FOCUS > A Shared Vision

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Louisiana's natural resources, geography, culture, and native industry afford LSU unique research and educational opportunities. Many of the historically strong programs at LSU—such as oil and gas research, coastal issues, French language, Southern history and literature, music, geology, geography, chemistry, and chemical engineering—correspond to the state's distinct attributes. In forging the National Flagship Agenda, LSU intends to capitalize on the natural wealth of the state, while providing a foundation for future growth.

LSU can serve the state by providing:

- a world-class knowledge base that is transferable to educational, professional, and business enterprises;
- an incubator for the development of new products and technologies;
- prominence in the national arena for federal projects and funding;
- nationally ranked programs that prepare students for the most competitive and prestigious graduate programs and employment opportunities; and
- a competitively educated workforce, trained for attracting high-growth industries.

LSU's vision for the future parallels Louisiana's economic development plan, Vision 2020. The state has developed a tripartite plan to offer life-long education, attract industry, and improve the quality of life. LSU offers a nationally competitive education for the knowledge economy workforce. The state's cluster-driven economic development plan funnels attention to burgeoning economic sectors—such as nanotechnology and bioinformatics—in which LSU has already made significant strides.

Through a renewed University-community partnership, LSU is cultivating a more hospitable living environment. The convergence of highly talented people in a comfortable living-learning environment is the overarching goal of the Flagship Agenda. The best faculty researchers in the best laboratories will fulfill LSU's mission of research, education, and service to the state.

Updates

- 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 provides \$9.1 million annually 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.





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