

PVAMU Computer Science Student Launches Campus Marketplace Platform to Support Student Entrepreneurs

August 17, 2026

The Prairie View A&M University Computer Science Department is proud to recognize the entrepreneurial and technical achievements of **Raylen Williams**, a senior Computer Science student and founder of **PHAITH Co. LLC**, who recently launched **Support a Panther**, a digital marketplace designed to connect student entrepreneurs with the PVAMU community.

Available at **supportapanther.com**, the platform provides a centralized space where Prairie View students can promote their businesses and services, including tutoring, photography, hairstyling, food services, and other entrepreneurial ventures. The platform also allows student organizations and local businesses to reach students directly through a campus-focused marketplace.

Turning Classroom Learning into Real-World Impact

Raylen began developing the idea during his first semester at PVAMU while enrolled in an introductory web development course. Building upon the knowledge and skills gained through subsequent computer science coursework, including software engineering, he transformed a classroom project into a fully functioning business venture.

The project reflects one of the key goals of the Computer Science program: empowering students to apply technical knowledge to solve real-world problems and create innovative solutions that benefit their communities.

Technology with Purpose

Rather than developing a traditional mobile application, Raylen chose to build the platform as a **Progressive Web Application (PWA)**. This approach allows users to access the service directly through a web browser while still enjoying many of the conveniences of a mobile app, including the ability to add the platform to a device's home screen.

The design decision enabled faster deployment, lower development costs, and easier access for users. Within just two days of launch, the platform attracted more than 200 users, demonstrating strong interest from the campus community.

Inspiring the Next Generation of Innovators

Raylen's work demonstrates how computer science extends far beyond writing code. By combining technical expertise, creativity, entrepreneurship, and community engagement, he created a platform that helps fellow students expand their visibility and grow their businesses.

His vision continues to expand beyond Prairie View. He is currently planning additional technology initiatives that will support students at universities across the country.

Celebrating Student Innovation

The Computer Science Department is committed to fostering an environment where students can transform ideas into impactful solutions. Projects such as Support a Panther showcase the creativity, determination, and entrepreneurial mindset that our students bring to the profession.

We congratulate Raylen Williams on this achievement and look forward to seeing the continued growth of his ventures and the positive impact they will have on students and communities.

Visit Support a Panther: supportapanther.com

About the Prairie View A&M University Computer Science Department

The Computer Science Department encourages students to engage in innovative projects, undergraduate research, entrepreneurship, software development, and community-focused technology initiatives. Through hands-on learning experiences, students develop the technical and professional skills needed to become future technology leaders, innovators, and entrepreneurs.