



TOMIKIA P. LEGRANDE NAMED PRESIDENT AT PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

BRYAN-COLLEGE STATION, Texas (Dec. 7, 2022) — The Texas A&M University System's Board of Regents Wednesday voted unanimously to name Dr. Tomikia P. LeGrande the ninth President of Prairie View A&M University. The vote came during a special-called telephonic meeting in which they also voted to appoint an interim president at Texas A&M University-San Antonio.

After a nationwide search, Chancellor John Sharp recommended Dr. LeGrande as sole finalist on Nov. 10. The board approved that recommendation at their Nov. 10 meeting. Under state law, the Board of Regents must name a finalist for at least 21 days before finalizing the appointment at a subsequent meeting.

Dr. LeGrande, who is currently Vice President for Strategy, Enrollment Management and Student Success at Virginia Commonwealth University, would not assume her duties at Prairie View A&M until the end of the 2022-23 school year.

She would succeed Dr. Ruth Simmons, who will become President Emerita and will hold a faculty appointment as University Professor, a position that will allow her to remain a campus figure raising money, expanding the national profile of the university and lecturing to another generation of students.

"Dr. LeGrande will provide great leadership for the Panthers for many years to come," said John Sharp, Chancellor of The Texas A&M University System. "Her experience and leadership in enrollment management and student success is exactly what PVAMU needs at this juncture to build on the great work Ruth Simmons has provided these past five years. I'm excited by where PVAMU is headed."

Dr. LeGrande, who has been at Virginia Commonwealth University since 2018, has experience in Texas. She served as an administrator for student affairs and enrollment management at the University of Houston-Downtown from 2012 to 2018. She also received a doctorate in higher education administration from Texas Tech University.

Prior to her duties in Houston, Dr. LeGrande worked at North Carolina A&T State University and Winston-Salem State University.

She received her bachelor's in chemistry from Savannah State University and a master's in chemistry from North Carolina A&T State University.

"I want to thank Chancellor Sharp and the Board of Regents for the opportunity to serve as President of Prairie View A&M University. PVAMU has a strong legacy of transforming the lives of its students and contributing to the surrounding region and state of Texas, both educationally and economically. I look forward to working with the faculty, staff, and community as we honor and build upon the university's powerful legacy and upward trajectory."

In May, a 14-member committee was created to conduct a national search to find Dr. Simmons' successor. The search was led by Bill Mahomes, Vice Chairman of the Board of Regents, and Regent Elaine Mendoza.

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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 www.pvamu.edu.

About The Texas A&M University System: The Texas A&M University System is one of the largest systems of higher education in the nation, with a budget of \$7.2 billion. Through a statewide network of 11 universities, a comprehensive health science center, eight state agencies, and the RELIS Campus, the Texas A&M System educates more than 152,000 students and makes more than 24 million additional educational contacts through service and outreach programs each year. System-wide, research and development expenditures exceed \$1 billion and help drive the state’s economy.

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