The UI design for the PV Settle website aims to create an intuitive, user-friendly, and visually appealing platform that effectively aids international students in their transition to PVAMU.

In developing the UI, we are following web design best practices and standards outlined in sources like World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) standards to define the structure and markup of web pages. Key elements we are incorporating:

- Clean, uncluttered layout: Removing visual clutter, unnecessary text/icons, ample white space

- Intuitive navigation: Clear menu and links, logical information hierarchy, consistent layout

- Scannable content: Clear headings, bulleted lists, highlighting important info

- Friendly, inviting tone: Casual language, uplifting images, cool color palette

- Cultural awareness: Considerate of diversity, visuals reflect user base

Specifically for PV Settle, we want to create a modern, uplifting aesthetic with vibrant accent colors and images of smiling students from diverse backgrounds to make international students feel welcome. Icons will be used to enhance visual interest and comprehension.

The layout will be structured around clear main menus and navigation to help users quickly access the main hubs of the site, like Student Dashboard, Housing, Academics, Transportation, Community, and Resources.

**Guidelines and Standards**

1. Responsive Design: In line with modern web design standards, PV Settle is designed to be responsive. This means that the interface adapts seamlessly to different screen sizes and devices, ensuring a consistent and optimized experience for both desktop and mobile users.

2. Minimalistic Design: We follow a minimalist design approach, reducing clutter and distractions. This allows users to focus on essential tasks and information without being overwhelmed.

4. High-Quality Imagery: We use high-quality, relevant images to enhance the visual appeal and convey the welcoming environment of the university.

5. Content Hierarchy: Information is organized hierarchically, clearly distinguishing between different sections and features. This helps users quickly locate what they need.

6. Loading Speed: The platform is optimized for fast loading times, ensuring students can access information quickly, even with varying internet speeds.

**Branding and University Identity**

The PV Settle website aligns with Prairie View A&M University's branding guidelines to maintain a cohesive identity. This includes using the university's official colors to create a sense of affiliation and trust.

In conclusion, the UI design for PV Settle is not only aesthetically pleasing but also highly functional, with a focus on user needs and ease of use. We adhere to established web design principles and standards to ensure the platform's effectiveness and user satisfaction. The goal is an optimal, user-centric UI design to empower international students in their transition and provide seamless integration into the Prairie View A&M University community.

**Existing survey**

We looked at an existing work from Cal Poly Pomona, officially known as California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, a public polytechnic university in Pomona, California. Cal Poly Pomona has a portal called MyCPP (My Cal Poly Pomona), which serves as the gateway to campus online services, and a portal called Bronco Resource Hub, which connects incoming CPP students with the resources and information they need to begin to be acquainted with campus.

Compared to PV Settle at Prairie View A&M University, Cal Poly Pomona offers various resources for international students, but PV Settle provides a more integrated platform. Each university has its unique approach to supporting its international student community.

**Key finding between Cal Poly Pomona and PV Settle**

**Integrated task checklist and progress tracker**: PV Settle provides an organized task checklist and a way to track progress, showing the steps taken and the steps students need to take. This feature helps limit the possibility of students overlooking crucial actions. While Cal Poly Pomona offers various resources, it does not have an integrated task checklist and progress tracker.

**Consolidated academic section**: PV Settle offers an integrated academic section on the website that connects to Prairie View A&M University systems for course registration, class schedules, grades, bill payments, etc. Cal Poly Pomona also provides these services, but they are separate on a single platform.

**Centralized accommodation portal**: PV Settle offers a centralized accommodation portal that aggregates housing options (rental listings) near campus and allows students to compare options. Cal Poly Pomona also has a housing section, but it does not provide the same level of detail as PV Settle's centralized housing hub.

**Interactive map feature and transportation information section**: PV Settle develops an interactive map feature and transportation information section on the website covering ride-sharing services and campus shuttles. Cal Poly Pomona also has a transportation section, but it does not include an interactive map.

**Comprehensive information hub**: PV Settle has an "Information hub" on the website that captures comprehensive information, e.g., obtaining your Social Security Number, opening a bank account, obtaining a driver's license, etc. Cal Poly Pomona provides information for obtaining a Social Security Number, but it is as easily accessible as the Info Center on PV Settle.

**Community Hub** - Both PV Settle and Cal Poly Pomona offer a community hub for their students. PV Settle's community hub is integrated into the platform and provides a centralized location for international students to interact and access all necessary resources. On the other hand, Cal Poly Pomona's community hub, Bronco Resource Hub, is a separate website that connects incoming CPP students with the resources and information they need to begin to be acquainted with campus.

While both universities provide resources to assist international students, PV Settle at Prairie View A&M University offers a more integrated and comprehensive platform. PV Settle's integrated task checklist and progress tracker consolidated academic section, centralized accommodation portal, interactive map feature, transportation information section, comprehensive information center, and community hub all make it easier for international students to transition to life in the United States.