



# OPPORTUNITY

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Louisiana Tech University / Tech Report 2014





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# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Louisiana Tech has reached an exciting and pivotal point in its 120-year history. With a solid plan and a willingness to work together, this University can quickly grow to an even greater level of excellence.

The hallmark of our country has always been growth. And so it's been for our University, which began with a graduating class of one in 1897 and has grown into a graduating class of nearly 1,000 in the spring quarter of 2014.

Louisiana Tech has not grown just for the sake of growing. Our progress has been strategically planned to benefit the individual student and the University as a whole. Tech has never lost sight of the goal of educating one student at a time.

If we continue to grow for the right reasons and in the right way, the results will produce an expanding but closer Tech Family. More student success, more diplomas, more doctorates, more breakthroughs in research, in academics and in athletics. What that means is that we'll have more of ourselves to offer to our community and to our state and region. Accomplishment binds us all.

The 2014 Tech Report illustrates many of our footsteps this past year. We've taken some leaps, too, and plan others.

Our goal of 15,000 students by 2020 will bring increased financial stability to the University, enhance our educational offerings, and enable us to compete more effectively for great talent. To compete, we must be financially equipped to reward our hardworking faculty, staff and students. As those numbers grow, so will Tech's opportunities. Opportunities to lead, to connect, to compete and to advance.

We've gotten where we are through the help of alumni, supporters and friends. We'll get where we're going by the dedication and commitment of us all.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely of the President.

President, Louisiana Tech University

**Investiture of the President, April 8, 2014 (right)**





*"Our focus is on growing our University so that we can provide new opportunities for our students and can contribute even more, as only a first-class University can, to the growth and betterment of our region and state."*

- Dr. Les Guice, President, Louisiana Tech University



**FAR FROM THE 16TH FLOOR:** Dr. Guice is constantly visible around Tech's vibrant campus, whether in the Quad between classes or in the mix during special events like Time Out for Tech or Orientation. This fall on the patio of the president's home after brunch and before a Saturday Military Appreciation Day football game in Joe Aillet Stadium, Guice presented a Skip Holtz-signed Tech football helmet to Lt. Gen. Stephen "Seve" Wilson, Commander, Air Force Global Strike Command. On Investiture Day - April 8, 2014 - with the help of son Bret and grandson Christopher, he planted the 14th presidential tree along the entrance to Alumni Walkway, each tree in honor of the men who've served in Tech's highest office.



# OPPORTUNITY TO GROW

In April, the South End Zone Complex in Joe Aillet Stadium began to become a reality. **The project (right) is on budget and on schedule for completion by late summer of 2015.**

Not since the early 1980s and construction of the Thomas Assembly Center has the Tech athletic department basked in the possibilities presented with a building project of this scope.

But this is much more than “just a building for athletics.” While it will put Tech’s athletic complex on equal footing or beyond when compared to the facilities of any other mid-major, the completed three-story structure will be used for all sorts of student, campus and community events. This is a structure that will not only inspire pride through its atmosphere and housing of Tech memorabilia, but will also serve to remind students, student-athletes, alums and community supporters that they are part of a historic tradition of winning, of teamwork and of not giving up.



## \$20+M

**FINANCED:** Donations from loyal supporters and a student body self-assessed fee provided funding; no operating funds were used.

**FEATURES:** Football offices, meeting and locker rooms, and a strength and conditioning complex used by all 16 of the University’s athletic programs; club level with luxury premium seating options, dining room with field view, full-service commercial kitchen.

**ARCHITECT:** Tim Brandon, Tim Brandon Architecture

**CONTRACTOR:** Lincoln Builders





Louisiana Tech is nearing completion of a campus master planning study that will provide strategic guidance in building and renovating facilities and developing the campus during this next crucial decade. Meanwhile, as the University has in the past half-dozen years, we are moving ahead with well-thought-out, solid plans that will serve the expanding student body and faculty immediately.

- The University has secured private, grant and capital outlay funding to add **a 20,000-square-foot wing onto the new College of Business building (below)**; groundbreaking is scheduled by early 2015.
- Thanks to generous contributions of alumni, friends and corporations and the strong support of its legislative delegation, the University received \$37 million in the summer's capital outlay bill for a 110,000-square-foot integrated engineering and science education building (*left*). A definite site and architect will be assigned soon.
- The University received \$3 million to completely upgrade its campus water distribution system and reconfigure the old system for campus irrigation from the campus lake water, a beneficial move in many ways, especially in reduced costs and aquifer use.
- These plans come on the heels of \$50 million in new and upgraded athletic facilities during the past five years, in expansion of Enterprise Campus, and in the clearing of the west side of Tech Drive for green space or campus expansion; **demolition of Caruthers Hall and Neilson Hall (left)** were completed in early 2014.



## OPPORTUNITY TO GROW

Louisiana Tech's 2014 spring and summer commencement exercises were historic in two special and never-done-before aspects. Both point toward where Tech is growing.

One, at spring commencement on May 24, a packed Thomas Assembly Center honored a graduating class of 957, Tech's largest ever; degrees conferred included nine dual degrees and 11 doctorates.

Then on August 21, also in Thomas Assembly Center, **Gergana Georgieva Nestorova received the first Ph.D. in molecular science and nanotechnology (right)**. She is the first College of Applied and Natural Sciences doctorate.

Her accomplishment completes what could be considered an interesting circle within the Tech Family: Nestorova was hooded and advised by Dr. Eric Guilbeau, who was the recipient of the first Ph.D. awarded by Tech, years ago in chemical engineering. Guilbeau's advisor at the time: former Tech professor Dr. Dan Reneau, who retired in 2013 after more than 50 years at Tech, the last 26 as its president.

She felt more than relief after receiving her doctorate: "I was happy and proud," she said, "to become part of the Louisiana Tech University family of alumni."

From Pleven, Bulgaria, Nestorova came to Tech in 2009 when her husband, Dr. Dentcho Genov, accepted a faculty position as an assistant professor in physics. She was initially employed as a research associate in biomedical engineering and later worked at a startup, Bioventions, which focused on developing DNA sequencing technology with applications in personalized medicine.

In the meantime, she earned her master's in molecular science and nanotechnology science (MSNT) and began pursuit of her doctorate, a degree shared by biology and chemistry, within the College of Applied and Natural Sciences. Today she is a research assistant professor in the College of Engineering and Science and works with Dr. Niel Crews on a NASA-funded project focused on developing a lab-on-a-chip system for detection of radiation-induced DNA damage in space.

**Why she pursued this particular doctorate:** "This Ph.D. program within the molecular science and nanotechnology discipline offers a unique opportunity for the students to receive training in molecular biology, nanotechnology and engineering."

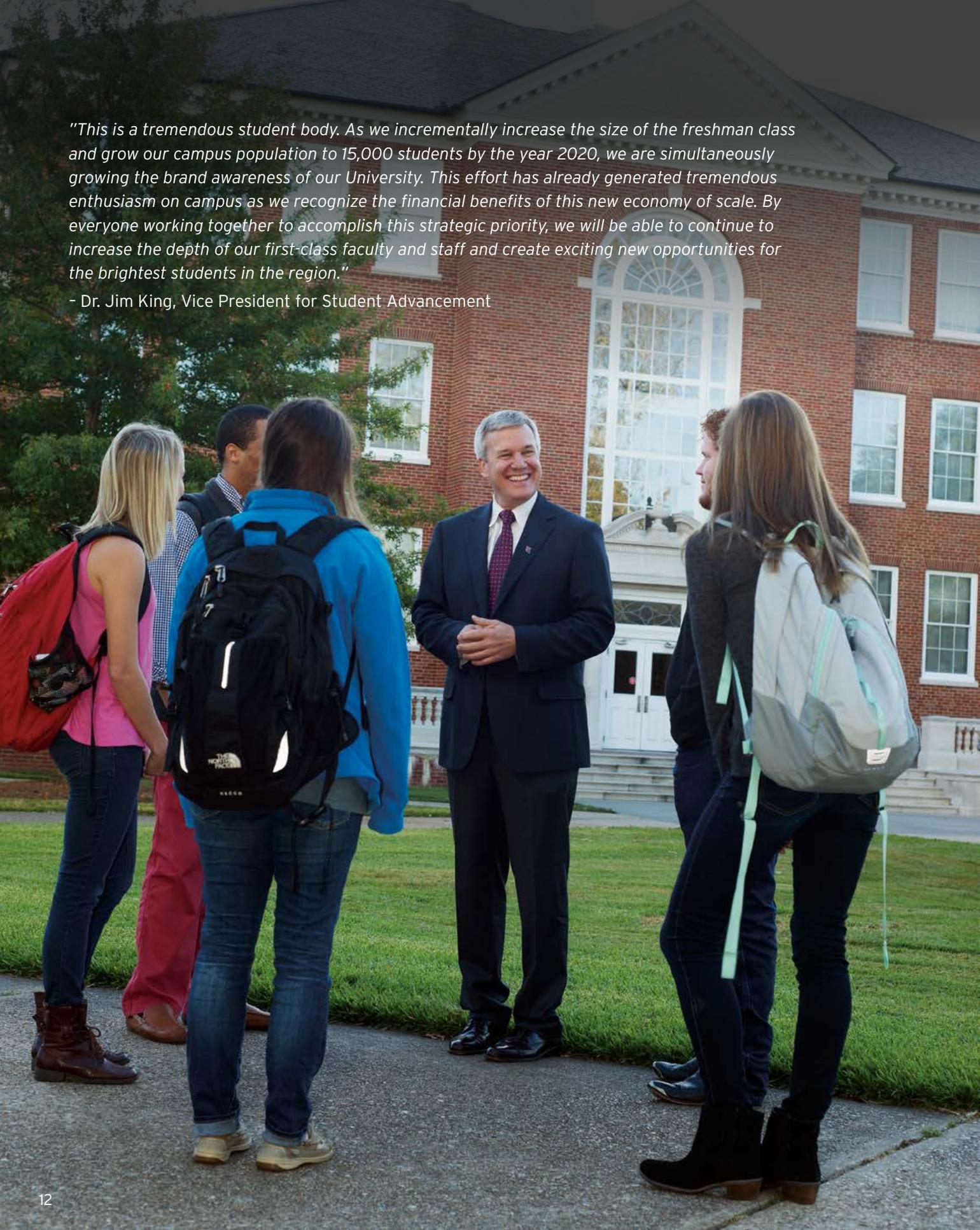
**Where she sees herself in five years:** "Contributing to the Louisiana Tech community by engaging in cutting-edge biomedical research that can have significant impacts on society, as well as training next-generation scientists."

**What Dr. Nestorova thinks makes Tech's applied and natural sciences programs, combined with the University's engineering and science programs, special:** "The uniqueness here lies in the multidisciplinary approach to research combined with an extremely encouraging environment that fosters collaborative scientific projects."



*"This is a tremendous student body. As we incrementally increase the size of the freshman class and grow our campus population to 15,000 students by the year 2020, we are simultaneously growing the brand awareness of our University. This effort has already generated tremendous enthusiasm on campus as we recognize the financial benefits of this new economy of scale. By everyone working together to accomplish this strategic priority, we will be able to continue to increase the depth of our first-class faculty and staff and create exciting new opportunities for the brightest students in the region."*

- Dr. Jim King, Vice President for Student Advancement



The University's earnest focus on growth during the next five years is born of a combination of timing and opportunity. The University's strategies for increasing the quality and quantity of the student body is already paying dividends; for the second consecutive year, Louisiana Tech has seen a substantial increase in both.

The number of first-time freshmen enrolled at Tech grew by nearly 20 percent in each of the past two years. Overall, the two-year increase of first-time freshmen enrolled at Tech - from 1,307 students in 2012 to 1,853 in 2014 - is 546, an encouraging 42 percent.

This followed a record-setting summer high as the University had both its largest orientation session and largest honors orientation session ever.

In addition to recruiting and enrolling more first-time freshmen, the quality of Tech's freshman class has grown as evidenced by an average freshman ACT score of 24.7 for Tech's most recent freshman class - the highest ever at Tech. Tech continues to have one of the highest freshman ACT score averages in the state and far exceeds the national average of 21.

Seven new freshmen were National Merit Scholars and 79 freshmen had an ACT score of 32 or higher.

Total enrollment for Tech is 11,271 students, an increase of 257, or 2.3 percent, over last year.

Reaching the goal of 15,000 students would mean the following:

- at least \$50 million in additional revenue;
- 200 more faculty members and similar increases in support staff;
- a more vibrant campus community with more opportunities; and
- more robust research, innovation and workforce development programs that will impact the economy, creating greater education opportunities and economic prosperity.

This growth creates a much larger pool of graduates to support the needs of our state, region and nation.

Reaching new levels of national prominence through a campus this size enables the University to compete more effectively against other national public universities and to compete for even more exceptional students, faculty, grants and corporate partners. Tech can grow in its ability to compete and prosper while retaining a size that allows for the personal touch that a solid all-around education demands.

Growth is central to Louisiana Tech's vision. Tech has moved forward during the past six years of constrained budgets. Now the University is poised to take advantage of an excellent reputation nationally - from academics and innovation to research and athletics - to continue, in new numbers, its tradition of succeeding.

## OPPORTUNITY TO LEAD

Louisiana Tech has been quietly building a world-class experience in Ruston for several years, and the University's pre-eminence should not be surprising. Tech is nimble and innovative; our faculty routinely achieve national and international recognition; our students are bright, curious and creative. We have achieved quality, investment and research benchmarks that shine our light far beyond Louisiana. Perhaps we don't question if we can lead – we forge the paths that offer superior opportunities for academic, research, economic, and social innovation and development.

What do others across the nation think about Louisiana Tech? During the past 18 months, numerous national organizations and publications have ranked Tech either in their Top 10, Top 25 or Top 50 in the nation both for affordability and for percentage of students graduating with the least amount of debt. Tech is also ranked very high nationally and the best in the state for value, for return on investment and for highest median pay for graduates.

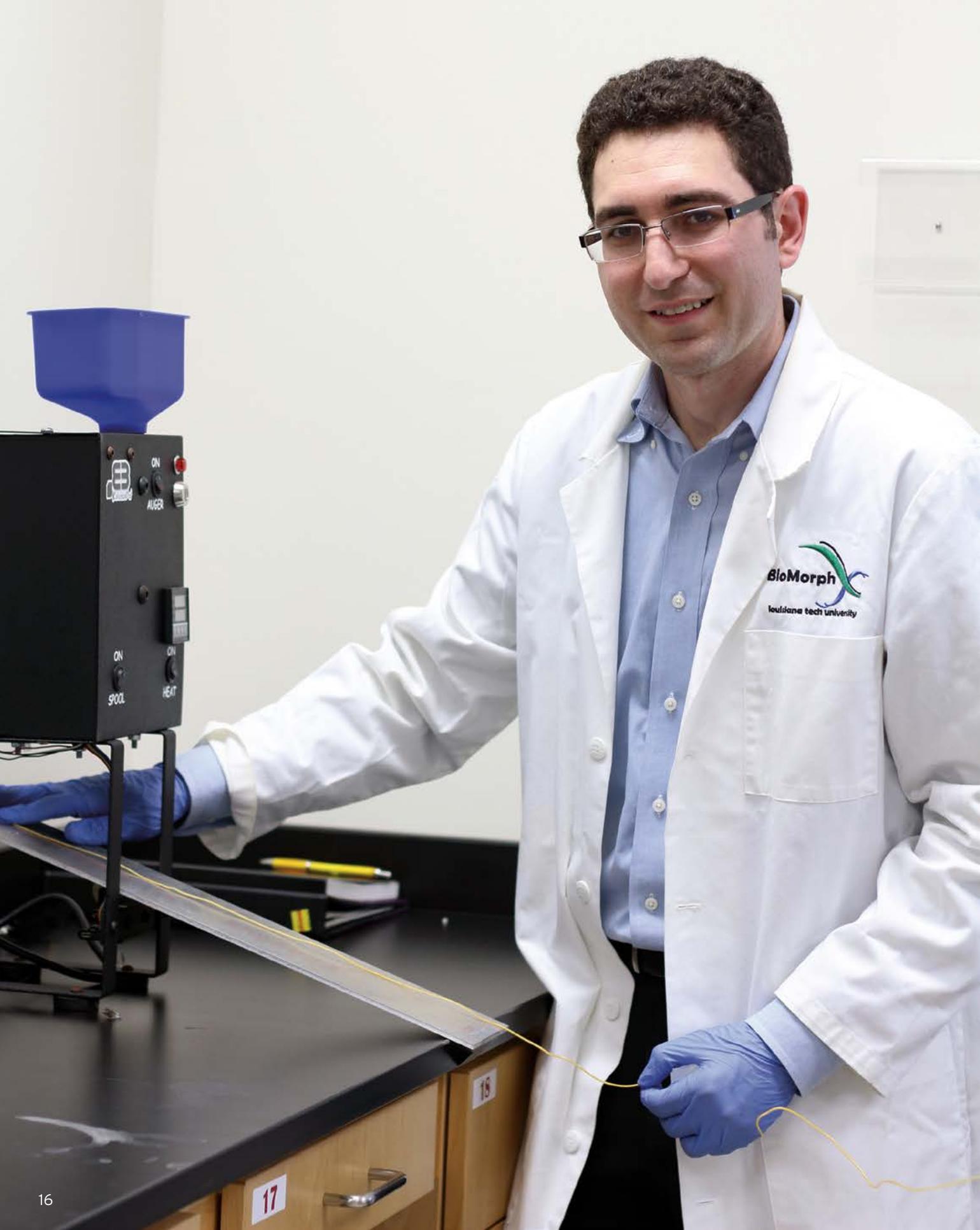
Tech leads the University of Louisiana System in graduation rates, retention rates, time-to-completion for first-time baccalaureates and highest average freshman ACT scores.

Clearly Louisiana Tech, one of only two public universities in Louisiana to achieve a Tier One "National Universities" ranking, is being recognized, not only around the state, but also throughout the nation for the quality of its academics, research, vision and innovation.

*"When I see freshman students doing research, faculty from across disciplines developing innovative classroom strategies, researchers participating in world-changing experiments – I can't single out one program or one initiative that fully symbolizes what we do at Tech. We are all in this adventure together to surpass our goals for TECH2020 – that's what families do!"*

- Dr. Terry McConathy (right), Vice President for Academic Affairs





Innovation and entrepreneurship collide at Tech's "Thingery." The University has long embraced the notion that two heads are better than one and that we can accomplish more together than separately.

On a practical and visionary level, teamwork involving faculty and staff from engineering and science, business, art and architecture are finding success through collaboration around common design and development activities. The Thingery, designed as a community resource and existing to give innovators access to the technical and intellectual resources needed to fully explore their ideas, is the "melting pot" where these ideas become educational advances and tangible products.

The Thingery is managed by Tech's Center for Entrepreneurship and Information Technology (CEIT).

Using affordable, consumer-grade 3D printers and materials found in the Thingery, one team of Tech researchers has developed an innovative method for fabricating custom medical implants that can contain antibacterial and chemotherapeutic compounds for targeted drug delivery.

**The biodegradable filament loaded with chemotherapeutics held by Ph.D. student Jeffery Weisman (left) is an example of this personalized, patient-specific medication.**

Meanwhile Tech will work to develop "makerspaces" like the Thingery in regional high schools and to train teachers to use the equipment. Tech's research breakthroughs and educational advances are worth little if the focus is not outward and the knowledge not shared.

Outside the lab, the Eco-car team from Louisiana Tech will be tackling their own energy efficiency challenges when they take to the streets of Detroit this spring in hopes of breaking another Shell Eco-marathon Americas record. The efforts of Tech's students in the Eco-car arena have drawn international press coverage during the past several years. Talk about students on a fast track: **Fernando Alonso of Spain and Ferrari drives a Shell Eco-marathon 2014 competitor (below), Louisiana Tech's Eco-Car Diesel Dawg, at a Shell petrol station in Austin ahead of the U.S. Formula One Grand Prix on October 30, 2014.**



## OPPORTUNITY TO LEAD

The combined efforts of administration, students and faculty, such as **Dr. Mary Caldorera-Moore, assistant professor of biomedical engineering** (*right*), continue to bring great publicity to the University.

Following its huge Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) grant win last summer, Louisiana Tech enjoyed a good year of participation in multi-million dollar, multi-university proposals. Tech is participating in proposals with several state universities for grants from, among other agencies, the Department of Defense, the Federal Aviation Administration, the Department of Homeland Security, the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health.

Several faculty have received major national and international awards for their research activities, the most prestigious of which was the Humboldt Research Award in chemistry, presented this year to **Dr. Yuri Lvov** (*below right*), **T. Pipes Eminent Scholar Endowed Chair in Micromanufacturing and Nanosystems at Tech's Institute for Micromanufacturing.**

Several faculty all across campus are leaders in major national and international research and service organizations, and Tech faculty continue to rank in the Top 10 nationally in terms of inventions, patents and startups. Tech faculty ranks ninth nationally in Reports of Inventions per \$10 million and in the Top 20 both in terms of issued U.S. patents per \$10 million Research and Development and startups formed per \$100 million R&D.





*“Innovation, business development and economic development is a focus of the University that leverages all the assets and capabilities of Louisiana Tech, not just the research activities.”*

- Davy Norris (left), Chief Innovation Officer, Louisiana Tech Office of Innovation and Economic Development

Louisiana Tech has expanded its industry partnerships to include several more companies that are now housed in the University’s Enterprise Campus, companies that are hiring our students and graduates from numerous disciplines.

Tech has three companies - The Fenway Group, BlueArx and Aegis Research - in the Enterprise Campus that are growing and employing people, and they have no connection to our research programs. They are here strictly to work with our students. Fenway and Aegis are IT solutions companies and BlueArx provides digital marketing services.

Enterprise Campus has four student-generated startup companies from Tech’s Top Dawg New Venture Championship competition using space in the incubators and Tech Pointe.

The most exciting Enterprise Campus news this year: **Alchemy Geopolymer Solutions (AGS), an innovative concrete technology company that emerged from geopolymer research conducted at Tech, won the inaugural LA StartUp Prize (below),** an entrepreneurial competition that seeks to connect entrepreneurs with investors and to create a culture of entrepreneurship in Northwest Louisiana.

AGS is a company dedicated to the design and installation of geopolymer concrete products that are not only ecologically-friendly, but also have superior properties compared to traditional concrete in terms of their chemical and thermal resistance, and can be a much more cost-effective alternative.



Carlos Montes, a research scientist at Tech’s Trenchless Technology Center, and Erez Allouche, the T.L. James Eminent Scholar Chair in civil engineering at Tech, have been working on this technology at the University for several years. Their success is a tribute to the power of Louisiana Tech’s innovation enterprise and the University’s ability to spin out promising new companies with tremendous potential for growth and economic impact in north Louisiana.

# OPPORTUNITY TO CONNECT

Louisiana Tech has long been a good neighbor to its community, to north Louisiana, to the state and region. The University is an economic engine, a source of volunteer manpower and a cradle of new business, research and ideas. The sum benefits us all.

Collaboration has never been more important than now, in today's global society. But one of the University's most important partnerships has been developed right in its own backyard. The result will reach much farther than state or regional lines.

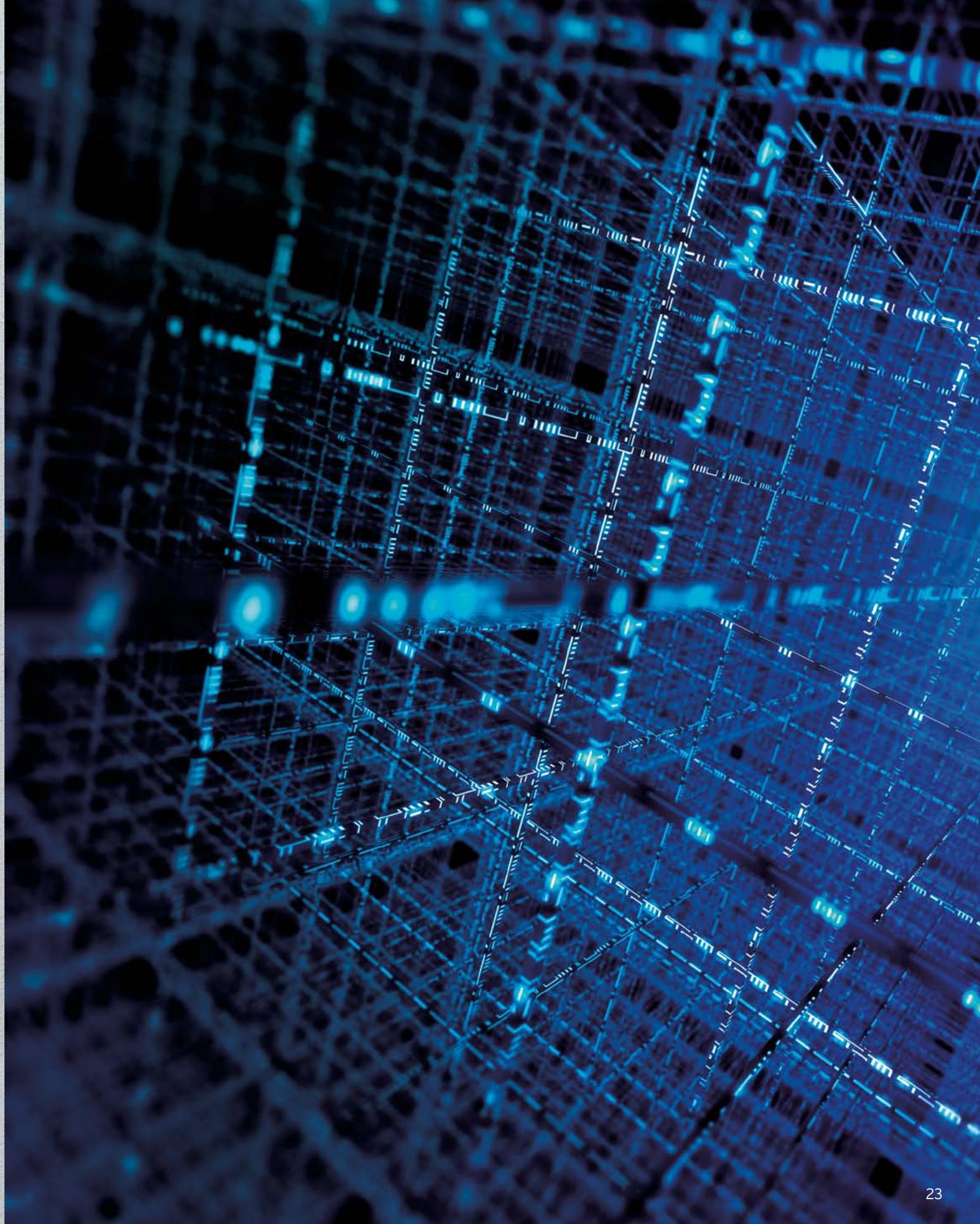
Tech has partnered with global information technology leader Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC), Louisiana Economic Development (LED), FastStart and the Cyber Innovation Center (CIC) in Bossier City.

CSC is establishing a 116,000-square-foot technology center at CIC. Tech, using its academic and certificate program strengths in areas such as computer science, computer information systems and cyber engineering, will produce the graduates with the skills to help with the needs of CSC, which is expected to have an 800 direct-jobs impact statewide. An additional and critical payoff of the partnership is that it should keep more of our top graduates in high-tech fields in the state.



The two organizations have shared in the development and advancement of programs and partnerships such as the Cyber Discovery Camps, the Cyber Engineering Research Conferences, and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) initiatives built to create the next generation of scientific thinkers and innovators in north Louisiana.

**Thirty-five CSC employees, including several senior executives, were on campus for three days this fall for meetings with Tech faculty (above) to sometimes socialize - even Champ showed up!** - but mostly to discuss intensely all aspects of this groundbreaking opportunity and partnership, including curricula.





From the first shovel of turned dirt to the ribbon cutting was only 62 days.

**The result is a pavilion project (left and below) planned and completed by Tech students and faculty** that fills the greatest current need at MedCamp in nearby Sibley, an organization that provides a series of one-week summer camps for children facing challenges from a variety of physical and mental disabilities. Twenty-five of Tech's junior architecture students and two professors - associate professor Robert Brooks and assistant professor Brad Deal - did 100 percent of the work.

Through the generous support of the community, MedCamps was able to provide the Tech students all the needed materials with no impact on the camp's finances. The community provided the materials, and Tech know-how, want-to and sweat did the rest.

The pavilion is a centralized wheelchair-accessible meeting and gathering space that physically embodies the spirit of the camp and welcomes and serves its campers. Designed by the Tech students in roughly two days and a night, the pavilion provides a barrier-free covered outdoor space that can accommodate more than 60 people.

Concrete and wood, steel and brick, and even water are combined here, strategically transformed into a unit, into part of an environment similar to the personally transformative experiences shared by many of the campers.

Why build it? For the service learning. For the hands-on experience with design-and-build architecture. And just as importantly, for the social awareness of our responsibility to develop personal and professional skills to contribute to the greater good.

The new pavilion is an example of how Louisiana Tech is blessed to have opportunities to learn and share at the same time, to create things that make a positive difference, immediately, off campus - yet really in Tech's home.



## OPPORTUNITY TO CONNECT

The University has reinvented an old friend.

Tech has broadened the way it connects its students and alums to one another and to the world by broadening its Study Abroad program.

Founded more than 50 years ago as Tech Rome, Study Abroad has allowed students to visit several countries and continents with fellow students and professors and to earn class credit.

Now the site base has been expanded to 45 sites, maybe more. And class credit opportunities have been expanded too, allowing students in all colleges the chance to learn while traveling - and earn credit at the same time. Think of it as interdisciplinary learning, off-campus. WAY off-campus.

Longtime College of Liberal Arts professor Jonathan Donehoo, who retired in 2013 from full-time teaching after more than 30 years at the University, is the coordinator for Study Abroad/Tech Travels. The Study Abroad office is in George T. Madison Hall, and the program has its own website (TechTravels.LaTech.edu) and Facebook page.

A by-product of the shuffle is that alums will at times be welcomed to join students on trips, cutting the costs of student travel.

More countries. More options. More travel dates. More opportunity.



**Alumni are invited to make plans immediately to go on the trip planned for April 11-21 - to Paris, and to visit the Eiffel Tower (right) in person.**

Contact information:

**JONATHAN DONEHOO**  
Studies Abroad Coordinator  
College of Liberal Arts  
GTM 127S  
(318) 257-4784  
jdonehoo@latech.edu





Louisiana Tech students help the region with their hands and hearts, sometimes with their brains, and also with their backs. In ways that benefit the community immediately, Tech is an able and willing volunteer.

More than 50 organizations were represented in the 1,300 students who participated in the annual Big Event in the spring. Student volunteers, faculty and staff divided up and spent the day working and making a positive difference at approximately 100 homes and sites across the community. Raking, shoveling, planting, cleaning up, hauling...all Louisiana Tech and an all-volunteer workforce.

Tech fraternities, sororities and student organizations, both professional and social, are involved year-round in volunteering to make Ruston and Lincoln Parish an even more inviting place in which to learn and live.

**Student-athletes like 2014 senior and Conference-USA Spirit of Service Award winner Caitlin Updyke (below)** make community service a part of their college lives. The Lady Techster goalkeeper volunteered to teach local children soccer twice a week, participated in health-walk fundraisers and assisted with St. Jude telethons. Her team demonstrated the program's four pillars - passion, respect, service, fearless - by leading several volunteer efforts, including working to run a National Wheelchair Basketball Tournament hosted by Tech's Department of Kinesiology.



## OPPORTUNITY TO CONNECT

Louisiana Tech hosted a record number of prospective students and their parents - more than 2,200 - in the early fall during its "Time Out for Tech" student recruitment and welcome event.

But Tech is the place to be for pre-college students all summer long. Summer camp on the Tech campus is another way Tech influences and helps area students, long before they become college freshmen. High school teachers benefit as well.

Here's a partial list from our most recent summer of camps; each allowed Tech to have an impact on tomorrow's college scholars and today's educators.

- The Summer Institute component of the IDEA Maker project was held in July and is a project to train teachers to use the Makerspace equipment (including 3D printers, robotics and soft circuits) and interdisciplinary instructional concepts (project-based learning) that will be installed in Ouachita Parish and Lincoln Parish high schools.
- LA GEAR UP students from the SciTEC one-month residential Summer Bridge program participated in lectures, training and field trips, including one to Keithville for behavioral observations at Chimp Haven.
- Three-day NASA Stennis STEM camp was held.
- Two Louisiana Systemic Initiatives Program (LaSIP)-funded literacy projects took place.
- One two-week math-focused professional development project took place in Monroe under the direction of Tech instructors.
- Undergraduates from around the nation came to Tech for the Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) programs, which immerse students in cutting-edge research projects under the guidance of faculty members. The program helps students understand what research is and its many roles beyond academia.
- Tech hosted two Cyber Discovery camps in June and Cyber Discovery 2.0 week in July. Also, **Tech holds Cyber Storm (right) on campus each spring**, a day-long cyber security competition that pits teams of students against each other to test their skills in network defense and attack strategies in a battle in cyberspace.
- Tech faculty were also involved in Cyber Discovery camps at the University of Central Arkansas, at Portland State University and at the University of Baltimore.
- In Shreveport, Tech faculty led professional development training for high school teachers from around the country at the Education Discovery Forum in July.
- While it wasn't on campus, the International Conference on Chemistry Education in Toronto, Canada, presented another chance for Tech to share what it's learned from collaborative efforts. At the conference, representatives from Tech's College of Engineering and Science and Tech's College of Education presented their collaborative work and highlighted their outreach partnership to colleagues from around the world.





## OPPORTUNITY TO COMPETE

The commitment Louisiana Tech has made to its fans, its friends, its alumni and corporate partners is evident both in the recent financial investment to facilities and in the leadership investments through coaches and support personnel who care about the total experience of our student-athletes.

To grow its reputation as one of the most respected and progressive athletic programs in the country, it's always been about bold vision and execution of an aggressive strategy at Louisiana Tech. The University's move to Conference USA last year was pivotal for the overall program in what is becoming the increasingly fast-changing landscape of college athletics. In the newly aligned NCAA governance structure, Tech will have a strong voice.

No matter the opponent or the league, the key things in Tech's athletic makeup remain the same:

Be highly competitive;

Be academically sound and challenging;

Be a program that prepares its students, not just for a game on Saturday night or a holiday tournament or a mid-week doubleheader, but for life after college athletics.

Finish what you start.

Louisiana Tech athletics is about being a champion, in competition and in character. It's about serving fans who serve the program, helping students learn through competition, and then spreading that championship spirit throughout the campus so that every one of us is a winner.

Louisiana Tech is a team. That's how we compete. That's how we win. That's how we carry on a rich tradition.

*"The stole is an indication of academic achievement, and the stole ceremony is a way for the athletic department to say that we are proud of our students, not only for their dedication to their sport, but also for their dedication to academics. They are always highlighted for their athletic achievements, but what better way to send them off than to have a very intimate ceremony with our president, athletic administrators, coaches and parents just to say, 'We are proud of your many accomplishments and thank you for being a part of the Louisiana Tech Family.'"*

- Reggie Simpkins, Assistant AD for Academics

In the spring, the athletics department held its inaugural student-athlete stole ceremony to celebrate graduating athletes. **Commencement stoles like the one worn by graduating Tech Bulldogs basketball player Cordarius "CJ" Johnson (right)** were presented by each head coach to the graduate or graduates they'd coached.

The Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), the Student Government Association of the athletic department, suggested the department present stoles. Assistant AD for Academics Reggie Simpkins came up with the idea of a specific ceremony.

"I have a lot of praise for the students and also for Reggie, who took the idea and ran with it," Tech AD Tommy McClelland said. "This ceremony is another reflection of our commitment to academic excellence. Earning a diploma is no easy task; we want our student-athletes to look at that stole years from now and be reminded of what they accomplished and the teamwork and dedication it took to realize a special goal."

The additions to Tech's academic advisory staff and excellent academic performance of student-athletes continue to illustrate the University's commitment to building champions in the classroom and on the field. Some impressive accomplishments by Tech's student-athletes are noted below:

- Achieved a Graduation Success Rate of 80 percent and a Federal Graduation Rate of 59 percent in the NCAA's most recent Federal Graduation Rate Report. Tech's graduation rate ranks second highest in the state among Division I football-playing public institutions;
- 133 student-athletes made the Conference USA Commissioner's Honor Roll in 2013-14, achieving a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0;
- During the past two years, no football program in the nation has had more college graduates on their active roster than Louisiana Tech;
- The Lady Techster soccer team earned the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) Team Academic Award for the sixth straight year and posted a 3.48 grade-point-average for the winter quarter; seven team members earned a perfect 4.0;
- Tech's baseball team earned the 2013-14 Conference USA Sport Academic Award for academic excellence throughout the school year. The C-USA Sport Academic Award is given annually to the team in each conference-sponsored sport with the highest grade point average for the academic year. Tech's Diamond Dogs posted a 3.148 team GPA to beat out the 12 remaining C-USA baseball programs.





Because of what the Bulldogs have accomplished in the past three seasons, three 2014-15 seniors have a special opportunity - to become the winningest class in school history.

The Thomas Assembly Center has seen plenty of good basketball in its 33-year history, but now the program is enjoying its most sustained streak of winning. The Bulldogs have won 32 of their last 33 home games and have been to the National Invitation Tournament for the past two seasons.

Last year the Bulldogs won the Conference USA title and, as it did the year before, just missed a berth to the NCAA Tournament. The excitement is evident: 7,355 fans, fourth largest in arena history, watched the Bulldogs defeat league foe Marshall on Jan. 25.

Business has picked up.

It's a new era for the Lady Techsters program, too, which looks to be re-born to its accustomed national prominence under the watch of a name familiar to fans of the program.

Tyler Summitt, son of the incomparable coach emeritus of the Tennessee Lady Vols, Pat Summitt, arrived early in the off-season to begin developing his student-athletes into champions on and off the court. Summitt grew up around five standards in Knoxville: belief, family, character, competition and toughness. His goal is to interweave those same standards into a program that has missed for several years now the level of success and accomplishment the Lady Techsters became nationally known for when building a record that includes 27 NCAA Tournament appearances, eight national championship games, three national titles and 1,043 wins, the second most - to Tennessee - in the history of the game. Summitt will have help from a familiar name: Mickie DeMoss, a player on the inaugural Lady Techster team in 1974, is the team's associate head coach. She has 35 years of collegiate coaching experience, including 20 years as an assistant and associate head coach at the University of Tennessee.

It's a rousing time to be a fan and supporter of Louisiana Tech basketball.

*"We have such a respect for Leon Barmore, Sonja Hogg and every player and coach who has ever been a part of the Lady Techster family that we feel honored to be a part of bringing this program back to where it needs to be."*

- Tyler Summitt (opposite right), head basketball coach, Lady Techsters

*"Maintaining momentum and sustaining a championship-contending mentality are the current goals of this program."*

- Mike White (opposite left), head basketball coach, Tech Bulldogs

## OPPORTUNITY TO COMPETE

The giant banners hang from Joe Aillet Stadium's concrete beams, reminding Bulldog fans, in and out of season, that tradition lives here.

Bradshaw. Dean. Roaf. Lambricht. Aillet.

In Thomas Assembly Center, similar banners look down on Karl Malone Court and pay silent homage to championships and accomplishments that won't ever fade away.

It's a familiar story on the outfield walls of the Lady Techster Softball Complex and J.C. Love Field at Pat Patterson Park. Tangible echoes of championships past and current, here to remind and to challenge.

The Dr. William Bundrick Sports Medicine Center, the Charles Wylly Athletic Center and the Dr. Guthrie Jarrell Room represent decades of dedication to the Louisiana Tech programs, but they are also used daily - not monuments, but instead active brick and mortar participants in the Bulldogs' and Lady Techsters' pursuits of today's tangible goals.

The Jim Mize Track and Field Complex helped 13 student-athletes qualify for last year's NCAA Regionals. Lady Techster tennis recorded one of its best seasons in program history. Squire Creek Country Club, the state's No. 1-rated course, served as the home course for the Bulldog golf team and **Victor Lange (right)**. **He became the program's first golfer to earn an NCAA Regional berth.** This fall at the Jim Rivers Intercollegiate at Squire Creek Country Club in Choudrant, Lange, now a junior, shot a 62 in the final round to set a tournament record, match the course record and tie the school record set by Roy Pace in 1962.

Tech Athletics. It's been good. And the best is yet to come.

**LOUISIANA TECH FOOTBALL**

<b>25</b> CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS	<b>1970</b> <b>NFL DRAFT NO. 1 OVERALL SELECTION</b> (TERRY BRADSHAW)	<b>54</b> ALL-AMERICANS	<b>1968</b> <b>BILETNIKOFF AWARD WINNER</b> (TROY EDWARDS)	<b>3</b> MEMBERS OF THE PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME	<b>2011 &amp; 2012</b> <b>RAY GUY AWARD WINNER</b> (RYAN ALLEN)	<b>17</b> SUPER BOWL RINGS
<b>2</b> NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS	<b>6</b> DIVISION I BOWL APPEARANCES	<b>5</b> MEMBERS OF THE COLLEGE FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME	<b>2012</b> <b>SAMMY BAUGH AWARD WINNER</b> (COLBY CAMERON)			





## OPPORTUNITY TO ADJUST

Louisiana Tech has never stood still. The University has adjusted and moved forward through its 120-year history.

Today, Tech has embraced an interdisciplinary culture. Worldwide, we are unique in how departments, even colleges, work together to create the most innovative programs and research.

Look! Up in the sky! It's not a bird. Not a plane. It's a super example of the interdisciplinary mindset - an Unmanned Aerial System, or UAS. Tech is beginning to build and organize capabilities for research, education and innovation in the field of UAS and has applied to the FAA for three separate Certificates of Authorization (COA) to fly UAS for aeronautical research.

The University will take a multidisciplinary approach in our efforts, in part because that is a strength of our institution—working across disciplines. But also because we recognize that the growth and development of the UAS field and its market applications will depend on a wide range of capabilities and innovations across multiple fields, including engineering, aviation, computer science and geographic information systems. The presence of an aviation program, strong engineering programs and a culture of multidisciplinary collaboration give Louisiana Tech a particular comparative advantage in developing a center of excellence in UAS. We will also integrate principles of entrepreneurship into our programs and align our resources with trends and developments in the market and workforce needs related to UAS.

In its College of Liberal Arts, Tech this year merged the kindred spirits of architecture, communication design, interior design and studio art in **the new School of Design, directed by longtime Tech professor Karl Puljak (left)**. The disciplines share interests and facilities, and the merging brands the division into a bigger force within the College.

The College also merged the disciplines of journalism, speech and theater into the newly formed School of Communication. As each of the fields are converging with technological advancements, the School of Communication puts all those skills in one place.

The University has also recently developed a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), a “team learning” initiative that will place freshmen into an improved course structure designed to maximize their success in whatever major they choose by maximizing the way each handles and understands the basic communication process, an area that has seen dramatic change during the past decade. In this era of ever-changing communication processes, Tech freshmen will get the baseline skill sets in modern communication that will allow them to become better able to transition seamlessly between and within disciplines throughout their college careers.

## OPPORTUNITY TO ADJUST

We of Louisiana Tech have shown time and again that we are wise with a dollar and a wise investment of a dollar. Our goals as a new year approaches are sound, open and well-considered:

- we will continue to look for efficiencies of operations with the understanding that resources saved can be reinvested in our people;
- we will continue to pursue alternative sources of funding such as support from the private sector and corporate partners;
- we will be very aggressive in fundraising from alumni and friends;
- we will pursue Federal and State initiatives in targeted areas of opportunity, and in partnership with the private sector, that could bring significant resources to advance our programs; and
- we will also continue to reach out more broadly to the Shreveport-Bossier community and others across the region to ensure that we are meeting educational needs.

Our focus is on growing our University so that we can provide new opportunities to our students and to contribute in new ways to the growth and betterment of our region and state.

**Lisa Cole is now assistant vice president for finance and comptroller, and Sam Wallace is assistant vice president for administration and facilities. Wallace and Cole (right)** have been able to focus in their respective areas to improve processes and communications. The shuffle also essentially freed up a position for the University and allowed administration to focus those available resources in a couple of other areas within the Division where there were critical needs, another example of Tech's ongoing commitment to accept change as an opportunity to discover more ways to be effective and efficient.





## OPPORTUNITY TO ADVANCE

The Division of University Advancement includes the Louisiana Tech Alumni Association, the University Foundation, the Louisiana Tech Athletic Club, and the Louisiana Tech Research Corporation. Fundraising and alumni relations activities and projects throughout the year are planned and conducted by the staff of the Division.

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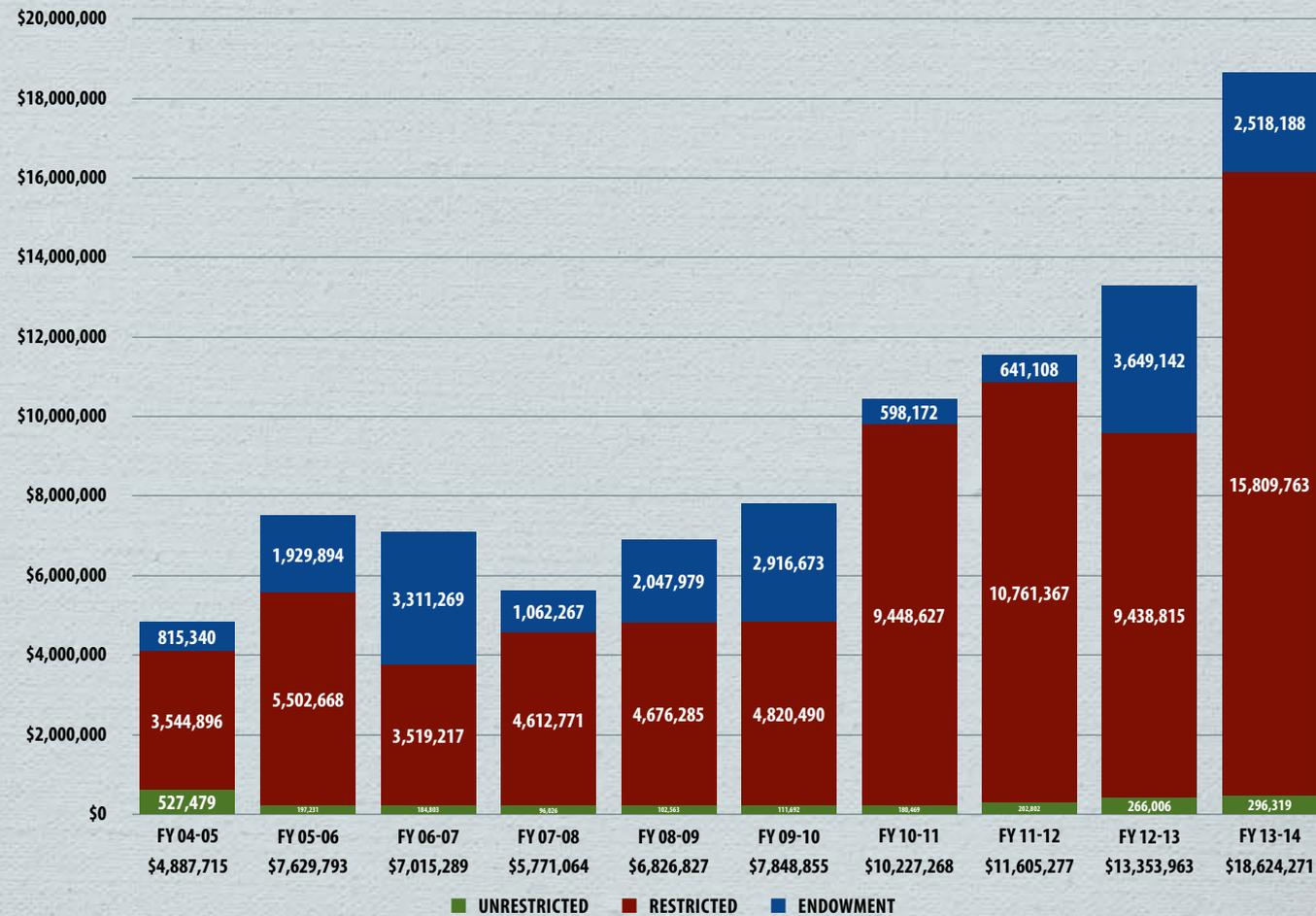
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LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION INC. – CONTRIBUTIONS



**THE FOUNDATION**

Through you - Louisiana Tech's alumni, supporters and friends - The Louisiana Tech Foundation provides the power behind the dreams that become realities. Through scholarships, support and purpose, we are able to invest in today's students and in tomorrow's Tech. In turn, we invest in one another.

As has been the case since its founding more than 50 years ago, The Foundation is committed to maintaining the highest standards of practices in accounting for and managing all donated resources, and in communicating to donors and the other constituents of the University.

It was yet another record-setting year for the Louisiana Tech University Foundation; the support of alumni and friends is providing the edge of excellence for the University. Special focuses for the year included the South End Zone Facility for Athletics, the new Integrated Engineering and Science Building, and the addition of a wing onto the College of Business building. Scholarship funding is a significant need for the University; the University Scholars program was established and will continue to be a focus in fundraising.

**For information on giving opportunities, please contact Jennifer Riley, Corre Stegall or Michele Robinson (previous page).** You can also find additional information at [LaTechAlumni.org](http://LaTechAlumni.org).

**ALUMNI & FRIENDS**

Events such as the annual **Terry Bradshaw-Kix Brooks Golf Tournament** hosted at **Squire Creek Country Club** (right) give Tech alumni and friends a chance to enjoy time together. Ranging from football tailgate activities to Tech's In Town gatherings, these events touch Tech fans across the country and advance the cause of the University. It was a busy and productive year!



**2013**

**AUGUST** - The Division of University Advancement kicked off the 2013-14 year with Happening XXXII, the annual alumni and friends gathering at the Monroe Civic Center.

**SEPTEMBER** - Alumni joined faculty and staff to line the walkway outside **Freshman Convocation** (right) to welcome the Class of 2017 to the Tech Family.



**OCTOBER** - Homecoming weekend was filled with activities, including a 50-year reunion for the Class of 1963.

**NOVEMBER** - Dr. Guice and friends traveled to Lake Charles to spend time with alumni and friends and kick off the 2013-14 Tech's In Town tour, which continued in the spring with stops in Lafayette, Dallas, Houston, Baton Rouge and Metairie.

**2014**

**JANUARY** - The Alumni Association began a yearlong commemoration of "Twelve Decades of Tech" on its Facebook page to celebrate 120 years since Tech's founding in 1894.

**MARCH** - Alumni and fans enjoyed watching the Bulldog Basketball Team as they won the Conference USA regular season championship.

**APRIL** - "Because of You" was the theme for a dinner hosted by President and Mrs. Guice and the Louisiana Tech University Foundation board in April to honor the University's major benefactors and loyal donors. **Attendees were greeted by grateful students (right) who also shared the impact that scholarship support has had on their education.**





## **Our Mission**

As a selective-admissions, comprehensive public university, Louisiana Tech is committed to quality in teaching, research, creative activity, public service and economic development. Louisiana Tech maintains as its highest priority the education and development of its students in a challenging, yet safe and supportive, community of learners. Louisiana Tech provides a technology-rich, interdisciplinary teaching, learning and research environment to ensure student and faculty success.

## **Officers of the Administration**

**Leslie K. Guice**  
President

**James M. King**  
Vice President for Student Affairs

**Terry M. McConathy**  
Vice President for Academic Affairs

**Stan A. Napper**  
Vice President for Research and Development

**Corre A. Stegall**  
Vice President for University Advancement

**Lisa Cole**  
Assistant Vice President for Finance and Comptroller

**Sam Wallace**  
Assistant Vice President for Administration and Facilities



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