

AGRICULTURE



SEARCH PROFILE

DIRECTOR

Louisiana Food Innovation Institute (FOODii)

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POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Louisiana State University Agricultural Center (LSU AgCenter) FOODii is seeking a highly motivated and creative individual with an entrepreneurial spirit to provide leadership for the Louisiana Food Innovation Institute (FOODii) on the LSU AgCenter Campus in Baton Rouge, LA. The ideal candidate will have a track record of successful development of an institute or center in a scientific environment. They will have an entrepreneurial drive and approach to the position. Expertise in food production, food safety and security, and process development will be needed to support clientele in food-based industries. FOODii is a resource center where entrepreneurs can start a food business, process foods, receive technical and marketing assistance, and benefit from expert advice and research on food safety and food sustainability.

Reporting jointly to the Vice President for Agriculture and the Director of the School of Nutrition and Food Science, the FOODii Director will be responsible for overall leadership and management of the institute to ensure profitability, optimal performance, and success. Responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Creates and maintains the strategic plan for the institute in support and collaboration with the AgCenter, College of Agriculture, and School of Nutrition and Food Sciences.
- Innovates in ways that support new and improved outreach and research opportunities in the areas of food production, promotion, and protection of the consumer.
- Engages with food entrepreneurs and networks with the Louisiana, national, and international food industry by participating in trade shows and industry organizations including but not limited to the Specialty Food Association, Louisiana Business Incubator Association, and Institute of Food Technologists.
- Collaborates with other departments within the AgCenter and College of Agriculture as well as other campuses within the LSU enterprise.
- Develops and maintains policies and procedures utilized in all aspects of operations for the institute. Conducts necessary monitoring and reporting.
- Provides guidance and direction for marketing and public relations activities.
- Oversees the management of facilities to ensure the functionality, safety, sustainability, and efficiency of the built environment. Ensures proper utilization of resources including finances, faculty, staff, equipment, and facilities. Also ensures that appropriate safeguards are enacted for purposes of safety, compliance, and risk management.
- Provides technical guidance and leadership in food processing technology and quality assurance.



QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS: A PhD degree in food science or closely related field and a minimum of at least 5 years of experience in food and/or agricultural related industry are required. The ability to interact with stakeholders and write grant proposals seeking external funding are desirable qualifications. The ability to collaboratively work with a diverse group of faculties is critical. Prior experience in a leadership position and strong management skills are desirable. The candidate must possess excellent communication skills, the ability to manage multiple projects at once, and a high degree of professionalism.

SALARY AND BENEFITS: Salary will be commensurate with education and experience. The LSU AgCenter has an attractive benefits package with a wide variety of benefit options. Benefits offered include retirement, multiple medical insurance options, supplemental insurances (dental, life, long-term disability, accident, vision, long-term care, etc.), Tax Saver Flexible Benefits Plan (saves tax dollars on some child care and medical expenses), university holidays (14 per year, typically includes a week off at Christmas), generous annual (vacation) and sick leave benefits, Employee Assistance Program, and possible educational leave and tuition exemption for coursework at campuses of the LSU System. Specific benefits depend on job category, percent effort and length of employment.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: June 30, 2024, or until a suitable candidate is identified.

Application Procedure: Apply online at <https://LSU.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/LSU> by attaching cover letter with resume including a statement of professional interest and goals, official university transcripts and contact information for three professional references. Questions about the online application system should be directed to the HRM Office at 225-578-0324. Paper, faxed or emailed application materials will not be accepted, except reference letters. For more information, please reach out to:

Dr. Gina E. Eubanks

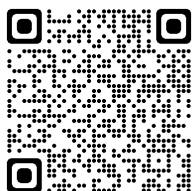
Associate Vice President

LSU AgCenter

225-578-6914

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www.lsuagcenter.com



The LSU AgCenter and LSU provide equal opportunities in programs and employment.

OVERVIEW OF THE LSU AGCENTER

In 1971, a special committee of the LSU Board of Supervisors conducted a comprehensive management study of the LSU System and recommended its agricultural activities have an identity separate from that of the existing campuses. As a result, the LSU Board of Supervisors established the Center for Agricultural Sciences and Rural Development in August 1972. Ten years later, the board changed the name to the LSU Agricultural Center.

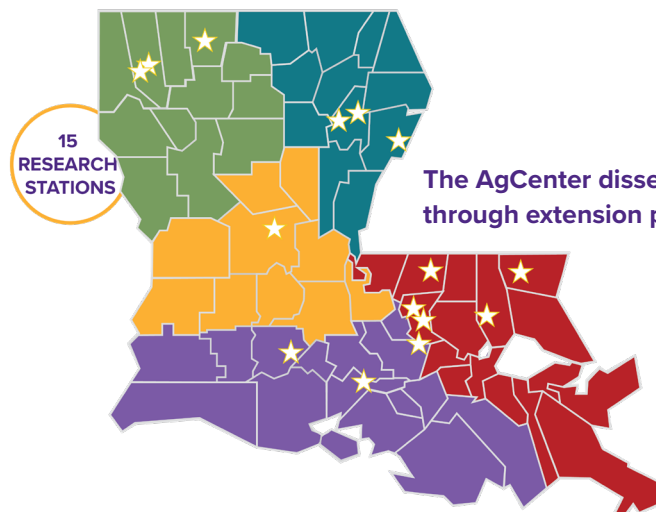
The LSU AgCenter's mission is to conduct agricultural research, extension and teaching programs that advance and maintain Louisiana's highly diverse agricultural industry and sustain Louisiana's natural resources; to provide research and educational programs in the field of nutrition; to develop Louisiana's youth and families through the 4-H program, which serves **more than 200,000 children annually**; and to make advancements that will benefit generations to come. From helping to solve the termite problem in Louisiana and addressing issues related to invasive species to finding ways to protect and improve **Louisiana's \$2.5 billion seafood industry**, the AgCenter touches the lives of every person in the state while also affecting industries that are vital to the entire nation.

The LSU AgCenter is one of eight campuses in the LSU enterprise. With offices in every parish and research stations across the state, the LSU AgCenter is committed to serving the citizens of Louisiana. That pledge includes dedication to agriculture and the vital work of providing innovation and support for the food and fiber sector while improving agriculture's valuable contributions to the state's economy. The LSU AgCenter's educational efforts span nutrition and health, food safety, backyard gardening, disaster preparedness, storm recovery, youth development, managing insects and natural threats, economic development, resource conservation and so much more. The LSU AgCenter provides individuals, families, businesses, schools, industries and local governments with valuable information aimed at improving economic conditions, general wellness and quality of life.



Agriculture serves as a backbone of Louisiana's economy.

- Agriculture's economic impact: **\$11.6 billion.**
- Value-added impact: **\$32 billion.**
- Every dollar of agriculture income yields a **\$3 return** to the local economy.



- **Five** regions
- **22** institutes and centers
- **64** parish offices
- **Hundreds** of agents, specialists and researchers

The LSU AgCenter campus supported an estimated economic output of \$282 million, \$119 million in earnings and 2,356 jobs.



OVERVIEW OF THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

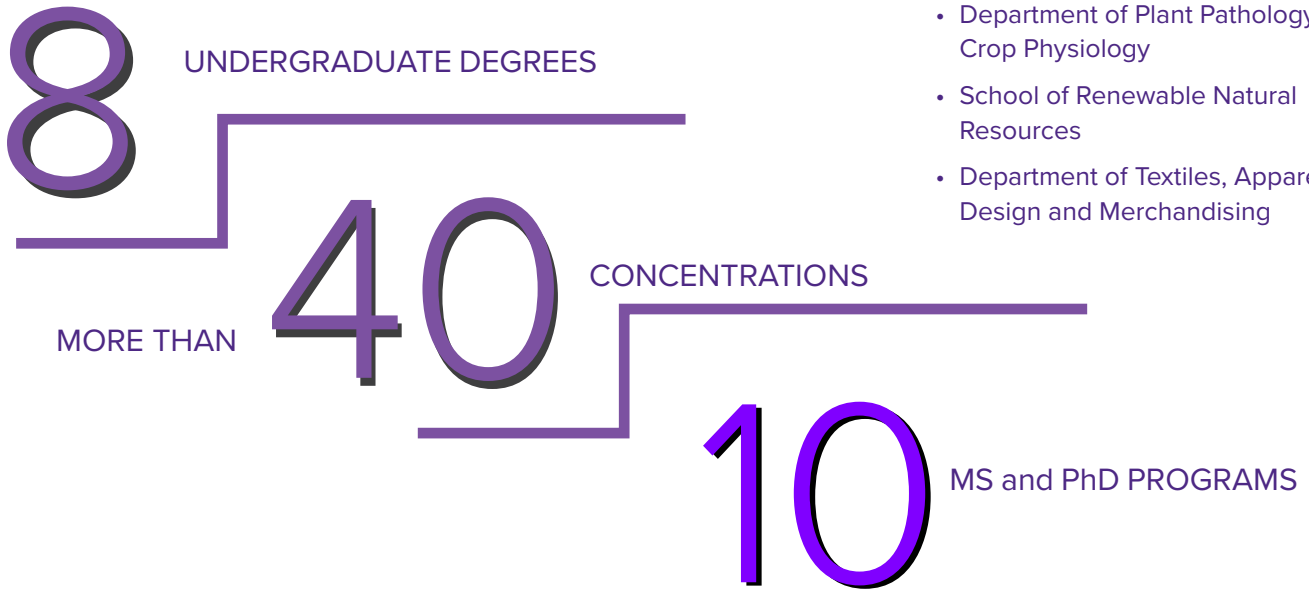
For more than 100 years, the College of Agriculture has been an integral part of LSU. The college's roots date back to the first graduating class, and while the mission of the college has evolved, its commitment to agricultural production in Louisiana remains the common thread that binds the college's past and future. The present LSU campus location was built on a former sugarcane farm. Agriculture was a priority in 1922 and continues to be today as LSU stays true to its mission of creating a better life for the people of Louisiana and those across the world.

First-year students entering the College of Agriculture can choose to live on campus in the **LSU Ag Residential College**, apply for college-specific **scholarships** and apply to the **LSU Honors College**. College of Agriculture students get practical, hands-on experiences in environments that help facilitate learning. Students focusing on wildlife will go out into wetlands and those with an interest in plants or animals will get experience with gardens, crops and livestock on research farms.

DEPARTMENTS:

The College of Agriculture consists of:

- Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness
- Department of Agricultural and Extension Education and Evaluation
- School of Animal Sciences
- Department of Entomology
- Department of Experimental Statistics
- School of Nutrition and Food Sciences
- School of Plant, Environmental and Soil Sciences
- Department of Plant Pathology and Crop Physiology
- School of Renewable Natural Resources
- Department of Textiles, Apparel Design and Merchandising



LSU SYSTEM AND FLAGSHIP CAMPUS

LSU System is a family of eight institutions and colleges in Louisiana. Collectively, these eight campuses generate **\$6.1 billion in economic impact**, educate **more than 55,000 students** and conduct **research amounting to more than \$360 million**. In addition to the main campus in Baton Rouge, the System campuses include the LSU AgCenter, LSU of Alexandria, LSU Eunice, LSU Health New Orleans, LSU Health Shreveport, Pennington Biomedical Research Center and LSU Shreveport.

LSU researchers across Louisiana are working on developing a wide range of innovations to improve quality of life by studying issues such as disease management, advanced medical treatments, obesity, coastal protection, hurricane preparedness, energy, natural resource management and agriculture, among others. Louisiana's flagship university is a land-, sea- and space-grant institution with academic programs in all areas of science, engineering, humanities, arts and social sciences.

LSU's flagship campus in Baton Rouge sits along the Mississippi River. The campus, widely considered to be one of the most beautiful in the country, is known for its Italian Renaissance-style architecture, tranquil lakes and oak trees.

- More than **2,000 acres** of lush landscaping along the Mississippi River.
- Majestic live oak trees that are valued at approximately **\$45 million**.



LSU SYSTEM MISSION AREAS



AGRICULTURE AND THE SCHOLARSHIP FIRST AGENDA: PRESIDENTIAL PRIORITIES
Scan the code to read more.

