

Continuing Education

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Higher Education Quote of the Week:

"The incoming freshman class of 2016 represents one of the largest and certainly the most academically accomplished in the history of Louisiana Tech." - *LA Tech President Les Guice*



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Both LSUS and Louisiana Tech saw a healthy uptick in enrollment this fall. At LSUS, enrollment climbed 5.9% thanks in large part to enrollment growth in graduate programs.

"LSUS has the most graduate intensive enrollment of any four-year university in the state," said LSU Spokesperson Jason Droddy. This semester, 44% of LSUS students are in graduate or professional programs.

At Louisiana Tech, they're making history with their largest enrollment ever. They have 12,694 students registered this quarter, which is a 2.3% increase over last year. Tech is also reporting they have 55% more freshmen this year than they did in the fall of 2012. [For more information click here.](#)

Shreveport-Bossier Higher Education News

- Louisiana Tech is ranked #57 in the nation for mid-career salaries in Payscale.com's College Salary Report. The median mid-career salary for a Tech graduate with only a bachelor's degree is \$88,000. Louisiana Tech was also ranked #1 in the state followed by Tulane and LSU. [news.latech.edu, 09.22.16](#)
- Two local technical colleges are at risk of losing their accreditation because their accrediting body is no longer recognized by the U.S. government. Accreditation is necessary for students to receive federal aid, so loss of accreditation can seriously harm a school's enrollment. The schools at risk are Virginia College and McCann School of Business and Technology. [The Times, 09.26.16](#)

Louisiana Higher Education News

- The colleges put on fiscal watch last month by the Louisiana Board of Regents submitted corrective plans of action last week. LSU President F. King Alexander laid out his plan to improve the fiscal health of the Shreveport medical school: "We're going to work with multiple partners to stabilize the medical school and get it back on the right footing," he said. [The Times, 09.22.16](#)
- The LCTCS system is reporting some impressive numbers of graduates and transfers to 4-year schools. This year, the system graduated 26% more students than it did in

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2015. "We've had difficult times financially, but we've made the hard decisions to cut programs that aren't as high in demand. It means these graduates are going to earn a good living," said LCTCS System President Monty Sullivan. ***The Advocate, 09.22.16***

- LSU has raised \$57 million in just 10 months for a renovation and expansion of the School of Engineering. The funds came from 450 individuals and businesses, many of whom are located in the Baton Rouge area. The facility will include a sustainable living lab and interactive classroom. "At 9.7 square acres, this will be the largest such engineering facility in the country," said LSU Provost Rick Koubek. ***Baton Rouge Business Report, 09.22.16***

National Higher Education News

- Education and testing specialists are saying the new text-heavy math portion of the SAT is hurting students who perform well in math but not in reading. Those most negatively impacted include students with dyslexia and English-language learners. Students are also finding they are not finishing the section. "I didn't have nearly enough time to finish. Other people I asked had similar impressions" said one test taker. ***Reuters, 09.22.16***
- According to the Urban Institute, the Obama administration's new income-based student loan repayment program is not helping the students who need it the most and are most likely to default. "It appears that borrowers who choose to use modified repayment have many characteristics that already make them less likely to default," said UI researcher Kristin Blagg. ***The Wall Street Journal, 09.22.16***

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