



From the desk of **LSU** President F. King Alexander



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## LSU's Best of 2016

Dear LSU Family and Friends,

2016 has been quite a year. While personally challenging for many of us, it also brought many positives - from everyday niceties to major milestones. I'm happy to report that LSU saw many incredible successes in 2016, and I hope you'll enjoy this reminder of all our university has accomplished over the last 12 months.

Thank you for being part of the LSU family. Your support and dedication makes our university a wonderful place to live, work, study and visit. I know you'll be excited to see what we accomplish together in 2017.

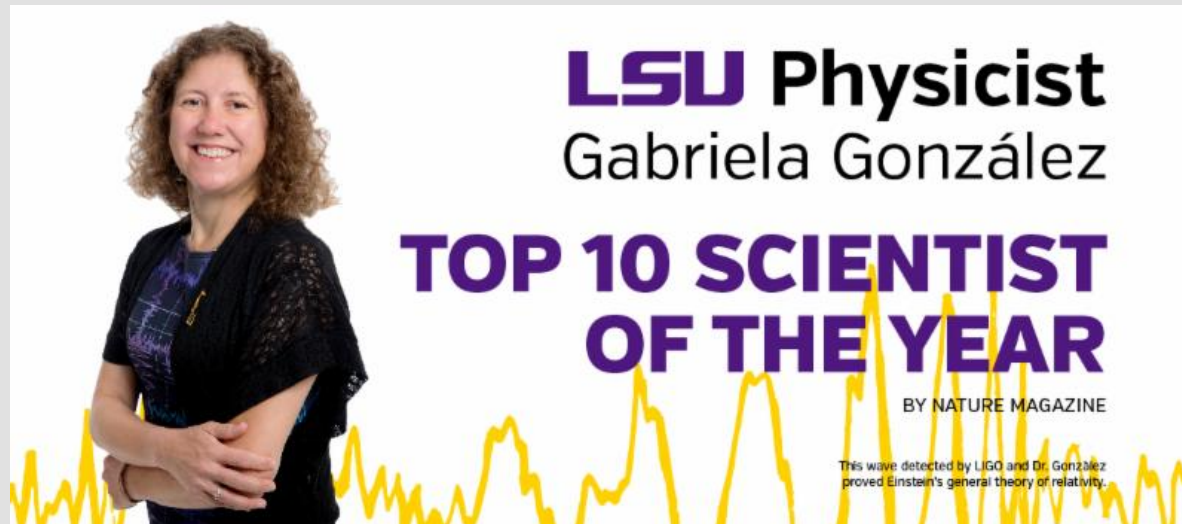
Warmest regards,  
F. King Alexander



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## 100 Years in the Making to Top 10 in the World

One-hundred years after being predicted by Einstein, gravitational waves were finally observed and measured by the team of researchers from LIGO. LSU's Gabriela González was named one of the top 10 scientists in the world by the scientific journal Nature, adding to an impressive list of accolades for her and the LIGO team that included Scientist of the Year , Breakthrough of the Year and a top 100 Global Thinker .



## Record Setting

For the third straight year, our [spring](#), [summer](#) and [fall](#) commencement ceremonies broke new records for degrees granted to underrepresented populations.

## SEC Professor of the Year

Boyd Professor of Chemistry Isiah Warner was selected as the [SEC Professor of Year](#), in addition [to his other honors](#) in 2016.



## Top Ranked

For the seventh time in 10 years, the LSU Robert Reich School of Landscape Architecture undergraduate program has been [ranked number one](#) in the country.

## Influential Mind

History Professor Nancy Isenberg was ranked on [Politico's top 50](#) thinkers, doers and visionaries transforming American politics.



## Here to Win

## Remembering Mike

LSU is a national powerhouse, not just on the field. Our students, researchers and alumni [achieve victories](#) every day! Visit [lsu.edu/heretowin](http://lsu.edu/heretowin) to see more.

LSU's live tiger mascot, Mike VI, [passed away](#) on Tuesday, Oct. 11. For more on Mike VI's cancer treatment and care, visit <http://www.lsu.edu/miketiger>.

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## 2016's Top Scholars

LSU students won a number of national and international scholarships in 2016, including Chauncey Stephens (pictured below) receiving [LSU's 11th Truman Scholarship](#) since 2013. Other scholarship and fellowship recipients in 2016 included:

- [Marlee Pittman](#) receiving the Scoville Peace Fellowship;
- [Glaucia Del-Rio](#) receiving the Association of American Women Doctoral Fellowship;
- [Valencia Richardson](#) receiving a Fulbright Binational Internship in Mexico;
- [Mollie Smoak](#) receiving a Ford Foundation Fellowship;
- [Erin Good](#) receiving a Stewardship Science Grad Fellowship;
- [Three business students](#) receiving NextGen Financial Planning Scholarships;
- [A record number](#) of NSF Graduate Fellows.





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## Did You Know? from 2016

**LSU Research Works:** LSU faculty [conduct research](#) that touches the lives of every Louisiana citizen. As the state's flagship university, our work focuses on finding solutions to some of the state's largest problems.

**New Species:** LSU researchers made two new species discoveries in 2016. In June, researchers announced a [new species of cavefish](#) from Mexico. In September, [a new snake species](#), dubbed 'ghost snake,' was announced.

**Narrowing Gaps:** LSU was recognized by [Education Trust](#) for raising graduation rates among African American students and narrowing the completion gaps.

**Meeting Educational Needs:** The Louisiana Department of Education and LSU were awarded a [\\$6 million development grant](#) to provide professional development opportunities

to educators with a focus on improving literacy outcomes for students with disabilities in grades three through five.

**Solving Problems:** LSU is the lead university in a consortium awarded a [\\$2.5 million grant](#) from the U.S. Department of Transportation to establish a regional transportation research center.

**Tabby's Star:** [LSU's Tabettha Boyajian](#) is at the forefront of studying the most mysterious star in the universe, a star that has baffled scientists and received international media attention.

**Curing Cataracts:** [Researchers from the LSU AgCenter](#) have formulated a matrix that could both prevent and treat cataracts, a leading cause of vision loss in older adults.

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## 2016 Video Playlist

[LSU Featured Tigers Videos](#)

[Here to Win! Videos](#)

[LSU Research Works Videos](#)

[Camp Care visits Mike VI and Tiger Stadium](#)

[Molly the Pony: 10 Years Later](#)

[Welcome Home. Tigers \(Move-In Day\)](#)

[LSU Homecoming Highlights](#)

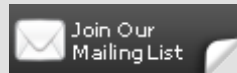
[Reopening of the French House](#)

[Geaux Big 2016](#)

[Fall Fest 2016](#)

[Watch more videos on LSU's YouTube channel](#)

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