

# The Graduate School – Challenges and Opportunities



# Team Initiative Organization



## **LSU Graduate School Strategic Plan Summary List and Action Items**

**Objective A as articulated in the LSU NFA: Increase the graduate student population to 20% of student enrollment.**

- **Evaluate data on program capacity to shape recruitment strategies.**
- **Support departments in recruitment efforts.**
- **Support recruitment and success of underrepresented groups.**
- **Establish procedures for actively recruiting international students.**
- **Work to increase the number of graduate assistantships, supplements, enhancements, and fellowships.**
- **Promote graduate student health care and travel insurance.**
- **Increase graduate student retention and graduation rates.**

**Objective B as articulated in the LSU NFA: Increase the quality of graduate programs.**

- **Work with the Graduate Council to increase quality.**
- **Support departments by increasing efficiency in the delivery of services to students and faculty.**
- **Invest resources strategically.**
- **Increase the effectiveness of the administration of graduate programs.**
- **Enhance staff efficiency.**

# To Meet the NFA Increase and on to NFA 2020 (*Challenges*)

- Recruit and Retain More Students – Culturally Diverse – Supportive Environment
- More Faculty (or load) – Capacity?
- More Support \$\$ - External Endowments & Federal Funds
- Move us out from “under” State binding Tuition – take a hard look at fees – be competitive out-of-state
- Strengthen Core, Distance Education, Part-time Masters and Multidisciplinary Programs – meet the needs of the customers – students and jobs
- Multidisciplinary Programs Management
- Explore Grad Faculty Solutions
- Will need to Target Programs for Growth

# Mission Summary (*Opportunities*)

- Resources – Dean’s Office – External with DAC – Fed Agencies
- Routine – Customer Service – Student Focus/Faculty Lead – Train/Reward Team – Full Online System
- Recruit – HBCU Pipelines, McNair Fairs, Campus Visits, Alliances (Strategic Initiatives, Cain Center – UG Research, Diversity, Student Orgs., Admissions, Alumni & Foundation), Coordinating Committee, Target Colleges and Departments for Growth, DAC, PR – Brand – Website – Facebook, Multidisciplinary Programs, Meet Industry/Business Needs - \$\$ - Outreach to UG - Research
- Reward – More Support – More Expectations, Work Closely with ORED and Depts – new \$\$ and new research programs, Activate DAC - Foundation
- Report – Up to date via Admissions Software, Adjust on Feedback, Progress Reports Monthly and Annually – Mainframe Issues



# A Few Key Points

- Target 6,000 in 4-5 years – 20% of students – ½ **Target Diversity**
  - On-Campus Management of Exemptions
  - Additional review of Peer Institutions and LSU to further target growth
- Improve ROI – Award \$\$ and Tuition – Diversify Funding
- Move Standards Up – Our Scholarship is Outstanding
- Capacity – Balance Tuition and Exemptions - \$\$ in vs. \$\$ out
- Vetting with Constituents Critical – Revisit GS Strategic Plan -> LSU 2020
- Likewise revisit Awards – EDA, Flagship, S&E, Perkins, Diss Year
- Silo to Networking- create pipelines and pathways for students, growth and new programs. PR – Grad School Branding
- Foundation and Alliances – build multidisciplinary research programs, support for new programs and jobs for our students to close the loop – US ACE Thursday with SCE and COE, China Dual Degree, Sustainability Concentration.
- Endowment and Federal Funds – offset future Tuition/Fees
- Budget and Potential Cuts – Plan – **maintain** awards.
- External Funds and Endowment via DAC Ready to Launch – 2-3 years to nurture Endowment – then grow to 2020 and beyond.

# Vision

- To grow and support a culturally diverse graduate student body of at least 20% of the total student population, raising our academic standards as reflected in our faculty with high levels of scholarship. Staff and management systems will be a model of customer service to support an environment of learning and discovery. The Graduate School will become an open hub supporting a network of colleges and departments to promote diverse growth and the highest level of scholarship. We will actively seek, recommend, retain and support outstanding scholars and new programs. We will actively seek external funds in collaboration with our programs (ORED, colleges and departments) to benefit their scholarship and seek endowed funds for student/program support and bridging ability via the DAC and other Foundation external connections to endow the School. We will become “output” driven in concert with LSU NFA 2020. We must diversify our funding, advertise our success, and push on into the top tier.

# What do we Target to Endow?

- How much? \$25M for NFA 2020
- Multidisciplinary Programs – China Dual Degree, Mat'ls with UNO/SU, Sustainability Campus-wide Program – Program Growth in GS leads to Academic Unit – Salary Savings – Interim Growth Funds for Endowment Effort
- Multicultural Programs – Diversity, La. Culture, International Students
- Big 3 with other units – Coast/Energy/Art
- Major Corps are Diverse – ExxonMobil – Waste Management
  - Technology/Science
  - Legal/Transportation/Property
  - Consumer Relations/Community Relations
  - International Affairs/Languages
  - Marketing/Advertising/Art/Design
  - Animals/Environment
- Donor is King/Queen – DAC will help define.

# Plan to Move Ahead

- Handle Cuts to Budget – x-train, internal or external reorg.
- Activate DAC and Obtain Endowments in Concert with Programs – also seek Federal Program Funds
- GC and OAA – Review Awards - Focus
- Focus Funds – Differential Tuition – prudent and flexible
- Paperless Green Office and Hobsons Software/Support
- Continue Grad Fac and Multidisciplinary Program Discussions
- Maintain Staff to Handle Enrollment/Recruitment
- Coordinate Recruiting and Retention with Depts
- Coordinate with ORED, etc. for Funding
- Revisit Strategic Plan with Depts and OAA – Grad Council
- Focus on Diversity