Quantum Design Expands Education Initiative at Prairie View A&M University

SAN DIEGO, Calif. – March 25, 2021 – Quantum Design has announced Prairie View A&M University in Prairie View, Texas as the winner of the Quantum Design Teaching Laboratory award for 2021. This award is accompanied by the donation of a state-of-the-art materials characterization instrument, Quantum Design’s PPMS® VersaLab™, to be installed in a new teaching laboratory in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Students majoring in STEM programs at the University now will have the opportunity to gain experience and training on the same high-tech tools that academia and industry researchers use. In addition to the VersaLab instrument, Quantum Design will be providing educational modules for students and instructors that demonstrate the fundamental solid-state research that can be carried out within the instrument. This instruction, and the hands-on experience that comes with using an instrument of this caliber, provide a huge opportunity for students planning to move on to careers in physics, engineering, and other sciences.

“Quantum Design has been an active participant in the promotion of STEM education for undergraduates since 2014,” remarked Greg DeGeller, President of Quantum Design. “We have partnered with universities in the U.S. by bringing modern instrumentation into teaching laboratories, with the simple goal of advancing the education of the next generation of scientists and engineers. Through the donation of more than $1M in research-grade instruments to undergraduate laboratories, and the development of curricula to accompany these instruments, we are especially excited to help STEM students at one of the country’s top HBCUs to explore science in new ways that might have been previously unavailable to them.”

“We are most appreciative to be recognized by the Quantum Design Teaching Laboratory Award winner for 2021,” stated Professor Dorie Gilbert, Dean of the Brailsford College of Arts & Sciences. “The accompanying gift of a PPMS VersaLab will have a significant positive impact on our ability to train and prepare our students for the workforce. The teaching lab has interdisciplinary value and will expand the number of students exposed to Material Science studies focused on low temperatures and magnetic fields, which are directed by Professor Kevin Storr of the Department of Physics.”

Jerry Daviess, CEO at Quantum Design added, “Knowing that we are able to help further STEM-focused education at colleges and universities around the country, strengthens the belief in everyone at Quantum Design that the work we do to develop and manufacture these instruments is helping to advance science and critical thinking in not only today’s researchers, but tomorrow’s as well.”

In accepting the award on behalf of Prairie View A&M University’s Physics Department in the College of Arts and Sciences, Professor Storr stated, “Being very familiar with Quantum Design for well over two decades, it is extremely gratifying to have my institution acknowledged by them. The accompanying VersaLab Cryogen Free Physical Property Measurement System is a people investment, which will have an immeasurable impact on the professional lives of our students for years to come. At Prairie View A&M University, our mission is to ‘Produce Productive People,’ and in that vein, this gift will serve as an anchor in the fulfillment of the vision of myself and Dr. Orion Ciftja in Physics, to promote cross disciplinary Material Science Education, Training and Research here at our HBCU. This will contribute to the pool of available minority scientists in the workforce and is an added catalyst for Material Science studies at Prairie View A&M University.”
About Quantum Design
Founded in 1982, Quantum Design Inc. is a privately held corporation that develops and markets advanced technology cryogenic systems and instruments for the scientific community. Quantum Design is widely recognized as the leading commercial source for integrated laboratory analytical systems incorporating superconducting technology. In addition, through its strong R&D focus and direct foreign offices in the world’s major technology markets, Quantum Design International has developed a worldwide distribution channel for its own industry leading instruments as well as for research-based instruments developed by other technology leaders.

About Prairie View A&M University
Prairie View A&M University is the second-oldest public institution of higher education in the state of Texas. It is a historically black college/university (HBCU) that, since its inception in 1876, has opened its doors to any and every person – inside and outside of Texas – seeking a first-class, four-year university experience. The university has over 50 buildings on 1440 acres and is situated in a rural part of Texas on one of the most beautiful campuses in the country.