In a short span of time, the technology revolution has transformed our world. Technological advancements have permeated every aspect of our environment, changing our homes, the way we work, how we drive, where we shop, and even our health care. The ripple effect has been far-reaching—so widespread and significant that it is hard to remember life without the Internet, e-mail, and cell phones.

Today, LSU is creating a similar revolution, one of pervasive change and advancement. For the past five years, the focus of the LSU community has been a commitment to excellence. And, much like the constant flow of technology, our progress has been dramatic, and shows no sign of stopping.

Having witnessed many of yesterday’s possibilities become tangible realities, the LSU community set forth to capitalize on its success. The goal was to improve our standing as a nationally competitive flagship university. Following intense discussions among the LSU Board of Supervisors, campus administrators, and student leaders, the objectives required to reach this status crystallized, providing the impetus for LSU’s National Flagship Agenda.

In keeping with the Agenda, a governor and state legislature who are strong supporters of education have provided resources for a variety of projects, including the launch of a major information technology initiative. These efforts are bringing world class researchers and their expertise to LSU and improving the standing of the University, as well as strengthening its position as an economic engine for the state of Louisiana.

As a result, the University community is even more determined to achieve excellence at every level.

LSU remains focused on attaining national flagship status by 2010, the University’s 150th anniversary. The resolve of the LSU community and the support of the state make these goals attainable. And, if the last five years are any indication of success, the next phase of this Agenda will guarantee LSU’s place in the arena of national prominence.