Dear Johnette,

When Governor Bobby Jindal appointed E. Gerald "T-Boy" Hebert to the University of Louisiana Board of Supervisors, Hebert knew he faced a credibility problem. He was about to sit on a board overseeing nine Louisiana universities, including Louisiana Tech and Northwestern, without having ever earned a college degree.

After attending the University of Louisiana at Lafayette for a few semesters, he dropped out in 1969 to pursue training in drilling and fluid services. His GPA at the time was 1.69.

Shortly after the appointment to the Board, he returned to school at ULL, brought his GPA up to 3.3, and graduated in 2012. He is now working on a master's degree at UNO. Hebert is also now the Chairman of the UL System Board.

"I love the learning experience," T-Boy told the Lafayette Advertiser. "Time isn't of the essence, so I may just as well pursue a Ph.D."

Hebert is also President and Owner of Patriot Services Corporation. For more on Hebert's story click here.

Shreveport-Bossier Higher Education News

- Centenary College has made the Forbes Magazine list of Top 100 Colleges in the South. Centenary joins Tulane, LSU, and Louisiana Tech on the prestigious list. Shreveport Times, 08.01.14
- LSU Health in Shreveport welcomed its largest class in history last week when 125 students arrived on the campus. The school hopes to increase the number of students accepted by 25 over the next five years. "We want to expand and strengthen the medical school to help ensure our community and state have well-prepared physicians to care for our families," said
Louisiana Higher Education News

- The faculty at Southern University in Baton Rouge are quite unhappy with System President Ronald Mason. Following a unanimous Faculty Senate vote of "no confidence," they aired their grievances with the news media. Mason has publicly said they need to visit, but faculty are rejecting and ridiculing the offer. "This pretense that his office has always been open is just a load of malarkey," said Faculty Senate President Thomas Miller. "The Advocate, 08.04.14"
- The Editorial Board of the New Orleans Times-Picayune has accused Governor Bobby Jindal of "playing politics with Common Core." On Sunday the board wrote," The political fight over Common Core academic standards reached an absurd level last week..." "Times-Picayune, 08.04.14"

National Higher Education News

- The sole finalist for the President's job at the University of Texas may have no experience running a college, but no one is questioning whether he is up for the job. Admiral William H. McRaven currently commands more than 60,000 individuals in his position as Commander of all United States Special Operations Forces. He is also the individual who directed the attack that killed Osama Bin Laden. A colleague of McRaven's told Newsweek, "Bill is reputed to be the smartest SEAL that ever lived." "New York Times, 08.03.14"

For more information on higher education in Northwest Louisiana, please visit our website at www.sbba4he.org

Sincerely,

Johnnette 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. Johnnette Magner at jmagner@sbba4he.org