



College of Sciences
& Mathematics
*Arkansas State
University*

“We Have a Serious Case of Flat”

John M. Pratte, Dean
jpratte@astate.edu





Location

- Jonesboro – County seat of Craighead County.
 - Historically agricultural (rice, soybean, wheat, cotton)
 - Growth in healthcare and migration from smaller surrounding communities-> 3% growth rate (73,000)
 - Household income ~\$32,000; 13% of population has a college degree
 - Dry (technically, damp)
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Institution

- A-State - flagship institution in the ASU System
 - State designation as a research institution, although funding from state has never matched this
 - 13,000+ students spread over 75 bachelor, 50 masters, and 8 doctoral programs
 - Next closest university is 80 miles away
 - Several two-year institutions within 50 mile radius
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Unique Challenges

- Attracting students to the region (what is there to do in the surrounding area)
 - Attracting faculty to the University; finding employment for spouses
 - Town size = rumor mill
 - Lack of some key communal support structures
 - Travel (no air or rail travel)
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Opportunities

- We own the region; no local competition for research
 - USDA ARS station dedicated to water resources
 - Ph.D. program in Environmental Sciences specializes in local ecosystems
 - Ph.D. program in Heritage Studies looks at history and anthropology of Delta
 - Ph.D. in Molecular Biosciences specializes in plant biotechnology
 - Lack of traditional Ph.D. programs means all research involves undergraduates
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Opportunities

- Affordability - 87% of national average COL
 - In-state tuition and fees = \$7,720/year for 30 hours
 - In-state status if have ACT of 24 or greater
 - Room and board = \$7,750
 - Total = \$15,470
 - Comparison: Georgia State = \$20,694
University of Memphis = \$27,476
 - Safe (great selling point to parents)
 - Great for international recruiting
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Future Opportunities

- Currently pursuing DO school partnership with NYIT; 3+3 plan will put price of medical degree at \$250,000 for all six years
 - Building large campus in Queretaro, Mexico; opening in fall of 2016; ties to industries
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