

Continuing Education

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Higher Education Quote of the Week:

"During the Nov. 23 game, the band played the old favorites, but many fans in the student section - and, to a limited degree, elsewhere in Tiger Stadium - continued to belt out expletive-laden lines. So, the lyrics to Cameo's *Talkin Out the Side of Your Neck* and to the O-E-O chant from *The Wizard of Oz* became something that, well, cannot be printed in a family newspaper." - *Article in The Advocate regarding LSU's concerns about fans yelling obscenities during televised football games.*

Dear Johnette,

An article in The Advocate last week entitled "Baton Rouge to Get Medical School Branch of LSU" caught many NWLA local leaders and elected officials by surprise. Just a week earlier LSU President King Alexander stated to a crowd in Shreveport that plans for a medical school in Baton Rouge were only in the preliminary stage. During that conversation, locals explained their concern about a third school was due to a lack of sufficient funding already for the two state medical schools in the LSU System.

In the Advocate article, the LSU Medical School Dean in New Orleans reportedly said, "Could this be the first step to build a four-year branch campus? Depending on resources and other things it could expand to a four year program."

Dr. Alexander was quick to correct the assertion that the move to create a branch campus for 3rd and 4th year students was the first step in creating a new medical school. In a written statement issued to NWLA elected officials and the SBBA, Alexander stated, "**I want to be clear this is not a new medical school.** The LCME approval will allow the New Orleans students to complete their 3rd and 4th year clinical work in Baton Rouge. This reduces the expense the students bear of moving and living in two different places and reduces expense of the school to support living expenses of these students." Alexander noted there is already a similar arrangement for medical students who complete their last two years in Lafayette.

For Dr. Alexander's complete statement posted on the SBBA website, please [click here](#).

Shreveport-Bossier Higher Education News

- Shreveport resident Bubba Rasberry has a proud list of accomplishments achieved during his first year as Chairman of the Board of Regents. "During Rasberry's tenure last year, our area colleges celebrated some substantive and long sought approvals," wrote SBBA Chairman Rich DesCoteaux. ***The Shreveport Times, 12.13.13.***
- Louisiana College received some long-awaited news when the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools



reaffirmed their accreditation and took the school off warning status. **[The Shreveport Times, 12.12.13](#)**

Louisiana Higher Education News



- According to The Advocate, Baton Rouge is about to open a branch campus of the LSU Medical School based in New Orleans. In July 2013, 32 future doctors in their 3rd year of medical school will begin training in Baton Rouge. **[The Advocate, 12.13.13](#)**
- LSU assistant football coaches are the highest paid in the country. Collectively, they will earn \$4.6 million this year. The defensive coordinator tops the list at \$1.1 million. **[The Town Talk, 12.12.13](#)**
- With such generous salaries for coaches, it should be no surprise that tickets prices for LSU games are going up. On Friday, the LSU Board of Supervisors approved a hike for both ticket and parking prices. **[The Advocate, 12.15.13](#)**
- A report from the Tuition Task Force largely resulted in the same set of recommendations the legislature rejected last year. The panel argued for TOPS reform and tuition autonomy for state colleges. **[The Advocate, 12.15.13](#)**

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National Higher Education News

- A recent study from the University of Pennsylvania found that online students are just as likely to skip class as students enrolled in traditional courses. According to the study, half of students who enroll in Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) never watch a single lecture. **[The Wire, 12.11.13](#)**
- The earnings gap between men and women in the workplace appears to be narrowing as more women graduate from college and enter the workforce. According to the Christian Science Monitor, women under 32 now earn 93 cents for every dollar men make compared to 67 cents in 1980. **[The Christian Science Monitor, 12.12.13](#)**

For more information on higher education in Northwest Louisiana, please visit our website at www.sbba4he.org

Sincerely,

**Johnette Magner, Ph.D., Executive Director
Shreveport-Bossier Business Alliance for Higher Education**

You are welcome to forward this newsletter to others in your network who are interested in higher education.

For more information on becoming a member of the SBBA, or

providing direct support for our work, please contact
Dr. Johnette Magner at jmagner@sbba4he.org

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