER, KEVIN DUANE	Houston	SCOTT, RODRICK A.	Galveston
MORRISON, STEVEN ALEXANDER	Longview		

#### *Psychology Curriculum*

ADAMS, DEORDRE LYNN	Houston	JAMES, MICHAEL CHRISTOPHER	Houston
ANDREWS, SONYA LYNN	Beaumont	KEYS-OWENS, MARION	Beaumont
DEWS, LISA MONIQUE	Fort Worth		

## CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

APPLEWHITE, RACHEL DESHAWN	Kountze	JONES, SHARICKA L.	Houston
BONTKE, JOYCE SMITH	Houston	LAWTON, ERICKA SHARMAINE	Mesquite
CANTU, SONYA GABRIELLA	Cypress	LEE, TIAMOIYA KAMARIA	Houston
DEARBORNE, SHANDRA RAE	Houston	LLOYD, MARTHA ALICE DICKSON	Hockley
DIAL, APRIL DANIELLE	Houston	MAJORS, SHERIKA	Dallas
DIGGS, DENNIS ALONZO	Wallis	NOSKA, KATHRYNE M.	Bellville
FERDON, LESLIE KAYE MADDEN	Hockley	PRICE, EMORY CAMAR	Livingston
GREER, KIMBERLY DAWN	Dallas	RANDOLPH, JULIENNE FAITH	Houston
HARKINS, JUDY L.	Hockley	RICE, MONIQUE NICHOLE	Beaumont
HARRIS, TANYA J.	Houston	SECRIST, HELLEN MARY TROTTER	Pattison
HARRISON, MONIQUE R.	Houston	WATKINS, IDA B.	Arlington
HENDRICKS, HARRIET ELAINE	Austin	WEAVER, TERRIE JEAN REED	Tomball
JAMES, CASSANDRA RENEE	Longview	WELLS, ELMARY	Navasota

## COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE

### CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARCHITECTURE

GATSON, MELVIN WALLACE, JR.	Dallas	MOTT, AMIR L.	Chicago, IL
KULATUNGA, M. DILSHAN	Houston		

### CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS

#### *Advertising Arts Curriculum*

BOOKER, ARTHUR CORNELLIUS	Sherman	YOUNG, WILLIAM THOMAS, JR.	Fort Worth
BOYD, DEREK DESHAUN	Dallas		

### CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

#### *Computer Science Curriculum*

BATY, ANDREA	Dallas	NARCISSE, KENRIC	Port Arthur
DAWSON, SCOTT M.	Tomball	SANGJUN, SHIN	Kingwood
GBANDI, SANDY	Prairie View	WEBB, ERIC B.	Prairie View
HENGEL, WAYNE D.	Hempstead		

### CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

ARRINGTON, DUSHUN	Waco	JOSEPH, SEARCY J.	Houston
DANIEL, MATHEWS K.	Pasadena	JOSEPH, TEJUANNA M.	Beaumont
DECARDI-NELSON, LESLIE WILMOT	Ghana, West Africa	MARTIN, MEKISHA JOVAÉ	Port Arthur
GLASS, ALNIKKIOSHEA TRASHA	Freeport	PEARSON, PAMELA RENEÉ	Chicago, IL
HOUSTON, CHRISTOPHER BRANDON	Tyler	RICHARD, NEADRA SHONTAÉ	Beaumont
HUDSON, ANGELA DELORES	Red Oak	WHEELER, CONNIE DEE	Detroit, MI
JACK, ANDREA BERTINA	Austin	YAKOB, YODIT	Houston

### CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING

ROBINSON, CHRISTOPHER LAMON	Dallas
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### CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

KAMUYU, JANE WAIRIMU	Houston	WINSTON, JAMAL VON	Houston
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## CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

ANDERSON, DONNA N.	Houston	MCKNIGHT, TAMMIE L.	Crockett
BACON, KEVIN WILLIAMS	Natchez, MS	NEGASH, SEID	Houston
BAKER, JEFFREY NEWMAN	Rockville, MD	OPOKU, JOSEPH	Prairie View
BOLDEN, ERIC WAYNE	Dallas	PARKER, RONA NICOLE	Houston
CORNELIUS, ADRIAN D.	Prairie View	PRICE, RODERICK L.	Missouri City
DAVIS, ALFRED WILLIAM, II	Dallas	REED, JONATHAN ODELL	Houston
DUKES, MONTREAL REMOND	Fort Worth	RENFRO, COREY DOUGLAS	Houston
EASTON, CARL BERTRAM	Lake Jackson	RIVERS, ABDOL KARIEM	Naples
EVANS, ERIC DUPREA	Flint, MI	SAVOY, DEMOND B.	Beaumont
FOLEY, DEBRA G.	Detroit, MI	SPEARMAN, LAWANDA S.	Detroit, MI
HOPKINS, ARTHUR L.	Dallas	THOMAS, TERRY GLENN, JR.	Austin
JONES, NOBLETON FIFYAW	Houston	TORAN, STEPHANIE M.	Dallas
JONES, PHILIP MORRIS, II	Houston	WESLEY, GREGORY WAYNE	Fort Worth

## CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

DAVIS, DECEDRIC DEJUAN	Dallas	MCLAURIN, ROBBY M.	San Antonio
JOHNSON, RALPH BUCHE	Houston	MAYBERRY, JOHN ANTHONY	Houston
KING, ROY HOWARD, III	Lexa, AR	MORNING, RONALD L., II	Houston

## CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

ALHAJALI, KHALED M.	Houston	LLOYD, EDWIN AARON	Dallas
ANTWINE, RAMON TREVINO	Houston	MCAVID, D. G., JR.	Tomball
BALDWIN, ARNOLD B.	Houston	MCKINLEY, JASMINE JEAN	Hempstead
BENSON, PORTIA JEMAL	Chicago, IL	MOORE, RONALD, JR.	Houston
BOWIE, JOHN WILLIAM, II	Houston	RATSHITANGA, NNDONDENI EDGAR	Houston
HUQ, JAVED B.	Houston	RILEY, DANIEL E.	San Antonio
JOHNSON, KATRINA ROCHELLE	Houston	RILEY, RASHAWN LAJON	Detroit, MI
JOHNSON, RAYMOND, III	Houston	ROBERSON, JO RUETTA	Kansas City, MO
JORDAN, YOLANDA LAVETTE	Jackson, MS	RUTHERFORD, CHAD ALEXANDER	Sugar Land
KIRKSEY, BRODERICK ONIEL	Houston	SEARS, CELESTE	Duncanville
LINDSEY, CHRISTOPHER GERARD	Athens	TUCKER, DONALD RAY, JR.	Beaumont

## CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

MORRIS, DONALD H. Hutchins

## COLLEGE OF NURSING

### CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

ADAMS, MONIQUE LYNETTE	Houston	EVANS, LORI ANN	Houston
AING, MALISSA ANN	Brenham	FAULKNER, MARTHA B.	Bryan
AKUBUKWE, UGOCHI UCHEAMAKA	Houston	FLANAGAN, SCHQUETTA R.	Houston
ASIE, ANNA MARIA	Linden, NJ	FONTENOT-CORYATT, ANDRIA L.	Sugar Land
BASS, YOLANDA K.	Needville	GARRISON, SHANNON ELISE	Houston
BATES, RHONDA LA'NELL	Houston	GEORGE, SHYNI ANN	Carrollton
BEECHUM, TREENEKA DESHAWN	Houston	GRAVES, BELINDA R.	Houston
BOSHA, YATISHA	Nome	GREEN, CHERIE RENÉ	Houston
BRACKENS, CHERYL L'RAE	Missouri City	HARRIS, CYNTHIA G.	Houston
CAGIGAL, MARIA DEL CARMEN RODRIQUEZ	Sugar Land	HELLMANN, JUDY K.	Brenham
CELESTINE, CHANEL MONIQUE	Houston	HINES, ROBIN A.	Houston
CHANDY, JOCELYN SUSAN	Missouri City	HUBERT, NADINE SABINA	San Diego, CA
DIAZ, LAFAY ARLENE	San Antonio	ISIDIENU, PAULINE N.	Houston
ERICKSON, KIMBERLY S.	Houston	JOUBERT, JESSICA R.	Houston

KELLY, DENNIS W.	Spring	TAYLOR, CHARLEXIA DENISE	Houston
KINNARD, TRICIA KATHLEEN	San Antonio	TAYLOR, LATRESHIA S.	Houston
MARSHALL, SABRINA ANN	Bryan	THOMPSON, FREDERICK DUANE	Houston
MCGARY, KATINA SHAYVETTE	Missouri City	THOMPSON, MARY WASHINGTON	Houston
MCQUEEN, LISA SHARNAY	Houston	THOMPSON, MINDY SUE	Tomball
MEREDITH, MAURY LENELL	Houston	UZOMA, LORETTA NGOZI	Houston
MGBEIKE, ESTHER	Houston	VARUGHESE, DEBIE JOYCE	Garland
MOORE, ALICIA RENE	Houston	VASELENKO, DAVID A.	Cypress
PARRAM, VANESSA	Missouri City	WALKER, DANNIE D.	Houston
PHAN, THUY THI	Houston	WILKINS, RICHELE L.	Houston
SAWYER, TONYA C.	Lancaster	WILLIAMS, CHRISANA D.	Houston
SETH, VINOD KUMAR	Sugar Land	WILLIAMS, GWENDOLYN	Houston
SPRIGGS, KAREN LYNETTE	Houston	WILLIAMS, MELINDA M.	Bay City
STEVENS, BRIDGET YVETTE	Plano	YULATIC, RONALD BARRY	Cypress
TANNER, KARA LYNETTE	Houston		

## GRADUATE SCHOOL

### COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN SCIENCES

#### CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS

##### *Sociology*

GOODEN, PAMELA R.	Prairie View	POOLE, SHULON EVETTE	Bryan
BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1995		BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1995	
KHATIBI, HOUSHANG	Houston	REED, ROBERT F.	College Station
BS, Teheran University, 1975		BA, Sam Houston State University, 1984	
KIRKWOOD, MYRA ANN	Beaumont	SHELLEY, EVA KAYE	Houston
BA, University of North Texas, 1987		BBA, Prairie View A&M University, 1993	
LENTON-GARY, CYTHINA E.	Houston	THIBODEAUX, LOU BIRDIE	Prairie View
BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1985		BBA, Prairie View A&M University, 1994	
PARSEE, JEROME	Austin	WILLIS-WATSON, STEPHANIE	Houston
BS, Howard Payne University, 1984		BS, University of Houston, 1981	

#### CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE

##### *Agricultural Economics*

MURRAY, DESMOND PHILLIP	Prairie View	WILLIAMS, ROBERT K.	Prairie View
BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1993		BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1990	
SMITH, JOHN E., III	Wharton		
BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1989			

##### *Animal Science*

BROWN, SHELA E.	Houston	THOMPSON, CANUTE E.	Prairie View
BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1994		BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1994	
OMUTITI, ELIZABETH	College Station		
BS, Texas A&M University, 1991			

##### *Home Economics*

STUEART, SONJA LATRICE	Brookshire
BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1994	

### COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

#### CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE

##### *Biology*

SHELTON, ALYCIA HONG NHUNG	San Antonio
BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1992	

## *Chemistry*

BULLOCK, TROY LYNN BS, Jarvis Christian College, 1991	Arlington	KARANJA, ANDREW K. BS, Jackson State University, 1991	Houston
GARDNER, PHILIPENE D. BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1990	Jamaica, W.I.		

## *Mathematics*

ALBAN, NORMAN BS, Corporacion Autonoma De Occidente, 1982	Hempstead	JACKSON, VICTOR GEROME BS, Florida A&M University, 1989	Baltimore, MD
ALI, KHADIJA HASSAN BS, Somali National University, 1981	Houston	TAYLOR, CARL AVERY BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1987	Houston
HARRISON, TIFFANY ANINA BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1993	Dallas	ZHANG, MING-JUN BS, University of Shang Hai, 1991	Houston

## COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

### CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

BRADSHAW, DELROSE V. BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1994	Prairie View	KEDIA, AJAY K. BBA, University of Houston, 1994	Houston
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## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

### CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS

#### *Counseling*

ARCHER, SANDRA FAYE BS, Texas A&M University, 1995	Houston	LEWIS, BRONSON DEMILLE BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1994	Dallas
ASAMOAH, AFUAH BOATENG BA, Prairie View A&M University, 1994	Spring	MALONE-WILLS, GAYSHA G. BS, Texas A&M University, 1992	Katy
BROWN, TARNESHA MONIQUE BA, Spelman College, 1995	Houston	MENDOZA, MARTHA ANN BS, Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi, 1985	Austin
CARTER-DYER, WANDA YVONNE WIMBISH BS, University of Houston, 1985	Cuero	MIKESKA, THERESA KAY BS, Texas A&M University, 1994	Bellville
DAVIDSON, THOMAS F. BS, North Texas State University, 1973	LaGrange	MURPHY, RITA M. BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1975	Houston
DUBOSE, DAWN D. BA, Prairie View A&M University, 1992	Houston	NAYLOR, WANDA LUCILLE BS, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, 1994	Hempstead
GREEN, ALICIA RENEE BBA, Lamar University, 1992	Houston	NEELY, CYNTHIA ALFRED BS, Texas Southern University, 1993	Missouri City
HALL-WILLIAMS, JACQUELINE RENA BS, Clark Atlanta University, 1980	Houston	PERROW, SHERLYNN YOLANDA BBA, Prairie View A&M University, 1982	Brookshire
HAY, VICTOR ALENXANDER CONSONTINE BS, Lamar University, 1992	Houston	POWELL, DONNA LEE BS, Lamar University, 1994	Beaumont
HUBBARD, CETRIC LENNARD BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1990	Missouri City	RIDEAUX, LARRY, JR. BS, Lamar University, 1993	Texas City
HUGHES, JOCK RAYNARD BA, Prairie View A&M University, 1993	Houston	ROBINSON, LAKESHA RENA BA, Sam Houston State University, 1993	Houston
HUMPHREY, LEO CLIFFORD BBA, Texas Southern University, 1993	Kendleton	SADDLER, KIMBERLY RACHELLÉ BS, University of North Texas, 1991	Houston
JACKSON, CYNTHIA MARIE BA, University of St. Thomas, 1995	Houston	SIRLEAF, FARQUEMA AMADU, SR. BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1972	Hockley
JONES, BEULAH MAE D. BS, Lamar University, 1985	Port Arthur	SMITH, LATANYA D. BS, Texas Southern University, 1994	Missouri City
KEATON, DENISE BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1978	Spring	SONIE-BROWN, MEATTA T. BA, Selma University, 1979	Houston
LEE, HOLLY ANGELA BS, Texas A&M University, 1995	Houston	STEVENS, BELINDA J. BS, University of Texas at San Antonio, 1990	Houston
LEMON-BERRY, PIPER LAUREE BA, Texas Southern University, 1993	Houston	SWEANEY, RUBI REYES-CHINCHILLA BA, University of Texas at Austin, 1993	Bastrop

WARNER, STEPHANIE D.  
BS, Sam Houston State University, 1988  
WEBSTER, TRAVIS K.  
BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1985

Bellville  
Prairie View

WHALON, VERONICA Y.  
BA, Prairie View A&M University, 1991  
WOLFE, MICHAEL S.  
BA, Prairie View A&M University, 1992

Hungerford  
Hempstead

## CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF EDUCATION

### *Counseling*

CALVIN, ALTON JAMES, JR.  
BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1993

Brenham

WOMACK, ROSE L.  
BS, University of Houston, 1964

Houston

### *Curriculum and Instruction (Agricultural Education)*

ADAMS, MELODIE  
BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1995  
FEARON, JAMES ROBERT  
BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1996

Los Angeles, CA

Prairie View

JARRETT, LUKE  
BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1991

St. Ann, Jamaica

### *Curriculum and Instruction (Early Childhood Education)*

FRANKLIN, LASHUNDA CARTET  
BS, University of Tennessee at Martin, 1995

Memphis, TN

HEGAR, MARSHA STRAUSS  
BS, Sam Houston State University, 1977

Bellville

### *Curriculum and Instruction (Educational Media and Technology)*

RUSSELL, CATHERINE SCULL  
BS, Sam Houston State University, 1987

Houston

### *Curriculum and Instruction (Reading Education)*

REECE, SYLVIA FAYE BENNETT  
BS, Texas Southern University, 1987

Houston

### *Educational Administration*

ALLEN, GERALD VINCE  
BS, Texas A&M University, 1983  
BANKS, SANDRA RAE  
BS, McNeese State University, 1992  
BROOKS, MARTHA ANN  
BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1982  
GIBSON, MONA GALE  
BS, West Texas State University, 1975  
GOFFNEY, DEBRA YVONNE  
BA, Sam Houston State University, 1987  
JONES, BARBRA A.  
BS, Texas Southern University, 1981  
JONES, BARRIE  
BA, Bishop College, 1978  
JONES, BOBBY  
BS, Southwest Texas State University, 1978  
KING, CLARA G.  
BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1977

Baytown

Sulphur, LA

Houston

Houston

New Waverly

Houston

Houston

East Bernard

Angleton

MENDIETTA, MELISSA  
BS, Texas A&M University, 1990  
MURRAY, KAREN L.  
BS, Texas A&M University, 1991  
PEKAR-GINGRICH, TAMMIE  
BS, Sam Houston State University, 1992  
ROBINSON, JEFF L.  
BS, University of Memphis, 1980  
ROOKE, CHARLES  
BS, Texas A&M University, 1985  
WARD, RAYCHELLE A.  
BS, Alabama A&M University, 1978  
WEBB-SIMMONS, PAULA Y.  
BS, Texas A&M University, 1993  
WILLIAMS, ROBIN M.  
BS, Oklahoma State University, 1988  
WRIGHTSIL, VANESSA EVON  
BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1991

Houston

Brazoria

Cypress

Houston

The Woodlands

Houston

Houston

Houston

Houston

### *Special Education*

GARVIE, NOELLE MONIQUE  
BS, University of Houston, 1988

Houston

# COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE

## CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER SCIENCE IN ENGINEERING

BINZAID, MOHAMMED SHUZA BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1992	Prairie View	NWOYE, CAROLINE OBIANUJU BS, Anambra State University of Technology, 1990	Houston
CACERES, MAYRA FABIOLA BS, Universidad Distrital Francisco Jose de Caldas, 1993	Hockley	SAMUDRALA, SURENDER RAO BS, Amravati University, 1991	Houston
CALLOWAY, LISA RENE BS, Tennessee State University, 1994	The Woodlands	WANG, TIMING BS, Nanjing University, 1982	Prairie View
CUI, JUDY TONG BS, Beijing Polytechnic University, 1993	Houston	WASHINGTON, KENNETH W. BS, Southern University, 1975	Katy
GRANT CHRISTOPHER M. BS, Prairie View A&M University, 1993	Houston	YU, XINYA BS, University of Electronic and Science Technology, 1992	Bryan
LIN, YAN BS, Liaoning Institute of Construction Engineering, 1984	College Station	ZHONG, XING BS, Tianjin University, 1985	Prairie View

# BENJAMIN BANNEKER HONORS COLLEGE GRADUATES

The following students have attained their degrees by completing Banneker Honors College Program requirements:

BACON, KEVIN WILLIAMS	Electrical Engineering Curriculum	Natchez, MS
CLEMONS-COLLINS, KIMBERLY	Political Science Curriculum	Fairburn, GA
DECARDI-NELSON, LESLIE W.	Chemical Engineering Curriculum	Ghana, West Africa
IROKU, BETTY C.	Finance Curriculum	Jersey City, NJ
JASPER, PATRICIA DOREEN	Management Curriculum	Cincinnati, OH
JAMES, CASSANDRA RENEE	Interdisciplinary Studies Curriculum	Longview
JONES, NOBLETON FIFYAW	Electrical Engineering Curriculum	Houston
SAVOY, DEMOND B.	Electrical Engineering Curriculum	Beaumont

## GRADUATING WITH ACADEMIC HONORS

Honor recognition at graduation is based on consistent high scholarship and cumulative grade point averages earned. To be eligible for graduation with honors, a student must have received no failing grades (transfer or residence) and must complete the last 60 semester hours in residence at Prairie View A&M University. A student may graduate with honors in one of the three categories:

### SUMMA CUM LAUDE

BONTKE, JOYCE A.  
FAULKNER, MARTHA B.

Cumulative Grade Point Average of 3.90 – 4.00

HELLMANN, JUDY

### MAGNA CUM LAUDE

LLOYD, MARTHA A.  
ROBERSON, JOUETTA

Cumulative Grade Point Average of 3.70 – 3.89

SIMS, CARY L.

### CUM LAUDE

ACHIAA, RITA M.  
AING, MALISSA A.  
AKUBUKWE, UGOCHI U.  
EVANS, LORI  
FERDON, LESLIE  
GARRISON, SHANNON E.  
HARKINS, JUDY L.  
HERNANDEZ, DIANA  
JACKSON, TAMIEKA M.  
JAMES, MICHAEL C.  
JOSEPH, TEJUANNA M.  
JASPER, PATRICIA D.  
MARSHALL, SABRINA

Cumulative Grade Point Average of 3.33 – 3.69

MARTIN, ELVA M.  
MOORE, RONALD, JR.  
NELSON, LESLIE  
NOSKA, KATHRYN M.  
SAWYER, TONYA C.  
SCOTT, ARVITTA  
SHELLBERG, MONIQUE V.  
SHIN, SANGJUN  
SPEARMAN, LAWANDA  
UN, THAVANN  
WADSWORTH, KENNETH LEE  
WHEELER, CONNIE D.  
WOMACK, CHONTELL C.

## COMMISSIONS IN THE ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES

BELL, HORNE L., Second Lieutenant  
Adjutant General Corps, Immediate Active Duty, Houston

BENSON, PORTIA J., Second Lieutenant  
Signal Corps, Immediate Active Duty, Chicago, IL



# THE COMMENCEMENT PROCESSION

An appropriate costume is a necessary part of Commencement. The costume includes a cap, a gown, and a hood. Each part of the costume has special significance. The most common head-piece (or cap) for the ceremony is the black square, flat-topped, or "mortar board" type with gold or black tassel. It is called a "mortar board" because it is shaped like the board of the mason which holds mortar. Recently we are seeing large velvet Tam-O-Shanter style of head pieces replacing the mortar board. Some of the velvet tams are brilliantly colored such as orange or bright blue.

The tassel on the doctor's cap is usually gold, and permanently fastened on the left side. The master's cap has a black tassel worn on the left. The bachelor's cap has a black tassel worn on the right prior to graduation then moved to the left during the ceremony.

The hood can be the most colorful part of the entire costume. The colors inside the hood are those of the college or university which is awarding the degree. The colors of the outside rim of the hood symbolizes one of the following departments of learning:

Agriculture .....	Maize	Medicine .....	Green
Arts, Letters, Humanities .....	White	Music .....	Pink
Commerce, Accountancy, Business .....	Drab	Nursing .....	Apricot
Dentistry .....	Lilac	Oratory (Speech) .....	Silver Gray
Economics .....	Copper	Pharmacy .....	Olive Green
Education .....	Light Blue	Philosophy .....	Dark Blue
Engineering .....	Orange	Physical Education .....	Sage Green
Fine Arts, including Architecture .....	Brown	Public Administration, including	
Forestry .....	Russett	Foreign Service .....	Peacock Blue
Geography .....	Blue and Green	Public Health .....	Salmon Pink
Home Economics .....	Golden Yellow	Science .....	Golden Yellow
Journalism .....	Crimson	Social Work .....	Citron
Industrial Education .....	Light Blue	Technology .....	Golden Yellow
Law .....	Purple	Theology .....	Scarlet
Library Science .....	Lemon	Veterinary Science .....	Gray

The gown is usually black. The traditional doctor's gown has velvet panels down the front and three velvet bars on the regular sleeves. The master's gown has no velvet, but does have unusually long sleeves. The bachelor's gown is similar to the master's gown but has regular long sleeves which tend to be pointed.

Some gowns may be in the color of the department granting the degree, such as "Education Blue." Others may be "Yale Blue" or "Harvard Crimson" for the graduates of these universities.

## THE MACE

The mace is an ancient symbol of authority which is carried by the marshal ahead of the academic procession. The mace for Prairie View A&M University is four feet long and contains four bronze figures atop a Honduras mahogany base which tapers to fit into its stand. The four figures are symbolic of the four undergraduate academic years. Within the hollow area beneath the figures, and shared equally, is a flame which denotes knowledge and excellence. The base which serves as a grip and is carried by a faculty member, symbolizes the entire faculty; the stand which supports the mace characterizes the administration. The visual impact of the mace as a whole is "torch-like." The eight tassels represent the academic organization of the University.

## THE MEDALLION

The President's Medallion, the official symbol of the Office of the President at Prairie View A&M University, was created especially to commemorate the lineage of the Presidency by the late Mr. Frank Hayden, nationally famous sculptor and Professor of Fine Arts at Southern University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

The first medallion was presented to Dr. Percy A. Pierre, fourth president of Prairie View A&M University, on March 21, 1985.

The medallion is designed to be worn with academic regalia at all official University programs. Abstract figures, representing the ten academic disciplines in an attitude of celebration, encircle the outer rim. The inner circle symbolizes the pursuit of excellence throughout four years of teaching and learning. The weave of the chain is the facsimile of that used by the ancient Greeks.

A replica will be presented to each subsequent President during his inauguration. The medallion will ultimately reflect the history of the presidency, revealing names and dates of inauguration.

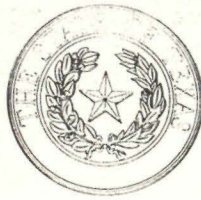
**CHARLES ALFONSO HINES, Ph.D.**  
**PRESIDENT, PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY**

Dr. Charles A. Hines is the sixth President of Prairie View A&M University located in Prairie View, Texas. He has held this position since November 21, 1994. Born and raised in our Nations capitol, Washington, D.C., Dr. Hines joined the United States Army after graduating from Washington D.C.'s Dunbar High School. After serving in infantry and artillery units as an enlisted man, he was honorably discharged as a Sergeant in 1957 and immediately entered Howard University in Washington, D.C. Upon graduation from Howard University with a Bachelor of Science degree and a Regular Army commission, Dr. Hines embarked on a 30 year career as a commissioned officer, retiring in 1992 with the rank of Major General. Dr. Hines served as an adjunct professor with the University of Maryland for 22 years.

Dr. Hines holds a Ph.D. from The Johns Hopkins University, a Master of Science from Michigan State University, and a Master of Military Arts and Science from the Commanding General Staff College. He has completed management development programs at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, as well as the University of Maryland. He is also a graduate of the FBI National Academy.

During his career as an Army officer, Dr. Hines has held many important command and staff assignments. As a Colonel, he served as Director, Women in the Army Policy Review Group. In that capacity, he was instrumental in exponentially expanding opportunities for women in the Army. As a general officer, he served as Director, Officer Personnel Management Division at the Pentagon; Director of Manpower, Budget and Force Integration; and finally as Commanding General, United States Army Military Police and Chemical Schools and Fort McClellan, Fort McClellan, Alabama.

Dr. Hines has dedicated much of his personal, professional and academic life to equal opportunity, education and training, advancement of rights for women, race relations, and the development of youth. He has received numerous honors and awards. In 1992, he was inducted into the National Boys and Girls Club Hall of Fame. Most recently he was selected by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference as an Outstanding Black Man for 1994. He served as Director of Protection and Health Service for the Smithsonian Institution from August 1992 until he assumed his duties as the sixth President of Prairie View A&M University.



STATE OF TEXAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

GEORGE W. BUSH  
GOVERNOR

*December 14, 1996*

*Greetings to:*

***1996 Fall Graduates  
Prairie View A&M  
University***

*Congratulations on your graduation.*

*The knowledge you have gained will serve you well  
throughout life.*

*Texans are dreamers and doers. I encourage you to  
continue to set high goals and to work hard to achieve  
them.*

*Best wishes for a great future.*

*Sincerely,*

  
GEORGE W. BUSH





# The Texas A&M University System

Office of the Chancellor

John B. Connally Bldg. • 301 Tarrow, 7th Floor • College Station, TX 77843-1122 • (409) 845-4331 • FAX (409) 845-2490

December 14, 1996

Dear Fall 1996 Graduates:

It is my honor and privilege to extend heartfelt congratulations to each of you for your accomplishments celebrated today.

Prairie View A&M University, from its earliest beginnings in the late 1800s, has demonstrated a rich history of producing top-quality leaders and scholars. Today is no exception.

The Texas A&M University System, your university and your state expect great things from each of you. I encourage you to open the doors of opportunity with wisdom and passion.

I challenge you to go out into the world and make a difference. Inspire others. Lead. Tell the story of higher education and its impact on your life. Use your education and experience here at Prairie View for the betterment of not only yourself and your family--but your community, your state and your world.

The Texas A&M University System is based on a strong foundation of service and excellence. I know you will help us carry on that tradition.

Congratulations and best wishes.

Warmest regards,

Barry B. Thompson, Ph.D.  
Chancellor

**Universities**

- Baylor College of Dentistry
- Prairie View A&M University
- Tarleton State University
- Texas A&M International University
- Texas A&M University
- Texas A&M University at Galveston

- Texas A&M University--Commerce
- Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi
- Texas A&M University--Kingsville
- Texas A&M University--Texarkana
- West Texas A&M University

**Agencies**

- Texas Agricultural Experiment Station
- Texas Agricultural Extension Service
- Texas Animal Damage Control Service
- Texas Engineering Experiment Station
- Texas Engineering Extension Service
- Texas Forest Service
- Texas Transportation Institute
- Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory



PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY SENATE

P.O. Box 4352  
PRAIRIE VIEW, TEXAS 77446

December 14, 1996

Greetings and congratulations.

" Successful leaders make the right move at the right moment with the right motive. If you choose to stay in the valley you will never go over the hill".

Today we assemble here to give recognition to you for your achievements. We welcome you as graduates from your undergraduate studies and graduate studies. You have met the challenge and are now ready to give service to your community.

The faculty at Prairie View A&M University are glad to have had a part in your development and we wish you well in your future endeavors.

To the parents, guardians and friends, we welcome you here today and do share in your excitement at this graduation exercise. We have enjoyed working with you and your family over these past years.

We hope that your visit here today is pleasant and exciting. It is always a pleasure having you visit our campus. Please come again soon.

Sincerely'

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Seab A. Smith'.

Seab A. Smith, President  
Faculty Senate



# PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## To The Class Of 1996

### Board of Directors & Executive Committee

- Dr. Samuel Metters  
President & Chairman  
(703) 821-3300
- Calvin C. Bluiett  
President-Elect  
(214) 375-8487
- Lynn Morris  
Vice President  
(713) 282-4726
- Darius Starr  
Jr. Vice President
- Jiles P. Daniels, Sr.  
Treasurer  
(409) 857-3726
- Mrs. Gladys Wallace  
Secretary  
(409) 825-4219
- Frank Jackson  
Historian  
(409) 857-4298
- Mrs. Pauline Bonner  
Liaison Officer  
(409) 857-4516
- Johnny Younger  
Parliamentarian & Sgt-at-Arms  
(817) 540-5645
- Clever Lewis  
Chaplain  
(214) 376-4554
- Dr. William M. Batts, III  
Immediate Past President  
(804) 722-7000
- Judge L. A. Bedford, Jr.  
Legal Counsel  
(214) 428-5419
- Dempsey Seastrunk  
Chmn, Past Pres Advisory Council  
(409) 693-4304
- George E. Higgs  
Executive Director  
(409) 854-3226

### Chapter Presidents

- Austin Chapter  
Donald Grace
- Beaumont Chapter  
Mrs. Maxine Moye
- Chicago Chapter  
Donald R. Jones
- Class of 1943 Chapter  
Jacob Boyer
- Class of 1953 Chapter  
Dr. Robert L. Stinnett
- Dallas Chapter  
Clever D. Lewis
- Detroit Chapter  
Dr. J. R. Taylor
- El Paso Chapter  
Mrs. Lexa Woods Jones
- Ft. Worth Chapter  
Jeanette Adkins
- Hempstead Chapter  
Mrs. Gloria Thompson
- Houston Chapter  
Claude Whitaker
- Houston Nurses Chapter  
Mrs. Geraldine Gillespie
- Johnson Space Center Chapter  
Emerson Emory
- Kansas City Chapter  
Roosevelt Huggins
- Los Angeles Chapter  
David E. Allen, Jr. President
- Northern California Chapter  
Vernon Clark
- Oklahoma City Chapter  
John Derek Jackson
- Philadelphia Chapter  
Paul J. Matthews
- Phoenix Metropolitan Chapter  
Mrs. Evelyn Hardiman
- Port Arthur Chapter  
Mrs. Doris Hayes
- Prairie View Athletic Club  
George E. Higgs
- Prairie View Chapter  
Mrs. Gladys Wallace
- Silsbee PV Alumni Chapter  
Clinton Wright
- Waco Chapter  
Deloz Lenord
- Washington, D.C. Chapter  
Ron Allen

The late Vince Lombardi, former coach of the Green Bay Packers and later the Washington Redskins, once said, **“winning is not everything, it’s the only thing.”** This implies that **losing is not an option.**

Vince’s statement is timeless. I find it particularly relevant to Prairie View A & M University, as we reflect on another year of recent football loses, and what it portends for the future.

As a pulling guard on the 1953 and 1954 national championship teams; middle linebacker and defensive captain on the 1955 and 1956 teams; an ROTC Cadet; and the first varsity football player to graduate from the college of engineering, I have experienced the **“thrill of victory and the agony of defeat.”** It hurts to lose. It’s even more painful to lose when we know we should be winning.

However, I encourage you to be patient. It took us over seven years to get into this situation and will take us more than two years to get out. Close observers will agree that we are already beginning to see signs of improvement. For example, the average points scored during the first eight games of the 1996 football were approximately 12.1 compared to 6.2 points a year ago. This success shows that we are **narrowing the spread each year.** Given our current circumstances, one can’t ask for much more from our coaches and athletes.

And yet, the seemingly insignificant **will to win** has perhaps contributed more to the survival of the football program at Prairie View A & M University than any other entity including funds for scholarships. This comes as no surprise when one considers that Prairie View A & M University is inherently a competitive institution. It has its **competitive edge** because its faculty teaches its graduates how to **win and win big.** As President Hines puts it, **“there is something inside so strong,”** to borrow a stanza from a popular ballad. That’s why the athletic program will return to the days when PVAMU was #1 in the Southwest Athletic Conference.

To that end, it is most refreshing to note that because of your selfless sacrifice, the athletic department awarded 49.1 full scholarships during the 1996-1997 academic year. Of this total 15.8 were football scholarships. The increase in your athletic assessment fee made the difference. You have made a powerful statement to the rest of the athletic community all over America and have provided a catalyst to mobilize the National Alumni Association to embrace the concept of sacrificial giving.

Among the lessons learned during your matriculation here, there are three that you should carry with you the rest of your lives: first, while we may lose on the football field, PVAMU produces winners off the football field; second, giving back to PVAMU made a difference in 1996 and it will make difference **in the future**; and lastly, Vince’s quote is not only analogous to football but life itself, i.e., **“failure is not an option.”**

On behalf of the PVAMU National Alumni Association, I thank you and congratulate you upon your achievement as a graduate of one of America’s finest institutions of higher learning. **As years go by**, you will come to realize that, as I have, that **“much of what you are or ever hope to become you owe to PVU,”** now and through eternity.

Clearly, **“Prairie View A & M University is a Treasure Worth Preserving.”** We should keep *Her* that way.

I wish you well and Godspeed,

Dr. Samuel Metters  
President, PVAMU/NAA

# Alma Mater

## “Dear Prairie View”

Dear Prairie View, our song to thee we raise,  
In gratitude we sing our Hymn of praise,  
For mem'ries dear, for friends and recollections  
For lessons learned while here we've lived with thee.  
For these we pledge our hearts full of devotion,  
To serve thee now, and through eternity.

As days go by, our hearts will not grow cold,  
We'll love thy purple royal and thy gold  
We'll through our lives exemplify thy teachings,  
We'll always strive a blessing to be.  
Thy children we our love and pride confessing,  
We'll love thee now, and through eternity.

Words by O. Anderson Fuller  
Music from “Finlandia” by *Sibelius*

## RETIRING STAFF & FACULTY

MRS. ESTEFANA BALLEJO, Program Aide, Wharton County  
Cooperative Extension Program, 18 years service  
MR. HULEN M. DAVIS, Assistant Professor  
Department of Social and Political Science, 31 years service

MR. CARL W. WILLIAMS, Program Aide, Falls County  
Cooperative Extension Program, 25 years service

## CONVOCATION MARSHAL

DR. MARION HENRY

## COMMENCEMENT COMMITTEE

DR. MARION HENRY, Chair  
MRS. PAULINE D. BONNER, Co-Chair  
DR. LEE E. HENDERSON, Co-Chair  
MR. BRIAN DICKENS, Co-Chair  
DR. CLARISSA BOOKER  
MR. WILLIAM H. CHAPMAN  
MR. DANNY R. KELLEY  
DR. EDWARD W. MARTIN  
MR. SAMUEL MONTGOMERY  
MRS. CAROLYNE OLIVER

MS. THELMA PIERRE  
MR. WALTER W. REDD  
MR. WILLIE TEMPTON  
DR. E. JOAHANNE THOMAS-SMITH  
MR. RAYFORD V. STEPHENS  
DR. WILLIE F. TROTTY  
DR. LUCIUS R. WYATT  
MR. DAREUS STARR\*  
MS. DANIELLE WHITE\*