Dear Johnette,

It's decision time this month for higher education governing boards. The Louisiana Community and Technical College Board is expected to select a new head of the system next week to replace outgoing head Joe May, who is leaving this month. The Board wants the new President to start on February 26. "We really need some leadership by that time," said LCTCS Board Chairman Michael Murphy. "There's not going to be any settling in time." The time frame is primarily driven by the legislative session that begins March 10th because the Board wants a leader in place to work with the legislature.

After more than 18 months with an interim Chancellor, LSUS is poised to have a permanent Chancellor selected within weeks. Four finalists for the job were announced yesterday. LSU President King Alexander will recommend his selection to the LSU Board of Supervisors for approval sometime after interviews next week.

Shreveport-Bossier Higher Education News

- Governor Bobby Jindal has appointed Louisiana Tech President Les Guice as the new chair of the Louisiana Innovation Council. He follows Louisiana Economic
Development Secretary Stephen Moret. *Monroe News-Star, 02.04.14*

- LSUS has announced the names of four finalists for the Chancellor's position, and two of the finalists have Shreveport connections. *Shreveport Times, 02.04.14*
- LSUS has also announced plans to change its school colors from blue and gold to purple and gold as part of a rebranding effort within the LSU System. LSUS will also gain a new logo. *Shreveport Times, 01.29.14*
- Centenary College has a new Provost and Dean. Jenifer K. Ward previously served as Dean of Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle. *Shreveport Times, 01.28.14*
- Northwest Louisiana Technical College has been named among 150 finalists for the prestigious Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence. The finalists were selected from a group of more than 1000 community colleges. *Northwest Louisiana Business Monthly Magazine, 01.31.14*

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### Louisiana Higher Education News

- The Louisiana Community and Technical College Board plans to select a new system President at its upcoming meeting on February 12. Four finalists were interviewed last Friday, and this week the search firm is conducting background checks. BPCC Chancellor Jim Henderson is among the final four. *Shreveport Times, 02.04.13*
- Centenary College President David Rowe announced last week he plans to raise the minimum wage for his employees to $10.10 an hour. According to a story in The Advocate, no other colleges in the state have committed to following Rowe's lead although some have said they will consider it. "This is something I've supported for years. The challenge is that everyone in higher education is pushing to control costs. I think it's the right thing to do, but the question is, can you afford to do it," said Walter Kimbrough, President of Dillard University. *The Advocate, 02.03.14*
National Higher Education News

- Although student loan defaults are on the rise, the federal government is projecting to make $66 billion off student loans paid out between 2007 and 2012. *The Chronicle of Higher Education, 02.03.14*
- After an embarrassing report released last month revealing that many University of North Carolina athletes read at or below an 8th grade level, UNC Chancellor Carol Folt admitted this week to a broader problem. "We accept the fact that there was a failure in academic oversight for years that permitted this to continue," she said. "This, too, was wrong, and it has undermined our integrity and our reputation." *CNN, 01.29.13*
- A recent national study examining the value of a liberal arts education has reported that liberal arts graduates earn more at their career peak than graduates with professional or pre-professional undergraduate degrees. "A liberal arts education develops leaders who can overcome challenges, adapt to the changing world, and weather economic shifts to achieve career success over decades," said Matt Bailey, Senior Director of External Affairs at Centenary. *Centenary Website, 01.22.14*

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 jimagner@sbba4he.org