

Continuing Education

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Higher Education Quote of the Week:

"You still have a lot of anger that one employee had us go through all this. One employee tarnished this great institution, this great department. There's a variety of emotions, but the bottom line is we can now close the book on it, move forward and keep building the program." - ULL Athletic Director Scott Famer on ULL's troubles with the NCAA.



Quick Links

Colleges and

Greetings!

After a two-year investigation by the NCAA, the University of Louisiana at Lafayette has finally learned its fate resulting from serious misconduct by a former assistant football coach. While the NCAA ruled the coach was guilty of four Level 1 violations, the sanctions were not as serious as they could have been because of ULL's cooperation throughout the investigation. The NCAA also concluded that Coach David Saunders acted without the knowledge of the school or other coaches.

The NCAA accepted the school's self-imposed sanctions and added additional penalties including a fine and recruiting restrictions. [For more on the sanctions click here.](#)

Among the most egregious of the violations was an allegation that Coach Saunders steered academically-weak athletes to an ACT testing site in Mississippi where an accomplice altered student answers before submitting them to ACT. ULL is asserting that ACT should have known this and has sued the company. "We think there is another entity that could have stopped some of this from taking place on our campus," said ULL Athletic Director Scott Farmer. [For more on ULL's lawsuit against ACT click here.](#)

Shreveport-Bossier Higher Education News

- The family of recently-deceased NSU President Dr. Randy Webb has established an endowed athletic scholarship at Northwestern. "Randy and I had planned to present the check to Greg in October. Unfortunately Randy's illness kept us from meeting with Greg. It was important for me to follow up on Randy's wishes and in early December the gift was given," said Brenda Webb, the widow of Dr. Webb. [Natchitoches Parish Journal, 01.14.16](#)
- LSUS has hired a new Director of Admissions. David D. Stanford is retired from the United State Army where he managed more than 300 army recruiters. He was the Army Reserve recruiter of the year from 2006 to 2009. [KTBS-TV3, 01.14.16](#)

Louisiana Higher Education News

- Richard Lipsey, the new chairman of the Board of Regents,

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is saying changes may be ahead for TOPS. Among the changes may be raising the criteria, which would slow the growing price tag for the program. Lipsey also thinks higher standards would encourage higher performance in high school. "I think it will improve the quality of children we are getting out of high schools now. We know that high schools are not doing what they're supposed to be doing because we are teaching remedial courses." ***The Advocate, 01.13.16***

- The BESE Board voted in December to force high school students to fill out the FAFSA form or sign a waiver in order to receive their high school diplomas. "There are a number of students who simply don't take time to fill out the forms, either because they are not aware of the forms or they don't have any guidance to fill the forms out," said new BESE member Tony Davis. "There's simply too many dollars being left on the table." ***Shreveport Times, 01.14.16***
- The LSU chapter of Kappa Alpha will be abandoning some fraternity traditions following a new directive from the national KA fraternity. The fraternity can no longer sponsor any activities with the name "Old South." ***The LSU Reveille, 01.14.16***

National Higher Education News

- The Federal Reserve Bank of New York has published a study entitled, "Working as a Barista After College is not as Common as You May Think." The researchers acknowledged there is underemployment but argue it took place in jobs that generally pay better than the food service industry. ***InsideHigherEd, 01.12.16***
- New York Governor Andrew Cuomo is pushing a plan to use state funds to cover the cost of college coursework for prison inmates. This is his second try at the project. Last time it was defeated by Republicans who dubbed the effort "Attica University." ***New York Times, 01.11.16***

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