

Southern Region

Dr. John S. Russin

Director of the LSU AgCenter's Global Network and former Vice Chancellor and Director of the Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station



Dr. John S. Russin served the Land Grant mission for many years. As Vice Chancellor and Director of Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station (LAES), he engaged actively with the Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors (SAAESD), serving as Chair in 2015, and representative to then Chair of ESCOP Executive and Science and Technology Committee. He coordinated the SAAESD/ASRED joint conference in 2017 and advised several multi-state research and extension projects.

A successful research scientist, Dr. Russin migrated into administration early in his career. At Southern Illinois University, he Chaired the Department of Plant Soil, and Agricultural Systems for three years before accepting role of Associate Dean for Research in the College of Agricultural Sciences. Beginning in 2008, he served as the Associate Director of LAES and rose to Vice Chancellor and Director in 2011.

His administrative vision and dedication helped maintain research productivity and a strong national presence for the LSU AgCenter. Two notable successes include: i) a public/private partnership that received USDA funding of \$17.3 M for biofuels/bioproducts from Louisiana crops, and ii) crafting then directing the Food Business Incubator, an entrepreneurship initiative for emerging food companies. In addition, he maintained and improved faculty participation in technology development and commercialization, both domestically and abroad.

Dr. Russin earned the B.A. in Biology at University of Maine, M.S. in Entomology at University of Delaware, and Ph.D. in Plant Pathology at University of Kentucky. Partially retired, he remains active in International Agriculture. He serves currently as Director of the LSU AgCenter Global Network, which emphasizes student exchanges, faculty collaborations, and global public-private partnerships for technology development and commercialization.