

# Research & Economic Development

As a Carnegie Research-Extensive university, part of LSU's mission is to produce nationally competitive research and contribute to the economic development of the state and the nation. This can be accomplished by developing a world-class knowledge base that is transferable to educational, professional, and business enterprises. To continue to enhance this mission, LSU will take the following actions.

## ACTIONS

- Add 150 faculty positions and provide for appropriate support staff.
- Increase graduate assistantships by 50 percent and double the number of postdoctoral positions.
- Increase laboratory space by 50 percent in strategic growth areas to support increases in federal research productivity.
- Increase annual library collections and access to scholarly material by 50 percent.
- Strengthen the technology infrastructure, as outlined in the Information Technology Master Plan.
- Eliminate barriers to securing resources for productive research.
- Support PK-16+ teacher reform and underlying research.

## OUTCOMES

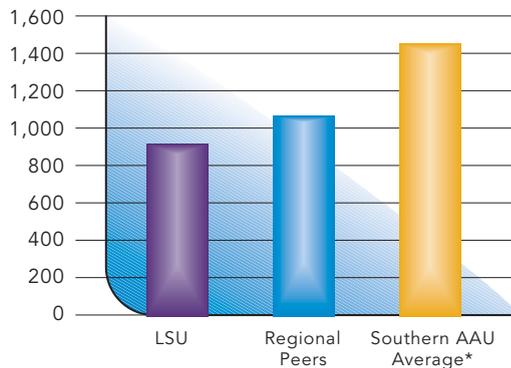
- Double research funding from federal sources.
- Garner recognition as national centers of excellence for information technology, biotechnology, and other targeted initiatives.
- Achieve research excellence in highly competitive areas such as those that are essential, special to Louisiana, or involve cutting-edge technology.
- Encourage continuous growth in patents, copyrights, and other forms of intellectual property.



## Updates



**Average Number of Tenure-Track Faculty  
at Peer Universities, 2002-03**



Source: ACADEME, March-April 2003

- External grants and contracts increased 78 percent, with significant gains in NSF and NIH funding.
- Research awards topped \$100 million for the first time in 2002.
- The Governor's Information Technology Initiative, begun in 2001, directs money to several of the state's public universities. The LSU CAPITAL program administers LSU's portion of the funding and annually provides \$9.1 million in technology enhancements.
- In September 2002, Governor Mike Foster "plugged in" SuperMike, the second-fastest computer at an academic institution worldwide. SuperMike is composed of 1,024 Pentium IV processors able to make 2.1 trillion calculations per second.
- Technological and physical infrastructure upgrades included Internet2 networking of major biological and physical science buildings.
- Colleagues in a wide range of disciplines received national and international awards last year recognizing their preeminent scholarly attainments.
- State investment, with federal matching funds, opened new laboratory and classroom space, increasing laboratory space for research in physics, coastal issues, and oil and gas studies.