

Continuing Education

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Higher Education Quote of the Week:

"The numbers for student enrollment have fallen dramatically for next academic year, so much so that the faculty has been mandated to spend time telephoning potential students in an effort to boost enrollment numbers." -
Faculty member at Louisiana College



Dear Johnette,

Members of the Louisiana legislature who have been combing through the budget are expressing some concern about some of the sources of revenue used to prop up the budget. Some have suggested assumptions are inflated for revenues from regulatory fees while others question whether some funds the Governor proposes using are even available. One estimate has the budget using \$900 million in funds that will not be available a year from now. Representative John Schroder, R-Covington, said the hole looks so big, "I almost wish I weren't coming back next year."

To address these concerns, some legislators around the state are talking about cutting spending and one of three items mentioned for possible cuts in a recent Associated Press article is the \$6.1 million appropriated for colleges that have experienced considerable growth in recent years. At the top of that list of schools is Bossier Parish Community College, which is slated to receive as much as \$3.3 million from the fund. Needless to say, the loss of the long overdue funding for BPCC would be devastating. [For the full story click here.](#)

Shreveport-Bossier Higher Education News

- Tomorrow afternoon, Louisiana Tech President Dr. Les Guice will be officially installed as President of the University. Guice is only the 14th President to serve as head of Louisiana Tech. [Shreveport Times, 04.07.14](#)
- Grambling President Dr. Frank Pogue is saying goodbye to his job on June 30th. U.L. System President Sandra Woodley said of his departure, "He came in at a time when there was great instability at Grambling. He gave up five years of his retirement to put his energies into Grambling." [The Advocate, 04.07.14](#)

Louisiana Higher Education News

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- Louisiana System Presidents testified before the House Appropriations Committee today and urged lawmakers to keep the extra \$40 million incentive fund known as the WISE fund. This money would be used to provide extra money for high demand degree and job training programs. Legislators have discussed cutting this money in light of recent concerns about overly optimistic revenue projections for the next fiscal year. **[The Associated Press, 04.07.14](#)**
- Governor Bobby Jindal's recent backing of some anti-common core bills put him at odds with his hand-picked BESE Board members and State Superintendent while aligning him with his long-time foes, such as the state teachers union. Jindal's support appeared only half-hearted, however, since neither the Governor nor his aides showed up to testify. **[The Advocate, 04.07.14](#)**
- Louisiana College President Joe Aguillard is saying he won't quit despite numerous calls for his resignation. The Louisiana College Board of Directors is scheduled to meet April 14-15. **[Alexandria Town-Talk, 04.03.14](#)**

National Higher Education News

- Former LSU System President John Lombardi thinks students should be allowed to major in sports. "It's now time to reexamine the nature of sports performance and see if we can construct an academically viable course of study analogous to what we have done for music or dance," he wrote in Inside Higher Ed. **[Inside Higher Ed, 04.03.14](#)**
- A recent study by the Bureau of Labor Statistics has revealed that 32% of women in the U.S. will earn a bachelor's degree by the age of 27 compared to just 24% of men. Women are also less likely to be unemployed in their 20s. **[Linked In Blog: Jeff Selingo](#)**

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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