Ellen Dunn of the Center for Academic Success offered scholars last minute planning and support. The Recruiting Class of 2016 Bridges Research Scholars' achievements were showcased by both students and faculty at the LSU Initiative for Maximizing Student Diversity Program, directed by Dr. Brett East.

The LSU Bridge to the Doctorate (BD) initiative welcomed seven Fellows: Brianne Jones, M.D., M.B.A., M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; Justin Grennell, B.S., in Experiment in Astrophysics; Vashti Campbell, B.S., in Clinical Laboratory Science; Brianne Jones at Penn State University; Sydnei Hall, M.S., in Physics; and Smita Speer, B.S., in Mechanical Engineering. These twelve Baton Rouge Community College (BRCC) students were selected to participate in the BD initiative, in which they prepared for their summer internships. The impact of the BD initiative reaches the Community College System (CCS) of Louisiana, as the fellows will return to BRCC to engage their peers in mentorship and leadership development.

The LSU Center for Interdisciplinary Microbial Medicine (CIMM) REU Program, directed by Dr. Lauren Oliver, engaged 12 high school students in summer 2016. The CIMM REU experience is designed to inspire the next generation of microbiologists by providing hands-on research opportunities in the field of microbial medicine. The program's tenure reflects the success of the HHMI Professors Program and the LSU Initiative for Maximizing Student Diversity Program, as the students outperform their counterparts in all demographic categories.

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