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## Student Voices Reward Faculty: First-Ever "Teaching Excellence" Award Winners Named

**Tuesday, May 26, 2009**



**PRAIRIE VIEW, Texas**--Top instructors at Prairie View A&M University were honored as recipients of the first-ever Teaching Excellence Awards on Thurs., March 5. The awards derived from a voluntary, student evaluation program that was launched last fall by The Texas A&M University System. PVAMU President George C. Wright and Provost and Senior Vice President E. Joahanne Thomas-Smith, handed out the awards during a special program and reception.

"It is truly an honor for our faculty to have the opportunity to gain recognition for levels of achievement and performance, as observed by our students," states President Wright.

Checks ranging from \$2,500 to \$7,000 will be given to a total of 20 faculty members from all of the university's academic programs. The winners represent the top 18 percent of the nearly 200 faculty who participated. The top 3 percent are awarded \$5,000 to \$7,000. The next 15 percent receive \$2,500 to \$5,000. Awards are based on rankings from evaluations created and administered by students, with weighting for factors such as class size.

"This honor allows students to recognize teachers that go above and beyond basic classroom instruction," said Johnie L. Jones III, student government association president. Jones also assisted with submitting questions from PVAMU for the TAMUS program.

### Winners in the top 3 percent category:

Annette McClinton, Orion Ciftja and Alex Colvin

### Winners in next 15 percent category:

James Jones, Eustace Duffus, Wash Jones, Doris Morgan-Bloom, Lisa K. Thompson, Grace Goodie, S. Woldesenbet, Alphonso Keaton, E. Sullivan-Walter, James Palmer, S. Shakir, Ymitri Mathison, Carl Moore, Devethia Guillory and Immaculata Igbo

This Texas A&M University System program was initiated by TAMUS Chancellor Michael D. McKinney in 2008 to honor and financially reward the system's top instructors and professors as selected by students. Prairie View A&M along with Texas A&M and Kingsville also participated in the system's pilot program.

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