



# Continuing Education

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## Higher Education Quote of the Week:

"When we set the salary at \$275,000, we only had one candidate." - *Bubba Rasberry, Board of Regents Chairman, explaining to a Senate Committee why the Regents need the authority to offer a higher salary to prospective candidates for the job of LA Commissioner of Higher Education.*



## Dear Johnette,

There is \$3.4 million in the state budget for Bossier Parish Community College, but with a projected revenue shortfall, the funding remains at risk of getting cut. BPCCC is due to receive this additional funding because despite the school's remarkable growth and responsiveness to employer demand, BPCCC receives less funding than any other college in the state. State Representative Jeff Thompson, R-Bossier City, told the Bossier Press Tribune, "Being in the budget is not the same as being in hand." [\*Read more on BPCCC's funding battle.\*](#)

The Louisiana College Board of Trustees has ousted President Joe Aguillard after months of turmoil and damaging allegations, but his parting package is quite generous. When he leaves on May 31, he begins a one-year sabbatical at his full salary of more than \$200,000, then when he returns, he assumes a position as a tenured professor. The interim President will be Argile Smith, the current Vice President for Integration of Faith and Learning. [\*For the full story click here.\*](#)

## Shreveport-Bossier Higher Education News

- Tanita Gilbert-Baker, President of the Shreveport-Bossier African American Chamber of Commerce, had these words of thanks for parting Grambling President Frank Pogue. [\*Shreveport Times, 04.19.14\*](#)
- As the longest serving President of Northwestern State University, Dr. Randy Webb has a long list of considerable accomplishments including putting Northwestern at the head of pack in distance learning. [\*Shreveport Times, 04.20.14\*](#)

## Louisiana Higher Education News

- Louisiana is tied with West Virginia and Arkansas for last place in terms of the number of adults with some post-

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secondary degree. Just 28% have a degree compared to 39% nationally. Higher Education Advisor Tom Layzell told a Senate committee, "The importance of increasing educational attainment can't be overstated." ***The Advocate, 04.15.14***

- Southern University celebrated 100 years in Baton Rouge last week. Southern's home was established on Scott's Bluff in 1914 only after the U.S. Department of Interior threatened to withhold money for LSU unless the state found a permanent home for Southern. ***The Advocate, 04.20.14***
- The Board of Regents is supporting legislation that would allow them to choose a Commissioner of Higher Education and set the salary without legislative approval. ***The Advocate, 04.20.14***

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## National Higher Education News

- A report released today by the State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO) says state and local money for higher education increased in 2013 while enrollment dropped 2.4 percent. The report also shows how Louisiana fared compared to other states. ***The Chronicle of Higher Education, 04.21.14***
- After applications for admission fell 14% this year, the President of Dartmouth College is calling on the students to clean up their act. "There is a grave disconnect between our culture in the classroom and the behaviors outside of it - behaviors which too often seek not to elevate the human spirit, but to debase it. It is time for Dartmouth to change." ***The Washington Post, 04.16.14***

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For more information on higher education in Northwest Louisiana, please visit our website at [www.sbba4he.org](http://www.sbba4he.org)

Sincerely,

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

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*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](mailto:jmagner@sbba4he.org)*



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