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# Continuing Education

Volume 2 Number 5 - *The Weekly Newsletter of the SBBA* - January 29, 2013



List of transition team subcommittee members

LSU has appointed 60 members from around the state to subcommittees of the transition advisory team. Click above to see which local people made the list.

**Dear Johnette,**

When the Grad Act goals were established, they were designed to reward those schools who were meeting performance benchmarks, such as retaining and graduating more students each year. But with such severe budget cuts in recent years, schools throughout the state say they are struggling to stay afloat, much less meet performance improvements goals.

Failure to meet Grad Act requirements can be devastating. Not only can schools not raise tuition, they also receive a 15% percent cut from their state formula funding. Regent Bob Levy told Gannett, "The Grad Act is the 8000-pound gorilla that could bring institutions to their knees."

Last year, LSU-Eunice was the only school in the state to not meet Grad Act goals, but Regents fear there could be several schools this year, including a "large one." We should all know within the next four months.

## Shreveport-Bossier Higher Education News

- Jack Sharp has served as the CEO of the Biomedical Research Foundation for 17 years, and under his leadership, the institution has thrived. *The Shreveport Times*, 1.26.13



## Louisiana Higher Education News

- The Board of Regents learned last week that several colleges and universities, including "a large one," may fail to meet Grad Act goals this year. Failure can cripple the already-struggling schools by reducing their state funding and barring them from a tuition increase. *The*



### Quick Links

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[Shreveport Times, 1.23.13](#)

- Spokespersons for both Northwestern and LSU-Alexandria have told members of the media that they will meet the Grad Act goals this year. [Alexandria Town Talk, 1.25.13](#)
- Higher Education Commissioner Jim Purcell has asked the Louisiana Legislature to give schools or systems the power to set tuition. Louisiana is the only state in the country where the legislature sets tuition rates for public colleges. [NOLA.com, 1.23.13](#)
- Faculty members in the LSU System have gotten what they've asked for: representation in the LSU reorganization. Dr. Jenkins has appointed 60 members from LSU schools around the state to the subcommittees of the transition team. [LSU System Website](#)
- An LSU Baton Rouge faculty member who blew the whistle on the unlawful collection and use of student fees has been fired by LSU. But it's not over yet. She's filed suit. [NOLA.com, 1.25.13](#)
- The Senate Education Committee Chairman told The Hayride that school performance, not funding, is the real problem plaguing higher education. [The Hayride, 1.24.13](#)
- A new study spearheaded by Commissioner Purcell shows 2-year graduates make an average of \$3000 more a year than 4-year graduates at 18 months after graduation. [The Advocate, 1.24.13](#)

## National Higher Education News

- The Center for College Affordability and Productivity released a startling statistic this week. Approximately half of the college graduates from 2010 are working in jobs that do not require a college degree. [The Chronicle of Higher Education, 1.28.13](#)

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**

*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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