

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES
STRATEGIC PLAN
2003-2010
(As it relates to LSU's Flagship Agenda)

Office Vision

This is a seven-year plan to assist in bringing LSU to a new level of excellence. The Office of Strategic Initiatives will focus on action steps that assist with increasing educational research and scholarly productivity of faculty and the quality and competitiveness of our graduate and undergraduate students. Our goals, as they relate to education, mentoring, research and the overall goals of the University, are to assist in positioning LSU to compete on a new level of excellence with the elite public universities in the United States and to support high achievements of students and faculty to ensure that their efforts are widely recognized.

This vision focuses on action steps that increase research and scholarly productivity and the quality and competitiveness of our graduate and undergraduate students as well as faculty.

Office Mission

The Strategic Initiatives unit will develop and implement programs that are designed to designate LSU as a flagship university by:

- Assisting LSU students and faculty in the receipt of major national/external awards in much greater numbers and in creating additional recognition for the University.
- Assisting LSU with advancing knowledge and intellectual inquiry by promoting groundbreaking educational research.
- Assisting LSU in its efforts to attract more undergraduate and graduate students from under-represented groups into the University.
- Assisting the Office of Campus Diversity with increasing the diversity of students and faculty throughout the University.
- Enhancing the mentoring efforts of faculty, staff, and students.

OSI Educational, Mentoring, and Research Objectives:

The Strategic Initiatives unit must collaborate with units within the LSU system, and throughout the state for the advancement of education both locally and nationally. Our aim is to remain a unit that offers services that will assist in increasing and improving student educational experiences.

LSU's Objectives for the National Flagship Agenda as it relates to OSI

LSU Objective 1: Increase research productivity in support of long-term economic development

Actions:

1. Add 150 faculty and provide for appropriate support staff
2. Increase laboratory space by 50% for strategic growth in targeted areas to support increases in federal research productivity
3. Eliminate barriers to securing resources for productive research
4. Support PK-16+ teacher reform and underlying research.

Outcomes:

1. Funding from federal grants and contracts will be doubled.
2. LSU will achieve research excellence in highly-competitive areas that are essentially special to Louisiana, cutting-edge technology, or specialty areas.

OSI Actions:

OSI will submit/continue (and participate in) the following proposals:

(1) OSI will submit a proposal to the NSF/GK-12 program, aiming to establish a LSU Strategic Mentoring Model for Teaching Fellows in K-12 Education in STEM areas. During each year of the three-year project, 8 graduate and 16 undergraduate GK-12 Fellows as well as 16 GK-12

(2) Science Technology Center or Engineering Research Center)-NSF/STC or NSF/ERC Proposal. OSI will serve as co-leaders of the Education and Outreach component of the center proposal.

(3) A Targeted Talent Expansion and Recruitment Program for STEM Disciplines in Louisiana - NSF/STEP. This project will increase the number of STEM majors at LSU and other Louisiana colleges and universities. This will be achieved through a partnership of students, faculty, and administrators under the sponsorship of the NSF STEM Talent Expansion Program (STEP).

(4) Louisiana Board of Regents or other agencies, aiming to establish a Mentoring Models in Enhancing PK-16 Education in STEM Disciplines. The project will involve the Colleges of Basic Sciences, Engineering, and Arts & Sciences (through the

Mathematics Department) at LSU in partnership with several K-12 schools within Baton Rouge in addressing the deficiencies of K-16 education in STEM areas. The proposed project would help to establish further positive, constructive, and mutually beneficial contacts between PK-12 STEM teachers/students and LSU faculty/undergraduate students.

(5) Graduate Alliance for Education in Louisiana, (NSF/AGEP Program-LSU Portion; Subcontract from Tulane University). LSU and Tulane SME research training programs provides 10 supplemental awards per year for STEM minority graduate students as well as provide various infrastructure support for all STEM minority students at LSU. This program encourages minority students to pursue a graduate education and to pursue a career in academia.

(6) Geoscience Alliance to Enhance Minority Participation,” (NSF/OEDG Program). OSI will serve as participant and management team member. This project will support and recruit minority students into the graduate Geology program at LSU.

(7) “Louisiana Alliance for Minority Participation (LAMP) -- Phase II,” (NSF/BoR/LS-LAMP Program. LSU and Tulane SME research training programs provides 10 supplemental awards per year for STEM minority graduate students as well as provide various infrastructure support for all STEM minority students at LSU. This program encourages minority students to pursue a graduate education and to pursue a career in academia.

(8) Research Apprenticeship, Community Service, and Academic Enhancement Training for LSU Engineering and Mathematics Students,” (NSF/CSEMS Program). Supports 32 financially disadvantaged students per year majoring in Engineering and Mathematics. Assists students academically and enhances their qualifications to either enter graduate school or the workforce

(9) Information Technology Training and Academic Enhancement Program for Computer Science, Engineering, and Mathematics Undergraduate Students,” (NSF/CSEMS Program. Supports 29 financially disadvantaged students from the Computer Science, Engineering and Mathematics areas per year. Assists students academically and enhances their qualifications to either enter graduate school or the workforce.

(10) An REU Site for Environmental Research Experiences for Louisiana SMET Minority Students,” (NSF/REU Program. Supports 16 undergraduate minority students every summer to conduct research in the environmental science areas (eight from LSU and the other eight are outside LSU). LSU students will also participate in additional enhancement activities

during academic year. Assists students in preparing for graduate school or for employment in high-level engineering jobs.

LSU Objective 2: Increase number and quality of graduate students and programs

- Actions:**
1. Increase the total number of high quality graduate students, particularly in doctoral fields that complement research strengths and in key areas of leadership and development for the state.
 2. Continue to increase diversity of graduate students and faculty.
 3. Increase quality and competitiveness of graduate programs through targeted investments and systematic program review.

- Outcomes:**
1. Graduate students will represent a diverse population of highly competitive students.
 2. Graduate faculty will be increased, strengthened and more diverse.
 3. Targeted programs will achieve national prominence.

- OSI Actions:**
1. Will continue to seek funding for above proposals.
 2. Will continue to provide funded programs that provide for increases in number of students participating in graduate school.

- OSI Outcome:**
1. Increase the number of programs that provide innovative learning experiences that complement and enhance academic programs.
 2. Will continue to seek funding for above proposals and by 2010 an increase in number of proposals by at least 10%.
 3. The number of students participating in funded programs and entering graduate school will increase by at least 25%.

LSU Objective 3: Increase quality of undergraduate students and programs

- Actions:**
1. Provide innovative learning experiences that complement and enhance academic programs including international, multi-cultural, and interdisciplinary programs.

- Outcomes:**
1. Students will be highly competitive in the job market or admitted to top graduate programs.
 2. Students will satisfy key learning outcomes of being able to communicate ideas and information; plan, organize and evaluate projects; work in teams and with diverse populations and constituencies; apply mathematical concepts and problem solving techniques; and use technology appropriate to their fields.

- OSI Actions:**
1. Will continue to seek funding for proposals that provide innovative learning experiences that complement and enhance student's academic success (at least a 10% increase in the number of proposals).
 2. The number of underrepresented students participating in funded programs will increase by at least 25%.

3. Seek continued funding of proposals that contribute to student's being highly competitive in the job market or admitted to graduate programs (at least a 10% increase in the number of proposals).
4. Continue to seek funding of proposals that contribute to student's key learning outcomes in being able to communicate ideas and information; plan, organize and evaluate projects; work in teams and with diverse populations and constituencies; apply mathematical concepts and problem solving techniques; and use technology appropriate to their fields.

- OSI Outcomes:**
1. Increase the number of students participating in funded programs by 25%.
 2. Increase in the number of proposals by 10%.
 3. Encourage all OSI funded programs to include academic enhancement as one of its goals.
 4. Encourage all OSI funded programs to have their participants academically perform higher than the average student at LSU.
 5. Encourage all programs to seek an average program grade point average higher than the overall LSU grade point average.

LSU Objective 4: Improve quality of campus life

- Actions:**
1. Increase effectiveness of programs and services that support student, faculty, staff, and administrator success.
 2. Increase diversity and inclusiveness of LSU, with increased emphasis on recruiting retaining minority students and faculty, providing a workplace free of intolerance or discrimination.
 3. Increase the quality of the working, learning, and living environment.

- Outcomes:**
1. LSU will receive national recognition as an innovative and competitive working/learning environment for outstanding students, faculty, and staff.
 2. LSU will have a more diverse and inclusive community, increasing the population of minority students, faculty, and staff and increasing underrepresented populations in upper administrative and faculty ranks.

- OSI Actions:**
1. Assist LSU in receiving major national awards in much greater numbers and create additional recognition for the University through its students and faculty.
 2. Aid in the production of significant numbers of external awards to students and faculty.

- OSI Outcomes:**
1. Develop efforts that will significantly increase the number of major national awards and external awards over the next seven years to students and faculty.

LSU Objective 5: Assess LSU's progress and communicate achievements

- Actions:**
1. Systematically and objectively monitor LSU's progress and address the key areas of concern.
 2. Make a concerted effort to nominate students, faculty, and staff for national awards.
 3. Identify and invest in opportunities to inform national organizations and news sources on LSU's progress.

- Outcomes:**
1. LSU will increase the number of informed and supportive constituencies at the local, state, and national levels.
 2. LSU will receive national recognition for accomplishments in key publications and rankings.

- OSI Actions:**
1. Assist LSU in receiving major national awards in much greater numbers and create additional recognition for the University through its students and faculty.
 2. Aid in the production of significant numbers of external awards to students and faculty.
 3. OSI will sponsor symposium and workshops that will attempt to emphasize the key role of mentoring at all levels of academia, including students, faculty, and staff.

- OSI Outcomes:**
1. Develop program that will significantly increase the number of major national awards and external awards over the next seven years to students and faculty.
 2. OSI will sponsor workshops and/or symposiums emphasize the key role of mentoring at all levels of academia, including students, faculty, and staff.
 3. OSI will acquire outside funding to support these activities.

Objective 6: Increase funding sources to support Objective 1-5

- Actions:**
1. Create targeted revenue streams for research from state and federal funds.
 2. Raise private funds to support undergraduate scholarships, graduate student stipends and key academic initiatives.

- OSI Actions:**
1. Raise funds to support Objectives 1-5.

- OSI Outcomes:**
1. Develop proposals that provide funding to support Objectives 1-5.
 2. Continue funding for proposals currently under the Office of Strategic Initiatives.