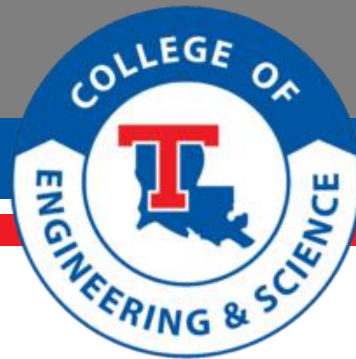




Louisiana Tech's
15th President
Dr. Jim Henderson

State of the College

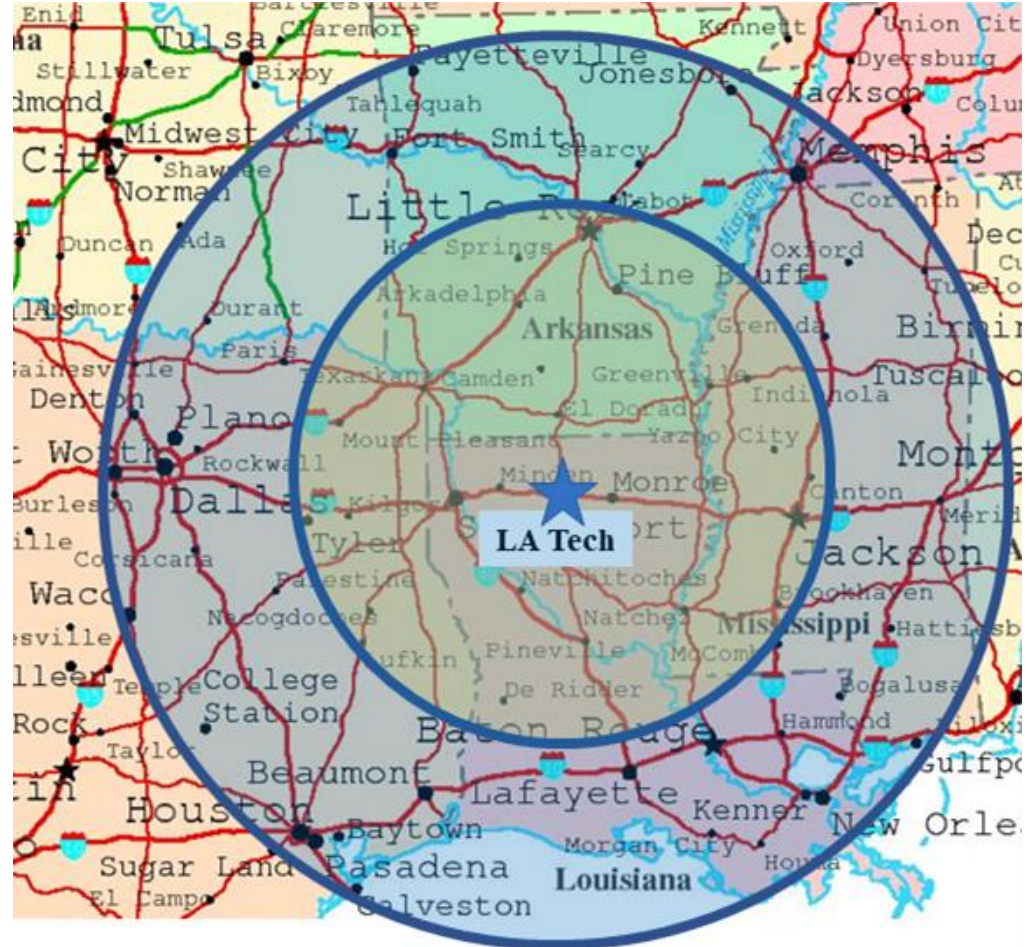
May 8, 2026





College Vision:

For Louisiana Tech to become a destination for Engineering and Science education due to its dynamic and supportive educational experience, while being a major engine of innovation and intellectualism that uplifts the region.





Public/Private Partnerships & Research

- Leveraging new partnerships to secure additional congressional funding and regional economic growth
 - Partnership with Radiance Technologies securing **\$17M** for LA Tech and will result in a **\$370M** microchip R&D and fabrication facility in Ruston
 - Other partnerships are bringing **\$16M in congressional appropriations** this upcoming academic year for LA Tech
 - Next year's congressional asks for 2027 totaling **\$80M between LA Tech and partners**
 - LA Tech helped create the **Louisiana Defense Resource Center**, which also has **\$45M** in congressional asks for 2027.
 - We currently have **50 interns in Tech Pointe I and II**, many of whom will end up staying local.
- Research expenditures had a **30% year-over-year** increase in research expenditures (25/26) to \$11,993,517 (**78% increase** in last 5 years).



Hiring & Retaining High Quality Faculty

- LA Tech lowest in funding, but highest outcomes in University of Louisiana System
- Need to attract and retain high quality faculty that fit within COES and its mission
- **COES Excellence Fund** is the major conduit



Improving Student Outcomes & Success

- The current focus will be on improving success during the first year
 - Students who are successful the first year have an 85% graduation rate within the next four years in COES
- Built an education working group of faculty actively meeting to suggesting initiatives
- COES Advisory Board is working on ideas and funding strategies: **First-Year Projects Fund**



Building Updates & Vision from Philanthropic Support

- **Past year:**
 - Finished a **\$1.4M** renovation of Bogard Hall: laboratories, classrooms, and common areas
 - Nearing completion of a **\$200K** state of the art AI Lab
- **Future Plans:**
 - Upgrading Electrical Engineering laboratories and common spaces in Nethken Hall
 - Creating a common maker space
 - Updating the machine shop area in Bogard Hall

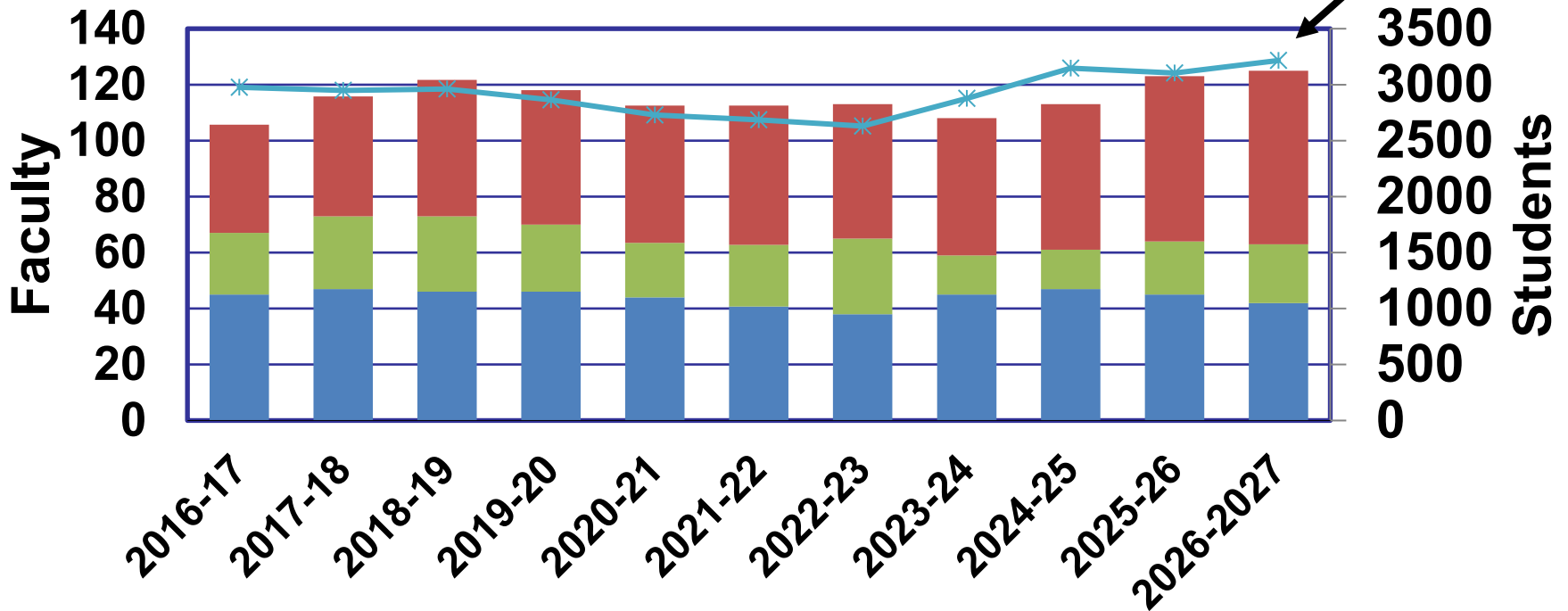




Faculty & Student Headcount

COES Faculty & Student Headcount

Estimate

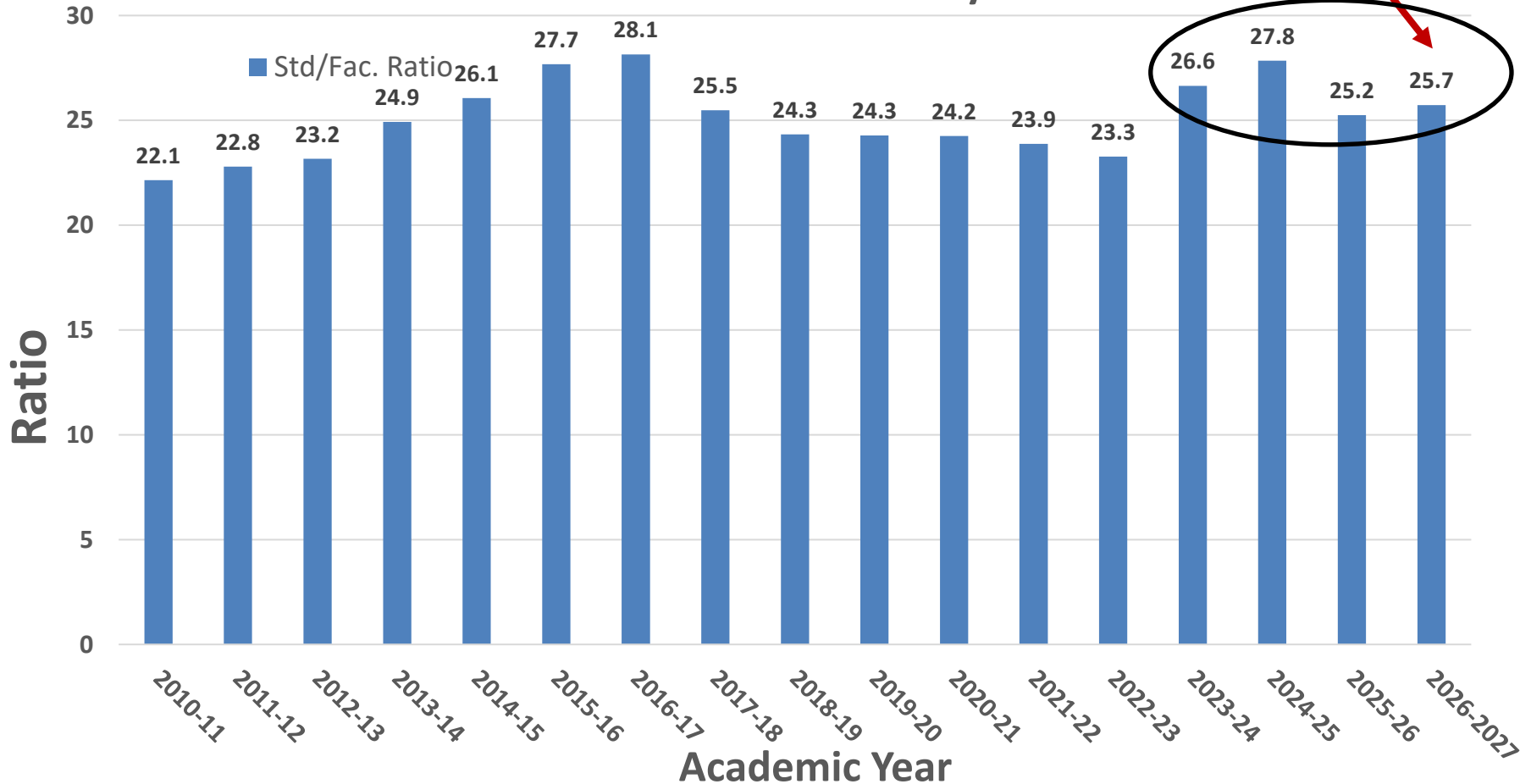


■ Tenured ■ Tenure Track ■ Non-Tenure Track * Enrollment



Student-to-Faculty Ratio (FTE)

COES Student to Faculty Ratio





Student & Administration Updates

- **First-year:** 842 (949 last year). 26/27 *estimate* is ~900
- **Overall:** 3,089 (3,147 last year and expected ~3150 next year)
- Expect higher retention due to stronger incoming students
 - Engineering enrollment is expected to grow and incoming CSC student numbers are expected to be stable
- New leadership for Civil and Industrial Engineering, and the CET program
 - Dr. Leland Weiss became Dean of the Graduate School
 - Dr. David Hall is current interim Academic Director until the end of June
 - Dr. Nathan Ponder will be Academic Director starting July 1



Industrial Partner Program & Student Organizations



32 Active COES Organizations

- COES find a place to belong and feel accepted
- Outreach to prospective students and community
- Facilitate college activities (Gumbo Fest, Spring Release, etc.)
- Professional Development (Mocktails and Mingling & Speed Interviews)
- Regional and National competitions



Thank You

- How can we keep moving the college forward?
- Please contact me:
 - Mobile: 318-514-9048
 - Email: cwick@latech.edu

Follow COES:

