

Continuing Education

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Higher Education Quote of the Week:

"We're doing some real gangbusters things there, and we're real proud of that. It's the direction we want to go, but we're not anywhere we need to be." -
Derek Rovaris, LSU Vice Provost for Diversity, on LSU's efforts to grow the diversity of the student

Dear Johnette,

The Louisiana Community and Technical College System unveiled an ambitious plan last week designed to ensure the system's 13 colleges produce the skilled workforce needed by current and future employers. The plan is entitled *Louisiana 2020: Building the Workforce* and includes the following six goals:

1. Double the Number of Graduates to 40,000 Annually
2. Double the Earnings of the Annual Graduating Class
3. Quadruple Student Transfers to 4-year Universities
4. Double the Number of Students Served
5. Quadruple Partnerships with Business and Industry
6. Double Foundation Assets to \$50 Million

The plan has been endorsed by a number of business groups throughout the state, including the Shreveport-Bossier Business Alliance for Higher Education (SBBA). **[For more on the plan click here.](#)**

Shreveport-Bossier Higher Education News

- Louisiana Tech, Northwestern State University, and LSUS have all been named to the 2015 list of "Military Friendly Schools." Victory Media honors the top 20

body.



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percent of schools each year that "are doing the most to embrace America's military service members, veterans, and spouses as students and ensure their success on campus." *[Shreveport Times, 10.14.14](#)*

Louisiana Higher Education News

- Joseph Rallo is Louisiana's new Commissioner of Higher Education. The special advisor for Global Education at Texas Tech University was selected by the Board of Regents last week to replace Jim Purcell, who left the post in March. "I have been around seven or eight different institutions, and it's good to be able to compare, to say we did this in Colorado, we did this in Michigan or we did this in Texas. It may not be the right answer for Louisiana, but it gives you something to think about," said Rallo. *[Daily Reveille, 10.13.14](#)*
- The Cowen Institute at Tulane University has pulled a report on New Orleans public schools and apologized for the report's inaccuracies. "Officials determined the report's methodology was flawed, making its conclusions inaccurate. The report will not be reissued," said John Ayers, Executive Director of the Institute. *[NOLA.com, 10.10.14](#)*
- Enrollment at most New Orleans colleges dropped this year, but there were some bright spots. Both Dillard University and Tulane saw enrollment increases, with Tulane exceeding 13,500 students for the first time. *[NOLA.com, 10.10.14](#)*

National Higher Education News

- A Drexel University Study has found that students with some college, but no certificate or degree, don't fare much better in the job market than those with just a high school degree. These findings have left researchers stating that for some, a little college can be worse than no college at all, especially for students who take out loans. *[Wall Street Journal, 10.13.14](#)*

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- The Hechinger Report has published a website with a tuition tracker that can help students and parents figure out what the true cost of attending a particular college will likely be. Tuitiontracker.org

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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