



Development of an Action Plan for Increasing the Graduate Student Body in Agriculture at Louisiana State University

Issue: Future agricultural related programs, discoveries, inventions/patents, and leadership will rely in part on professionals trained in our graduate programs.

What has been done:

The graduate programs in each department have been reviewed for graduate student numbers and rates of graduation, MS versus PhD. These data have been shared and discussed with the Dean of the College of Agriculture and with the Chancellor of the Agricultural Center. Next steps are being discussed with the Dean of the College of Agriculture and the Chancellor of the Agricultural Center.

Impacts/New Partnerships:

I continue to work with professionals in the International Programs office, with the Chancellor of the AgCenter, and the Dean of the College of Agriculture. There has been a change in leadership in LSU International Programs since the initial report was submitted. Meetings with unit heads in Agriculture are on-going.

Outcome of Project (societal impact/ measure of increased quality of life):

It is proposed that the project will continue with discussions within academic units and between leaders of the academic units to address the findings of less than optimal completions rates and/or time to completion of degree requirements for students admitted to graduate programs in Agriculture at LSU.

How has your project been aided by your FSLI experience?

The experience and guidance of the professionals with FSLI have been especially useful in helping me harness my skills and visions for this project. The project has also been a bridge for linking me to the administration on two different campuses at LSU—the A&M campus and the Agricultural Center. These two campuses impact the graduate programs and graduate students at LSU in agriculture, and bridges made with and between these campuses are important to success of programs in agriculture; research for graduate students in agriculture may be housed on either campus, but the degrees come from the A&M campus.

Contact information:

Carol Lammi-Keefe, Louisiana State University
CLammi-Keefe@agcenter.lsu.edu