



PVAMU RESEARCH TEAM LANDS \$954K NSF GRANT TO INCREASE NUMBER OF GRADUATE STUDENTS IN ENGINEERING

The grant is a part of a \$5 million partnership project with Jackson State, Rice, and Texas Southern Universities.

PRAIRIE VIEW, Texas – (October 4, 2021) – Prairie View A&M University's (PVAMU) Division of Research & Innovation is proud to announce a [National Science Foundation](#) (NSF) research grant awarded to [Computer Science](#) Professor Sherri Frizell. Prairie View A&M, Rice, Texas Southern, and Jackson State University are sharing a grant of just over \$5 million. Frizell's award is for \$954,605.

The project, "Improving Access to Career and Educational Development [I-ACED] for Talented, Low-Income Students through the Flexible Internships-Research-Education Model," will allow Frizell's team to provide scholarships to low-income students at PVAMU to pursue master's degrees in computer science and engineering.

"This award is a great opportunity for students in engineering to obtain their master's degrees," Frizell explained. "The College of Engineering has a five-year BS/MS program that many students don't take advantage of due to funding limitations. This project will allow us to increase the number of domestic students, particularly African-Americans, enrolled in our graduate programs. We anticipate it may lead to an increase in the number of Ph.D. students at the university, predominantly in engineering."

Through the I-ACED, PVAMU's team will partner with the [U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center](#) (ERDC) in Vicksburg, Mississippi, which will allow students to witness first-hand the research applied to real engineering problems.

Joining Frizell for her research project are co-principal investigators Kiran Bellam, Ph.D., a computer science associate professor, and PVAMU Professor in Transportation Engineering and Texas A&M Regents Professor Judy Perkins, Ph.D., P.E.

"I am excited about this opportunity for Dr. Frizell and her team and for the future impact this grant award brings to PVAMU's burgeoning sponsored research portfolio," said Rajan. "As an aspiring, emerging research institution, this NSF S-STEM program will improve workforce development and innovation, particularly for talented and low-income students. In addition, this partnership offers more research experience to our graduate students and may likely inspire our master's students to pursue their Ph.D. at PVAMU."

Frizell's grant begins October 15, 2021.

Read details of the awards at the NSF sites for [Jackson State](#), [Prairie View A&M](#), [Rice](#), and [Texas Southern](#).

###

About Prairie View A&M University: Designated as 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 www.pvamu.edu.

MEDIA CONTACTS

Michael Douglas
Manager, Marketing and Communications
936-261-1574 • mwdouglas@pvamu.edu

Office of Research & Innovation Marketing & Communications • 936-261-1574 • research@pvamu.edu