

Continuing Education

Volume 4 Number 14- *The Weekly Newsletter of the SBBA* - April 7, 2015



Higher Education Quote of the Week:

"Let me be crystal clear. This means no more death by a thousand cuts. This means no moving this medical school anywhere. This means no migration of medical students over time from here to anywhere else. I will not let that happen." - *U.S. Senator and Gubernatorial Candidate David Vitter on his plans to secure the future for LSUHSC in Shreveport.*

Greetings!

U.S. Senator David Vitter announced plans earlier today to form a working group that will develop strategies to stabilize funding for the LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport and make our medical school a "nationally recognized center of excellence."

"What it means instead is stabilizing this place; implementing a sustainable model with consistent, predictable financial support; and then building a recognized center of excellence - like the University of Alabama at Birmingham Medical Center - regularly attracting NIH and other grants, private partnerships, and more," said Vitter.

Vitter's working group will be headed up by local neurosurgeon Dr. Anil Nanda and Bobby Jelks, a local CPA and civic leader. Vitter says he plans to return to Shreveport later this month to attend the first meeting of the group.

[For more on the announcement click here.](#)

Shreveport-Bossier Higher Education News

- Dr. Rick Bateman, who is currently serving as the interim Chancellor at Bossier Parish Community College, has been selected to permanently fill the job. Bateman is also the Interim Chancellor of Northwest Louisiana Technical College. [KTBS-TV3, 04.08.15](#)
- Grambling State University received some very good news this week. Both the undergraduate and graduate nursing programs have been accredited through 2020 by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing. [KTBS TV-3, 04.08.15](#)



Louisiana Higher Education News

- State Senator Robert Adley has introduced legislation that would allow Louisiana colleges to pull out of the Teacher Retirement System if they pay off their long-term liabilities associated with

Quick Links

Colleges and Governing Boards

[Bossier Parish Community
College](#)

[Centenary College](#)

[Grambling](#)

[LSUHSC Shreveport](#)

[LSU Shreveport](#)

[Louisiana Tech](#)

[Northwestern](#)

[Northwest Louisiana
Technical College](#)

[Southern University at
Shreveport](#)

[LA Board of Regents](#)

[LCTCS System](#)

[LSU System](#)

[Remington College](#)

[Southern University
System](#)

[University of LA System](#)

SBBA Member Organizations

[African American
Chamber](#)

[Biomedical Research
Foundation](#)

[Bossier Chamber](#)

[CERT](#)

[Committee of One
Hundred](#)

their employees. One LSU official says his system's leaders like the legislation because retirement obligations are "starting to crowd out the money we are trying to put against the education mission." [The Advocate, 04.05.15](#)

- The Louisiana high school graduation rate has reached an all-time high at 74.6%. This rate is an increase of 3.2% since 2011. The school district with the best graduation rate in the state was DeSoto parish with a graduation rate of 94.5%. [Baton Rouge Business Report, 04.06.15](#)
- The Advocate Editorial Board is calling legislation designed to control the growth of spending on TOPS a "step in the right direction." The bill, sponsored by State Senator Jack Donahue, would decouple TOPS spending from increases in tuition. [The Advocate, 04.05.15](#)

National Higher Education News

- Why have college costs quadrupled over the last 35 years? According to one professor writing in the New York Times it is primarily due to "a huge increase in public subsidies for higher education." [New York Times, 04.06.15](#)

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 jmagner@sbba4he.org*

[Manufacturers Managers
Council](#)

[Shreveport Chamber](#)

[North Louisiana Economic
Partnership](#)