MEMORANDUM

To: PVAMU Community

From: James M. Palmer, Provost & Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Date: April 3, 2020

Re: Zoom Classroom Hijacking and Security Measures

Regretfully, we have been notified that one of our classroom Zoom sessions was hacked today and that the malicious hacker used racial slurs addressing the class and instructor. The incident has been reported to authorities, and the University Police Department is investigating so that appropriate action can be taken.

The FBI has received multiple reports of video-conferencing platforms being disrupted in this manner; consequently, PVAMU's Center for Information Technology Excellence issued a <u>memo yesterday</u> listing steps to take to mitigate teleconference hijacking.

Faculty will receive additional guidance this evening from the Center for Instructional Innovation and Technology Services on using Zoom waiting room and passwords for conferencing in addition to other steps listed in the Zoom Security Announcement made yesterday.

Please take these additional measures seriously in order to help ensure the virtual learning environment is safe during this time of intense use of video-teleconferencing.

xc: Ruth Simmons, President