

## PVAMU KICKS OFF PACESETTERS INITIATIVE TO ASSIST AFRICAN COUNTRIES

The new multidisciplinary effort will help improve food security, sustainable agriculture, renewable energy and social welfare in Africa.

**PRAIRIE VIEW,** Texas (June 25, 2021) – Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) is spearheading a new multidisciplinary effort, created by <u>The International Institute of Family Development Inc.</u>, to help improve food security, sustainable agriculture, renewable energy and social welfare in Africa. Called the Pacesetters Initiative, this new partnership with students, faculty and industry leaders in specific African nations will draw from PVAMU's celebrated academic programs to comprehensively address multi-faceted problems in Africa.

"It's an opportunity, in keeping with the university's Quality Enhancement Plan for the next decade, for our students to be more internationally engaged with serious issues," said project lead Camille Gibson, Ph.D., professor and interim dean of the College of Juvenile Justice.

Through the university's relationship with The International Institute of Family Development Inc., PVAMU has forged formal academic partnerships with:

- Kenyatta University, Kenya
- Great Lakes University of Kisumu, Kenya
- The University of The Gambia, The Gambia
- The University of Liberia, Liberia
- Covington University, Liberia
- Bong County Technical College, Liberia

"The Pacesetters Initiative opens the possibility to build the resumes and skillsets of both African and HBCU students," echoed executive managing director of The International Institute of Family Development Inc. Veola Green. "We hope this dynamic connection can solve real-world problems."

PVAMU is scheduled to kick off the venture this summer with partnerships with the University of Liberia and Great Lakes University of Kisumu in Kenya. Click <u>here</u> for the details. For more information, contact Camille Gibson at <u>cbgibson@pvamu.edu</u> or 936-261-5205.

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**About Prairie View A&M University:** Designated an institution of "the first class" in the Texas Constitution, Prairie View A&M University is the second-oldest public institution of higher education in the state. With an established reputation for producing engineers, nurses, and educators, PVAMU offers baccalaureate degrees, master's degrees, and doctoral degree programs through eight colleges and schools. A member of The Texas A&M University System, the university is dedicated to fulfilling its land-grant mission of achieving excellence in teaching, research, and service. For more information regarding PVAMU, visit <u>www.pvamu.edu</u>.

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