



### Dean's Advisory Board Members Meet with Students, Add New Members

Fifteen members of the College of Business Dean's Advisory Board met Friday, November 5, 2010 on the PVAMU campus with students and faculty to discuss issues facing the college. Topics discussed included ways in which the college can diversify its revenue stream through the addition of new courses and increased fundraising, a discussion of the upcoming AACSB accreditation revisit and an update on several initiatives in the College of Business.

Members who have joined the board this year include Anthony Francis, Project Manager, Dry Utilities Coordinator for LJA Engineering & Surveying, Inc.; Kenyatta Gibbs, Vice President of Amegy Bank; Denise Kelley, Director, Program Management & Business Excellence for The Boeing Company; Dr. Samuel Metters, President and CEO of Metters Industries; Eugene "Gene" Padgett; General Manager of Corporate Accounting and Research for Spectra Energy; Randy Ramdass, Senior Director for Continental Airlines; and Arturis Spencer III, Senior Manager for KPMG. These additions increase the membership of the advisory board to roughly 25 active members.

Advisory Board members are dedicated to supporting the College of Business as it strives towards excellence and continuous improvement in its programs and initiatives. The primary role of the Board is to provide the Dean of the College of Business with advice, ideas and resources regarding a variety of issues facing the College.



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## Dean's Corner

Greetings from the Dean's Office:

This is my tenth year as dean of the College of Business. Like so many others, the academic year started with the usual excitement of a new group of freshmen eager to learn, and the return of students and faculty who are eager to continue their progress. Prairie View A&M University saw a record number of students (nearly 9,000) enroll this fall including the largest freshman class in the institution's history. We also saw a marked increase in our Graduate Programs in Business this year; the program has grown nearly ten percent since fall 2009.

Several initiatives were launched this year to benefit students including the addition of a new course, *MGMT 2000: Professional Development for Business* which is now integrated into our curriculum, a stronger enforcement of our admission standards and efforts to improve students' quantitative skills. We believe that these programs will greatly enhance the student experience and strengthen our undergraduate program.

Several new faculty members have joined the business faculty this fall – **Mr. Daniel Perez** (Finance), **Ms. Susan Minton** (Accounting), **Mr. Ahmed Anisuddin** (MIS), and **Dr. David Strong** (Management). **Drs. Ahmed Mahfouz** (MIS) and **Dr. Gin Chong** (Accounting) were the recipients of the Texas A&M University System teaching award. **Dr. Sonja Langley** and **Dr. Kishwar Joonas** received tenure and promotion to the rank of associate professor. Congratulations to all of them.

The AACSB International peer review team is scheduled to visit the campus in spring 2011 for the five-year maintenance of accreditation. Faculty and members of the Mission, Strategic Planning and Accreditation committee have worked hard to prepare for this visit. Much has been accomplished including revisions and updates to the vision and mission statements, a new strategic plan, major revisions to the *Faculty Handbook* and more.

Among major ongoing challenges is the possibility of further budget cuts. We have responded as any entrepreneur would by seeking new sources of revenue. Through the Office of Continuing Education, the COB plans to offer business courses for professionals who are looking to improve their skills and education. These short non-credit courses will help us broaden our revenue base and provide training for professionals wanting to boost their careers or earn a professional credential. I encourage you to read more about these programs in this issue of our newsletter (page 3).

Today, more than ever before, given the challenges on the budgetary front, we need your financial support. The recession may be over, but we will be feeling the negative shocks for some time. We pledge to cut waste, increase efficiency, and do what we can to preserve the core mission of the College which is to produce outstanding business graduates. In the coming months you will be hearing from us as we contact our alumni, partners and friends to find new ways to work together to increase our revenue and productivity. I look forward to hearing your thoughts and working with you to accomplish our goals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Munir Quddus".

Munir Quddus  
Dean, College of Business

## College of Business to Offer Short Courses for Professionals

Prairie View A&M University's College of Business through the Office of Continuing Education will offer several short courses for professionals beginning in spring 2011. Courses are designed to help those who want to acquire additional insights and skills to use in the workplace.

The **PVAMU Mini-MBA: *Business Management Essentials for Professionals*** is a concentrated introduction to critical business concepts taught in business school. Courses are taught by faculty with experience and PhDs in their fields. Ten topics are presented for individuals who want to get a better grasp on the business essentials to advance their careers, or entrepreneurs interested in tools to lead and better manage their businesses and foster innovation in the workplace. Participants may choose from several different modules addressing a specific areas such as Strategy and Management, Business Law, Accounting, Marketing, Project Management, Creating a Business Plan, Leadership and the IT in Business. Or participants can elect to take the full program (30 hours) and earn a certificate of completion issued by the Prairie View A&M University Office of Continuing Education. Contact Dr. Sutirtha Chatterjee at 936.261.9249 or suchatterjee@pvamu.edu for information.

Accounting professionals who need to review their skills would benefit from enrolling in the **Mini-CPA Review Workshop**. A team of accounting professionals and business professors will offer a series of workshops to help accounting students and professionals prepare for the uniform Certified Public Accountant (CPA) Examination. Eight workshops will be presented in two-hour sessions covering topics presented on the CPA exam. For additional information, contact the Dr. Brian Lee at 936.261.9258 or brlee@pvamu.edu

IT Faculty will present a series of **IT Workshops** for those needing additional training covering the following topics:

- Excel 2007 I: Introductory
- HTML in Web Site Design
- Excel 2007 II: PivotTables
- Microsoft Publisher 2007
- Excel 2007 III: Advanced Functions & What-If Analysis
- Adobe Photoshop CS5
- Microsoft Access 2007

For additional information, please contact Dr. Ahmed Mahfouz at 936.261.9260 or aymahfouz@pvamu.edu.

### College of Business Donor Honor Roll

*Gifts received between  
May 1, 2010 - November 30, 2010*

#### Individual Donors

**\$1- \$999**

Beta Gamma Sigma Honor Society

Yan Cai

Edwina Garcia

Sue Sampleton

Wilson Scaling

Betty J. Saulter

Georgia Thomas

Ada Till

**\$1,000—\$5,000**

Steven Harris

Samuel Metters

#### Corporate Donors

**\$1 - \$9,999**

Accenture LLP

Amegy Bank

Farm Credit Bank of Texas

The Boeing Company

Wells Fargo Bank

**\$10,000—\$25,000**

Spectra Energy

## Student Organization Quick Notes



Twenty-four undergraduate, 28 graduate students and one faculty member were invited to join Beta Gamma Sigma International Honor Society this year. Nearly 30 students and Dr. Kishwar Joonas, associate professor of marketing, accepted the invitation and were inducted into this prestigious organization during an induction ceremony held the evening of November 11, 2010 in the Willie A. Tempton, Sr. Memorial Student Center Ballroom.

Beta Gamma Sigma is the honor society serving business programs accredited by AACSB International - The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Students must be in the top 10% of their junior and/or senior class or in the top 20% of their graduate class at the time of the invitation. Membership in Beta Gamma Sigma is the highest recognition a business student anywhere in the world can receive in a business program accredited by AACSB. Once students join, they are members for life.

The inductees were joined by a host of friends and family including guest speaker, Mr. Eugene (Gene) Padgett, general manager of corporate accounting with Spectra Energy. Mr. Padgett, who is an alumnus, member of the College of Business Dean’s Advisory Board and president of the Houston Chapter of the National Association of Black Accountants delivered the keynote address. During his remarks, he shared his philosophy of success with illustrations from his own career.

Ms. Camillka Redwood, senior accounting major and BGS member, served as the mistress of ceremony. Dr. Munir Quddus, dean and president of BGS was assisted by Drs. Rahim Quazi, Reginald Bell and Gin Chong , who are also members of the honors society, during the ceremony. The event was coordinated by Ms. Angela Simmons with support from members of BGS. A list of the candidates for induction are listed below.

### Beta Gamma Sigma International Honor Society - Candidates for Induction

#### Undergraduate Students

Cassandra Bordelon	Donnell Burns	Elia Chaney	Ashley Filer
Julian Garcia	Sheena Garcia	Brenan Gordon	Roy Green
Trenise Holman	Kristopher Jackson	Quodesia Johnson	Edward Kungu
Aberzine Lacy	Michael Long	Anglea Mccray	Daryl McIntosh
Eugene Mclaughlin	Carla Moss	Erasto Mvungi	Amit Ramtahal
Desiree Robertson	Abrea Shamsid-Deen	Gelisha Thompson	Pingzhen Wei

*(Continued on page 5.)*

# Student Organization Quick Notes

(Continued from page 4.)

## Beta Gamma Sigma International Honor Society - Candidates for Induction

### Graduate Students

Cynithia Allen	Danielle Arriola	Laura Bass	Keidra Burgin
Qinglan Chen	Moyinoluwa Ekundayo	Ryne Finke	Jennifer Fuller
Sabina Gesmin	Aaron Griffin	Syed Irtiza	Samon Kashani
Terence King	Eric Kocian	Peng Lin	Melecia McLean
Terrance Oliver	Francisca Olopade	Obinna Onwuama	Karissa Scott
Margaret Sempe	Monique Shepherd	Uzma Siddiqui	Maria Tobar
Dara Tucker	Muhammad Usman	Leah Wallace	Craig Warner

### Faculty/Administrative

Kishwar Joonas

Twelve members of the PVAMU Collegiate Chapter of the **National Association of Black Accountants** traveled to Austin, Texas for the annual student regional conference held from October 14 through 16, 2010. Students participated in workshops and a job fair aimed at accounting students. **Mrs. Ada Till**, assistant professor of accounting, accompanied the students on the trip and made several connections with COB alumni and representatives in several public accounting firms.

**Dr. Emmanuel Opara** and eight members of **Phi Beta Lambda** participated in the National Phi Beta Lambda Student Leadership Conference November 11-13, 2010. The theme for this year's conference, which was held in New Orleans, was *Breaking Barriers*. Activities and training focused on helping student organizations enhance their leadership skills, learn to network, fundraise, increase their membership. **Keisha Hester**, secretary of the PVAMU PBL chapter describes the conference as a good learning experience. "If I had to rate it on a scale of one to ten, I'd rate it an eight. Most of the speakers were from within the organization and I would have liked to have heard more outside speakers. I am glad that I had an opportunity to go."

Prairie View A&M University **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)** program is now accepting applications for volunteers to prepare tax returns in spring for the 2010 tax year. VITA provides a valuable service-learning experience for students. Students work with clients one-on-one, receive training in tax preparation through the IRS and are certified through the program. Training for the VITA Program is also open to members of the community, faculty, staff and non-business majors. For information, contact **Dr. William Vetter** at [vita@pvamu.edu](mailto:vita@pvamu.edu) or visit the PVAMU VITA site at [www.pvamu.edu/vita](http://www.pvamu.edu/vita).



## Business Faculty Awards and Research

**Dr. Sonja Langley** and **Dr. Kishwar Joonas** received tenure and promotion to the rank of associate professor.

Several new faculty members joined the College of Business in fall 2010 – **Mr. Daniel Perez** (Finance), **Ms. Susan Minton** (Accounting), **Mr. Ahmed Anisuddin** (MIS), and **Dr. David Strong** (Management).

**Drs. Ahmed Mahfouz** (MIS) and **Gin Chong** (Accounting) were recipients of the Texas A&M University System teaching award.

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### COB Faculty Member Receive Notice of Publication

Dr. Balijepally's recent publication titled, *Towards an Understanding of the Conceptual Underpinnings of Agile Development Methodologies* has been published by Springer-Vernag: Berlin as a book chapter in the research reference titled, **Agile Software Development: Current Research and Future Directions**, edited by Dingsoyr, Dyba and Moe.

Dr. Balijepally's research was an invited paper presented at the 11th International Conference on Agile Software Development at Trondheim, Norway. His co-authors are Dr. Sridhar Nerur, Dr. Alan Cannon, and Mr. Philip Bond from the University of Texas at Arlington.

## Young Alumni in the Spotlight: Arturis Spencer, III (PVAMU Class of 2003)



Arturis Spencer III is an audit senior manager in KPMG Houston's Industrial Markets practice. Mr. Spencer is a native of Amarillo, Texas and graduated cum laude from Prairie View A&M University in December 2003 with a bachelor of business administration in accounting.

Arturis has seven years of experience providing financial statement audit, audit of internal control, advisory and attestation services as well as in-depth experience serving both privately held and publicly traded corporations in the energy industry and significant experience in both U.S. GAAP and IFRS. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants, the National Association of Black Accountants and a licensed Certified Public Accountant (CPA) in Texas.

Recently, Arturis was appointed to serve as the KPMG Advisor to Prairie View A&M University's Case Study Team and admitted to the College of Business Dean's Advisory Board.

## PVAMU Online MBA Program Ranked Best Buy Among Accredited Programs

Prairie View A&M University's Online Master of Business Administration (MBA) program has been ranked a "Best Buy" among AACSB-accredited business programs by GetEducated.com's national editorial review team. This affordability ranking is based on a comprehensive review of 133 competing AACSB-accredited online MBA programs nationwide. Prairie View A&M University ranks seventh overall in the 2010 survey for affordability. The average cost of a distance learning MBA, according to the national survey, is \$32,926.

Dr. Munir Quddus, dean of the College of Business, is pleased that the program has received special recognition. "People want a high quality education at a reasonable cost. Our accreditation with AACSB International sends a signal that our programs are among the best in the world. This distinction afforded us by GetEducated.com, an independent third party, tells others that we are also among the best values. "

Online classes for the MBA program increased in summer 2008 with an official Online MBA program launch in fall 2009. Online classes are offered each semester and students are admitted in fall, spring and summer.



## College of Business Events Spring 2011 Semester

### February

- 3 College of Business Career Forum
- 10 Executive-in-Residence Program  
Guest Executive: **Thomas Joyner, Jr.**
- 27 - 28 AACSB International Visit

### March

- 31 Accenture Leadership Development  
Conference

### April

- 4 - 10 Money Week Houston
- 28 COB Awards & Recognition Ceremony
- 29 COB Picnic

### May

- 14 Commencement
- 30 Memorial Day (University Closed)

# PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

## College of Business

### Vision and Mission Statements

Our vision is to empower students from diverse backgrounds to become productive and ethical business professionals who are among the best in the world.

We provide a diverse student body with an education that creates highly productive professionals who are ethical, entrepreneurial, and prepared to succeed in the global economy. The College achieves this through excellence in teaching, research and service, and engagement with the business community and other stakeholders. The student experience is distinguished by personal attention, teamwork, leadership training, and appreciation of the social responsibility of business.



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