



From the Office of President Les Guice

Fall 2016

## Launching a new year while looking to the future

I'd like to welcome all our students, faculty, and staff to another exciting academic year at Louisiana Tech. Although we've had a busy and productive summer of planning and preparing for the upcoming year, there's nothing like the energy and excitement of having everyone back on campus. During my Fall Faculty and Staff Convocation, I had the opportunity to highlight some of the national accolades and institutional achievements of the past year, and to focus on some of the goals and growth opportunities we are working together to achieve. As a campus community, you accomplished much and I thank each of you for your contributions to making this a great institution. I believe that you are in the right place, at the right time, with the right people and the right plan to do something truly special, and to be the champions for a better future for those we serve.

Here are a few items that clearly demonstrate the strength of your impacts and the recognition you are garnering for Louisiana Tech.

### [Challenging the Elites and Becoming Globally Renowned](#)

Times Higher Education and World University Rankings have identified Louisiana Tech as one of 20 universities in the world and just one of nine universities in the U.S. that could "challenge the elite universities" and become globally renowned by the year 2030.

A study conducted by Firetail, a strategy consulting firm in Great Britain that works with some of the world's most outstanding universities, and research organizations, identified a "Class of 2030" that consisted of an emerging group of "challenger" universities that are quickly rising in the world rankings and are positioned to balance long-term vision with short-term execution, linked together by strong management and culture.

### **ACCOLADES**

The following faculty and staff received awards at the Fall Faculty and Staff Convocation. Please join me in congratulating them and thanking them for their service to Louisiana Tech.

- Dr. Leland Weiss - University Senate Chair Award
- Dr. Ernest Ruffeth - Virgil Orr Junior Faculty Award
- Kimberly Barlow - Outstanding Service Award
- Bijoya Chakraborty - Student Outreach Award
- Alicia Ball - Loyalty Award

[Louisiana Tech earns sixth consecutive Tier One national ranking from U.S. News & World Report](#)

U.S. News & World Report has ranked Louisiana Tech University in its highest tier of “National Universities” for the sixth consecutive year, according to its 2017 Best Colleges list. Louisiana Tech and Louisiana State University were the only two public institutions in the state to achieve a Tier One National Universities designation. Tulane University also earned a Tier One National University ranking. Louisiana Tech landed at No. 202 out of over 230 institutions to achieve Tier One status on the latest Best Colleges list.

[Louisiana Tech has recruited its largest and most academically accomplished student body in history](#)

Louisiana Tech University has enrolled more students this fall than at any time in its history, and has achieved a nearly 55 percent growth in first-time freshmen since fall of 2012.

Louisiana Tech has enrolled 12,694 students for the fall 2016 quarter, eclipsing the previous record enrollment of 12,414 students set last fall. First-time freshmen for fall 2016 have earned an average ACT score of 24.7 and an all-time high of 155 incoming students have earned an ACT score of 32 or higher, meeting the qualifications for Presidential Scholar or National Merit Scholar designation.

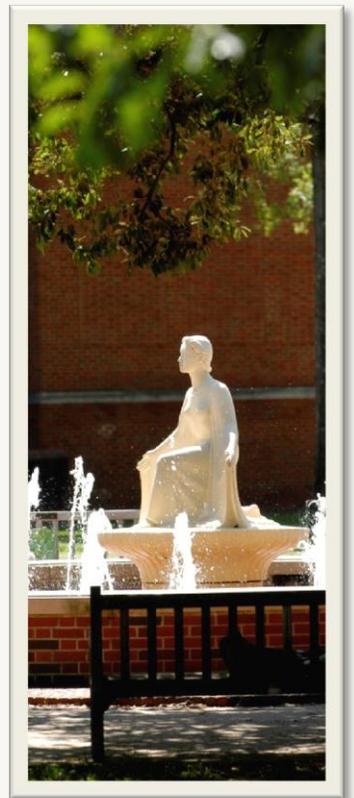
As we move forward together, I believe institutional growth, partnerships and leadership will serve as the key drivers that will enable Louisiana Tech to make greater impacts and create new opportunities for our students and graduates.

Growth will enable Louisiana Tech to have greater impacts, on a national-scale and for the benefit of our region, and will enable us to be nationally competitive in all that we do, including our competition for talented faculty and students. Louisiana Tech has established differentiated excellence through interdisciplinary collaborations and partnerships that have enabled the university to share and expand resources, to connect to new challenges and opportunities, and to seek solutions that have lasting impacts.

I also believe that leadership is our responsibility as a national research university. Leadership in our research impacts and leadership in how we do our business is how we'll show the way for a better future through educational attainment and economic prosperity.

The future is bright for Louisiana Tech and I look forward to working with each of you during the academic year. I welcome your feedback on how we can work together to create new learning opportunities for our students and new professional growth opportunities for our faculty and staff.

Have a great 2016-2017 and thank you for your continued hard work and dedication to Louisiana Tech University.



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