MEMORANDUM

To: PVAMU Campus Community

From: Terence Finley, AVP for Business Services

Date: May 15, 2020

Re. Campus Re-opening

As Prairie View A&M University moves forward with its plan to hold classes on campus in the fall, many of its staff and faculty who have been working remotely will begin returning to campus in the coming weeks.

The first group of employees will return to campus on May 18, the second group on June 1, and the final group on June 15, with the expectation that the campus will be fully operational by June 15. To prepare the campus, the PVAMU COVID-19 Task Force assembled a subcommittee focused on physical infrastructure and sanitation.

To protect the health and welfare of employees, the subcommittee determined that Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) kits will be distributed to all employees. The kit includes two reusable masks, hand sanitizer, hand soap, powder-free nitrile gloves, disinfectant spray, a return-to-campus checklist, and a hygiene flyer. To retrieve the kits, employees arriving on campus on their designated return date will be directed to the parking lot of Hobart-Taylor for contactless distribution. The University Police Department and Parking personnel will be on hand to guide cars to the lot via T.R. Solomon. Employees will be given one kit per person. The university asks that employees pick up their kits prior to returning to their offices.

In addition to PPE, when employees arrive back on campus, several changes will be apparent. Access to buildings will be restricted to specific entrances. Sneeze guards are installed in high traffic areas. Furthermore, disinfecting procedures and protocols have been established for workspaces, restrooms, classrooms, dining halls, gathering spaces, and housing areas.

The university has employed the services of a City of Prairie View-based small business, New Urban Construction, to assist our SSC custodial crews with the thorough cleaning and sanitization of every building on the main campus. We have also extended custodial service contracts for the Northwest Houston Center and College of Nursing to include overnight cleaning and disinfecting services. To aid in the cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitization of the
campus, custodians will use Virex II 256—a one-step disinfectant cleaner and deodorant used in healthcare and other facilities where cleaning and prevention of cross-contamination are critical.

Human Resources is requiring returning employees to take online training centered on protecting themselves and others from COVID-19. Also, the university plans to work with the Office of Marketing and Communications to deploy signs across campus as part of its Panthers Push Forward campaign. The posters will detail proper hygiene techniques, workplace physical distancing requirements, maximum occupancy levels (within specific areas), the appropriate use of protective equipment (e.g., masks), and other safety guidelines.

All of the university’s constituents are vital assets and are extremely important to the PVAMU community. We are taking every precaution to mitigate the chances of individuals contracting and spreading the virus.

Please visit the Return to Work quick link on the COVID-19 Update site frequently for updated information.