Dear Johnette,

It was an especially big day today for two Northwest Louisiana college presidents. Today, Dr. Randy Webb officially became the longest-serving President in Northwestern's 130-year history. Webb recently announced his plans to retire sometime this fall. For the complete story click here.

For LSUS Chancellor Dr. Larry Clark, it was his first day on the job. To plug a more than $2 million hole in this year's budget, Clark announced he has cut $475,000 in spending and received a long-term loan from the LSU System of $1.5 million. The Noel Foundation has also put up $100,000 to help repay the first year of interest on the loan. For more on Clark and LSU Loan Click Here.

Shreveport-Bossier Higher Education News

- The AEP Foundation has pledged $1.4 million to BPCC to launch Credit CountsSM, a program designed to introduce more Caddo and Bossier students to STEM experiences and encourage them to major in STEM fields. Shreveport Times, 07.01.14
- Southern University at Shreveport was one of three schools in the Southern System that failed to meet Grad Act requirements. As a result, the school will lose approximately $900,000 in state funding and will not be able to raise tuition. Shreveport Times, 06.26.14

Louisiana Higher Education News

- The accrediting body for Louisiana College released a statement last week regarding their decision to put the school on probation. They wrote,"Probation is the Commission's most serious sanction, short of loss of membership." SACSO.C.org, 06.26.14
- The UL Board has appointed an interim Chancellor for Grambling State University. System President Sandra
Woodley says she chose Dr. Cynthia Warrick because she has "proven capable of enacting positive change in the face of significant challenges."  [NOLA.com, 06.27.14]

- Flandus McClinton Jr., the current Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration for Southern in Baton Rouge, has been selected to serve also as Acting Chancellor for the campus. While the vote among board members was unanimous, the Associated Press reports several spoke against his appointment.  [Shreveport Times, 06.30.14]

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**National Higher Education News**

- Student loan interest rates went up today for all students taking out new loans. The interest rate for an undergraduate Stafford Loan just went from 3.86% to 4.66%. Student loan debt in the United States is currently over $1.2 trillion.  [Diverse.com, 07.01.14]

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