

UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

est. 2004 - Prairie View A&M University



MISSION STATEMENT

The Texas Undergraduate Medical Academy's (UMA) mission is consistent with the overall mission of Prairie View A&M University and the Texas A&M University System. The UMA is dedicated to excellence in teaching, research, service, and professional development excellence. The UMA integrates leadership development, pre-medical science education, and compassion for the community.



HISTORIAN'S WELCOME

I hope you all are enjoying the spring weather and the semester. We are thrilled to bring you this latest edition of our newsletter. It's been a period filled with inspiring accomplishments, memorable moments, and research that showcase the incredible dedication of our students and faculty.

- Anisa Cole

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PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL ACCEPTANCES

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

MEHARRY[®]
MEDICAL COLLEGE

School of Medicine
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO
ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

STATE

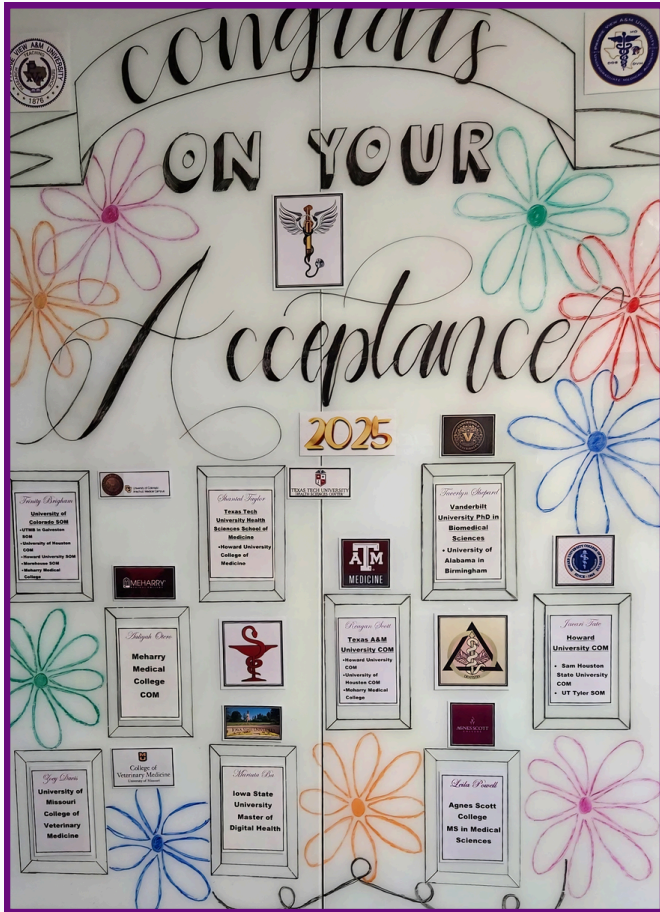


College of
Veterinary Medicine
University of Missouri

HOWARD
UNIVERSITY
College of Medicine

ATM
MEDICINE
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

TSU
TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY



CONGRATULATIONS to all of the UMA scholars and alumni who have already been accepted to professional schools for Fall 2025!

Mariata Ba will be attending Iowa State University, pursuing a Master's of Digital Health in Fall 2025.

Trinity Brigham will be attending the University of Colorado SOM in Fall 2025 and was also accepted to the John Sealy SOM (UTMB-Galveston), University of Houston COM, Howard University SOM, Morehouse SOM, and Meharry Medical College.

Zoey Davis will be attending the University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine in Fall 2025.

Aaliyah Otero will be attending Meharry Medical College COM in Fall 2025.

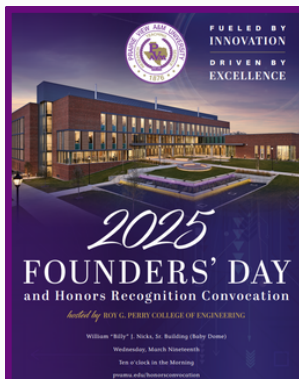
Reagan Scott will be attending Texas A&M COM in Fall 2025, and was also accepted to Howard University COM, Meharry COM, and the University of Houston COM.

Taverlyn Shepard will be starting her PhD in Biological Sciences in Fall 2025 at Vanderbilt University, and was also accepted to the University of Alabama in Birmingham.

Jacari Tate will be attending Howard University COM, and was also accepted to Sam Houston State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, and the University of Texas at Tyler SOM.

Shantal Taylor will be attending Texas Tech University SOM in Fall 2025, and was also accepted to Howard University COM.

FOUNDERS' DAY HONORS RECOGNITION



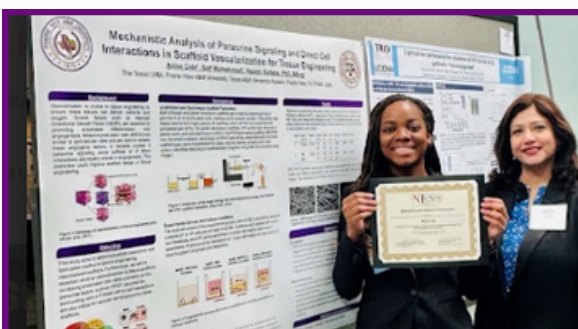
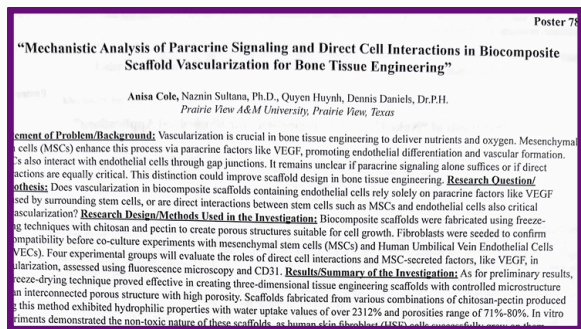
Several UMA scholars were recognized at PVAMU's 2025 Founders' Day & Honors Recognition Convocation, celebrating the founding of the University and the academic student achievements.

LEFT to RIGHT: Kenton Moore (Junior), Erin Renfro (Senior), Saif Mohammed (Jasper Scholar), Eryka Appiah-Amaning (Senior), and Keeland Harville (junior).

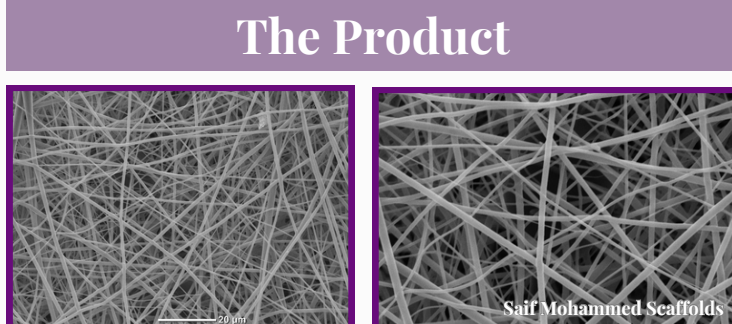
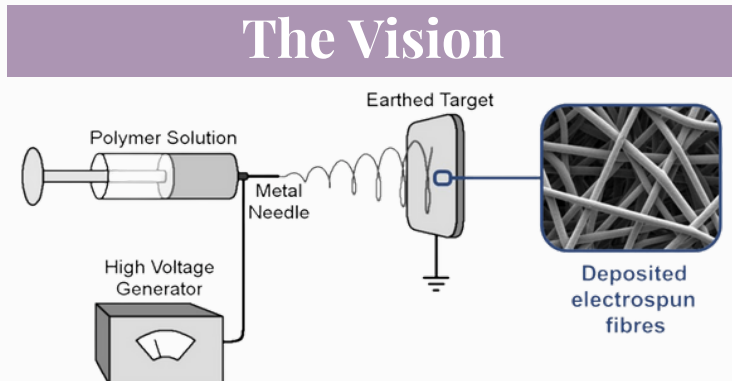
HARVARD'S BSCP & NESS CONFERENCES



On March 28th-30th, 2025 Dr. Naznin Sultana, of the UMA Tissue Engineering lab, and Anisa Cole (UMA Junior), had the privilege of representing the UMA and PVAMU at the Biomedical Science Careers Student Conference (BSCP) and at the New England Science Symposium (NESS), organized by Harvard Medical School. These conferences provided an invaluable opportunity to connect with a diverse group of faculty, post-doctoral researchers, medical/graduate students, and undergraduates.

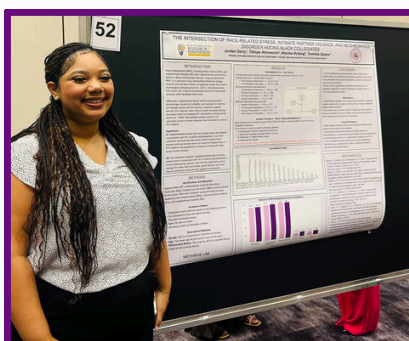


UMA RESEARCH LECTURE



UMA scholars had the privilege of attending a special lecture by Dr. Naznin Sultana on February 26th, 2025 where she shared her expertise in the fabrication of tissue engineering scaffolds. Following the lecture, students were given the opportunity to engage in hands-on training in fabricating nanofibers using the latest electrospinning technology in the UMA Research Laboratory. This experience provided a unique chance for the students to work with cutting-edge equipment and deepen their understanding of advanced research techniques.

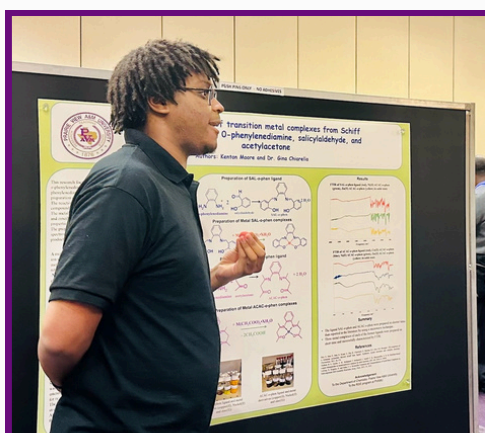
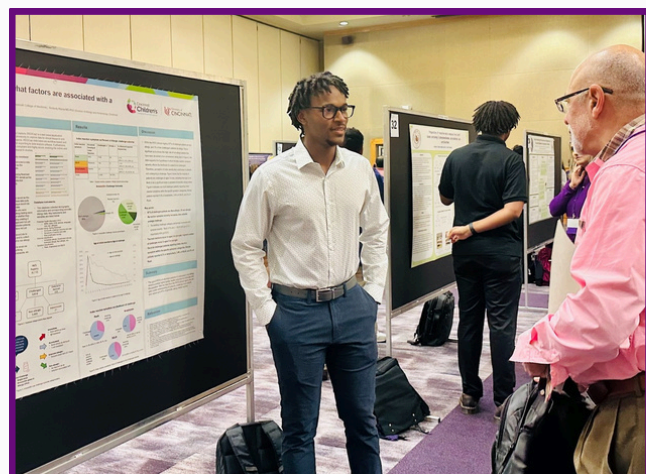
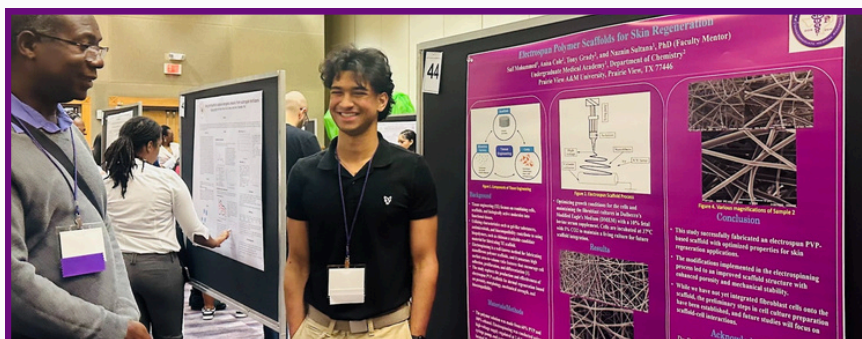
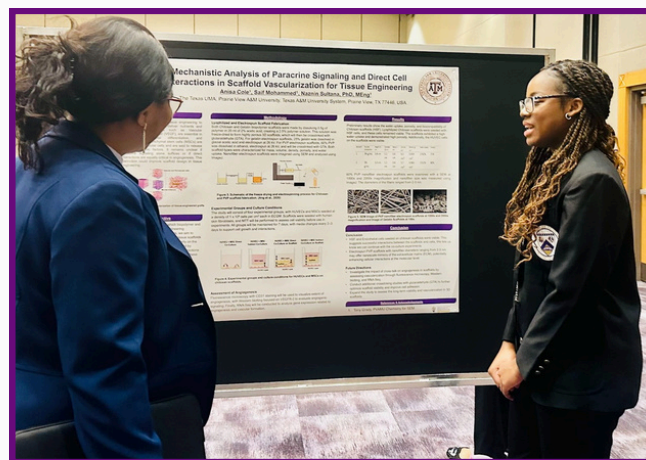
2025 PVAMU CISR



On April 9th, 2025, several UMA scholars presented their research at PVAMU's 2025 Conference of Interdisciplinary Student Research (CISR). Dr. Naznin Sultana also participated as a conference judge.

UMA scholars Shantal Taylor, Alesha Maxwell, and Kira Holman were awarded first, second, and third place for the conference's oral presentations, respectively. Keeland Harville was awarded second place for his research poster.

LEFT to RIGHT: Shelby Davis (Sophomore), Jamia Boutte (Sophomore), Jordan Derry (Sophomore), Kira Holiman (Jasper Scholar), Alesha Maxwell (Sophomore), Shantal Taylor (Senior), Anisa Cole (Junior), Saif Mohammed (Jasper Scholar), Keeland Harville (Junior), Kenton Moore (Junior), and Amina Rose (Senior).



2025 NAAAS CONFERENCE



February 13-15th, 2025, UMA scholars Racheal Ighomena (Junior), Aanae McNeil (Senior), and Shantal Taylor (Senior) attended and presented at the National Association of African American Studies Conference in Dallas, Texas.

Dr. Dennis E. Daniels, Dr. Gail Brekke, and Ms. Tenley Sablatzky also presented at the conference.

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP RECEPTION



On April 10th, 2025, the UMA attended PVAMU's annual Scholarship reception. Dr. Dennis E. Daniels and Mrs. Quyen Huynh presented on behalf of the UMA, and the UMA's recruiting team, Mr. Joel Swisher and Mr. Jeremy Kiesler, spoke to prospective students about the UMA.

2025 UMA PRE-HEALTH CONFERENCE

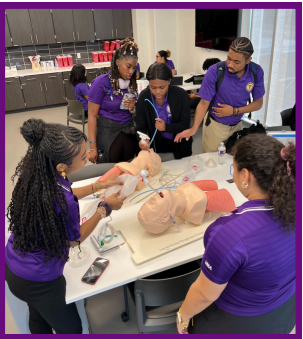


On February 22nd, 2025 the UMA hosted its annual Pre-Health Science Conference at the E.E. O'Banion Science Building. The event brought together students interested in medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, and veterinary science. Participants took part in sessions such as adjusting to college life and preparing for professional school. The conference featured panels with the 2024-2025 Jasper Scholars, esteemed UMA students, and notable UMA alumni: Dr. Ebonee Hayward-Sencherey, DO, Dr. Maxwell Sencherey, DO, Dr. Devin Yates, Pharm.D., Dr. Ashleigh Yates, OD., and Aryonne Gibson (UH College of Pharmacy).

SAM HOUSTON MEDICAL SCHOOL



On February 28th, 2025, the Texas Undergraduate Medical Academy (UMA) visited Sam Houston State University College of Osteopathic Medicine. Students had the chance to connect with admissions representatives, engage with current students, and practice clinical skills. Participants gained valuable insights into medical education and the osteopathic profession.



UTMB MEDICAL SCHOOL

On Friday, March 28th, 2025, scholars from the Texas Undergraduate Medical Academy (UMA) had the opportunity to visit the University of Texas Medical Branch, John Sealy School of Medicine (UTMB). During the visit, students toured the campus, met with admissions representatives, and gained insights into life as a health professions student. A highlight of the visit included meaningful conversations with UMA alum Cale Watkins, now a medical student at UTMB, and Trinity Brigham, MPH, a future medical student at the University of Colorado.



UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HEALTH-SAN ANTONIO

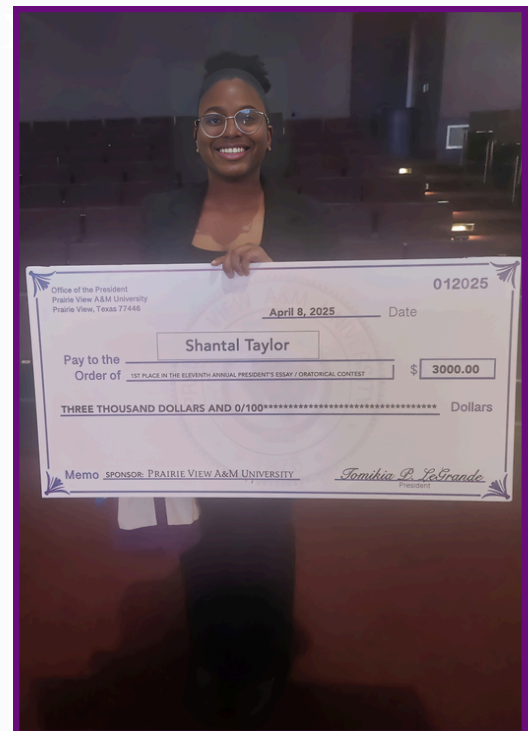


On Friday, April 11th, 2025, scholars of the Texas Undergraduate Medical Academy (UMA) had the opportunity to visit the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. During the visit, students toured the medical and dental school facilities and learned from UT-Health San Antonio faculty about their academic curriculum, admissions criteria, and preparations for professional school.

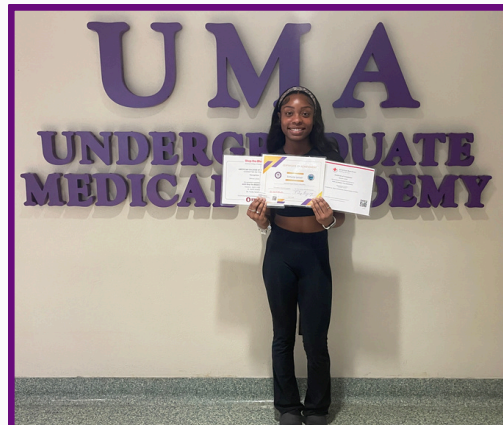
11th ANNUAL ESSAY/ORATORY CONTEST



PVAMU hosted its 11th Annual Essay/Oratory Contest on Tuesday, April 8th, 2025. The 2025 contest theme was “Creating Generational Wealth: The Case for Students to Begin Building It Now.” Five undergraduate finalists were selected to present their essays during the live event. The UMA’s own, Shantal Taylor was awarded first place and a prize of \$3000 for her essay titled, “A Foundation on Which to Build a Generation: Why University Students Should Invest in Themselves Now.”



CERT, FIRST AID, CPR & STOP THE BLEED



Six UMA scholars earned their Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), American Red Cross First Aid/CPR/AED, and American College of Surgeons Stop the Bleed certifications during the Spring 2025 semester! They learned techniques for splinting and bandaging, wound-packing, and blood pressure monitoring. They also visited the Prairie View Fire Station to complete their Fire Suppression Training. Shantal Taylor, graduating senior, earned her CERT Train-the-Trainer instructor certification.



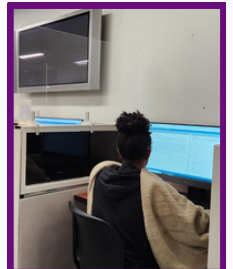
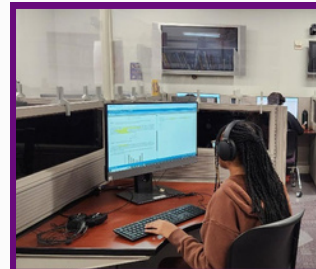
MENTOR-MENTEE STUDENT MIXER



On February 25th, 2025, the UMA E-Board, under the guidance of UMA President & Mentorship and Events Committee Chair, Erin Renfro, hosted a Mentor-Mentee Mixer for new UMA students to engage and learn from upperclassmen. The mixer paired each underclassman with an upperclassman in order to provide personalized guidance and support to each student on their pre-health journey.



PRACTICE MCAT/DAT EXAMS



The UMA hosted two practice MCAT/DAT sessions, on March 22nd and April 12th of the Spring 2025 semester for UMA scholars to test their knowledge and aid in their study preparation.



CROCHET & SUTURING CLUB



On April 24, 2025, the UMA Crochet & Suturing Club took their end-of-semester trip to the Waller County Pregnancy Center. This semester, the club donated 40 crocheted baby hats, created by the UMA Scholars throughout the Spring semester. Pictured here, the donations are presented to Rayna Reimer, Director of the Waller County Pregnancy Center.



Certificates of Participation were awarded on behalf of the UMA by Dr. Dennis E. Daniels and Mrs. Quyen Huynh to 20 UMA Scholars for their community service.

The last Crochet & Suturing club meeting announced that Kenton Moore will serve as President for a second term during the 2025-2026 school year, with Joya Graham serving as the Vice President.



SPRING BIRTHDAYS

February Birthdays

Jared London	- 7-Feb
Erin LaFleur	- 9-Feb
Madi Gentles	- 15-Feb
Nyla Holiman	- 16-Feb
Kristen Ashley	- 17-Feb
Amina Rose	- 27-Feb

March Birthdays

Justyce Redeau	- 7-Mar
Esther Samuel	- 23-Mar
Joya Graham	- 30-Mar

April Birthdays

Pearl Gerald-Emesih	- 2-Apr
Mr. Jeremy Kiesler	- 4-Apr
Anisa Cole	- 9-Apr
Jamia Boutte	- 16-Apr
Taylor Brewer	- 22-Apr

UPCOMING EVENTS

