Dear Johnette,

The LSU Transition Team met today and shared their final report on LSU 2015 to be presented to the LSU Board of Supervisors on Friday. Unlike the initial plan presented last year that would have demoted the Chancellor of LSUHSC-Shreveport to a Vice Chancellor without a direct report to the LSU System President, this proposal does not include an organization chart. The implication in the meeting today was that the new LSU will function as a "hub and spoke model" with no changes in campus titles. The written plan, which has not yet been released, includes rebranding, so that all schools in the LSU System share a similar brand, and more cooperation and sharing of resources.

If you are concerned about the future of higher education in Louisiana, you don't want to miss the 2013 Legislative Session Summary sponsored by the Louisiana Committee of 100. The program, which will focus heavily on higher education, will be this Thursday at 10:00 am in the theater at BPCC. Chancellor Jim Henderson will also provide an update on the latest happenings on campus. The SBBA and NWLA Committee of One Hundred are also sponsoring this event. For more information Click Here

Shreveport-Bossier Higher Education News

- The Louisiana Board of Regents reports that more than half of the new teachers in NWLA are rated effective or highly effective. The results were based on student test performance. Shreveport Times, 07.22.13
- Affordable Colleges Online has ranked Northwestern #6 in the nation on its list of most affordable online college degree programs. Northwestern has 34 fully accredited degree programs online. Northwestern Press Release, 07.10.13

Louisiana Higher Education News
• The LSU System has lost its appeal before the 1st Circuit Court to keep secret its list of 3 dozen applicants considered for LSU President. The suit was filed by The Advocate and New Orleans Times Picayune. *The Advertiser, 07.20.13*

• The LSU College of Engineering has received a $2 million donation from Roy O. Martin, a member of the Board of Regents who owns an Alexandria-based timber, lumber, and land company. *The Advocate, 07.21.13*

• This year, the state of Louisiana required all high school juniors to take the ACT, so 37,000 students took the test in Louisiana this year compared to 11,000 last year. The result is 3600 more students scored an 18 or above and thus will qualify for TOPS in 2014. *NOLA.com, 07.17.13*

• Loyola College in New Orleans is not the only college worried about enrollment this fall. At a New Orleans conference sponsored by the Noel-Levitz higher education consulting firm, hundreds of attendees expressed concern about their fall numbers. *NOLA.com, 07.20.13*

---

**National Higher Education News**

• LSU Professor Bob Mann writes in NOLA.com that he believes the government should offer student loans to everyone for as little as one percent interest. "We guarantee children a debt-free elementary and secondary education; but then saddle them with crushing loans when they make the next step. That doesn't make sense." *NOLA.com, 07.20.13*

• As the Congress continues to battle over student loan rates, some are advocating for removing politics from the process and tying the rates to the markets. Forbes columnist Steven Cruz argues, "The current system of artificially set rates has failed students, encourages more borrowing, contributes to the rapidly increasing cost of college tuition, and insulates students from the real cost of borrowing while taxpayers assume the burden." *Forbes, 07.19.13*

---

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