



PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

A Member of the Texas A&M University System

March 6, 2007

OFFICE OF BUSINESS AFFAIRS MEMORANDUM No. FY07-44

Delivered via Campus Email

To: All Faculty and Staff

From: Mary Lee Hodge
Vice President for Business Affairs

Re: DST Changes

You may have heard in the press about the potential issues with the Daylight Savings Time (DST) changes this year. In August of 2005 the United States Congress passed the Energy Policy Act, which changes both the start and end dates of DST. With this law going into effect in 2007, DST will start three weeks earlier (2:00 A.M. on the second Sunday in March) and will end one week later (2:00 A.M. on the first Sunday in November) than what had traditionally occurred. These changes will affect a wide variety of systems and software that rely on time or calendar calculations for their functionality.

As a result, many computer and networking devices programmed to change time in April will have to be patched. In some cases the effects of not patching will be as benign as times and appointments being off by one hour for a three week period. In other cases, time-sensitive applications which rely on precise timing may not work at all.

Information Technology Services (ITS) will be applying necessary patches to various systems at Prairie View on Sunday, February 25th. The following systems are the most common ones affected, but all computer systems may be affected that day:

- PVAMU Website
- WebCT
- PV Email
- VOIP Telephone system
- Internet Access

Most systems will only be affected for a few minutes as the patches are applied and the system rebooted. Some systems (such as the website) may be down for an hour or two. Each telephone on-campus (on the new VOIP system) will be down for only a couple minutes, but because of built-in redundancies not all phones will be down at the same time.

There will be many, many systems that will be patched throughout the day on the 25th, so there will likely be only one or two systems down at any given time. If you experience problems with a particular system, please wait a few minutes and try again.

Thank you for your support and understanding as we continue to work to provide you with a reliable computer network.