LSU AgCenter Budget Limbo

(aka ... How Low Can You Go?)

John S. Russin
Vice Chancellor and Director





State Appropriations LSU AgCenter

Jul 1, 2008

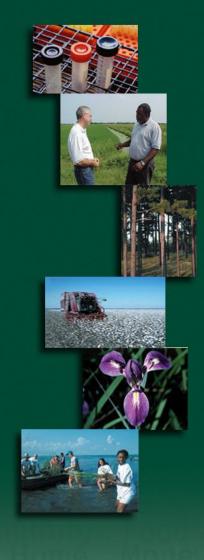
~ \$93,300,000

Jan 1, 2012

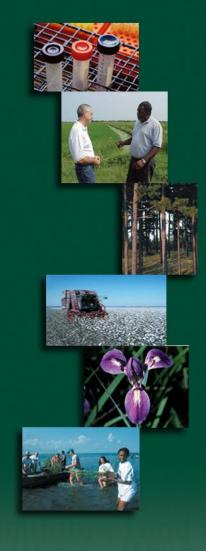
~ \$62,600,000

 ~ 33% Reduction - reduced state appropriation + unfunded increases in mandated costs
 Down >300 employees since 2008

Stepwise reduction, each insufficiently large to trigger financial exigency











Dr. Elizabeth Kübler-Ross

'On Death and Dying' (1969)

nttp://4.bp.blogspot.com/_F8msCtCTaV0/S6uNM7cTm5l/AAAAAAAACY0/RWnbxEMJMJU/s1600/ekr_06.jpg



denial, anger, bargaining, depression, acceptance



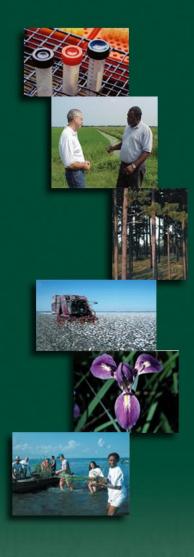
- Hiring freeze on state-supported positions Governor
 - Consolidating faculty & staff responsibilities
- Implemented standard cost-saving measures:
 - Reduce operating & equipment, increase fees
 - Self-generated fund management
 - Loss of Director's slush funds
 - Morale-boosting jargon
 - More with less, working smarter

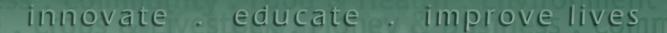




Need to reduce workforce – low-hanging fruit

- Retirement incentives 2 (58 then 24 employees)
 - Maximum of \$25K bonus + leave payouts
 - Another would decimate ANR agent ranks
- Research station closure (20 3.5 = 16.5)
 - Limited use, marginal or redundant programs
 - Leased to individuals or returned to Parish
 - Retain ownership when possible
 - Release employees (incl tenure track)
- Business plan

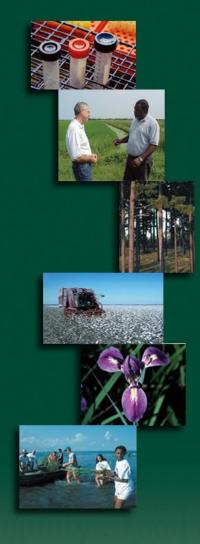


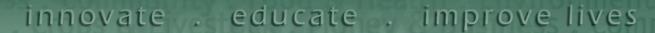




Business plan – public Jan 2012

- Core programs (stakeholder need & engagement)
 - Includes faculty and staff
- Collapse campus departments
- Collapse station admin support (where practical)
- Add'l station closures/consolidations projected (n=10?)
- Remaining stations focused on core areas
 - Fewer fully-staffed 'Centers of Excellence' (research and extension)
 - Shift resources away from campus to address stakeholder needs







- Remaining stations focused on core areas
 - Consolidate beef activities to 3-4 sites
 - Unfund small ruminants and swine
 - Phase out dairy and equine

Currently, LAES expends all state dollars by Mar 31.

Residual supported by federal, royalties (IP and minerals), right-of-ways, F&A, etc.

Ag Coalition, dedicated funding stream

