

Continuing Education

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Higher Education Quote of the Week:

"This isn't the kind of job where you simply post the job announcement and wait for rock stars to apply. The history of the university chewing up and spitting out presidents rightfully gives great candidates pause about moving their family to rural Louisiana only to be out in less than 5 years and a stain on their reputation."
- *Dillard University President Dr. Walter Kimbrough on why the UL System needs to hire a search firm to find a new President of Grambling if they do not already have a successor in mind.*

Greetings!

Although Governor John Bel Edwards considers the front-loading of TOPS to be a "continuation of the tricks and gimmicks" of the Jindal administration, he announced late last week he will not veto the measure. So what exactly does this mean for students who will be receiving the TOPS award in September?

Under the plan passed by the Louisiana Legislature this summer, students receiving TOPS will have to pick up 30% of their tuition costs this year, but they will pick up a larger percentage of it in the spring.

This fall, students will only pay 5% of their tuition, but in January, they will be asked to cover 51%. This plan was created with the hope that the state would discover new revenue this fall that could be put toward TOPS later in the year, something Edwards considers unlikely.

"While I had a plan that would have fully funded TOPS for the entire academic year, the legislature did not raise enough revenue or identify enough spending cuts to fully fund the program." ***For more on the TOPS cuts click here.***

Shreveport-Bossier Higher Education News

- The University of Louisiana System is accepting applications to fill the President's job at Grambling State University with the hope they will have a new person in place by the start of the fall semester. Dr. Leon Sanders, the Vice President of Finance and Administration, is serving as the interim President until someone is selected. ***NOLA.com, 07.01.16***
- Nursing and Allied Health majors attending BPCCC in the fall of 2017 will be housed in a new 4-story, 80,000 square foot facility. The state-of-the-art building will include lab spaces, classrooms, and study areas. "It's going to be just like a hospital set-up, so students can get actual first-hand knowledge," said BPCCC spokesperson Tracy McGill. ***Shreveport Times, 06.29.16***

Louisiana Higher Education News

- During a presentation to the Louisiana Board of Regents



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- During a presentation to the Louisiana Board of Regents, Governor John Bel Edwards requested the state's colleges not raise tuition this fall since higher education received roughly the same amount of state funding as last year. He did caution, however, that schools should be prepared for mid-year cuts. [NOLA.com, 06.30.16](#)
- Students attending LSU in Baton Rouge will see slightly less than a 5% increase in tuition this year, which comes to \$242 a semester. LSU President King Alexander told students, "The flagship's adjustment is less than half of the amount permitted under the law for this year and well below what we have exercised in previous years." [NOLA.com, 07.05.16](#)

National Higher Education News

- According to a report published by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni, only 23 of the 76 colleges named among the best by US News & World Report, require history majors to take U.S. History. In their report, the ACTA said they see the absence of these requirements as a "truly breathtaking abandonment of intellectual standards and professional judgment." [Wall Street Journal, 07.01.16](#)

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

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