



# Continuing Education

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## Higher Education Quote of the Week:

"A projected \$380 million in budget cuts to Louisiana higher education next year may finish off the job... Our system of state universities and community colleges may finally become battered beyond effectiveness." - *Monroe News-Star Editorial Board*



## Quick Links

Colleges and

Dear Johnette,

Administrators and faculty at Grambling State University will learn on February 19 whether the school's undergraduate nursing program will be forced to close its doors.

For the last three years, the nursing program at Grambling has been on "conditional approval" by the Louisiana State Board of Nursing for having too few students pass the nursing licensure exam. Last year, the Board took the additional step of prohibiting Grambling from taking new students into the program which currently has 200 students.

LSBN Executive Director Dr. Karen Lyon has indicated she expects the board to take action, which could mean elimination, and the faculty at Grambling are gravely worried.

"That program has had a strong reputation for years. I cannot even put into words what that loss would mean. We've worked diligently to ensure that doesn't happen," said GSU Provost Janet Guyden. [For more on Grambling click here.](#)

## Shreveport-Bossier Higher Education News

- Dr. Cynthia Warrick, the interim President of Grambling State University, has announced she will not seek the permanent position as head of the university. "While I am confident my work during this important transition has made a positive impact at Grambling; I have decided that I will honor my agreement with the registry not to apply for the permanent position," she said. [NOLA.com, 01.29.15](#)
- Louisiana Tech has made Business Insider's list of the top 50 most underrated colleges in America. Tech appeared at #8 on the list and was the only college in Louisiana to be ranked. [Monroe News-Star, 01.30.15](#)

## Governing Boards

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## Louisiana Higher Education News

- The extra \$40 million in WISE funding this year for workforce development appears to be on the chopping block for the next fiscal year, a casualty of the \$1.6 billion deficit. Following the announcement, the Advocate Editorial Board wrote, "All that said, the Workforce and Innovation for a Stronger Economy (WISE) fund was better than nothing, which is about what colleges were used to getting out of Jindal." ***The Advocate, 01.31.15***
- The higher education community is offering suggestions on how to reduce the proposed cuts this next fiscal year. At the top of the list is redirecting dollars used for business tax exemptions and allowing universities to charge higher tuition for higher cost programs. ***NOLA.com, 01.29.15***
- LSU Professor Robert Mann is also offering ideas to address the shortfall in funding for higher education. His suggestions include shuttering some universities, reducing the number of higher education governing boards, and reforming TOPS. ***NOLA.com, 02.02.15***

## National Higher Education News

- Among those on the short list of favorites to secure the GOP nomination for President is a Governor who lacks a college degree. In this Bloomberg article, Al Hunt questions the degree to which Americans will find this troubling. ***Bloomberg.com, 02.01.15***
- In a paper released this week on the value of college, researchers conclude the answer depends in great part on whether a student finishes and how long it takes him to earn the degree. ***Washington Post, 01.30.15***

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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