



Prairie View A&M Welcomes Banner!

ITS successfully installed Banner over the summer with minimal impact to the PV community. Banner Panthertracks is the web version of the new Enterprise Resource Planning system, Banner, that the PVAMU community will use to register for courses, and access [vital personal and administrative information](#).

For students, this iteration of Panthertracks is a new student information portal for you to view course offerings and register for fall 2008 classes. All activities previously available in Panthertracks are available in this iteration. Students can learn more about Banner by accessing the Banner Panthertracks Student Manual at: <http://www.pvamu.edu/Panthertrackshelp>. Select the Student link in the "How Do I" page.

For faculty and advisors, the new iteration of Panthertracks is fully functional and available for all your needs -- reviewing student records for advisement, registering students, retrieving class rosters, reviewing degree audits, and entering grades to mention a few. Instructions for faculty and administrators are also available on the Panthertracks Help page by clicking on the Faculty link. Questions such as change of address, PIN, how to register a student for class, and common error messages, among others are answered there.

Log-in Tips

To Login to the Banner Panthertracks Web page as an authenticated user, you must successfully login using your User ID and Password. Go to <http://pvamu.edu>, click on "Student Portal", click on "Click Here For Fall 2008", select "Enter Secure Area" at the log-in screen, and type in your user ID and password.

User ID

For students who are currently (Spring 2008) active in their respective roles: your **User ID** for Banner Panthertracks is your current number preceded with a capital **P** (example 10163123 is now P10163123).

PIN

Your **PIN** is your 6-digit birthday in MMDDYY format. You will be prompted to immediately change your PIN. (Note your PIN in the new system may not match the PIN in the previous system unless you manually change the PINS in both systems to match each other).

Immediately upon the completion of your initial login you

Banner Continued

Get to Know the Panthertracks Portal

will be prompted to immediately change your PIN and establish and security question and answer.

Need help with Panthertracks? Instruction sheets can be found at www.pvamu.edu/Panthertrackshelp.

If you experience difficulty logging, please contact the HelpDesk at [935-261-2525](tel:935-261-2525). The CHD is open 24/7

Panther Alert System for IKE

Protecting You — Register for PAS Alerts!

As Hurricane Ike approached the Gulf Coast in mid September, Prairie View A&M University officials were busy making preparations to secure campus buildings and ensure the safety of nearly 8,000 students and 1,000 faculty and staff.

The Prairie View A&M University Emergency Management Team made a decision to close in preparation of Hurricane Ike at 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 11, 2008 through Sunday, September 14, 2008.

As part of the execution, the team identified several ways to notify students and employees. The Panther Alert System (PAS), an emergency notification system that sends messages via landline phones, cellular phones, text messaging and e-mail, executed immediately. Additionally, updated information was constantly posted on the University's home page at www.pvamu.edu and sent to the local media.

PAS, the main arm of commutation to the campus community in emergency situations such as severe weather and health and safety-related threats, was able to successfully reach 72 percent of the 9,094 destinations included in the system. Thirty second messages were left on 2,592 answering machines and the message was relayed to 4,026 live voices. As a result the university was able secure most of its campus and was operating in emergency mode by Noon on Friday, September 12.

While the results seem promising, student and faculty are encouraged to register or update their contact information. Students can enroll using PantherTracks. Faculty and staff updates can be made via HR Connect. Directions and questions can be answered at www.pvamu.edu/PAS.

Welcome to Shannon Bowen

Director of Enterprise Applications



Shannon grew up in Barstow, California and moved to the Houston area in 2005 to begin her tenure with SunGard Higher Education. Prior to SunGard, she worked for Wichita State University and Barstow College.

She holds a Master's degree in Public Affairs/Public Management and a Bachelor's degree in Management, Computer Information Systems from

Park University, Parkville, Missouri.

"I am excited and thankful to have this opportunity at Prairie View A&M and I look forward to building relationships and partnering on many new projects that will help the University and its students enjoy success," notes Shannon. Shannon is married with four children and lives with her husband, Eddie in Pearland, Texas. Please stop by S.R. Collins and welcome Shannon to our group!

Safe Computing

Tips to Keep Your Data Safe

As we become increasingly more dependent on our computers and the data they contain we also become more vulnerable to threats unique to the computing environment. Here are some tips to consider to keep your computer and its data safe and secure.

Protect Your Equipment

Lock up your laptop: It only takes a few seconds for a laptop to go missing, so don't just "step away" for even a moment unless your laptop is locked in a drawer or secured with a locking cable.

Protect what you use: No personnel identification should be retained on your computer unless the hard drive is encrypted. That way if your computer does go missing at least your private data won't be at risk. Packages like TrueCrypt or Endpoint Encryption protect your entire hard drive from unauthorized access.

Avoiding Spam: Create separate email accounts for different purposes: It is important that your PVAMU email address should **NEVER** be posted. in a public forums

Creative Communication

Educating with Social Networking **Issue 1**

Any faculty knows that college students today are some of the most proficient networkers and collaborators on the planet. Educause¹ estimates that upwards of 80-90% of U.S. college students have profiles on Facebook, and faculty are tapping into the communication power and educational value of these sites. The mobility and interactivity of these sites is ideal for collaborative learning.

"The anywhere availability of it is great for the on-the-go student contributing to a team project," Sally Stevenson, Director of Academic Technology at Prairie View, points out. "Students and teachers are leveraging the most they can out of these free tools that keep them instantly connected no matter where they are."

Faculty are enjoying the enhanced relationships and understanding it facilitates between them and their students. And College PR execs are tapping into the niche marketing opportunity 'Facebook Flyers' presents, where paid ads created by users are shown to select networks. An ad about an upcoming campus election or a link to the campus theatre ticket office gets to the right audience.

A recent survey by careerbuilder.com announced a statistic that may cause you to reconsider posting certain images and details for all to see on your Facebook profile page.

According to the study, one out of five company managers, would check out job applicants' profiles on Facebook before making a final decision, and of those profiles reviewed, one third were ultimately rejected. The survey also found that managers checked for applicants bad-mouthing a former boss, or employer which was also something that was not going to score you any extra brownie points. Ten percent of the employers involved in the survey, who currently did not screen applicants' social networking profiles, said that they would now do so in the future.

Facebook, according to comScore is the leading social networking platform with the most unique, monthly visitors. ComScore reported that as of June 2008 Facebook attracted 132.1 million.

References:

1. <http://net.educause.edu/ir/library/pdf/ELI7025.pdf>
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3. http://www.startribune.com/lifestyle/family/20598114.html?location_refer=Editorials
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