Program Highlights

21st Fall Commencement Convocation

Saturday, December 10, 2016 • 9 AM & 1 PM
William "Billy" J. Nicks, Sr. Building

PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY
While this is definitely a time for festivities and celebrations, I hope that you take a moment to congratulate yourselves on completing this important step of your educational journey. On behalf of the faculty and staff here at Prairie View A&M University, we salute you, your family and your efforts. We also fully expect that you will become one of PVAMU’s many Proud Productive Panthers as you embark upon this next chapter of your lives.

We want your graduation day to be a special one. Within the pages of this booklet you will find information about our commencement convocations that should help make the day go smoothly for you and your loved ones.

Of course, commencement marks a special occasion, but this is not the conclusion of your educational journey. Learning is a lifelong endeavor and we do not want you to ever stop progressing and growing.

Again, we congratulate you and we wish you the best and brightest future!

Felecia M. Nave, Ph.D.
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Commencement Rehearsal

Rehearsal for all candidates will be held Friday, December 9, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. in the William “Billy” Nicks, Sr. Building (Babydome)

Commencement Schedule

Saturday, December 10, 2016
9:00 a.m. Ceremony
(Candidates should report by 8:00 a.m.)
William “Billy” Nicks, Sr. Building
- Graduate Studies
- School of Architecture
- College of Business
- Roy G. Perry College of Engineering

1:00 p.m. Ceremony
(Candidates should report by 12:00 p.m.)
William “Billy” Nicks, Sr. Building
- College of Agriculture
- Marvin D. and June Samuel Brailsford College of Arts and Sciences
- Whitlowe R. Green College of Education
- College of Juvenile Justice and Psychology
- College of Nursing

Congratulations to all of our December 2016 Graduates!
Tickets
Tickets will be distributed through each College and School to graduates who have been certified to participate in the ceremony. Each graduating student will be issued 10 tickets for family, friends and other guests. Tickets are required for admission to each commencement ceremony. Only children 12 months of age or younger who will sit on a guest’s lap during the entire ceremony will not require a ticket.

If a student is not approved to graduate, the tickets MUST BE RETURNED to their College upon notification of graduation status. Selling extra tickets is strictly prohibited. However, students are free to give their unused tickets to their fellow classmates.

Simulcast
Should the William “Billy” J. Nicks, Sr. Fieldhouse become full, overflow rooms will be available in the Memorial Student Center for guests. All Commencement Ceremonies will be simulcast live and will be shown in the overflow room in real time.

Live Streaming
For those friends, families and guests unable to attend the Commencement Ceremonies in person, Prairie View A&M University will stream the event live. Links to the stream can be found on the www.pvamu.edu homepage as well as by visiting www.pvamu.edu/stream.

Social Media
We welcome graduates and guests to post their graduation photos to social media sites using the hashtag #ProudPVgrad

Caps and Gowns
The University Bookstore will provide information about pricing and pick-up of caps and gowns, class rings and graduation announcements. Please visit http://www.bkstr.com/prairieviewamunivstore/home for additional information.

Graduation Gifts & Memorabilia
Information about PVAMU branded gifts and alumni merchandise can be found on the University Bookstore’s website at http://www.bkstr.com/prairieviewamunivstore/home

Diplomas
During the ceremony, graduates receive a diploma case presented to them by the President of the University or a University Representative. The actual diploma is mailed to the graduate at the mailing address designated by the graduate in his/her graduation application. Please allow 6–8 weeks for diplomas to arrive.

Seating
There is no reserved seating. All tickets are General Admission. Guests are encouraged to arrive early to find parking and seating.

Parking
Parking attendants will be on hand to guide visitors to parking spaces. Please follow instructions closely as doing so will allow for convenient event parking and exiting. Parking for the event is free and no prior permission or parking pass is needed to park. Drivers are expected to follow all parking regulations set forth by the parking attendants.

Special Services
A section will be reserved in the William “Billy” J. Nicks, Sr. Fieldhouse for persons requiring special needs accommodations. Space in this area is limited, so please plan to arrive early if special assistance is needed.

Photography
Official photography for each Commencement Ceremony will be done by a professional photography service. Photos of all graduates will be taken while the graduate is on the stage and when the graduate is walking back to his/her seat. Graduates will be given cards and order forms at the Commencement Rehearsal to be completed and returned to Flash Photography should he/she want to order photos. Guests may take personal photos of the graduates but are prohibited from blocking the aisles and walkways.
Graduation Eligibility

Students intending to graduate must complete and submit an Application for Graduation online through Panthertracks via PVPlace. (Paper Applications can be accessed via [http://www.pvamu.edu/registrar/graduation/applying-for-graduation/](http://www.pvamu.edu/registrar/graduation/applying-for-graduation/))

Before applying for graduation, students must read all of the information provided on the Graduation page.

1. Make sure you have completed the graduation checklist. (Applying for graduation prior to completing the checklist may result in being disapproved by your department. Reapplication and repayment will be required).

2. After completing the graduation checklist, login to PVPlace and navigate to Panthertracks.

3. In Panthertracks, go to Student Records and click on Apply to Graduate.

4. Follow the instructions on each page presented during the application process.

5. Upon submitting your application, follow steps on sections called “After Applying” on Graduation checklist.

The Commencement Ceremony

Please make sure that cell phones are on silent. Please do not bring anything in the Fieldhouse that could obstruct the view of other guests. Loud noises and/or inappropriate outbursts are prohibited. We want to provide a courteous environment for our graduates and their guests.

Tips for an Extraordinary Ceremony

• Please notify someone on the Commencement Committee as to the proper annunciation of your name to ensure that it is pronounced correctly during the commencement ceremony.

• Leave personal items like coats and purses with guests. There are no facilities available for storing these items during the ceremony. Prairie View A&M University cannot be held responsible for any lost, stolen, or damaged items.

• Arrive early enough to allow adequate time to line up for the procession.

• Dress appropriately for this special occasion.

• Alcohol is strictly prohibited.
Dr. Michael L. McFrazier, a native of Paris, Texas, is the Vice President for Administration and Chief of Staff at Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU).

Dr. McFrazier joined the faculty at PVAMU in 1998 after beginning his professional career as a public school music teacher and administrator in the Waco Independent School District, Waco, Texas. During his twenty year tenure in higher education, he has served as Coordinator of Minority Development Programs, Coordinator of Graduate Studies, Associate Provost and Associate Vice President for Academic & Student Affairs, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, Dean of the PVAMU Northwest Houston Campus, chair of the PVAMU Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges Reaffirmation of Accreditation decennial review, and consultant for the Texas Education Agency regarding principal and superintendent certification exams. Dr. McFrazier also provided leadership in establishing the Ph.D. program in Educational Leadership in the Whitlowe R. Green College of Education at PVAMU where he holds the rank of tenured Associate Professor.

Dr. McFrazier has traveled extensively throughout the United States as well as abroad. He has been afforded the opportunity to present his research and display his artistic and creative abilities in places such as New York, Chicago, California, Florida, Tennessee, Louisiana, Mississippi, Georgia and Hawaii. He has also presented in Africa, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Korea, Japan, Yugoslavia, Hong Kong, and the Peoples Republic of China.

In February 2014, he co-edited and published a book titled College Student Self-Efficacy Research Studies with Dr. Terence Hicks, former Dean Whitlowe R. Green College of Education. Dr. McFrazier has served on the editorial board of the Journal of the Research Association for Minority Professors, has served as a proposal reviewer for the National Science Foundation and has served as an off-site, on-site and special committee accreditation chair for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.

Dr. McFrazier received an Associate of Arts Degree from Paris Junior College. He earned the Bachelor of Music Education, Master of Music—Vocal Performance, and Master of Science in Education from Baylor University. He received his Doctorate in Educational Administration from the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. Additionally, he holds the M.D.P. Leadership Development Certificate from Harvard University Institute of Higher Education, the William R. Harvey Leadership Certificate from Hampton University and the Governor’s Executive Leadership Development Certificate from the LBJ School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin.

Dr. McFrazier’s honors include Who’s Who in Black Houston; W.T. Bono Professional Award; The Central Texas Role Model Award; University of Arkansas Undergraduate Excellence Mentor Award; University of Arkansas Inspirational Award for Excellence in Service; the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. Seven Jewels Service Award; the Paris Junior College Hall of Honor Award; and the Paris Junior College Distinguished Alumni Award, the highest honor the College bestows.

Dr. McFrazier serves as chair of the board of directors of the Alpha Impact Charitable Foundation. He is a member of the advisory board of the University of Texas Education Consortium for Male Students of Color and of the Cy-Fair Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, he is a member of Leadership Northwest Houston; Golden Key Honor Society; Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society; and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. (Life Member #12605). He has served for 18 years in the Music Ministry as Minister of Music and is currently Director of the Men’s Choir at The Church Without Walls where Dr. Ralph Douglas West is Pastor and Founder.