

The background of the entire page is a repeating pattern of stylized, light gray fleur-de-lis symbols, which are the traditional emblem of Louisiana State University. The pattern is dense and covers the entire area.

LSU

THE PRESIDENT'S

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

2024-25

\$210.8M

**IN LEGISLATIVE INVESTMENTS TO ADVANCE OPERATIONS,
CAPITAL PROJECTS, AND KEY INITIATIVES SYSTEMWIDE.**

\$543M

IN RESEARCH ACTIVITY

A NEW LSU RECORD



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear LSU Community,

This past year has been nothing short of extraordinary!

Across Louisiana, LSU campuses have shattered expectations, broken records, and set a bold new standard for what is possible in public higher education. From historic enrollment and graduation numbers to groundbreaking research milestones, we have proven that when LSU leads, Louisiana rises.

In a time when many institutions are facing headwinds, LSU is charging forward with more students, more discoveries, and more impact than ever before. This past year, we welcomed our largest freshman class in history, saw record-breaking enrollments across nearly every campus, and reached a new high in research activity, with more than half a billion dollars invested in solving some of the most urgent challenges facing our state and nation.

This momentum is more than numbers. LSU is a place where champions are made—in classrooms, in laboratories, on athletic fields, and in communities across the state. Our work is driving real-world change by supporting thousands of jobs, generating billions in economic impact, and delivering breakthroughs in health, energy, agriculture, and national security. Whether it's developing the first new class of antibiotics in over 40 years, leading major federal initiatives in AI and cybersecurity, or expanding world-class programs in construction and advanced manufacturing, LSU is lighting the way forward.

This report captures the energy, innovation, and excellence that define LSU today. It reflects the hard work and heart of our students, faculty, staff, alumni, and supporters across the state and beyond, individuals who believe in the power of education to change lives, strengthen communities, and shape a brighter future for Louisiana.

We're not just breaking records; we're building a future. And we're doing it together—because **We Build Teams That Win!**

Thank you for being part of this incredible journey. Let's keep reaching higher, dreaming bigger, and showing the world that purple represents passion, gold represents excellence. This is what it means to be LSU!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt Lee". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Matt" and last name "Lee" clearly distinguishable.

Matt Lee
Interim LSU President

2024

AUGUST

Zakiya S. Wilson-Kennedy, Associate Dean for Academic Innovation & Engagement at the LSU College of Science, secured a \$1 million NIH R-25 grant for her new ESTEEMED initiative, designed to immerse freshman and sophomore students in biomedical research—supporting LSU's pipeline of future scientists.

SEPTEMBER

LSU researchers were awarded \$1.5 million to advance worldwide access to high-performance computing.

OCTOBER

LSU hosted its first International AI/ML Systems Conference, uniting researchers and industry leaders such as Microsoft and Amazon to explore generative AI, high-performance computing, and applications in healthcare and aerospace.

LSU partnered with Integer and the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps to optimize Distributed Maritime Operations, using advanced modeling and analytics to strengthen national defense and mission effectiveness.

LSU Health New Orleans' School of Nursing was recently designated as a National League for Nursing (NLN) Center of Excellence™ (COE) in Nursing Education.

NOVEMBER

LSU Health New Orleans has been awarded a five-year, \$3.1 million grant from the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

DECEMBER

LSUA earned national recognition in Newsweek's "America's Top Online Learning Schools 2025."



2025

FEBRUARY

LSUA men's basketball clinched back-to-back Red River Athletic Conference Regular Season titles.

A \$9.575 million gift from the William A. Brookshire Foundation will fund a new ROTC scholarship, support LSU's Construction & Advanced Manufacturing Building, and enhance several College of Engineering and veterans programs.

MARCH

LSU Gymnastics secured its sixth SEC championship title.

APRIL

Dr. David Guzik appointed as inaugural Chief Research Officer for LSU System.

LSU Health Shreveport has been named one of only eight U.S. sites—and one of two in the South—for the DoD's National Disaster Medical System Pilot Program, aimed at boosting disaster response capacity and coordination.

MAY

The LSU baseball team made history with an unprecedented undefeated 59-0 season, capturing the championship and electrifying the Shreveport community with their dominant performance.

Matt Lee, long-time leader and LSU alum, was appointed interim President of LSU, bringing a strong vision and commitment to advancing the university system's mission and growth.

JUNE

LSU Baseball wins the 8th National Championship and Head Coach Jay Johnson was named 2025 ABCA National Coach of the Year.

JULY

LSU and Southern University trained over 50 students and faculty in energy-efficient high-performance computing (HPX) through a "train-the-trainer" model. These individuals are now educating others across Louisiana, expanding the HPX community and building advanced computing skills to tackle global energy challenges.



DELIVERING ON OUR MISSION.



AGRICULTURE

LSU secured major funding to drive agricultural innovation, environmental stewardship, and economic growth. Grants included a \$1.5 million NSF award for the LaHouse team to develop cutting-edge flood risk reduction software and a \$7 million NSF E-RISE grant to transform agricultural waste into liquid fuels, opening new revenue streams for farmers and industry.

Louisianans are better protected from natural hazards through the work of LSU and LaHouse.

LSU AgCenter varieties account for over 60% of Louisiana rice, with a direct economic impact of \$580 million.

LSU offers expertise for every farmer, fisherman, and parish: 64 AgCenter extension offices, 14 agricultural research stations, eight sea grant extension offices.



If you ride by any one of our 11 raw sugar mills throughout Louisiana, you'll see mountains of sugarcane bagasse that has collected over the years. Bagasse is a waste product and expensive to move, and wherever it goes, it costs money to store or takes land out of production. This research project led by LSU to turn bagasse into fuel could make our state's number-one row crop industry even more sustainable and profitable to keep us producing for another 200 years.

- ATTICUS FINGER
Director of Research for the American Sugar Cane League



BIOMEDICINE AND HEALTHCARE

LSU made major strides in biomedicine and healthcare, tackling infectious disease, dementia, childhood obesity, nutrition, and emergency medicine. Researchers made breakthroughs in the development of the first new class of antibiotics in over 40 years to fight drug-resistant infections and reduce diabetes-related amputations. A partnership with Ochsner Health will also improve Louisiana's dementia care, while Pennington's Greaux Healthy program brings obesity prevention tools to Louisiana schools.

Intellisep, the first early-detection sepsis test developed from LSU research, evaluated over 15,000 patients, reduced sepsis deaths by 39%, and saved nearly \$1,500 per patient.

70% of Louisiana doctors, dentists, and veterinarians graduated from LSU.



I was just standing in the cafeteria today, overhearing some fourth graders. They were looking at one of the Greaux Healthy posters we've put up that has pictures of fruits, and saying, 'I like that fruit,' 'I don't like that fruit,' and 'I didn't know that was a fruit.' They were having a conversation about fruits and not something they saw on TikTok.

- TWANDOLYN ALEXANDER
Lead Content Teacher at Midway Elementary in Caddo Parish



COAST

LSU advanced coastal and environmental resilience through innovative tools and nature-based solutions. Professor Supratik Mukhopadhyay's DeepFire team reached the finals of the XPrize Wildfire competition with an AI system for early fire detection. LSU researchers also created the Flood Resilience Redevelopment tool to guide safer land use along the Amite River.

Through educational programs and practical assistance, sea grant extension serves Louisiana's coastal population—about 70% of the state's residents.

LSU students joined four other universities to remove 42,000+ pounds of trash from four miles of shoreline in the Mississippi watershed.



As we learned in January, during the Southern California Wildfires, forest fires can have a disastrous impact on life, properties, environment, and economy. It poses an existential threat to humanity. Going to the final of the prestigious XPRIZE Wildfire competition . . . and winning the milestone award means a lot to our team.

- SUPRATIK MUKHOPADHYAY
Professor in the LSU Department of Environmental Sciences



WINNING FOR LOUISIANA.



DEFENSE AND CYBERSECURITY

LSU solidified its position as a national leader in cybersecurity and defense through groundbreaking partnerships and hands-on student training. The university launched TigerSOC—building on LSU’s success operating a state-funded Security Operations Center (SOC) serving 40 higher education institutions statewide—a student-run SOC providing real-time cyber protection to real clients. LSU became the first university in the nation to partner with the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, the Department of Homeland Security, and Idaho National Lab to develop a new cybersecurity model to protect national energy infrastructure. LSU also earned recognition as a Top Military-Friendly Online College for 2025, reflecting our commitment to veterans and active-duty service members.

Students earn 1,000 hours of frontline cyber experience through TigerSOC.

LSU’s cyber team is helping to protect 40 higher ed institutions across Louisiana.



We are glad to see how LSU students who are also Louisiana National Guardsmen are bringing their military training and expertise into the LSU Security Operations Center. The U.S. Department of Defense is expanding missions into new domains, such as cyber, and LSU continues to collaborate to support Louisiana’s cyber mission.

- PAUL M. PERRON

Director of Cyber Operations, Colonel of the Louisiana Air National Guard



ENERGY

LSU advanced its leadership in energy innovation, sustainability, and economic growth. Partnering with Halliburton, ExxonMobil, Shell, Chevron, and H&P, LSU announced a third research well at the Petroleum Engineering Research, Training, and Testing (PERTT) Lab to advance carbon storage solutions. LSU researchers also created a new, low-cost way to reuse plastic waste to make new products and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, the LSU Institute for Energy Innovation announced nearly \$1 million in funding for research to establish LSU as the nation’s energy campus with projects like offshore wind development, more efficient battery storage, and studying the public’s perception of the energy industry. Further boosting Louisiana’s energy economy, global innovation firm, Newlab, committed \$50 million, partnering with LSU and the university-led FUEL team, to launch a New Orleans hub supporting startups and emerging technologies in the energy and maritime sectors.

LSU’s energy team, part of the FUEL statewide partnership, aims to double the number of Louisianans working in the energy industry by 2050.



In Louisiana, we truly live in the land of opportunity. It’s through projects like this with LSU and Exxon—they’re setting the example of what a public-private partnership looks like.



- JULIA LETLOW

U.S. Representative for Louisiana’s 5th Congressional District, on the new CO2 research well at the PERTT Lab

A RECORD-BREAKING YEAR

Across Louisiana, LSU's family of campuses is thriving. From Baton Rouge to Alexandria to Shreveport to Eunice to New Orleans, the 2024-25 academic year brought record-breaking enrollment numbers and reinforced LSU's role as a powerful engine of opportunity and excellence.

“

Many institutions around the country are struggling with enrollment. LSU and the LSU brand overall are not. We're setting enrollment records.

- INTERIM LSU PRESIDENT MATT LEE

”

A CLASS LIKE NO OTHER

The flagship campus in Baton Rouge continues to raise the bar. LSU welcomed its largest freshman class ever—7,912 full-time, first-year students in fall 2024—topping the previous record of 7,367 in fall 2023. This impressive cohort also broke academic records, boasting a record-high average ACT superscore and best-ever high school GPA.



Overall, LSU's Baton Rouge campus reported a record-setting total fall enrollment of 41,707, ahead of the previous record of 39,419 in fall 2023. Of that number, 62.3% were from Louisiana.

LSU Alexandria made headlines in fall 2024 as the fastest-growing university in Louisiana. LSUA's undergraduate enrollment surged to 6,904—an extraordinary 28% increase from the previous year. The university's consistent growth in numbers and academic reputation is driven by strong programs, including online, and personalized instruction.

For the third consecutive semester, LSU Shreveport broke its own enrollment record. With 10,926 students in spring 2025, LSUS continues to grow at an impressive pace. Much of this success is fueled by a strong portfolio of online programs and graduate offerings that draw students nationwide.

At LSU Eunice, fall 2024 enrollment reached 3,591 students, close to its record of 3,623 set one year ago. As Louisiana's only two-year institution within the LSU family, LSUE plays a crucial role in providing access to higher education—particularly for students in rural and underserved communities.

LSU Health Shreveport continued its upward enrollment trend, welcoming a record 1,107 students in fall 2024, an increase over the previous-record 1,045 students for the 2023-24 school year.

In the fall of 2024, LSU Health New Orleans continued to build on a streak of steady enrollment numbers, increasing to 2,750 students from 2,685 in 2023.



FOR THE LSU FAMILY OF CAMPUSES

RECORD 2025 GRADUATING CLASSES

LSU campuses awarded record numbers of degrees in the 2024-25 academic year, in many cases exceeding records posted just a year ago.

A FAMILY ON THE RISE

Together, these milestones show LSU's campuses aren't just growing—they're excelling. By welcoming more students than ever before and helping them thrive, the LSU System is fulfilling its mission: to educate, to innovate, and to uplift communities across Louisiana and beyond.

LSU awarded a record 5,431 degrees, topping the previous record of 4,949 in spring 2024.

LSU Shreveport conferred degrees to a record-breaking 1,721 grads, beating the previous record of 1,550 in fall 2024 and serving as the 16th consecutive class of at least 1,000 graduates. The majority of the spring graduates (more than 1,400) obtained advanced degrees.

LSU Alexandria saw its largest graduating class in its 60-year history, conferring degrees to 628 graduates—topping the record 439 grads from a year ago and continuing a multi-year trend of record-breaking commencements.

LSU Eunice's overall 2024-25 record-setting class of 514 graduates represents a 29% increase over the 398 awarded the year before.

LSU Health Shreveport hosted its largest commencement in the institution's history with 242 students receiving degrees.

LSU Health New Orleans saw 729 students walk across the stage at its 152nd spring commencement ceremony.



BREAKING NEW GROUND

With support from donors and Louisiana legislators, LSU campuses across the state are expanding and modernizing to create cutting-edge environments that foster innovation, research, and discovery for students and faculty alike.

LSU FLAGSHIP CAMPUS

Our Lady of the Lake Health Interdisciplinary Science Building

With anticipated completion in early 2026, the Our Lady of the Lake Health Interdisciplinary Science Building will be a nearly 200,000-square-foot, four-story epicenter for academics, research, and industry collaboration able to accommodate as many as 1,150 students, faculty, and researchers at a time. The facility is located at the corner of South Stadium Drive and Tower Drive.

New Residence Halls

To accommodate growing enrollment, LSU is constructing new residence halls on the south side of campus, near the E. J. Ourso College of Business. The project will add over 1,200 beds, and construction is scheduled to begin in October 2025, with an anticipated opening by the fall of 2027.

Library and Learning Commons

With construction set to begin in 2026 and completion expected by 2028, the 193,000-square-foot Library and Learning Commons will be located at the corner of South Stadium Drive and Field House Drive. This state-of-the-art facility will not only enhance the student experience at LSU but also serve as a vital resource for the Baton Rouge community and the state of Louisiana for generations to come. The project will be funded through a blend of state and donor investments, with approximately \$12 million contributed by donors to date.

Construction and Advanced Manufacturing Building

In October 2024, LSU announced plans for a \$107 million, 148,000-square-foot Construction and Advanced Manufacturing Building to support its nationally recognized construction management program and growing advanced manufacturing programs. Leading donor gifts have been made by Art Favre, founder of Performance Contractors; MMR; Cajun Industries; Lemoine Company; LA Contractors' Educational Trust Fund via the LSU Construction Industry Advisory Council; S&B Engineers & Constructors; DSLD Homes; ISC Constructors; Rene and Kay Joyce; and Harry and Norma Longwell.

Campus Energy Modernization Project

LSU has partnered with CenTrio Energy in a 30-year public-private partnership to modernize campus energy infrastructure to improve efficiency, reliability, and sustainability. The partnership includes a substantial investment to upgrade utility systems, including steam, chilled water, and electrical infrastructure.

University Lakes Restoration Project

The University Lakes Restoration Project is a collaborative effort between LSU, the City of Baton Rouge, and state and local partners. It is building a more sustainable aquatic system, improving flood protection, and creating more recreational opportunities through dredging, shoreline restoration, and improved stormwater management. Construction is expected to continue through the end of 2026.



LSU OF ALEXANDRIA

Four Capital Projects Reshape the Campus Footprint

Set to open this fall, the Martin Family Student Success Center will become a central hub for academic support and engagement. A new campus entrance and tower will enhance visibility and provide a modern, welcoming gateway to the university. The construction of a new on-campus apartment complex will more than double LSUA's housing capacity, addressing a critical need amid record enrollment growth. Meanwhile, the most ambitious development—the LSUA Health Education Campus—will significantly expand LSUA's ability to train nurses and allied health professionals, answering the state's urgent call for healthcare workers and deepening the university's investment in downtown Alexandria.

LSU EUNICE

New Bengal Stadium Build Continues

In July 2024, LSUE baseball began construction on a new Bengal Stadium. Phase 1, including a full-turf field, has been completed with Phase 2 underway. Amenities will include full chairback seating with awning, suites, an indoor hitting facility, coaches' office space, auditorium, team clubhouse, a merchandise store, upscale dining and beverage options, and state-of-the-art audio and visual capacity.

Initial Funding for Steam Innovation Center

Currently backed by a \$5 million one-time cash allocation, the STEAM Innovation Center will modernize labs and classrooms, giving the community a state-of-the-art facility to meet the workforce needs on a state and regional level.

LSU HEALTH NEW ORLEANS

School of Dentistry Opens Special Care Clinic

The LSU School of Dentistry opened a new Special Care Clinic to provide tailored oral healthcare to patients with intellectual, developmental, or complex medical conditions. Funded in part by a \$100,000 donation from United Cerebral Palsy of Greater New Orleans, the clinic offers compassionate, individualized treatment and hands-on training for dental students—advancing equity in care and education.

LSU HEALTH SHREVEPORT

Transforming the Former Sears Site into a Research Hub

To meet growing demand for research space, LSU Health Shreveport announced plans to convert the former Sears building at Mall St. Vincent into a modern research facility. Purchased by the LSU Health Sciences Foundation, the 160,000-square-foot property will provide essential lab and office space to support rising NIH funding, new faculty recruitment, and ongoing research in cancer and cardiovascular health.

RECORD-BREAKING RESEARCH, REAL- WORLD RESULTS

In a year marked by record-shattering progress, LSU has once again demonstrated its unwavering commitment to tackling Louisiana's greatest challenges through groundbreaking research. Across its campuses in Baton Rouge, New Orleans, and Shreveport, LSU achieved a remarkable \$543 million in research activity during the 2023-24 academic year—a historic high for the university.

This milestone isn't just a number—it's a catalyst for change. LSU research supported thousands of jobs and delivered an estimated \$1.5 billion in economic impact for Louisiana. But more importantly, it sparked life-saving discoveries, advanced coastal preservation efforts, enhanced national security, and fueled agricultural and energy innovation across the state.

The 11.5% leap in the past year, up from \$488 million, proves that LSU is not only meeting its goal but surpassing it, fast-tracking its progress toward becoming one of the nation's Top 50 public research universities.

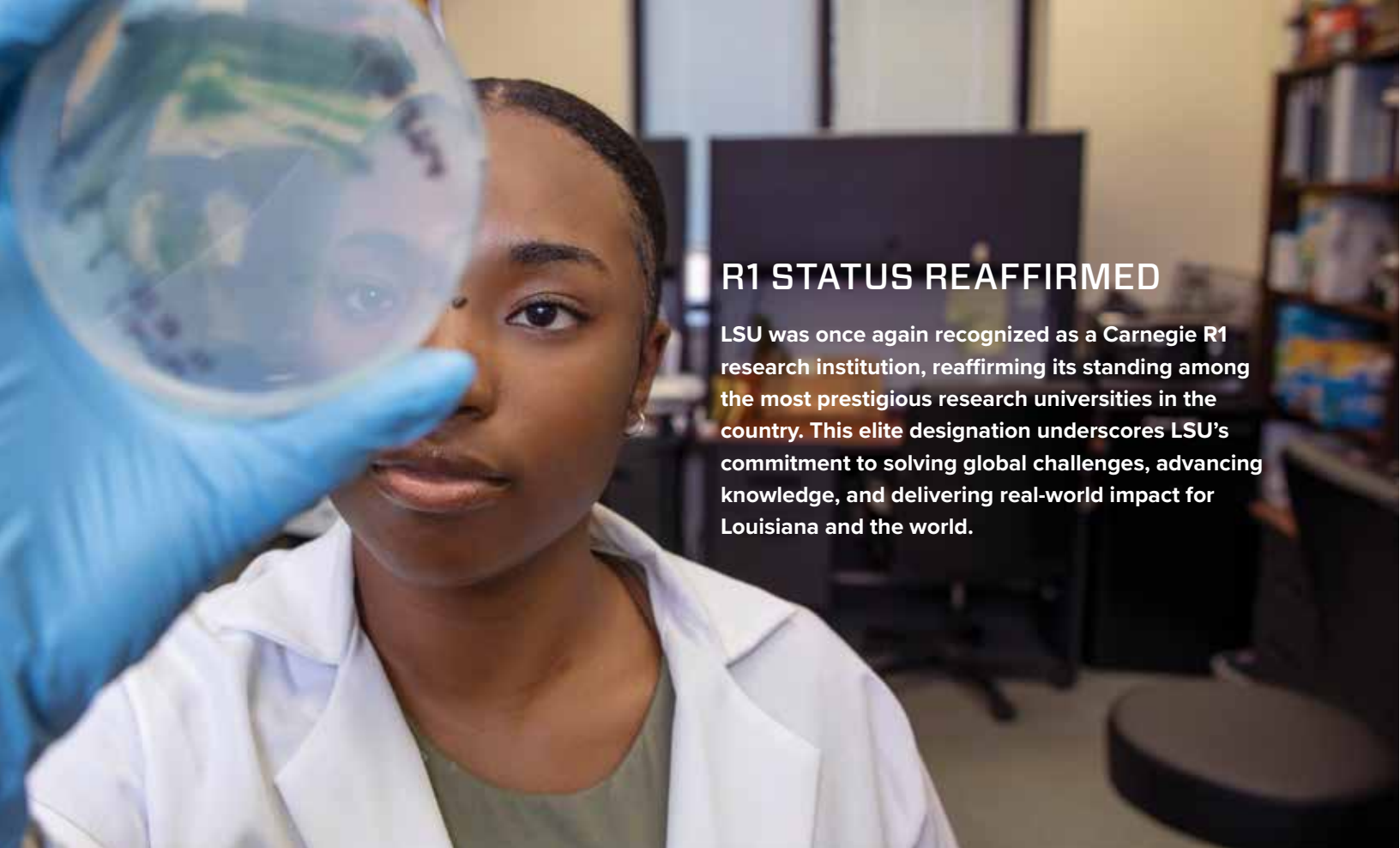
Behind the numbers is a clear strategy: focus on research that matters most to Louisiana and beyond. LSU is investing in five priority areas—agriculture, biomedicine, coast, defense, and energy—where the university's expertise can make the greatest impact.

This historic year wouldn't have been possible without the support of LSU's alumni and donors. The support of LSU's mission drives innovation, attracts top-tier talent, and fuels discoveries that improve lives across Louisiana and around the world.

Together, we are lighting the way forward for Louisiana, for the nation, and for the future.







R1 STATUS REAFFIRMED

LSU was once again recognized as a Carnegie R1 research institution, reaffirming its standing among the most prestigious research universities in the country. This elite designation underscores LSU's commitment to solving global challenges, advancing knowledge, and delivering real-world impact for Louisiana and the world.

LSU

LSU LEADS \$7M NSF PROJECT TO TRANSFORM AGRICULTURAL WASTE INTO LIQUID FUELS

An LSU-led statewide team was awarded a \$7 million E-RISE grant by the National Science Foundation. This initiative aims to convert agricultural waste, such as sugarcane bagasse, into liquid fuels for transportation, addressing both energy and agricultural challenges in Louisiana. The project includes LSU, the LSU AgCenter, Louisiana Tech, Southern University, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, and River Parishes Community College, focusing on workforce development and sustainable energy solutions.

BREAKTHROUGH IN ANTIBIOTICS

LSU researchers developed the first new class of antibiotics in more than 40 years—an extraordinary achievement in the fight against drug-resistant infections. This pioneering discovery has the potential to transform treatment for chronic disease and address one of the most urgent public health threats of our time.

EXPANDING HEALTH PROGRAMS

To help meet urgent healthcare workforce demands, LSU introduced a new Master of Public Health degree and announced an on-campus expansion of LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing's nationally ranked Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. The new Baton Rouge site increases access to LSU's high-quality nursing education and strengthens healthcare delivery across the state.



DRIVING NATIONAL AI AND CYBERSECURITY INNOVATION

LSU solidified its national leadership in artificial intelligence and cybersecurity by joining the U.S. AI Innovation Consortium and helping to secure a \$25 million federal contract to develop AI tools for nuclear threat defense. LSU also signed a milestone agreement with Idaho National Lab to accelerate cybersecurity advances in the energy sector.

\$107M CONSTRUCTION AND ADVANCED MANUFACTURING BUILDING ANNOUNCED

Thanks to a \$15 million gift from alumnus Art Favre, LSU announced plans for a \$107 million facility dedicated to construction and advanced manufacturing. The state-of-the-art complex will propel the Turner Department of Construction Management toward global prominence, preparing students for high-demand careers in industry and infrastructure.

\$20.8M HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT AWARDED

The LSU National Center for Biomedical Research and Training (NCBRT/ACE) received a \$20.8 million grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The funding will allow LSU to expand its cutting-edge emergency preparedness and response training for first responders, law enforcement, and public safety officials across the country.

WIN-WIN PROGRAM AWARDED \$1.6M NSF GRANT

LSU won a \$1.6 million EPSCoR Graduate Fellowship Program (EGFP) award for Widening the Nation’s STEM Workforce INside Louisiana: WIN-WIN. Funded by the NSF Technology, Innovation and Partnerships (TIP) directorate—also the funder of FUEL—the \$1.6 million grant supports interdisciplinary STEM graduate training.



PROFESSIONAL AVIATION PROGRAM TAKES OFF WITH FIRST GRADUATING CLASS

LSUA's Professional Aviation program continues to gain altitude, now enrolling more than 60 students and celebrating its first graduating class in May 2025. As the only university in the LSU System offering both Professional Aviation and Aviation Management degrees, LSUA is playing a critical role in addressing the aviation industry's workforce shortages. The program combines rigorous academic training with hands-on flight experience, preparing students to enter high-demand roles in one of the nation's most essential and rapidly evolving sectors.



#1 ONLINE COLLEGE IN LOUISIANA, #4 OVERALL

LSUA has been named the #1 Best Online College in Louisiana by Niche.com, reaffirming its position as a leader in accessible, high-quality education. In addition to its top ranking for online programs, LSUA also earned the #4 spot among all colleges and universities in Louisiana, trailing only LSU-Baton Rouge, Louisiana Tech, and Tulane University. The rankings reflect LSUA's growing academic reputation, affordability, and student satisfaction across both online and on-campus offerings.

NAIA NATIONAL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

LSUA basketball standout Kashie Natt has been named the 2025 NAIA National Player of the Year, capping off a historic season for the senior guard. Natt also earned First Team All-American honors for the second consecutive year as well as RRAC conference MVP solidifying his legacy as one of the most decorated athletes in LSUA history. His leadership and performance on the court have not only elevated the Generals' national profile but also inspired a new generation of student-athletes across the region.

STUDENT-ATHLETES SCORE HIGH IN THE CLASSROOM

As evidence of their discipline both on the field and in the classroom, LSUA's student-athletes achieved an average GPA of 3.2 during the 2024-25 academic year. The achievement highlights the university's holistic approach to student success, where academic excellence is held to the same standard as athletic achievement. With rigorous schedules and demanding competition, these students continue to demonstrate that commitment to education is a defining part of the LSUA athletic experience.



LARGEST GRADUATING CLASS IN LSUA HISTORY

The 2024-25 academic year marked the largest graduating class in LSUA's 60-year history, continuing a multi-year trend of record-breaking commencements. For the third consecutive year, the university has exceeded prior benchmarks for the number of degrees awarded, underscoring the institution's growing enrollment, improved retention efforts, and commitment to guiding students across the finish line. The milestone reflects LSUA's expanding impact on the state's workforce and its enduring mission to offer life-changing education.

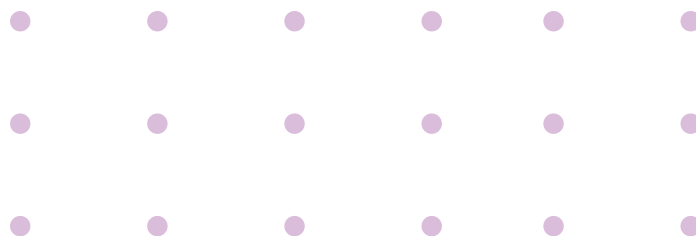
CAMPUS EXPANSION RESHAPES LSUA'S FUTURE AND FOOTPRINT

LSUA is in the midst of a transformative campus expansion, with four major capital projects reshaping its physical footprint and regional impact. Set to open this fall, the Martin Family Student Success Center will become a central hub for academic support and engagement. A new campus entrance and tower will enhance visibility and provide a modern, welcoming gateway to the university.

The construction of a new on-campus apartment complex will more than double LSUA's housing capacity, addressing a critical need amid record enrollment growth. Meanwhile, the most ambitious development—the LSUA Health Education Campus—has received \$16.5 million in 2025 Priority 1 capital outlay funds from the Louisiana Legislature. Once completed, the facility will significantly expand LSUA's ability to train nurses and allied health professionals, answering the state's urgent call for healthcare workers and deepening the university's investment in downtown Alexandria.

FASTEST GROWING FOUR-YEAR UNIVERSITY IN LOUISIANA

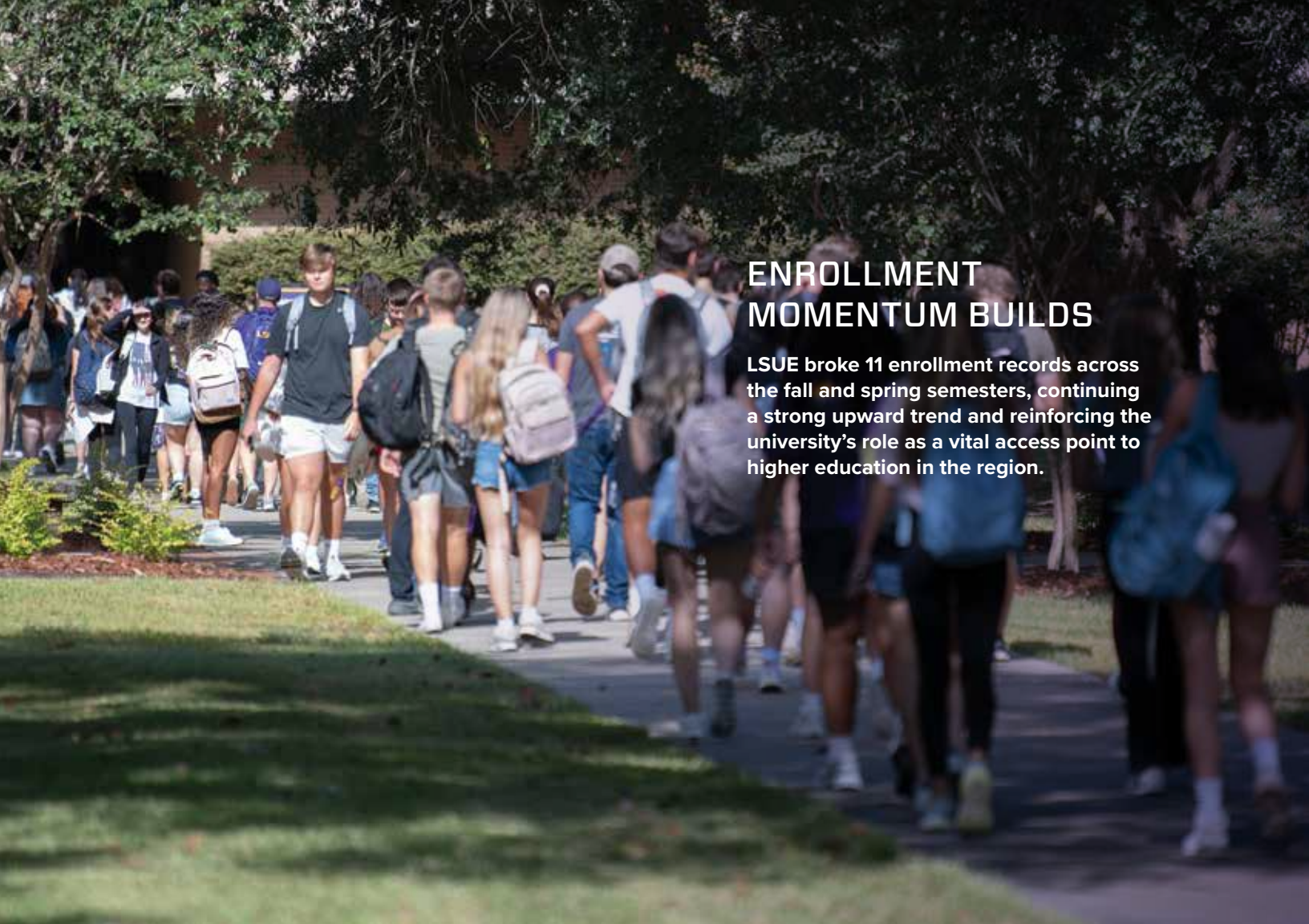
For the fourth consecutive year, LSUA holds its distinction as the fastest growing four-year university in Louisiana, with enrollment numbers projected to reach nearly 8,000 students in fall 2025—far surpassing the institution's original goal of 5,000 by the end of 2025. This unprecedented growth is the result of strategic enrollment planning, accessible tuition, and degree offerings aligned with high-demand workforce needs across Louisiana. LSUA's upward trajectory reflects both statewide confidence in its academic programs and the campus community's unwavering commitment to student success.





ATHLETES EXCEL ON AND OFF THE FIELD

LSUE Athletics celebrated its highest academic achievement in program history, with all five sports teams earning a combined average GPA of 3.3. The Bengals posted a 76.7% win rate across all sports, with a 131-38-2 overall record. Baseball, softball, and men's and women's soccer were named NJCAA Academic All-American Teams of the Year, with 58 total student-athletes earning Academic All-American honors.



ENROLLMENT MOMENTUM BUILDS

LSUE broke 11 enrollment records across the fall and spring semesters, continuing a strong upward trend and reinforcing the university's role as a vital access point to higher education in the region.



RECORD LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT FOR LSUE

In the 2025 legislative session, LSUE received more than \$15 million in state funding, including \$5 million in one-time cash for STEAM initiatives and \$6 million for improvements to Bengal Stadium. The state also allocated over \$3.1 million in Priority 1 capital outlay funding and \$1.1 million in general obligation bonds to complete final repairs to Manuel Hall, which will be rededicated in honor of Gladney Manuel, grandfather of State Representative Phillip DeVillier.

HISTORIC GRADUATION NUMBERS

LSUE awarded 514 associate degrees in 2024-25—the highest in school history. This represents a 29% increase over the previous year and reflects the university's growing impact on student success and workforce development.

A PERFECT SEASON FOR THE AGES

In an extraordinary display of talent, determination, and teamwork, the LSUS baseball team made history by finishing their season with a flawless 59-0 record, capping it all off with a national championship win. The undefeated campaign rallied the entire Shreveport community and state in celebration. The team's success underscores LSUS's commitment to excellence, both on and off the field, and reflects the power of unity and grit in achieving the unthinkable.



MAPPING A SMARTER SHREVEPORT

A new GIS (geographic information system) certificate program, launched through a partnership between LSUS and the City of Shreveport, graduated its first cohort of eight professionals this year. The program equips participants with in-demand geospatial skills to improve city services and inform data-driven decision-making. This collaboration demonstrates how LSUS supports workforce development while contributing to smarter, more connected communities across the region.

A photograph of Cheryl White, an older woman with short blonde hair and glasses on her head, wearing a light blue jacket. She is standing in front of a museum display case and talking to a man whose back is partially to the camera. The display case contains historical documents and artifacts, with a sign that says "Caddo Indians" visible.

LSUS HISTORIAN GOES NATIONAL

Cheryl White, LSUS history professor and public scholar, brought Shreveport's rich historical legacy to national audiences through her expertise on two popular History Channel programs. Her contributions to "The UnXplained" and "The Secret of Skinwalker Ranch" showcase LSUS's academic reach and ability to connect classroom knowledge with global curiosity. White's storytelling and scholarship continue to elevate LSUS's reputation as a center for humanities research and public history.

STUDENT VOICE ON A STATEWIDE STAGE

LSUS Student Government Association President Devesh Sarda was sworn in as the newest student member of the Louisiana Board of Regents, representing student voices across the state. His appointment to this influential role reflects the leadership development and civic engagement fostered at LSUS. As a voice for more than 200,000 students in Louisiana's public higher education system, Devesh brings a bold, student-focused perspective to higher education policy and planning.

AI INNOVATION TAKES OFF

LSUS computer science students developed an artificial intelligence-powered weather app for the U.S. Air Force, providing real-time weather predictions to aid flight planning and safety. The project exemplifies how LSUS students apply classroom knowledge to meet real-world challenges, especially in partnership with national defense agencies. This collaboration highlights LSUS's growing role in tech innovation and STEM education with impact beyond Louisiana.



\$4.9M GRANT RENEWAL FOR BURN CARE RESEARCH

Dr. Jeffrey Carter, LSU Health Professor of Surgery and Medical Director of the UMC New Orleans Burn Center, recently received a \$4.9 million grant renewal from the Department of Defense to continue his vital research on burn care education and training for military and civilian disasters. This builds on a \$4.6 million award he received in 2022 to launch the project.

LSU Health NEW ORLEANS

ADVANCING RETINAL DISEASE RESEARCH

Dr. Nicolas Bazan, Director of the LSU Health Neuroscience Center of Excellence, was recently awarded \$602,594 in grant funding to continue his long-standing research on fatty acids in the early stages and progression of age-related macular degeneration and inherited retinal degenerations. Now in its 37th year of NIH support, this study aims to advance future targeted therapies for retinal degenerative diseases.

A photograph showing nursing students in a clinical setting. In the foreground, a student in a white polo shirt is examining a patient's arm. Another student in a purple polo shirt stands nearby, holding a medical device. In the background, another student is visible. The setting appears to be a hospital or clinical training facility with medical equipment and a patient bed.

NURSING PROGRAM EXPANDS TO BATON ROUGE, EARNS NATIONAL RECOGNITION

LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing launched a competitive **BSN** program at its Baton Rouge Off-Campus Instructional Site, offering students a three-year path to licensure and professional practice. In 2025, the school was once again ranked among the top 10 nursing programs nationally by Nursing Schools Almanac, the only Louisiana nursing school to earn that distinction.

NEW DIRECTOR TO LEAD CANCER CENTER'S PUSH FOR NCI DESIGNATION

Dr. Lucio Miele was appointed director of the LSU-LCMC Health Cancer Center in January 2025. A globally recognized leader in cancer research, Dr. Miele brings deep experience from top institutions and will lead the center's mission to secure NCI designation for Louisiana. Supported by a \$100 million commitment from LSU and LCMC Health, the Cancer Center is focused on expanding research, care, and community engagement across the Gulf South.

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY OPENS SPECIAL CARE CLINIC

The LSU School of Dentistry opened a new Special Care Clinic to provide tailored oral healthcare to patients with intellectual, developmental, or complex medical conditions. Funded in part by a \$100,000 donation from United Cerebral Palsy of Greater New Orleans, the clinic offers compassionate, individualized treatment and hands-on training for dental students—advancing equity in care and education.



LARGEST COMMENCEMENT IN SCHOOL HISTORY

LSU Health Shreveport hosted its largest commencement in history with 242 students receiving a bachelor's, master's, PhD, or doctoral degree, including 12 students who were the inaugural graduates of the School of Allied Health Professions' Doctor of Occupational Therapy program, the first OTD program in the state. Commencement for the Schools of Allied Health Professions, Graduate Studies, and Medicine took place in a combined ceremony held at the Municipal Auditorium in May. With many graduates staying to train, practice, and continue their research in Louisiana, these doctors, scientists, and allied health professionals are supporting and enhancing Louisiana's healthcare and research workforce.

LSU Health SHREVEPORT

SELECTED AS NATIONAL PILOT SITE FOR DOD DISASTER MEDICAL SYSTEM

LSU Health Shreveport has been selected as the newest site of the Department of Defense (DOD) National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) Pilot Program, a Congressionally authorized program led by the National Center for Disaster Medicine and Public Health (NCDMPH) that aims to enhance interoperability and expand capability and capacity within the National Disaster Medical System. LSUHS is one of only eight strategically located pilot sites in the United States and one of two sites in the South.



TRANSFORMING FORMER SEARS SITE INTO RESEARCH HUB

To meet the continued growth of research at LSU Health Shreveport, plans have been announced to convert the former Sears building at Mall St. Vincent into a modern research facility. Purchased by the LSU Health Sciences Foundation, the 160,000-square-foot property will provide essential lab and office space to support faculty recruitment, increases in grant awards, and ongoing research in cancer and cardiovascular health. Just a mile from campus, the project follows the recent opening of the \$84 million Center for Medical Education and reflects LSUHS's continued investment in research and educational excellence and community revitalization.

ENT RESIDENTS WIN NATIONAL QUIZ BOWL

LSU Health Shreveport Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery residents took first place at the 2025 Triological Society Resident Bowl, a national competition showcasing clinical knowledge and teamwork. Drs. Mallory Peters, Joel Badders, and Mark Landry represented LSUHS, outperforming top programs from across the country—demonstrating the strength of LSUHS's resident training and academic excellence.

MILESTONES IN COMMUNITY HEALTH

This year marked two major anniversaries for LSU Health Shreveport's community health programs. The Mollie E. Webb Speech & Hearing Center celebrated 50 years of providing life-changing care for individuals with speech, language, and hearing challenges. As the only National Aphasia Association-recognized center in north Louisiana, Mollie Webb continues to lead in therapy, education, and clinical training.

Partners in Wellness also celebrated 25 years of delivering free cancer screenings and education across rural Louisiana. Since adding mobile services in 2009, the program has reached over 21,000 individuals in 32 parishes—offering nearly 40,000 screenings for breast, cervical, colorectal, and prostate cancer. It's the only provider of mobile digital mammography in north Louisiana, improving access and saving lives.

A photograph of two men in a rice field. The man on the left is wearing a purple t-shirt and glasses, and the man on the right is wearing a light blue button-down shirt, glasses, and a purple baseball cap. They are both looking down at the rice plants. The field is filled with tall, green rice stalks. In the background, a large greenhouse structure is visible.

DEVELOPING LOUISIANA'S SIGNATURE CROPS

From low-glycemic rice varieties to high-yield, disease-resistant sweet potatoes, LSU AgCenter scientists are leading the way in crop innovation. Their work ensures Louisiana farmers remain competitive while feeding more people with fewer resources.



BOOSTING FARMWORKER FOOD SAFETY TRAINING

An LSU AgCenter-led team received federal funding from the USDA to expand food safety and handling education for farm workers. The program supports safer produce, improves public health, and strengthens the agricultural workforce through hands-on training and bilingual resources.

SEAFOOD LAB DRIVES INNOVATION AND EDUCATION

The LSU AgCenter's new Seafood Processing and Demonstration Lab is enhancing food safety, workforce development, and sustainability in Louisiana's seafood industry. With hands-on demonstrations and technical training, the lab supports one of the state's most iconic sectors.



LAHOUSE AWARDED \$1.5M TO ADVANCE FLOOD RESILIENCE

The LSU AgCenter’s LaHouse Resource Center secured a \$1.5 million grant from the National Science Foundation to develop new software that helps reduce flood risk for homeowners. The project combines building science, mapping technology, and homeowner education to create a powerful tool for climate resilience in Louisiana and beyond.

4-H SHOOTING SPORTS BRINGS HOME ANOTHER NATIONAL TITLE

For the third year in a row, Louisiana 4-H Shooting Sports took home the national championship, demonstrating the power of discipline, safety, and youth development. The program continues to build lifelong skills and confidence in students across the state.

BURDEN SHINES BRIGHT WITH LOUISIANA LIGHTS

LSU Burden Museum & Gardens enchanted visitors with the first year of Louisiana Lights and will soon open a new welcome center. These initiatives connect science, nature, and culture, offering new ways for families and community members to engage with the AgCenter’s mission.



TRAINING THE NEXT LEADERS IN OBESITY MEDICINE

Pennington Biomedical launched Louisiana's first Obesity Medicine Fellowship, creating a new pathway to train physicians in the treatment of obesity and related metabolic diseases. This forward-thinking program addresses a critical shortage of specialists and enhances care statewide and beyond. The fellowship featured specialty training under renowned experts at both LSU Health New Orleans and Pennington Biomedical.



GLOBAL SPOTLIGHT ON CLINICAL OBESITY

Pennington Biomedical played a leading role in shaping global health policy through its contributions to the Lancet Commission on Clinical Obesity. The commission's work redefines obesity as a chronic disease requiring long-term care and support, advancing the conversation on treatment, prevention, and stigma reduction worldwide. Three Pennington Biomedical leaders—Dr. John Kirwan, Executive Director and George A. Bray Jr. Endowed Super Chair in Nutrition; Dr. Eric Ravussin, LSU Boyd Professor and Douglas L. Gordon Chair in Diabetes and Metabolism; and Dr. Philip Schauer, Director of the Metamor Institute and United Companies Life Insurance Co./ Mary Kay and Terrell Brown Chair—are members of the 56-person global commission.

GRE AUX HEALTHY: A BOLD STEP FOR KIDS' HEALTH

With a focus on prevention, Pennington Biomedical launched Greaux Healthy, a major initiative targeting childhood obesity in Louisiana. The program supports healthy eating and physical activity across schools, communities, and families, building a healthier future for the next generation. Developed in partnership with the State of Louisiana, Greaux Healthy implements 35 years of Pennington Biomedical research and discoveries to inform tools, resources, and programing for children, parents, healthcare providers, and educators throughout the state.



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NEW DISCOVERY LINKS HORMONE TO BRAIN REWARD

A research team led by Christopher Morrison uncovered the key role of the hormone FGF21 in regulating brain reward pathways, opening doors to new treatments for obesity and metabolic disorders. Their findings were published in *Molecular Metabolism*, reinforcing Pennington Biomedical's leadership in cutting-edge science. This study was supported by the National Institutes of Health.

PARTNERING WITH THE ARMY TO FUEL PERFORMANCE

Pennington Biomedical's Center for Military Performance & Resilience and the U.S. Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine are collaborating on a comprehensive nutrition and health study. This research supports optimized performance, resilience, and readiness for soldiers around the globe. The study will gather data on dietary intake, nutritional status, cardiovascular health, body composition, metabolic biomarkers of nutritional state, and other health status measures among Army service members.

ACADEMIC

LSU's environmental engineering undergrad Calcea Johnson published a new proof of the Pythagorean Theorem in a **national mathematics journal**

LSUS's Minseong Kim recognized in the **"World's Top 2% Scientists"** for the third straight year in the field of sport, leisure, and tourism

LSU's Erin Barker and Colton Bruni have been named **2025 Astronaut Scholars** by the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation (ASF), one of the nation's most prestigious awards for undergraduate STEM students

LSU's Gerald Lorio received the **Goldwater Scholarship**

Pennington Biomedical's Leanne Redman was honored with the **E. V. McCollum Award** from the American Society for Nutrition

LSU School of Veterinary Medicine assistant professor Sara K. Lyle has been named the recipient of the **Westminster Kennel Club's fourth annual Veterinarian of the Year Award**

LSU's Krishnaswamy Nandakumar, professor of chemical engineering, and John Pojman and Les Butler, professors of chemistry, were named as **2025 American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Fellows**

LSU's Soo Jeong Jo, assistant professor of architecture, received the **AIAS/ACSA 2025 New Faculty Teaching Award** from the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture

Kenneth Gravois in the LSU AgCenter was named **the American Sugar Cane League Chair in Sugar Production**

LSU sent its largest-ever delegation of student researchers to the **National Conference on Undergraduate Research**

Pennington Biomedical's Steven Heymsfield and Peter Katzmarzyk rank among the **World's Most Influential Researchers**

LSUHS's Cherie-Ann Nathan, MD, FACS, professor of otolaryngology and head and neck surgery, was **inducted as a "Living Legend" into the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery's Hall of Distinction**

ALL-STARS

LSUHS's Dr. Gauri Mankekar, Dr. Karuna Dewan, and Dr. Ameya Asarkar were inducted as **Active Fellows of the Triological Society**

LSUHNO's Clinical Professor of Hematology/Oncology Dr. Maria Velez named **president of the American Society of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology**

LSUHNO's Benita Chatmon, Alison Davis, and Jennifer Manning named to the **American Academy of Nursing's 2025 Class of Fellows**

Dale Prince, LSUHNO's Director of Libraries, has been selected as a **Fellow of the Medical Library Association**, one of the association's highest honors and only the fourth person from the LSU Health Libraries to be named a Fellow

Edward Trapido, dean of the LSU School of Public Health and member of the LSU LCMC Health Cancer Center, received **the Distinguished Service Award by the American College of Epidemiology**

Dr. Rahn Bailey, professor of psychiatry at LSUHNO School of Medicine, was honored with the **2025 American Psychiatric Association Presidential Award**

LSU AgCenter professor Qinglin Wu has been **named one of the most influential researchers in the world** by Clarivate Analytics' 2024 List of Highly Cited Researchers

Ali Kazemian, assistant professor of construction management, was named a **2024 Kavli Frontiers of Science Fellow** by the National Academy of Science

LSU's Manas Ranjan Gartia, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, was named a **2024 National Academy of Inventors Fellow**

LSU's George Voyiadjis, professor of civil and environmental engineering, received the **2024 Theodore von Karman Medal** from the American Society of Civil Engineers

Dr. Cherie-Ann Nathan, professor of otolaryngology and head and neck surgery at LSU Health Shreveport; Michael Khonsari, professor of mechanical engineering at LSU; and Robb Brumfield, interim dean of the LSU College of Science have been named **Presidential Laurels**

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