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LSU and Our Lady of the Lake Explore a Public–Private Partnership

Baton Rouge (December 4, 2008) – The LSU Health System and Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center (OLOL) have been in discussions to explore a possible partnership aimed at supporting graduate medical education and improving access to care in the Baton Rouge area.

"Particularly post-Hurricane Katrina, Our Lady of the Lake has taken a more active role in graduate medical education to help meet Louisiana's ongoing need for physicians in the future. This has the potential to be a unique public-private partnership in the state at the same time aligning with our healthcare mission," says Scott Wester, OLOL President and Chief Executive Officer.

"The relocation of Baton Rouge-based graduate medical education to Our Lady of the Lake might offer the opportunity for LSU to deliver a new model of health care," said Dr. Fred Cerise, LSU System Vice President for Health Affairs and Medical Education. "And it can also offer the potential addition of facilities that can support LSU's academic and patient care mission."

OLOL and LSU Health System administrators have agreed to continue more detailed discussion for OLOL to become the teaching hospital site for LSU in Baton Rouge. If both parties reach an agreement, the change will likely occur in about two years.