March 5, 2007

OFFICE OF BUSINESS AFFAIRS MEMORANDUM No. FY07-45
Delivered via Campus Email

To: Faculty and Staff

From: Mary Lee Hodge
Vice President for Business Affairs

Re: Notification Announcement about Daylight Savings Time Changes

In August of 2005 the United States Congress passed the Energy Policy Act, which changes both the start and end dates of Daylight Saving Time (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.

Recently, the IT Department at Prairie View notified users that we would experience some downtime so that changes could be made to our systems to prevent any problems related to the upcoming DST change. Those updates have now been installed. Home users also need to be aware of this DST change and check with any specific software/hardware vendors to see if there is any impact on their home devices. Many software applications rely on the local computer time and will not be affected. However, if you are unsure please refer to the vendor’s website or their customer service for clarity.

These changes will affect a wide variety of systems and software that rely on time or calendar calculations for their functionality. The following applications have been identified as being affected by this change (link to patch follows application): (http://www.microsoft.com/windows/timezone/dst2007.mspx#EDE)


Microsoft recommends the following when working with calendar appointments during the extended DST timeframe:

1. When organizing a meeting during the extended DST period, type the correct meeting time in the subject line or body of the message (for example, Project planning meeting at 8:30 A.M.).

2. Consider any appointments and meetings in the extended DST period to be suspect. When in doubt, verify the correct time with the organizer.

People who use hand held devices; Palm, Blackberry, various Windows Mobile and other personal organizers should check their manufacturer’s website (see links above) or contact customer service for any updates or changes that may need to be performed to these devices.

What will happen if you don’t apply the necessary updates? If you do not install the updates, your calendar appointments and reminders will appear one hour off during the three weeks added to the beginning of DST and the one week added to the end of DST. You may also experience your all-day calendar appointments spanning two days instead of just one.

If there are any additional questions, please feel free to contact the Help Desk at ext. 2525 from on-campus or toll-free at 1-877-241-1752.