ANNUAL REPORT

2025-2026

The 2025 – 2026 fiscal year for Ag Leadership ended on June 30. It marked another excellent year for our program. Class XIX just completed their Washington D.C. trip and are preparing for their trip to Brazil and Panama.

This annual report will include the endowment funds dedicated to our program and the donations we have received this past fiscal year. In addition, we are adding all the sponsors, speakers and tour hosts to our report. We are grateful for the financial support, but also the information and time commitment of so many people who work with our program.

Tommy Laborde
Chair , Ag Leadership
Board of Directors

Bobby Soileau
Director, Ag Leadership
LSU AgCenter

AG LEADERSHIP ENDOWED ACCOUNTS

Account Title	Market Value 6/30/2026	Allocation 2025-2026	Spending Balance
Chalkley Family Endowed Chair	$1,959,113.32	$62,763.01	$180,686.43
H. Rouse Caffey LSU Agricultural Leadership Program	$471,884.63	$15,356.51	$56,016.01
Robert R. Soileau Ag Leadership Scholarship Fund	$34,359.75	$1,120.07	$11,147.42
Ag Leaders of Louisiana Endowment Fund	$63,731.36	$2,077.55	$9,877.77
Buck and Beth Vandersteen Family Ag Leaderhip Endowment	$42,959.26	$1,182.31	$1,182.31
Agricultural Center Leadership Development Fund			$46,327.65
Total		**$82,499.45**	**$305,237.59**

Donations Total: **$39,528.78**

Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation	$15,000	Randy Fair	$1,000
Ag Leaders of Louisiana	$12,528.78	Louisiana Sugarcane Foundation	$750
American Society of Sugar Cane Technologists	$5,000	Winnsboro State Bank	$750
Louisiana Forestry Foundation	$2,000	Jon W. Hardwick	$500
Judice Planting	$2,000		

Class Expenses for 2025-2026 FY	Class XIX
In-State Seminar	**$24,625.87 Monroe, Broussard, Jennings & Baton Rouge**
National Seminar-Washington D.C./Gettysburg	**$40,047.05**

SEMINAR SPONSORS

AG LEADERSHIP CLASS XIX

MONROE · BROUSSARD · JENNINGS · BATON ROUGE · WASHINGTON D.C.

Ag Leaders of Louisiana – Burch Pierce, Class XV, Arron Pierre, Class XV · Louisiana Cotton & Grain Association – Bobby Skeen, Class XIII · Delta Bank – Cole Norris, Class XVII · Winnsboro State Bank – Howard Dee Smith, Class XI, Steven Pylant, Class XVI · Greenpoint Ag – Benny Guerrero and Hunter Fife, Class XI · Louisiana Land Bank – Stephen Austin, CEO and Jarrod Sellar, Class XVIII · b1Bank – Lance Bruce, Class XIV · Shelby Duplantis, Class XVIII · Kassi Leger, Class XIV · Brad Judice, Class XII · Enterprise Mill · Zachary Hamilton, First South Farm Credit, Class XVI · Nathan Morrow, Morrow Land Group, Class XVI · Alan Lawson and Kane Webb, Class VII · Louisiana Council of Farmer Cooperatives- Clay Hebert, Class XIX, Chanon Martin, DEMCO · A. Wilbert's Sons-Arron Pierre, Class XV, Vic Blanchard, Class XII, Heath Gajon, Class XIV

SPEAKERS & TOUR HOSTS

AG LEADERSHIP CLASS XIX

MONROE · BROUSSARD · JENNINGS · BATON ROUGE · WASHINGTON D.C.

Jonathan Bordelon, LWF · Julie Robinson, Ph.D., Univ. of Arkansas · Avery Davidson, LFBF, Class XV · Buck Vandersteen, LFA, Group II · Dr. Glen Melton · Marley Oldham, Kennedy Rice, Group II · Cole Gregorie, LSU AgCenter · Zack Hankins, Lamb Weston, Class XIV · Edward Greer, Greer Farms · Scott Franklin, Holly Ridge Rice & Grain · Esther Boe, LSU AgCenter, Class XVII · Kyle Dill, Class XII, Noble Guedon, Class XII and Shea Whitfield, Southern Farming · Barret Olivier, Rubba Boot, Class XIII · Allie Shipley, LFBF · Glen Gentry, Ph.D., LSU AgCenter · Al Orgeron, Ph.D., LSU AgCenter · Richard Fontenot, LFBF, Class VI · Jim Simon, American Sugar Cane League, Class VII · Katie Nunez, A Farmers Daughter, Class XIII · Ronald Hebert, Jr., Class V · Kenneth Gravois, Ph.D., LSU AgCenter · Wilson Judice, American Sugar Cane League, Class XI · Ryan Robicheaux, Robicheaux Ranch · Ashley Edwards, Ph.D., LSU AgCenter · Senator Robert Allain, Class XV · Kane Webb, U.S. Rice Federation, Class VII · Michael Fruge, Parish Rice · Adam Famosa, Ph.D., LSU AgCenter · Roy O. Martin OSB · Danny Nugier, Supreme Rice · Todd Fontenot, LSU AgCenter, Class IX · Troy Romero, USDA La. Rural Development, Class XII · Tara Smith, Ph.D., LSU AgCenter · Ashley Mullens and Hampton Grunewald, LSU AgCenter · April Setliff, Red Stick Refinement · Joe Mapes, Mapes & Mapes · Howard Dee Smith, Winnsboro State Bank, Class XI · Darryl Ellerbee, Delta Bank · Ronnie Petree, The Bank · Jennifer Hill, Regions Bank, Class X · Wayne Landry, The Bank of Commerce · Iverstine Butcher, Galen Iverstine, Class XVII · Vic Blanchard, A. Wilbert's Sons, Class XII · Jude Melville, CEO b1Bank · Jay Grymes, State Climatologist · Tommy Karam, LSU

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ALUMNI THREE-YEAR TERMS

Class I	Jay Hardwick, Ph.D.
Group II	Matthew Keppinger
Class III	Chad Hanks
Class IV	Herman Waguespack, Jr.
Class V	Tommy Laborde (Chair)
Class VI	Scott Wiggers
Class VII	Alan Lawson
Class VIII	Kent Peltier
Class IX	Justin Nix
Class X	Robert Tassin
Class XI	Hank Jones
Class XII	Brandon McCartney
Class XIII	Ashley Peters
Class XIV	Lance Bruce (Vice-Chair)
Class XV	Arron Pierre
Class XVI	Nathan Morrow
Class XVII	Cole Norris
Class XVIII	Shelby Duplantis
Class XIX	Grayson Close (Class Representative)

AT LARGE THREE-YEAR TERMS

Class XI	Donna Gentry, Ph.D.
Class XIII	Bobby Skeen
Group II	Buck Vandersteen

ALL President	Arron Pierre
ALL Vice President	Nathan Morrow

FACULTY THREE-YEAR TERMS, STAGGERED

Department Head	Melissa Cater, Ph.D.
Cooperative Extension Director	Tara Smith, Ph.D.

FACULTY LIFE-TERM

Director retired, Ag Leadership Program	Jim Fowler, Ph.D.
Director retired, Ag Leadership Program Director	Ken Roberts, Ph.D.
retired, Ag Leadership Program	Mike Futrell, Ph.D.