The LSU CAMD research facility should be a source of pride for the university, and not to fund it fully will lead to greater problems in making LSU a “flagship” institution.

That sector of the LSU physics and materials sciences department brings research funding into the university. Cutting the program may mean that LSU will lose its ability to attract top-notch faculty and graduate students in fields that are now booming at other universities, and the faculty members who are already here may leave to pursue their research elsewhere, leaving those areas of LSU’s physics department in dire straits.

Cutting research for the sake of academics really hurts academics in the short and long term — it doesn’t work.

I am not an LSU alumna, but most of my colleagues are, and I do have a child who will soon be an LSU alum. My family also has a friend who is an LSU grad student in the physics department. I would hate to see LSU sink in the rankings and no longer be a top-tier university, especially since the school only recently attained that excellent ranking.

In my opinion, LSU’s administration needs to rethink what probably will be very harmful to the institution in recruiting great faculty members, grad students and undergrads.

**Charmaine Venters**

pediatrician

Baton Rouge