



PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

A Member of The Texas A&M University System

July 16, 2010

Dr. Anya C. Sebastien
Director of Academic Programs
Academic Affairs and Research Division
Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
P.O. Box 12788
Austin, TX 78711

RE: OCR No 06976001

Dear Dr. Sebastien:

I have enclosed Prairie View A&M University's OCR Report as requested. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at gcwright@pvamu.edu or at 936-261-2111.

Sincerely,

George C. Wright
President

Enc.

xc: Dr. E.J. Thomas-Smith
Ms. Mary Lee Hodge
Dr. Dean Williamson

PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

George C. Wright, President

Report on The Texas Priority Plan Commitment

ON

OCR NO. 06976001

Submitted to:

Dr. Anya C. Sebastien, Ed. D.

Director of Academic Programs

Academic Affairs and Research Division

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

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Introduction

The Texas Priority Plan Commitment, commonly termed the Priority Plan or the OCR Plan, set forth a blueprint for strengthening and enhancing Prairie View A&M University in a manner that would result in the elimination of remaining vestiges of a separate system of public higher education based upon racial identification. Key initiatives were that the University would improve the recruitment, retention and graduation of students; strengthen systems related to information technology and human resources to support the development of students, faculty, and staff; strengthen key academic programs (particularly nursing, engineering, educator preparation, architecture, and juvenile justice); add state-of-the-art buildings for key programs; complete building renovations; strengthen its institutional development office; create 12 endowed chairs for new and existing programs; add a merit scholarship program; amend the statutory mission statement to ensure that it did not include any exclusionary language that discourages any Texan from taking advantage of the excellent educational opportunities afforded at Prairie View A&M University; and take other important steps to effect institutional strengthening and enhancement.

As the 2008 Prairie View A&M University OCR Plan Report to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the Academic Development Initiative Report reveal, significant advancement has been achieved as a result of funding provided by the State of Texas to support the OCR Plan and of funding made available under the Academic Development Initiative. Equally important to the success has been the continued financial support from the Academic Development Initiative and the Available University Fund. Unfortunately, Prairie View A&M University does not receive Research Excellence funding, but seeks inclusion as part of any future expansion of the funding.

Attached is the requested information on the University's status relative to the Academic Programs, Facilities, and Systems.

I. Academic Programs

A. Enrollment data from inception to present for all new academic programs to date with targeted enrollment projections. (File attached with data, please review).

The enrollment figures provided in the table below have been compared with information provided to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board on Coordinating Board Management report submissions.

Prairie View A&M University												
Component Number	CIP Code	Degree	Fall 2001	Fall 2002	Fall 2003	Fall 2004	Fall 2005	Fall 2006	Fall 2007	Fall 2008	Fall 2009	Target
5.2	14100100	MS In Electrical Engineering	0	10	14	6	13	22	22	13	10	25
5.2	14100100	PhD in Electrical Engineering	0	0	3	9	14	14	13	9	11	40
7.1	15100100	BS in Construction Science	0	0	14	23	35	50	52	53	58	75
7.2	04020100	MS in Architecture	0	9	16	23	19	17	24	34	24	40
11.1	42100110	PhD in Clinical Adolescent Psy	0	0	0	4	12	14	19	10	15	20
12.1	13040100	PhD in Ed Leadership	0	0	0	15	32	53	50	57	61	20*
12.2	11010100	MS in Computer Science	0	7	18	22	10	5	2	9	20	50*
12.3	11040100	MS in Computer Info Systems	0	6	12	11	13	13	14	18	25	50*
14.1	52030100	MS in Accounting	0	0	2	11	12	13	17	27	44	70*
14.2	04030100	MS in Community Development	7	17	22	68	61	61	38	33	40	None

B. Detailed information for each new academic program’s efforts to attract, enroll and maintain students.

The new academic programs mentioned in the table above relate to the following four Colleges and Schools at Prairie View A&M University: 1) Roy G. Perry College of Engineering, 2) School of Architecture, 3) Whitlowe R. Green College of Education 4) College of Juvenile Justice & Psychology, and 4) College of Business. Below are efforts to attract, enroll, and maintain students by academic program(s) within each School and College:

Roy G. Perry College of Engineering

M.S. & Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering

- Faculty visited in-state and out-of- state institutions of high education that had undergraduate electrical engineering programs but that had limited offerings at the master’s and doctoral level. For example, faculty recruited at Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Southern University in Louisiana, and at Tuskegee University in Alabama. Mr. Justin James and Ms. CaLynna Sorrells who were MS students at Tuskegee University are now PhD students in the Electrical Engineering program. Faculty also recruited students who were members of the GEM program.
- The College established exhibit and recruitment stations at conferences such as the Black Engineer of the Year Awards Conference and the National Society of Black Engineers Conference.
- Graduate students were offered attractive stipends and assistantships. For example, as of June 2010, all six graduates of the PhD in Electrical Engineering program had been recipients of support from funded research grants. The majority of the current graduate students are supported by funded research.

- Centers offered opportunities for students to become involved in research as well as receive compensation for their work—namely, the US Army Center for Battlefield Communication which is valued at \$3 million and is sponsored by the Army Research Office for the period 2004-2011; NASA Center for Radiation Research in Engineering and Science for Space Exploration which is a \$5 million commitment for the period of 2008-2013; and the Center of Excellence for Communication Systems Technology Research. The research expenditure for the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department was more than \$2M during the 2008-2009 academic year.
- College instituted the five-year BS/MSEE program in 2009-2010 to attract students to both MS and PhD programs in Electrical Engineering; instituted power engineering track as an area of concentration effective academic year 2010-2011
- College offered 2010 PhD students fellowships through the \$250,000 HBGI grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The funding is expected to increase during the 2010-2011 academic year and is used to support PhD students, purchase equipment and pay for travel expenses of doctoral students.

M.S. in Computer Science & Computer Information Systems

- College attracted students to newly established advanced "graduate student" laboratory ; and established fully functional (a) Virtual Reality and Scientific Visualization research lab, (b) RFID research lab, (c) Database and Data Mining research lab, (d) Computer Network and Information Security Research Lab, and (e) Human-Computer Interface Research Lab. The labs are equipped with advanced device, hardware, and software, solidly supporting faculty and graduate students conducting research activities. Graduate students in the two master's programs are using these research labs to carry out their Master's Thesis/Project research. Currently, there is in progress the development of a program for the latest smart electronic devices, such as smart phones, iPad's, etc. The enrollment numbers show that the two programs are growing.
- Faculty teams in the Department of Computer Science have succeeded in securing external research funding which has supported our graduate students. Graduate students and faculty members have co-authored several conference and journal papers. Currently, the department has several NSF, DOE, and several external organization funded research projects that also financially support 7~9 graduates. In the fall 2009 semester, an ABET on-site team visited the department to evaluate the CS bachelor program. The team pointed out in their on-site visit report that "The Computer Science Department has an excellent research record, with significant external funding." The department has been maintaining an outstanding publication status.

School of Architecture

B.S. in Construction Science

M.S. in Architecture & M.S. in Community Development

- The School of Architecture appointed in 2009-2010 a new director for student services to help in recruiting and retention.
- Increased recruitment at high schools and community colleges that offer CAD, architectural drafting, and construction courses.
- Involved students who are *Architecture Ambassadors* to help recruit in their former high schools.
- Finalized the articulation agreements with Lone Star College, Houston Community College and Tarrant County Community College to provide seamless transition to architecture and construction Science.
- Arranged for more students and parents to visit the School, tour the campus, and meet with administrators and advisors.
- Increased scholarly research that involved students and faculty.
- Increased e-blast announcement to 50k recipients in the Houston Metropolis; mailed 300 brochures to government agencies, school districts and nonprofit agencies.

College of Juvenile Justice & Psychology

Ph.D. in Clinical Adolescent Psychology

- College of Juvenile Justice and Psychology employed a full-time recruiter to assist the faculty with recruitment and admission of students.
- Faculty increased participation in professional organizations at whose meetings faculty recruited new students.
- Staff, including the Associate Director of the Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center and the Training Specialist, traveled extensively throughout the State of Texas to disseminate information and to train individuals many of whom were candidates for recruitment to the doctoral program.
- College provided substantial funding to doctoral students who remained in good academic standing (\$22,000) as long as funding remained available.

College of Business

M.S. in Accounting

- Attained and maintained AACSB accreditation (for all programs, including MSA)
- Recruited a full time recruitment officer in the COB
- Appointed a Coordinator of the MS program (to work with the Graduate Programs director)

- Made special efforts to recruit international students (appointed an international graduate student coordinator)
- Joined the Black MBA and the Hispanic MBA association
- Increased the number of graduate assistantships and scholarships
- Offered a mini workshop on CPA exam preparations
- Launched the “Saturday MSA” at the new Prairie View A&M University Northwest Houston Center which is located in a high density, mixed use suburban area where there is a variety of small businesses and corporations.

Whitlowe R. Green College of Education

Ph.D. in Educational Leadership

- College promoted the program primarily to teachers and other educators in school districts in the Gulf Coast Region which include but are not limited to Houston, Aldine, Klein, Spring, Alief, Beaumont, North Forest, Royal, Waller and Katy all of which are in a student population growth mode.
- College has placed program announcements in local, regional and national media outlets.
- Graduates have been satisfied with their experience and promote the program to their colleagues and friends; applications for the program have steadily increased, resulting in over 140 program applications for twenty-five available slots for the 2010-2011 academic year.
- Program has adopted the cohort model which has encouraged relationships and study groups or learning communities supported by face-to-face and electronic interaction.
- Faculty and previous cohort members serve as mentors to new candidates.

C. *Status of the planned Master’s in Social Work at TSU. (If plans have changed please provide an explanation).*

Not Applicable to Prairie View A&M University.

D. *Status of any program accreditation issues for both institutions (Brief statement and Copy of letter from SACS).*

- **Specialized Program Accreditation**

While the majority of those academic programs for which specialized accreditation is available have been accredited at Prairie View A&M University, those specialized program accreditations affecting academic disciplines included in the programs established under the OCR Plan include engineering, architecture, construction science , clinical adolescent psychology, business (accounting) and education (see Appendix I)

<u>Discipline/Program</u>	<u>Accrediting Agency</u>	<u>Status</u>
Engineering	*Engineering Accreditation Council of Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET)	Accredited
Engineering Technology	*Technology Accrediting Council of Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (TAC of ABET)	Accredited
Computer Science	*Computing Accrediting Council of Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (CAC of ABET)	Results Due, Fall 2010
Architecture	National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB)	Accredited
Construction Science	American Council for Construction Education (ACCE)	Candidacy Approved
Clinical Adolescent Psychology	American Psychological Association (APA)	Preliminary Preparation
Accounting	Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB)	Accredited
Education	*National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE)	Accredited

- **Institutional Accreditation**

Prairie View A&M University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges as a comprehensive public institution of higher education authorized to award Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral degrees. The University has been fully accredited by SACS-COC since 1959 and has since undergone the decennial reaffirmation process the most recent of which was that of 2010. Under the new guidelines set forth in the Principles of Accreditation, Foundations for Quality Enhancement, the University completed its off-site review in the fall of 2009 and its on-site review led by a reaffirmation visiting team in the spring of 2010. Of the 88 core requirements and comprehensive standards, the University received four recommendations from its on-site visit and is responding to those. In December 2010, the University will receive notice of the reaffirmation action at the annual meeting of the SACS-COC (see Appendix I)

* Note: Accrediting agencies listed for engineering, computer science, and education do not accredit at the advanced or graduate level. However, the quality of the undergraduate programs which are the foundations for the graduate programs is

important therefore the status of the accreditation of programs on which the OCR supported programs have been built is included in this report.

II. Facilities

- **Status of all new buildings and renovations under the Priority Plan.**

Prairie View A&M University currently houses 119 structures acknowledged by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. These facilities contain over 2.44 million gross square feet. The 2008 Campus Map features four administrative buildings; twenty-two academic buildings; four maintenance facilities; six major farm facilities in the northeast section of campus, administered by the College of Agriculture and Human Sciences; and athletics fields, indoor and outdoor stadiums.

Since 2000, several buildings have been added to bolster Prairie View A&M University's mission, particularly its quality of student support services, academic programs, and research potential. The majority of new construction has fulfilled the State's Office of Civil Rights Priority Plan, which envisioned an institution with "high quality, desirable programs and facilities," recommended that the campus "add state-of-the-art buildings for key programs," including engineering and nursing, juvenile justice, and architecture, three areas with "specialized programs and initiatives" that are highlighted in Prairie View A&M University's mission. Because the University's mission includes "expanding its advanced educational offerings to include multiple doctoral programs" it was important that the physical resources, particularly research laboratories, be available to support the recent Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering (2003), Ph.D. in Clinical Adolescent Psychology (2004), and two Master of Science Nursing degrees (2007), among other degrees. Therefore, in 2005 and 2006, four new buildings were constructed:

Year	Building Name	Gross	Net	Educational Use	% of Educational Use of Net
2005	Nathelyne Archie Kennedy Architecture Building	103,421	58,326	58,326	100%
2005	Electrical Engineering Building	48,787	24,345	23,910	98%
2006	College of Nursing	552,849	408,596*	57,590	14%*
2006	Don Clark Juvenile Justice & Psychology Building	57,514	37,722	36,034	96%
		762,571	528,989	175,860	33%

Prairie View A&M University holds a responsibility for satisfying higher education needs of the citizens of Texas, especially in the Northwest Houston Corridor. A demand for graduate and certification courses led toward the establishment of a presence in the Northwest Houston area in late 1980. All courses offered were in partnerships with school districts in the area and were held on designated school campuses. In the early 1990s, PVAMU centralized all course offerings in the Northwest Houston area by leasing 20,000 square feet of contiguous space from Compaq Computer Corporation, Inc. (20525 SH 249 – Suite 150, Houston, TX) to be used for classroom and office space. In 1998, Prairie View A&M University relocated all course offerings to a location in Spring, Texas, and thus established the Northwest Houston Academic Center. In 2000, approval was obtained from the appropriate regulatory and accrediting agencies to offer the Master of Education in Educational Administration and the Master of Arts in Counseling.

In 2009, Prairie View A&M University purchased a new facility located at 9449 Grant Road. This two-story building, near Tomball Parkway and FM 1960, has 52,000 square feet of classroom, meeting, and student service space. The Northwest Houston Center is a fully functional extension of the main Prairie View A&M University campus. Offerings from the Northwest Houston Academic

Center have been moved to the new site, with additional programs planned within the next 3-to-5 years to fully utilize opportunities provided at the Northwest Houston Center.

- ***Current levels of deferred maintenance and critical deferred maintenance.***

Guided by Texas A&M University System Policies 51.01: Capital Planning and 51.04: Delegations of Authority on Construction Projects as well as PVAMU Administrative Procedure 40.13: Administration of University Construction and Maintenance Projects, Prairie View determines year by year whether its physical resources are and will continue to be adequate to support its mission, and, when they are not, to plan for additional resources in an organized and timely manner. Furthermore, Prairie View A&M University has well-structured maintenance plans through Environmental Health and Safety, Campus Planning and Space Management, and Physical Plant Operations, which includes four divisions (Facility Maintenance, Campus Maintenance, Utilities, and the Construction and Planning Office), to ensure that facilities remain safe and in good condition.

The Master Plan Certification filed with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for FY2009-2013 shows 29 non-critical, deferred maintenance projects, including upgrades to facilities and safety features and facilities remodeling, totaling \$12,548,000. The Texas A&M University System has allocated Permanent University bond funds to Prairie View A&M University which will allow the institution to address outstanding deferred maintenance. Prairie View A&M University will borrow funds from its own resources to match the Texas A&M University System bond and bring the outstanding deferred maintenance projects to completion within the next fiscal year.

Campus Master Plan and Landscaping plan implementation.

The Campus Master Plan, updated in 1984 and again in 2000, set a vision for Prairie View A&M University through 2015. In accordance with the natural order of activities, Prairie View A&M University set aside funding and has signed a contract to update the Campus Master Plan. Background activities have been initiated, and campus-wide involvement will commence this fall. The update should be completed by the end of the spring 2011 semester.

III. Systems

- **Detailed progress report status of capital campaigns and progress toward establishing and awarding merit-based scholarships and endowed chairs.**

Status of Capital Campaign

In 2002, the University began its first-ever comprehensive capital campaign, a five-year, \$30 million campaign, EXTEND THE VIEW: Shape tomorrow today. The campaign closed with total contributions of \$32,584,128.00, of that amount \$22,157,118.00 comprised gifts from donors, \$8,110,634 was from the university matching fund and the remaining 2,316,376 was from other sources (see Appendix II).

Throughout the six-year period, PVAMU's EXTEND THE VIEW campaign secured private contributions from state, regional and national communities to provide support for merit based student scholarships; faculty chair endowments; research laboratories, equipment and technology; building renovations and historical preservation; student support services; athletic scholarship endowments; and general university endowments.

The campaign was scheduled to end December 2007; however, in November 2007 the Capital Campaign Cabinet members voted to extend the closing date to the end of 2008. As the campaign drew to a close, more than \$32 million was received, surpassing the original goal by

nine percent. Nearly two-thirds of the campaign contributions were designated for student initiatives and faculty enrichment. Funds that specifically supported endowed scholarship and faculty endowed chairs are matched dollar-for-dollar with additional funds provided by the State of Texas.

Status of Merit-Based Scholarships

The merit-based scholarship program was established with a gift of \$2,161,071 from the Whitlowe R. Green estate to establish the Seth L. Green Family Scholarships. Additional commitments of \$ 870,000 were made to the merit-based scholarship program by donors to create named merit-based scholarships. Three hundred thousand dollars of this amount will be matched 3:1 by a private foundation. In addition to the \$1.3 million that existed from an earlier merit-based scholarship pool, \$337,085 has been awarded to students from the interest income earned on funds raised during the capital campaign.

For the 2011 academic year, in addition to the \$1.3 million available prior to the capital campaign, the University has \$1,025,645 from which merit-based scholarships it plans to award may be funded.

Status of Endowed Chairs

Matching funds have been identified and accounts have been established for endowed chairs in architecture, biology, educational leadership, nursing, business and juvenile justice and psychology. Funds have been identified and accounts will be established during the Fall Semester 2010 for an endowed chair in history and one in agriculture. The chair in agriculture will support the teaching component of the University's land grant mission. Since electrical engineering had two endowed chairs, the AT&T Professorship Endowment and the Texas Instruments Professorship Endowment, a decision was made not to seek funding for an additional endowed chair in electrical engineering.

Through the Office of Research and Development, the University is continuing its efforts to acquire support for the remaining four endowed chairs. The University's capability of supporting the salary requirement that exceeds interest income can be better assessed after the University's budget has been approved. It is expected that the first chairs to be filled will be in educational leadership, nursing and biology. The method of filling the chairs may vary among disciplines. For example, one area such as nursing may well determine that it would be more efficacious to invite a highly specialized expert to join the faculty for a semester or less in order to stimulate new research or support a project. Other areas may opt for longer term appointments. Of course, as stated above, the availability of funding beyond that generated through interest income will be needed to support longer term commitments. It should be noted that in electrical engineering both chairs which existed prior to the initiation of the OCR Plan are filled and provide support to the doctoral program and the research efforts of the Department of Electrical Engineering (see Appendix II).