Our Office

Enhancing diversity at LSU is a core institutional value.

Equity, Diversity & Community Outreach (EDCO) in the Office of Academic Affairs is committed to fostering inclusive educational opportunities and an equitable workforce environment at LSU. EDCO provides leadership to ensure that diversity is a vital component in all decision making processes on administrative, academic, budgetary, and strategic planning fronts.

EDCO is also responsible for supervising and guiding professional units whose purpose and mission is to promote understanding and respect for difference. These units include the Office of Multicultural Affairs, African American Cultural Center, Women’s Center, Community University Partnership, Office of International Programs, Campus Community Coalition for Change, and is affiliated with the Office of the University Ombudsperson. Similarly, EDCO works closely with University committees, commissions, task forces, and affinity groups whose charge is to support underrepresented LSU community members.

We believe that cultural inclusion at LSU is paramount. As such, EDCO assists administrators, deans, department chairs/heads, and directors in identifying and implementing policies and procedures to increase diversity in their respective areas. Similarly, we encourage University community members to build rapport among people who are different, which aids in reducing resistance to diversity initiatives. Our office accomplishes these objectives by providing evidenced-based principles and “best practices” which strengthen knowledge, awareness, and skills for working and learning in a diverse educational community.

The Purpose of this Guide

We want faculty diversity to become a reality at LSU.

The goal of this guide is to help create an institutional cultural shift where women and underrepresented minorities have increased participation in the faculty ranks. It is designed to assist faculty search committees in becoming more creative in their efforts to enhance diversity in the faculty hiring process.

Among other objectives, this guide offers proactive approaches that will be beneficial in every step of the search process to bolster applications from women and underrepresented minorities. Search committees must understand and realize they have the potential of increasing the merit of our institution through connecting with the largest and most diverse group of candidates possible.

We want our recruitment and hiring practices at LSU to reflect the belief that intellectually, culturally, and socially diverse faculty lead nationally recognized flagship institutions.