



2016-2017 Post-Secondary Nominee Presentation Form

ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATIONS

College or University Certifications

The signature of college or university President (or equivalent) on the next page certifies that each of the statements below concerning the institution's eligibility and compliance with the following requirements is true and correct to the best of their knowledge.

1. The college or university has been evaluated and selected from among institutions within the Nominating Authority's jurisdiction, based on high achievement in the three ED-GRS Pillars: 1) reduced environmental impact and costs; 2) improved health and wellness; and 3) effective environmental and sustainability education.
2. The college or university is providing the U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights (OCR) access to information necessary to investigate a civil rights complaint or to conduct a compliance review.
3. OCR has not issued a violation letter of findings to the college or university concluding that the nominated college or university has violated one or more of the civil rights statutes. A violation letter of findings will not be considered outstanding if OCR has accepted a corrective action plan to remedy the violation.
4. The U.S. Department of Justice does not have a pending suit alleging that the college or university has violated one or more of the civil rights statutes or the Constitution's equal protection clause.
5. There are no findings by Federal Student Aid of violations in respect to the administration of Title IV student aid funds.
6. The college or university is in good standing with its regional or national accreditor.
7. The college or university meets all applicable federal, state, local and tribal health, environmental and safety requirements in law, regulations and policy and is willing to undergo EPA on-site verification.

U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools 2015-2016

Public 4-Year Public 2-Year Private Non-Profit

Name of President/Chancellor: **Dr. F. King Alexander**

(Specify: Ms., Miss, Mrs., Dr., Mr., etc.) (As it should appear in the official records)

Official College or University Name: **Louisiana State University**

(As it should appear on an award)

College or University Street

Mailing Address: **3810 West Lakeshore Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808**

(If address is P.O. Box, also include street address.)

County: **EBRP**

IPEDS Number*: **159391**

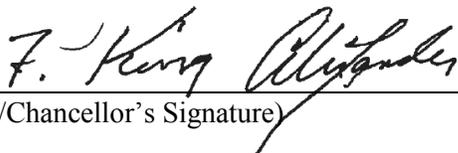
Telephone: **225-578-2111**

Fax: **225-578-5524**

Web site/URL: **www.lsu.edu**

E-mail: **Alexander@lsu.edu**

I have reviewed the information in this application and certify that to the best of my knowledge all information is accurate.



Date: **11/29/2016**

(President's/Chancellor's Signature)



Nominating Authority's Certifications

The signature by the Nominating Authority on this page certifies that each of the statements below concerning the college or university's eligibility and compliance with the following requirements is true and correct to the best of the Authority's knowledge.

1. The college or university has been evaluated and selected from among institutions within the Nominating Authority's jurisdiction, based on high achievement in the three ED-GRS Pillars: 1) reduced environmental impact and costs; 2) improved health and wellness; and 3) effective environmental and sustainability education.
2. The college or university meets all applicable federal, state, local and tribal health, environmental and safety requirements in law, regulations and policy and is willing to undergo EPA on-site verification.

Name of Nominating Agency: **Louisiana Department of Education**

Name of Nominating Authority: **Ms. Lydia Hill**

(Specify: Ms., Miss, Mrs., Dr., Mr., Other)

I have reviewed the information in this application and certify to the best of my knowledge that the school meets the provisions above.

Date: **1/29/2017**

(Nominating Authority's Signature)

SUMMARY AND DOCUMENTATION OF NOMINEE'S ACHIEVEMENTS

Provide a coherent summary that describes how your college or university is representative of your jurisdiction's highest achieving green school efforts. Summarize your strengths and accomplishments in all three Pillars and their underlying Elements. Then, include concrete examples for work in every Pillar and Element. Only institutions that document progress in every Pillar and Element can be considered for this award.

SUBMISSION

The nomination package, including the signed certifications and documentation of evaluation in the three Pillars should be converted to a PDF file and emailed to green.ribbon.schools@ed.gov according to the instructions in the Nominee Submission Procedure.

OMB Control Number: 1860-0509

Expiration Date: March 31, 2018

Public Burden Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1860-0509. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 37 hours per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The obligation to respond to this collection is required to obtain or retain benefit P.L. 107-110, Sec. 501, Innovative Programs and Parental Choice Provisions. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20202-4536 or email ICDocketMgr@ed.gov and reference the OMB Control Number 1860-0509. Note: Please do not return the completed ED-Green Ribbon Schools application to this address.



ED-GRS Application for Colleges and Universities

Contact Information

College/University Name: Louisiana State University

Street Address: 3810 West Lakeshore Drive

City: Baton Rouge

State LA

Zip 70808

Website: www.lsu.edu

President/Chancellor Name: F. King Alexander

President/Chancellor Email Address: alexander@lsu.edu

Phone Number: 225-578-2111

Lead Applicant Name (if different): Sarah E. Temple

Lead Applicant Email: sustainability@lsu.edu

Phone Number: 225-578-7968

School Demographics

<p>Basic Classification</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Public 2-year</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public 4 year</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Private non-profit</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Private for-profit</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p>	<p>How would you describe your school?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Urban</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Suburban</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Rural</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Multiple campuses</p>	<p>Size and setting</p> <p>Undergraduate Enrollment: <u>26,159</u></p> <p>Graduate Enrollment: <u>5,368</u></p> <p>Percent of Undergraduates Receiving Pell Grants: <u>20%</u></p> <p>Graduation rate (150% of normal time): <u>67.2</u></p> <p>Average Institutional Net Price: <u>\$20,164</u></p>
<p>Minority-Serving Institution (check all that apply):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> AANAPISI</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ANNH</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> HBCU</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> HSI</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NASNTI</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> PBI</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> TCU</p>	<p>Has your IHE received any awards for facilities, health or environment? <u>Yes</u></p> <p>Award(s) and year(s): <u>See List below:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2010 – LDEQ Environmental Leadership Award 2011 – LDEQ Environmental Leadership Award 2012-2015 – Tree Campus USA 2015 – LDEQ Environmental Leadership Award 2015 – LEED Certification for Hilltop Arboretum Addition 2016 – LDEQ Environmental Leadership Award 2016 – GameDay Recycling Challenge 1st Place Winner 	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2016 – Green Sports Alliance Award Recipient • 2016 – Bicycle Friendly University
	<p>Is your IHE participating in a local, state or national program which asks you to benchmark progress in any or all of the Pillars? We are currently reapplying for an AASHE STARS rating (Rating of Silver awarded in 2012).</p> <p>Program(s) and level(s) achieved: _</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well-Ahead Well-Spot (Health and Wellness) • Bicycle Friendly University (Silver Level)

Part II: Summary Narrative

Louisiana State University (LSU) highly values its commitment to environmental sustainability, human health, the wellness of our student population, and sustainability in academics. LSU hired a full-time Campus Sustainability Manager in 2008 to oversee sustainable activities on campus and now has 1 full-time and one part-time employee, as well as several undergraduate students, who assist with implementation of Campus Sustainability. The Campus Sustainability Office has lead the effort to assemble a Campus Committee on Sustainability, a university-wide group whose purpose is to set short and long term sustainability-related goals for LSU.

The Campus Sustainability office also manages solid waste and recycling for LSU, measures and tracks energy and water usage, and works with academic partners to ensure a connection between operations and education at LSU. One example is the partnership between the Environmental Management Systems degree program (part of the College of Agriculture) and Campus Sustainability. Each semester students from the Environmental Management classes volunteer time to help with Campus Sustainability-related projects (e.g. GameDay Recycling Cleanup). Campus Sustainability also provides a lesson on sustainability to the class.

The Campus Committee for Sustainability includes a Subcommittee focused on health and wellness, another area LSU is committed to and engaged in. LSU offers healthy choices for its community through programs provided at the Student Health Center, LSU Dining and at the University Recreation Center, as well as services related to psychological health and trauma.

The Campus Committee on Sustainability has set both short and long-term sustainability goals, including: an 80% greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction by 2050; a 30% energy use reduction in buildings by 2025; a 50% annual recycling rate; and a 100% recycling rate for construction and demolition waste. Campus Sustainability is also actively working to routinely engage senior administration at LSU to communicate sustainability progress by providing an annual sustainability report and presentation to the President’s office.

LSU has been the recipient of many awards for sustainability in recent years, including Environmental Leadership Awards from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) for the years 2010, 2011, 2015 and 2016; National 1st Place Winner of the GameDay Recycling Challenge in 2015; Bicycle Friendly University in 2016; Tree Campus USA for the consecutive years 2012-2015; and Green Sports Alliance Award Recipient in 2016. LSU has



also received several sustainability-related grants in the last few years, including three \$10,000 awards from Keep Louisiana Beautiful for sustainability-related improvements and projects on campus.

LSU is actively engaged in the health and well-being of its student population. The LSU Student Health Center offers students a significant number of programs to promote physical and mental health. The Center offers diagnostic imaging, immunization, a pharmacy, a women's clinic, primary care services, a laboratory for processing test results, and specialty clinics. Counseling and psychiatry services are also offered, as well as programs to treat students who have experienced domestic abuse and/or sexual assault. LSU Dining offers green, local food choices, as well as a seasonal farmer's market, and the University Recreation Center has many health and exercise related programs including an outdoor adventure program for students.

Sustainability in academics ranges from research focused on Louisiana's diminishing coastline to forestry, renewable resources, climate change, and beyond. The School of the Coast and Environment, the College of Agriculture, the School of Plant and Soil Systems, and the School of Renewable Natural Resources all offer students top quality education and research opportunities in the field of sustainability and environmental protection. Coastal research at LSU is a special highlight. More than 200 faculty members at LSU are currently involved in coastal-related research, and LSU has more than 450 coastal-related grants totaling \$73 million. This means that many of LSU's researchers are focused on one of the state's leading environmental problems, paving the way toward real solutions for a very real and ever-worsening problem.

Through efficiency/sustainability in operations, with an unwavering commitment to the health and well-being of the student population, and offering wide range of studies available in sustainability-related areas, LSU is clearly committed to sustainability for the long-term.

Part III: ED-GRS Pillars Narratives

Pillar I: Reduced Environmental Impact and Costs

Campus Committee on Sustainability

In the fall of 2015, the Campus Committee on Sustainability (CCS) was formed in order to begin an overall planning process for sustainability at LSU. The Committee's mission is to identify short and long-term goals related to sustainability for LSU in the areas of energy efficiency, green building, landfill diversion/recycling, transportation, food, procurement, forests/grounds, and communication. These areas are each represented by Subcommittees which are currently meeting to identify goals that will be incorporated into a Strategic Plan for Sustainability and also considered for the LSU Master Plan update.

The CCS is represented by members from the President's Office, Student Senate, Staff Senate, Faculty Senate, Athletic Department, Campus Life, Office of Facility Services, Greek Life, EHS, Parking & Transportation, Residential Life, University Recreation, and Planning Design & Construction.

The CCS also recently completed an update of LSU's greenhouse gas (GHG) baseline inventory. The CCS is reviewing the data so that the committee can make a data-based, informed decision on the overall GHG target to commit to for short-term reduction. The committee has set a long-term goal of 80% GHG reduction by 2050.

Master Plan Update to Include Sustainability

LSU, in partnership with master planning firm NBBJ, has embarked on a Comprehensive and Strategic Campus Master Plan that will guide development and capital investment on the Flagship Campus over the next ten years and beyond. The master planning process is built to offer meaningful engagement opportunities to users of the LSU campus and the broader community. The Master Plan will incorporate sustainability-related goals, objectives and targets as recommended by the Campus Committee on Sustainability.

Sustainability Student Fund

In spring 2016, the LSU student body voted to establish a Sustainability Fund to be used for projects related to sustainability, which will be proposed by students, faculty and staff. The fee is \$2.00 per semester for the fall and spring, and \$1.00 in summer. The fee went into effect in fall 2016, and the Sustainability Student Fund Oversight Committee manages the fund, as well as reviews and approves project ideas and proposals. Current proposals include (but are not limited to) a student-run farm, helping to fund a Sustainable Agriculture major/minor with graduate assistants, a sustainability-education display at the LSU Museum of Natural Science, and an effort to transition to e-books for LSU Libraries.

Transportation / Smart Growth

Easy Streets

LSU implemented Easy Streets Phase I in 2007, in an effort to transform itself into a more walkable campus, reduce vehicle-related traffic and emissions, and make the heart of campus more user-friendly and safer for students. Easy Streets was designed to mark off the core of the campus and make it unavailable to motor vehicles. Booths are stationed around campus that have electronically controlled arms to regulate traffic and keep cars out of the middle part of campus. Faculty and staff members have been issued electronic devices to automatically open the gates. Easy Streets Phase II, implemented in 2012, eliminated street parking and added dedicated bike lanes in needed areas.

Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

In 2011 LSU received a grant from Entergy to install two electric vehicle charging stations on campus. The number of users between 2011 and 2016 grew from 0 in 2011 to 13 in 2016. We anticipate continued use and expansion of this program, as electric vehicle ownership has steadily increased in recent years (EV sales were estimated to be 462,000 in 2015, up 60% over 2014 numbers). In 2015 a third EV charging station was added as part of Cypress Hall, a new green residential hall on campus. The EV stations help LSU encourage alternative transportation and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by providing a convenient way for electric vehicle drivers to charge their cars.

Rideshare

LSU has partnered with the Capital Region Planning Commission (CRPC) to help promote Geaux Ride, a ride-sharing app and website aimed at connecting carpoolers to reduce the number of cars in Baton Rouge. The website www.geauxride.com was established and allows commuters to create a profile to find others in the same ZIP code who are headed to the same place, whether to work or school. The riders connect via email and can exchange phone numbers for easier networking. The goal is to reduce the amount of vehicle traffic on local roadways, improve air quality, and reduce the carbon footprint of using vehicles.

Bikeshare

LSU is currently partnering with the City of Baton Rouge and the Baton Rouge Area Foundation (BRAf) to develop a bike-share program that will bring bikeshare hubs to LSU's campus as early as 2017. The bikeshare network will include LSU, and will connect LSU to the Baton Rouge downtown development district. BRAf's CityStats annual report indicated that of the users who indicated they would use a bike share program, 80% of them would want bike share hubs on the LSU campus. Funding will come from a technical assistance grant, which was award to Baton Rouge by EPA in 2015.



Bike Month – March 2017

Campus Sustainability will hold the first LSU Bike Month (“Bike with Mike”) in March 2017. Campus Sustainability is partnering with Bike Baton Rouge, a local non-profit organization, to put on Bike Month. Activities will include a prize awarded for the most number of miles logged on the national bike challenge website, a scavenger hunt, a timed trial (race), a group ride, and a bike-in movie.

ZipCar

LSU has partnered with Zipcar, the world’s leading car sharing network, to place five vehicles on campus for students, faculty and staff ages 18 and older, as well as members of the local community ages 21 and over. The Zipcars have designated parking spots located in front of LSU residence halls for convenient pick-up and return. Our intention is to expand this program each semester.

Tiger Trails

The LSU Tiger Trails Transit System promotes environmental sustainability by using ultra low sulfur diesel, which allows for advanced emission controls. LSU acquired 31 new buses in June 2016, 25 of which feature an exhaust reduction system, including diesel particulate filters and selective catalytic reducers. These new buses help LSU’s fleet lower greenhouse gas emissions related to transportation on campus. The Tiger Trails bus station has committed to advanced recycling efforts and green cleaning products, as well as proper use, storage and disposal of all waste associated with maintenance activities. Also when passengers choose Tiger Trails instead of driving, they are reducing the number of vehicles on the road, thereby reducing traffic congestion and carbon emissions.

Waste Diversion / Recycling

Diversion Rate

Campus Sustainability’s goal is to reach and maintain a monthly recycling rate of 50% or higher. Throughout 2016 we have consistently approached 50% in our recycling rate, and in several months exceeded it (e.g. August was 75%). We have expanded the types of materials accepted for recycling on campus in the last couple of years. In addition to commingled recycling (paper, plastic, aluminum, glass, and cardboard), LSU now accepts batteries, ink/toner cartridges, and various types of electronic waste for recycling. Campus Sustainability manages the recycling drop off center at Landscape Services, which also accepts vegetative debris, wood, scrap metal, concrete, white goods, and old furniture.

GameDay Recycling Challenge

LSU won first place in the nation in the 2015 GameDay Recycling Challenge, which is a nationwide competition administered by the College and University Recycling Coalition (CURC), RecycleMania, Keep America Beautiful and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s WasteWise. The challenge is to reduce and recycle the waste generated at home football games. During each competition cycle, participating schools report recycling, compost and attendance data for at least one home football game.

In 2015, LSU won first place in the nation in the category of most tons recycled for any football game. We entered the LSU vs. Arkansas football game and recycled over 40 tons of waste from the game. Campus Sustainability had close to 30 volunteers help spread the word about recycling during the game and cleaning up after the game, and we also had a friendly “selfie” competition on Social Media to submit photos of recycling in action for a chance to win a football signed by Les Miles.

Refills Not Landfills

In summer of 2016 LSU was awarded an \$8,500 grant from Keep Louisiana Beautiful to help fund our “Refills Not Landfills” campaign. The main goal of the campaign is to reduce waste at the source through incentives and education. Specifically, we are targeting water bottles and coffee cups, two of the top-most littered and disposed materials on campus. The campaign has several components: 1) A giveaway to students of 300 stainless steel

reusable bottles, held in September 2016; 2) the installation of 3 more Bottle Water Refill Stations in high-traffic areas on campus (we are up to over 25 campus-wide); 3) Discounts at LSU Dining establishments for those who use reusable bottles, and prizes for those who sign a pledge to “geaux green” and only use reusable bottles on campus. This campaign has been extremely successful and popular with students thus far, and we’ve had close to 500 students sign the pledge. This will be an ongoing campaign that Campus Sustainability pushes, even after the grant funding/period ends.

Get Caught Green Handed

In spring of 2016, Campus Sustainability launched the “Get Caught Green Handed” campaign to reward custodians and other staff who are “caught” recycling with a gift card and a certificate of recognition. Our goal is to expand this concept to include other groups of people within the LSU Community who are caught doing anything green/sustainable for the campus, including turning off lights, picking up litter, recycling, or even just encouraging others to do the same.

LSU Litterati

Litterati uses social media to “crowdsource” clean the planet one piece of litter at a time. What began as a modest movement in California has grown into a global movement which has tracked at least a half a million pieces of litter that have been picked up and logged on the Litterati website.

In spring of 2015, LSU launched our own version of the Litterati movement, and encourage faculty, staff and students to pick up litter on campus, post on social media, and tag Campus Sustainability and Litterati. Once a semester, a winning photo is selected to be displayed in the LSU Union Art Gallery. This is a fun way to engage the LSU community to clean the campus and recycle, while educating the community about litter as well.

Composting

LSU recycles vegetative/woody waste from its Landscape and Athletics operations at its W.A. Callegari Environmental Center, which is the LSU AgCenter’s research and training facility for composting organic waste and for water and air quality. Students in the LSU AgCenter are currently working on a plan to pilot composting food waste at this center as well, and may propose to use the Sustainability Student Fund in part to help with this effort.

Construction and Demolition Waste

It is LSU’s policy to recycle at least 50% of construction and demolition waste from construction, renovation and demolition projects. Campus Sustainability tracks the total tons recycled from all of these projects. An example of this practice having a particularly noticeable impact on our campus wide recycling rate was during the summer of 2016, when we recycled over 620 tons of materials from the new Patrick F. Taylor Hall renovation project, bringing our recycling rate for the month of June to 72%.

Electronic Waste Recycling

LSU partners with the Capital Area Corporate Recycling Council (CACRC) at least once a year (with a goal of every semester) to host an electronic waste recycling day, open to the LSU Community and to the public. Thus far we have recycled a total of 8 tons of electronic waste from LSU and around the Baton Rouge community.

Bigbelly Solar Compacting Stations

In February of 2016 LSU acquired 40 Bigbelly solar compacting stations for the LSU Campus. These units allow LSU Landscape Services staff to significantly conserve resources (e.g. fuel use) as they do not have to be serviced as often (Bigbelly units only need to be serviced roughly one time for every 5 times a traditional trash container would be serviced).

Run Green

- “Trim Trax” is a back-of-the house program designed specifically by LSU Dining to measure, track and reduce food waste at the unit level. By making waste more visible and attaching a financial value, this program is successful in reducing waste and help offset rising food costs.

- LSU Dining's "Go Trayless" program is designed to help eliminate waste. Removing trays makes students less likely to take more food than they need, reducing the amount of food that ends up in landfills while curbing energy used to produce and distribute those goods. Energy and water is also saved by reducing the amount of dishwasher time needed.
- The Tiger Lair in the LSU Student Union feeds about 3,500 students daily. This means the use of plastic utensils can easily pile up. Beginning in 2013, the LSU Union Tiger Lair implemented "Reusable Silverware Bins." Since implementation there has been a 4% reduction cost on plastic utensils. The reusable silverware bins, which are located throughout the Union, offer students the ability to reduce, reuse and recycle. Instead of using a one-time plastic utensil, one can simply use the clean and reused steel silverware, generating no plastic utensil trash.

"Project Clean Plate" is a program at LSU which reduces food waste and increases hunger awareness. Both the 459 and the 5 Dining Halls endorse the program. Charts detailing how much food is wasted per week are posted (e.g. 1,309 pounds for the week of 11/7). If the University reduces overall waste by 20 percent, LSU Dining will donate to the Food Bank for every 5 percent reduction.

Energy Efficiency / Green Building

ENERGY STAR Partnership

In fall of 2014, LSU formally partnered with ENERGY STAR, a joint program of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to commit to reduce its overall energy usage by 30% from a baseline year of 2012. We have realized a nearly 20% reduction to date. Campus Sustainability tracks energy usage from buildings using ENERGY STAR's Portfolio Manager Software.

Unplug Energy Conservation Competition

The Department of Residential Life, Campus Sustainability, and LSU Students in Free Enterprise host an annual competition called Unplug. Unplug is a friendly energy saving challenge that pits 10 residence halls against one another to see who can conserve the most electricity for three weeks each Spring. Unplug seeks to promote an understanding throughout the LSU on-campus community of what energy conservation entails by empowering students to take action in their daily lives - small actions which can add up to a lot when taken together. The 2015 Unplug Competition saved a total of 4,000 kWh in energy consumption.

LEED Certification

LSU's Sustainability Strategic Plan (to be released in January 2017) includes designing all new construction to the LEED standard. Cypress Hall, which is striving to be the first LEED-certified residence hall on campus, opened in fall of 2015 and offers residents easy access to popular dining and recreational areas on campus.

Cypress Hall is a leader in energy-efficiency with indoor-outdoor learning spaces, storm water recovery systems, interior bike storage rooms, energy-efficient mechanical systems, sustainable finishes, and solar demonstration systems.

The LSU Hilltop Arboretum's Imogene Newsom Brown Education Facility is the first LSU building to be LEED certified. The facility services as a space to demonstrate best-practices for developing outdoor living space that extends the indoor space into the landscape, and works in concert with natural systems to utilize water and plant resources in a sustainable way. The LSU College of Art and Design will use the project as an educational resource for teaching green building principles in the departments of Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Interior Design for graduate and under-graduate students.

Build Green

Many materials at The 5 dining hall are green materials:

- Plyboo has secured certification according to the standards of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) for all bamboo flooring and plywood. All certified Plyboo products qualify for the FSC Pure designation, as they are 100% material from a certified FSC-certified forest.
- American Clay plasters do not require high-energy kilns or reactors like other plasters and acrylics. Because of the low embodied energy in the manufacturing process. American Clay has the lowest carbon footprint of any interior finished product.
- Dupont Zodiac makes a durable, easy to maintain and low VOC emitting solid surface that combines beauty and performance with a range of benefits designed to work together to help create a healthier, safer building. Dupont Zodiac surface sealants and adhesives are GREENGUARD Indoor Air Quality Certified for meeting or exceeding emissions guidelines for VOC's.
- 3-Form Varia Ecoresin is certified by Scientific Certification System (SCS), a third party certifier, to contain a minimum 40% post-industrial recycled content. 100% is certified by SCS to contain 100% post-consumer recycled content. Sonoma Glass wall tile is also a recycled content from 10-100% depending on color. Recycled glass is a beautifully green alternative.
- Kirei products are manufactured with a rapidly renewable and recycled content, as well as low-or-no-added urea-formaldehyde adhesives. Hirei uses a minimum of 90% post-industrial recycled materials.
- Formica HPL contains a minimum weighted average of 20% post-industrial recycled content material. Formica Brand Laminates have been tested & have achieved Greenguard Indoor Air Quality Certification (Laminate, Deco Metal).
- Globus Cork flooring products are made from the waste pieces of the wine cork stopper manufacturing process. All additives used to make the glue-down tiles are water-based which produce no off-gassing and contains VOCs. This includes the adhesive stains and finishes.

Natural Resources Protection

The LSU Lakes

The LSU Lakes are owned and operated by both LSU and East Baton Rouge Parish (the city-parish). BREC also operates City Park Lake and the Baton Rouge Beach. LSU Landscape Services routinely helps to keep the lakes clean and litter-free by working with groups such as TULIPA (The University Lakes Improvement & Preservation Association) and other volunteer organizations. LSU also routinely helps to remove invasive species from the lake. In 2015, Campus Sustainability was awarded a \$10,000 grant from Keep Louisiana Beautiful to add more than 15 recycling bins around the lakes to help reduce litter and increase recycling in recreational areas. LSU has been working with the Baton Rouge Area Foundation (BRAAF) and other stakeholders on an LSU Lakes Master Plan project aimed at restoring and beautifying the lakes. Implementation of the plan is estimated to begin in the next 3-5 years. Some features of the plan include dredging of the lakes and landscaping to improve water quality; an improved trail system; a bird watching center; added park space; and boat rentals. Restoring the LSU Lakes is necessary as the lakes will eventually revert back to swamp land if nothing is done. Phase 2 of the plan includes filling in half of Campus Lake to create green space, since nearly half of that space as already reverted to swampland.

Campus Forest & the LSU Oaks

LSU has been named a Tree Campus USA by National Arbor foundation for 4 years in a row (for years 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015). LSU is one of only four Louisiana universities to earn this designation. LSU achieved the title by meeting Tree Campus USA's five standards, which include maintaining a tree advisory committee, dedicating annual expenditures toward trees, having a campus tree-care plan, and hosting an Arbor Day observance and student service-learning projects. LSU's campus is home to roughly 1,200 oak trees, and they are as much a part of the university as are its students, faculty, staff and historic buildings. Since 1993, donors' support of the LSU Foundation's Endow an Oak program has provided immediate and long-term funding for the care of LSU's renowned urban forest. Gifts of any amount may be made to the Foundation's Endow an Oak program to support

the general care and maintenance of LSU's most treasured natural "residents." An LSU oak can be endowed for a gift of \$4,000, of which \$2,000 builds the oak endowment to provide perpetual support and \$2,000 can be used immediately by LSU's arbor management team. It is also LSU's policy to plant and maintain native species on campus such as live oaks and southern magnolia.

Water Conservation & Management

- Low-flow fixtures: Since 2012, LSU has installed many low-flow water fixtures and toilets in its newer buildings. It is LSU's policy to select low-flow fixtures and appliances in the design phase of all new construction projects.
- Trayless Dining: LSU Dining has a "Go Trayless" program designed to help eliminate the water needed to clean trays, as well as reduce food waste. By removing trays from dining halls, water consumption used in the dishwashing process is vastly reduced.
- Master Farmer Program: The LSU AgCenter has a Master Farmer Program, which focuses on natural resources conservation. The program helps producers across a wide range of agricultural and natural resource enterprises by teaching them about environmental stewardship, conservation-based production techniques and resource management. The Master Farmer Program uses a comprehensive approach that includes classroom instruction, observation of LSU AgCenter research-based best management practices, and implementation of a comprehensive conservation plan. It also involves a voluntary producer certification process.
- Stormwater Management: LSU goes beyond the minimum Louisiana Pollution Elimination System (LPDES) permit requirements to control, reduce, and prevent the discharge of environmentally-unfriendly items into the storm water system. The permit requires six control measures; LSU practices eight. A few examples include:
 - LSU Landscape Services has implemented a shade-tolerant ground cover consisting of Kentucky blue and rye grass at exposed soil surfaces subject to deep shading from the live oak trees. Once established, the living ground cover serves as erosion control to slow storm water runoff for eight months out of the year.
 - LSU Landscape Services follows a grass cutting schedule for all green areas on campus to reduce the amount of herbicide needed to control grass growth.
 - LSU Planning, Design and Construction has developed standard erosion control details and minimum storm water management practices that contractors must abide by for all construction projects on campus. These minimum requirements include, but are not limited to, protecting drain inlets with hay bales and protecting the project boundaries with silt fence.

Pillar II: Improve the Health and Wellness of Students, Faculty, and Staff

LSU Student Health Center

The mission of the SHC is to provide, promote, and support services that integrate individual health, education for health, prevention of disease, clinical treatment for illness, and public health responsibilities consistent with the educational mission of the University. The Health Center offers many programs for students in the areas of medical health, mental health, wellness, sexual assault, and emergency care.

Well-Ahead Designation

As of 2014, the LSU Student Health Center has been designated as a Level 2 Well-Spot in the Well-Ahead program. Well-Ahead Louisiana is an initiative started by the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) aimed at improving the health and wellness of Louisiana citizens. Well-Ahead Louisiana promotes and recognizes healthy choices in the spaces and places where we live and work every day that make it easier for us all to live healthier, happier lives - from going tobacco-free, to ensuring healthy lunch options or to supporting workplace fitness programs. Well-Ahead

promotes voluntary changes towards health in communities throughout the state. In order to maintain this designation, the Student Health Center is required to track and document the following benchmarks:

- Comprehensive Tobacco-free campus policy
- Designation as a Breastfeeding Friendly Workplace
- Worksite Wellness Program
- 5-2-1-0 Let's Go! Healthy Workplace
- Healthy vending items
- Student Health and Wellness Services

Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC)

The Student Health Center is an AAAHC accredited facility. AAAHC, or the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, Inc., is a private, non-profit organization formed in 1979 to assist ambulatory health care organizations in improving the quality of care provided to patients. AAAHC accreditation means that the Student Health Center participates in on-going self-evaluation, as well as peer review and education to continuously improve its care and services. The Student Health Center also commits to a thorough, on-site survey by AAAHC surveyors.

Opt-Out Rapid HIV Testing

The Student Health Center utilizes opt-out rapid HIV testing for students. This is based the 2006 Revised CDC Recommendations for HIV Testing of Adults, Adolescents and Pregnant Women in Health-Care settings, which advises healthcare facilities to adopt a policy of routine HIV testing for everyone between the ages of 13-64 and all pregnant women; use opt-out screening for HIV—meaning that HIV tests will be done routinely unless a patient explicitly refuses to take an HIV test; and eliminate the requirements for pretest counseling, informed consent, and post-test counseling.

The Lighthouse Program at LSU

The Lighthouse program at LSU is designed to help victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, and stalking. LSU is committed to providing confidential, nonjudgmental and appropriate support services for all sexual assault or domestic violence survivors, regardless of gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, ability, or whether or not they report the crime. In addition, the University has a vested interest in obtaining an accurate account of the number of sexual assaults occurring on- or off-campus involving student survivors. The Lighthouse Program (previously known as Sexual Assault Victim's Advocacy or SAVA) is designed to accomplish both of these goals, as well as to meet federal mandates. LSU has designated Lighthouse Advocates who are specially trained university personnel that provide confidential guidance and support to LSU students who have experienced interpersonal violence or assault (e.g. help filling out a judicial or police report, help obtaining medical or emotional support, arranging safe housing, etc.)

My Student Body

All first-year LSU students are required to visit the My Student Body website (<https://www.mystudentbody.com>). My Student Body is designed to reduce risky student behavior using strategies that research has shown are most effective—motivational, attitudinal, and skill-training interventions. More than a one-time-through prevention course, MyStudentBody is available 24/7, all semester long, for information on drugs, alcohol, sexual violence, and other health and wellness issues that can affect their academic success.

A Tobacco Free Campus

On August 1st 2014, LSU began implementation of a Tobacco-Free Campus policy. Restricted tobacco products include cigarettes, cigars, e-cigarettes, pipes, water pipes, all smokeless tobacco (chew, snuff, etc.), and all non-FDA approved nicotine products. Before this in 2011, both the LSU Faculty Senate and Student Government passed resolutions to restrict smoking at least 25 feet from building entrances and exits and called for the campus to be either smoke-free or tobacco-free by fall 2012. Finally, in summer 2013, the Louisiana legislature passed the

current law that stipulates, effective August 1, 2014, all state public college campuses must be either smoke-free or tobacco-free.

Smoking Words

Smoking Words is a student organization on campus advocating for the strict implementation of the tobacco-free campus policy. The students in this group are working to educate their fellow students regarding the dangers of using any tobacco products—not just cigarettes—and ways to kick the nicotine habit. Smoking Words has been instrumental in establishing a tobacco-free policy on campus and in tracking tobacco-use trends and prevalence among students.

Help for Tobacco Users Who Want to Quit

Students can get help to stop using tobacco products through the LSU Student Health Center. The Student Health Center offers information, education, and cessation services to assist students as the university moves to a tobacco-free campus. Through individual education and classes, participants learn to use some creative strategies to help work through their addiction, like putting their cigarettes in the trunk of the car so that they are harder to get or taking a different route to and from school or work if a particular location triggers the need for a smoke. LSU also has links to free apps from its We're Tobacco Free website for users trying to quite, including applications called SmokefreeTXT, QuitSTART, QuitPal, and QuitGuide.

Green Cleaning

LSU has instated a campus-wide preference to purchase Green Seal or EcoLogo cleaning products. At least 75% of all cleaning products used on the LSU campus are green certified products. LSU spent more than \$150,000 on green cleaners in 2015.

The Office of Facility Services has introduced green cleaning throughout campus by:

- Using reusable microfiber cloths (made from recycled bottle caps)
- Phasing out aerosols
- Purchasing Green Seal or EcoLogo products
- Performing pest management sprays by request only
- Installing entry mats made from recycled material

Environmentally-friendly cleaning equipment has been purchased, such as the T5 scrubber, for use in the new business school. This machine uses only water for an overall neutral pH cleaning. The water is pumped into the machine, oxygenated, and charged with an electric current, allowing it to attract and pick up dirt off of hard surfaced floors. This allows the water waste to be chemical free for environmentally safe disposal.

A Green Cleaning Task Force identifies high volume items, creates cleaning categories, evaluates standards and certifications, and ultimately selects product standards.

LSU contracts a large quantity of cleaning products through Proctor & Gamble who self certifies their products meet VOC rules in LEED, including all disinfectants and floor cleaners.

Environmental Health & Safety Office

The LSU Environmental Health & Safety (EHS) Office manages all aspects of health and safety on campus, including (but not limited to): emergency procedures, risk management, indoor air quality, hazardous materials, asbestos/lead, ergonomics, hearing conservation, heat stress, electrical safety, fire safety, confined spaces, material handling, lockout/tagout, welding/cutting, handheld/power tools, stairs/ladders/scaffolds, respiratory protection, noise/hearing protection, personal protective equipment, fall protection, accident investigations, fume hood/lab chemical management, safety data sheets, machine safeguarding, vehicle operation, hazardous waste management, chemical storage, radiation management, hazmat response, woodworking and biological safety /

blood borne pathogens. The EHS Office employs 15 full time employees dedicated to ensuring health, safety and wellness are optimized for students, faculty and staff at LSU.

Indoor Air Quality

The Office of Facility Services has implemented an HVAC Preventive Maintenance Plan for promoting good/healthy indoor air quality in all campus buildings. Routine monitoring, inspection and cleaning of HVAC components is conducted through the Facility Services Work Order system (FAMIS), including outside air intakes, air dampers, air filters, drain pans, heating/cooling coils, the interior of air handling units, fan motors and belts, air humidification, controls and cooling towers.

In addition, the following are done routinely to ensure good indoor air quality for building occupants:

- Chemical containers are capped when not in use
- Spills are responded to immediately
- Roof leaks are fixed as soon as possible
- All chemical experiments that would pollute the indoor air are conducted in fume hoods
- Vents and windows are closed during maintenance operations (painting, roofing work, etc.)
- Carpets and floors are cleaned on a daily basis
- Trash and recycling are collected and emptied from the building on a daily basis
- All indoor air quality reports and concerns are responded to in a timely manner, and investigated / mitigated as needed.

LSU Dining

LSU Dining's policy is to operate as sustainably as possible, and to maximize the health of the students, faculty and staff who use Dining facilities.

Eat Green

In December 2007, LSU Dining implemented a cage-free shell egg policy. All units are required to offer only shell eggs that are certified by the Humane Farm Animal Care Program in partnership with the Humane Society of America. This cage-free shell egg policy adheres to the standards of the third-party auditing organization Humane Farm Animal Care.

LSU Dining has adopted a policy that shifts the department's seafood purchases away from threatened fish species and toward sustainably sourced supplies recommended by The Monterey Bay Aquarium's Seafood Watch program. LSU Dining believes in the importance of contributing to and protecting our environment, and are strongly committed to developing policies that support sustainability.

LSU Dining's policy is to purchase sustainable seafood so that they may continue to help positively transform the seafood market. This program is managed by the Packard Foundation-funded Making Waves Project and impacts over one million pounds of fish purchased annually nationally by Compass Group. Approximately 1,200 lbs. of seafood is served annually at LSU under the guidelines of this program.

In keeping with the 2005 Dietary Guidelines for Americans and the American Medical Association Recommendations to minimize trans-fat consumption, LSU Dining has taken a proactive position to eliminate trans-fat in our cafes.

LSU Farmer's Market

The LSU Farmer's Market, which takes place in Free Speech Alley in front of the LSU Student Union, debuted in fall 2013. The Farmer's Market gives the LSU community the opportunity to purchase fresh produce in the heart of campus. This event encourages local participation from local farms and showcases the same fruits and vegetables used to prepare meals at The 5 & 459 Commons resident dining halls.



The Farmer's Market has been extremely popular with students, faculty and staff, and is featured every fall and spring for 6-7 consecutive Wednesdays. Campus Sustainability and LSU Dining both heavily promote the program.

Sustainability Film Series: Food Systems

In fall 2016 Campus Sustainability launched a Sustainability Film Series with a focus on food systems, including eating local, and farm to table themes. We plan to show at least one film each semester, and showed "Just Eat It" a film about food waste in October in the Union Theatre.

University Recreation Center (UREC)

LSU's University Recreation Center (UREC)'s commitment to sustainability reads: "LSU UREC is committed to making intentional choices that positively impact our ability to become more sustainable. We believe it is important to continually assess our social, environmental, and economic impacts to ensure that we are making informed decisions, which account for short and long term sustainability. This is not a means to an end; it is a viewpoint through which all decisions are based."

UREC consistently implements the following throughout its facilities:

- Using only green certified cleaners
- Utilizing online registrations for classes, intramural sports, and student/staff scheduling
- Minimizing waste stream by recycling all waste
- Recycling food scraps to create food compost for UREC vegetable garden
- Promotion of water bottle filling stations instead of bottles of water through distribution of refillable water bottles as promotional items
- Increasing participants' environmental awareness through adventure-based, outdoor trips
- Providing free 2-hour bike rentals for students to get to and from classes, or to exercise
- Installing automated lights, faucets, and toilets in high use areas

Outdoor Adventure Education

In 2006 a challenge course was installed at the UREC Sport and Adventure Complex, and UREC purchased its first set of rental bikes through a partnership with Student Government. In the spring semester of 2012, UREC Adventure Education began taking students on adventure-based overnight trips, educating students on canoeing, kayaking, climbing, and backpacking. This same semester, Adventure Education completed an entire redesign of the challenge course shifting focus of the high course to group-based initiatives. As a part of Phase II of the UREC expansion and redesign project, UREC added a brand new challenge course across the street from the Student Recreation Complex. This course opened in 2013. UREC Adventure Education offers the entire gamut of programming from educational clinics and workshops, to challenge courses, outdoor gear rentals, indoor climbing, and overnight trips.

UREC Vegetable Garden

Consisting of eight pots of various vegetables, the UREC garden has been created using compost created at LSU. Working with the UREC professional staff, the School of Human Ecology, and the Division of Human Nutrition and Food, UREC gathered enough compostable material to mix in with potting soil to plant vegetables. With a few varieties of tomatoes, peppers, and squash planted, we are hoping for a good harvest in a couple of months. While only a test run, we hope to continue experimenting with different designs and see if we can include a sustainably grown and maintained garden in the upcoming expansion and redesign project.

Pillar III: Provide Effective Environmental and Sustainability Education, Incorporating STEM, Civic Skills and Green Career Pathways

College of the Coast and Environment (CC&E)

The LSU College of the Coast and Environment is comprised of an interdisciplinary faculty of national and international stature that leads research in state-of-the-art laboratories out in Louisiana's unique natural landscape, and around the world. CC&E is a dynamic player in the effort to understand, save, and restore coastal wetlands and the environment. The LSU campus is situated in a prime location for studying coastal environmental sciences as there is close access to 397 miles of coastline and the Mississippi delta. CC&E students and faculty work on the most pressing environmental issues today, including coastal land loss, sea level rise, hurricanes, and climate change.

History

The LSU College of the Coast and Environment (CC&E), formerly called the School of the Coast and Environment (SC&E), was founded in 2001. The college replaced the Center for Coastal, Energy, and Environmental Resources (CCEER) which was established in 1991. The College represents the consolidation of the Department of Marine Science, Institute of Environmental Studies (IES), Wetland Biogeochemistry Institute (WBI), Coastal Ecology Institute (CEI), Coastal Fisheries Institute (CFI), and Coastal Studies Institute (CSI).

CC&E moved into one of LSU's newest facilities, the Energy, Coast & Environment Building in 2003. The building features 231 offices, 81 state of the art research laboratories, a 200-seat auditorium, small and large multipurpose conference facilities, and a new interactive media center/classroom.

Degree Programs

The College of the Coast & Environment includes the Department of Oceanography and Coastal Sciences (DOCS) and the Department of Environmental Sciences (DES). CC&E's graduate teaching program offers masters and doctoral degrees in Oceanography and Coastal Sciences and in Environmental Sciences. Minors in Environmental Sciences, Oceanography and Coastal Sciences, and Wetland Science and Management are offered to all graduate students.

In 2008, the college started offering an undergraduate degree in Coastal Environmental Science. The undergraduate degree offers two areas of concentration to better address the career objectives of students: Applied Coastal Environmental Science (ACES) and Environmental Science and Research (ESR). Members of the College's interdisciplinary and award-winning faculty teach more than 50 undergraduate and graduate classes.

Center for Coastal Resiliency

The LSU Center for Coastal Resiliency (CCR) is focused on the advancement and application of computational hydrodynamic and hydrologic models to include overland flow, river discharge, tides, wind-waves, and hurricane storm surge. The Center is also developing advanced systems-based models for the assessment of effects of climate change and associated sea level rise, oil transport and fate, and the Gulf dead zone. Direct benefits include better understanding of the dynamic, interrelated processes of natural and human systems and the ability to analyze impacts to the overall system at the coastal land margin. Extensive interdisciplinary research experience enables the LSU CCR to effectively collaborate with natural and social scientists, engineers, government agencies, and stakeholders. Together they produce transdisciplinary results and provide effective tools and products that enhance coastal resiliency. Research and outreach activities target the northern Gulf of Mexico (with particular focus on Louisiana and including Mississippi, Alabama, and the Florida panhandle.)

The CCR has received a \$1.3 million grant to refine, enhance and extend large-scale, high definition computer coastal dynamic models, as well as link the economic impact and value of ecosystem services to the coastal

dynamics of sea level rise. This research will be conducted in collaboration with the Dauphin Island Sea Lab, University of Central Florida, University of South Carolina and Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

Coastal Sustainability Studio (CSS)

The LSU Coastal Sustainability Studio (CSS) brings together disciplines that often work independently —such as designers, scientists, engineers, and planners—to respond to critical issues of affecting coastal regions. Through trans-disciplinary design, research, community engagement and education, the CSS uses innovative approaches to design and foster resilient coastal communities and ecosystems.

The CSS is involved in many projects. A couple of examples include:

- Resiliency Assistance Program for Louisiana Office of Community Development – The CSS will be at the forefront of assisting communities to tackle these concerns, as it was recently awarded a \$600,000 contract to oversee the Resiliency Assistance Program for the State of Louisiana's Office of Community Development, Disaster Recovery Unit, or DRU. The assistance program is part of OCD's Comprehensive Resiliency Program, which was developed to provide non-structural recovery – creation of legislation, policies, knowledge and public commitment – to some of the state's most at-risk communities to avoid future disaster situations. The program is currently funding a series of 29 local resiliency projects throughout the state.
- Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana Visualizations – This project involves the design of print materials to communicate general strategies for coastal restoration, including but not limited to, examples of specific projects located within the Barataria Basin. Materials will be used to compliment an educational video that CRCL has previously produced and additionally, will be suitable for stand-alone use outside of the context of the video. This will take the form of fold-outs, pamphlets, and /or other styles of informational hand-outs with the primary product envisioned as a 17' x 22' fold-out.

Coastal Roots Program

The Coastal Roots Program began in 2000 as an education outreach project for the Louisiana Sea Grant College Program. In 2006, the Coastal Roots Program was transitioned into the LSU Department of Educational Theory, Policy, & Practice in partnership with the LSU School for Plant, Environmental, and Soil Sciences and the LSU AgCenter. The goal of the program is to assist students in developing an attitude of stewardship toward our natural resources and to provide an active learning situation in which they can explore strategies for sustaining our coastal ecosystems. As many as 55 schools around the state have participated in this program, from grade 3 to high school. The program is integrated into the school curriculum. It also selects native species to plant and concludes with a restoration planting field trip. Kids that have gone through the program stated that they learned about “slowing down coastal erosion,” “preventing land loss in Louisiana” and how important those are for the future of our state.

The LSU Agricultural Center (AgCenter)

About

The LSU AgCenter's mission is to provide the people of Louisiana with research-based educational information that will improve their lives and economic well-being. The AgCenter includes the Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station, which conducts agricultural-based research, and the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service, which extends the knowledge derived from research to the people of the state. The LSU AgCenter plays an integral role in supporting agricultural industries, enhancing the environment, and improving the quality of life through its 4-H youth, family and consumer sciences, and community development programs.

The LSU AgCenter is headquartered in Baton Rouge and shares physical facilities with the LSU A&M campus, which is the state's flagship university. Many of the researchers and extension specialists with the LSU AgCenter also have joint appointments in 11 departments within LSU's College of Agriculture.

Degree Programs

The AgCenter offers the following undergraduate degree and graduate programs: Agricultural Business (B.S.), Agricultural and Extension Education (B.S.), Animal Sciences (B.S.), Environmental Management Systems (B.S.), Natural Resource Ecology and Management (B.S.), Nutrition and Food Sciences (B.S.), Plant and Soil Systems (B.S.), Textiles, Apparel and Merchandising (B.S.), Agricultural Economics (M.S., Ph.D.), Agronomy (M.S., Ph.D.), Animal and Dairy Sciences (Ph.D.), Entomology (M.S., Ph.D.), Applied Statistics (MAPST), Food Science (M.S., Ph.D.), Plant Health (M.S., Ph.D.), Forestry (M.S., Ph.D.), and Wildlife Management (M.S.)

Clubs and Organizations

The AgCenter is home to many clubs and organizations run by students in the various AgCenter degree programs. Some of these include the Agribusiness Club, Agriculture College Council, Block and Bridle, Collegiate 4H, Dairy Science Club, Entomology Club, Equestrian Club, The Wildlife Society, Student Wetland Society, Forestry Honor Society, Horticulture Club, Fashion Association at LSU, Hill Farm Community Garden, Global Ag Ambassadors, and Aquaculture and Fisheries club.

Programs

- Story Time – This is a collaboration between the AgCenter and the Junior League of Baton Rouge, and involves storybook readings and imagination-themed activities in the garden for children ages 3 to 8.
- Master Gardener – The Master Gardener program is taught at the LSU AgCenter and certifies individuals on local plant species, invasive species, water quality, conservation and pest management.
- The 4-H Program is considered the premier youth development program of the US department of Agriculture USDA, and consists of the following environmental related activities: agriculture demonstration, environmental threat resolution, environmental conversation illustrated talk, and plant science. 4-H includes students from across the state who stay at LSU in the summer months.

School of Plant, Environmental and Soil Sciences

The LSU School of Plant, Environment and Soil Sciences (SPESS), part of the LSU College of Agriculture, provides a solid foundation and prepares students for successful careers in the study of sciences related to agronomy, horticulture and environmental management. SPESS offers undergraduate degree programs in plant and soil systems and environmental management and graduate degree programs in agronomy and horticulture. In the spirit of the land-grant university system, the school offers unique opportunities for students to gain valuable work experience by working with our diversified research faculty on projects that cover a broad range of plant, environmental and soils topics. The SPESS extension faculty, with specializations in agronomy, horticulture and weed science, work with parish extension agents to deliver the latest science-based information to Louisiana citizens.

The SPESS program has 28 professors/instructors, and over 100 students. The school has been one of the most successful in securing grants from state and federal agencies and private industry, with a grant portfolio of more than \$10 million.

Degree Program Concentrations

SPESS offers the following degree program concentrations:

- Environmental Management Systems - The Environmental Management Systems program provides students with the knowledge & skills to work as part of the environmental community in many areas, including air permitting, environmental enforcement, soil permitting, environmental compliance, coastal restoration, and risk assessment and management.
- Plant and Soil Systems - The Plant & Soil Systems program prepares students for careers in turf grass management, landscape management and ornamental horticulture.



- Sustainable Cropping Systems - A new area of concentration, the Sustainable Cropping Systems concentration is a blend of horticulture, agronomy and economics and prepares students for careers in crop consulting and agricultural sales.

School of Renewable Natural Resources

The School of Renewable Natural Resources, also part of the LSU College of Agriculture, currently includes 200 undergraduates and 50 graduate students. The School's focus is on global natural resource challenges that range from climate change to resource sustainability.

Degree Program Concentrations

The School offers a diversity of undergraduate and graduate degree programs including:

- Natural Resource Ecology and Management (B.S.), with options to specialize in any of the following 9 concentrations: conservation biology, fisheries and aquaculture, wildlife ecology, ecological restoration, wetland science, forest resources management, forest enterprise, wildlife habitat conservation, and pre-veterinary medicine.
- Renewable Natural Resources (M.S. and Ph.D.)
- 2 Graduate Minors, including Renewable Natural Resources, and Interdepartmental Studies in Wetland Ecology and Restoration.