



## 2009 HUMANITARIAN AWARD *Student*

### JOHNIE L. JONES, III

A native of Hope, Arkansas, Johnie L. Jones, III, is the son of Bishop Johnie L. Jones, II and Minister Juanita Jones-Jackson. Throughout his tenure at Prairie View A&M University, he has served the PVAMU community in several roles, but his humanitarian service and leadership skills as president of the PVAMU Student Government Association (SGA) serve as the capstone vessel for his service to the University and its surrounding community.

Under his tenure as SGA president, Jones tirelessly helped increase voter awareness and voter participation among PVAMU students and the community through rallies, special events and marches. While serving as SGA president, he also worked as an advocate, gaining accessible fax machines and scanners for student use, petitioning the University's physical plant to repair dim campus lighting and partnering with PVAMU's campus police to increase campus patrol and safety.

His diligent leadership laid the foundation for the Prairie View A&M "Go Green" initiative, which will be implemented by the University. At the request of PVAMU President, Dr. George C. Wright, Jones spoke before the Texas State Legislator's Subcommittee on Finance to inform state leaders about the importance of supporting PVAMU and its students. Additionally, his administration was able to facilitate online Student Government elections. As a result, there was an approximate 10 percent increase in student participation. Jones was appointed to The Texas A&M University System Chancellor's Student Advisory Board which provides an avenue for student leaders to address student issues common to all campuses within the System. He also served as a member of the Chancellor's Diversity Council.

This summer Jones will participate in a mission trip to Burundi, Africa with Community of Faith Church. This humanitarian trip will help the country decrease the mortality rate and increase the life expectancy of citizens.

He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and is a dedicated volunteer for the annual PVAMU Panthers-At-Work (PAW) Community-Wide Clean-Up. Throughout his studies at PVAMU, he has served as chaplain of the Prairie View A&M University Chapter of the NAACP and as president of the Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) organization, which teaches students about financial literacy, business ethics and entrepreneurship. In between classes, Jones mentored Hempstead Elementary students and took time to greet distinguished University guests and visitors. In the Arkansas community, he volunteers his time with Providence Baptist Church in Hope, Arkansas to help provide food and clothing to the area's needy families.

After completing his bachelor's degree in agriculture economics, he plans to attend graduate school to pursue a master's degree in public administration.