



PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

A Member of the Texas A&M University System

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 9, 2024
TO: Academic Deans, Division/Department Heads, Faculty, Staff, and Students
FROM: Michael L. McFrazier
Interim Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
SUBJECT: Commencement Speaker – May 10-11, 2024

The 142nd Spring Commencement for undergraduate and graduate candidates will occur the weekend of May 10-11, 2024, in the William “Billy” J. Nicks, Sr. Building (Baby Dome). For friends, families, and guests unable to attend Commencement in person, the University will stream the event live at www.pvamu.edu/stream and www.youtube.com/pvamu.

Faculty should report to the Baby Dome hallway near the Student Recreation Center entrance, wearing full regalia, an hour before each ceremony to line up for the processional. Commencement rehearsal is Friday, May 10, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. in the William “Billy” J. Nicks Building (Baby Dome).

President Tomikia P. LeGrande, Ed.D., will serve as the commencement speaker on Friday.

The speaker for commencement ceremonies on Saturday is Phil Griffith, Vice President of United Airlines’ Houston Hub at George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH).

Phil has amassed an impressive record of supply chain and operational improvement successes with globally recognized multi-national companies such as Honeywell and General Electric (GE). At GE, he led teams on five continents in various health care, consumer and industrial, and corporate divisions. Most recently, Phil oversaw the strategy and deployment of project management, sourcing, manufacturing, and security resources for multiple business units in the sub-Saharan Africa region.

In previous roles, Phil managed supply chain operations for healthcare factories across the Americas; led quality operations for the global lighting, appliances and electrical distribution and control business; and served as plant manager in multiple facilities.

As General Manager of sales and operations planning at Honeywell, he led those global functions, along with inventory management and distribution and logistics for the jet engines and aviation control systems operation. He was also chief operating officer at Horsburgh & Scott, a producer of industrial gear-related products.

Phil holds a master’s degree in manufacturing systems from Southern Illinois University and a bachelor’s degree in electronics engineering technology from Grambling State University. He

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previously served as an executive connections mentor with the W.P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University and currently serves as an Aviation Management department board member at Texas Southern University.

For more information about Commencement, please visit www.pvamu.edu/commencement.

xc: Tomikia P. LeGrande
Carol Campbell
PVAMU Campus Community