

Continuing Education

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Higher Education Quote of the Week:

"The risk is real. The collateral damage that you would see from a cut of this magnitude is going to ricochet not only to the business community, to the economy, to the families, but that ricochet is going to exist for a decade to come." - *State Senator Sherri Buffington on the potential consequences of major funding cuts to higher education.*



Greetings!

More than 150 college students marched on the State Capitol today to protest proposed cuts to higher education. There were students representing all four college systems, and they were carrying signs that read "No Funds, No Future," "No Cuts," and "Katrina Didn't Close UNO But the Cuts Can." [*For more on the rally click here.*](#)

Last week in Shreveport, higher education leaders, legislators, and business leaders from NWLA joined to talk about possible solutions to the impending higher education funding crisis. Legislators seemed united in both their concern and commitment to finding a solution that would protect higher ed. State Representative Mike Johnson told the crowd, "I am very optimistic that we are going to solve this thing. Everybody is going to hurt a little bit, but I don't think anybody is going to get the nuclear option." [*For more on the SBBA Summit click here.*](#)

Finally, it is not too late to tell legislators you want them to restore funding to higher education. You have until Friday to sign the SBBA's online petition to be delivered to legislators next week. You can see and sign the petition at [*savelafuture.org*](http://savelafuture.org)

Shreveport-Bossier Higher Education News

- LSUS announced today that the NWLA school is ranked #1 in the nation in college fishing for the last 12 months. LSUS has had a team finish in the top 15 in the last five bass fishing tournaments. Team member Jared Rascoe discovered the ranking and said, "I thought it was a typo at first, but when I looked at the rankings and points, we were number one." [*bassrankings.com, 04.15*](http://bassrankings.com)
- Centenary College has named Calhoun Allen as the new Vice President of Enrollment. Allen just recently joined the college as Associate Vice President for Marketing and Communication before receiving the promotion following a national search. [*Shreveport Times, 04.15.15*](#)

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Louisiana Higher Education News

- Governor Bobby Jindal's address to the legislature on Monday appears to have provided little encouragement to legislators, with most telling Tyler Bridges of the Advocate they "don't expect much help." State Representative Brett Geymann said, "The administration is not giving us the details and support we need." *[The Advocate, 04.15.15](#)*
- The LSU System has created a website called the LSU Budget Hub that lists bills they are supporting this session. The bills are either centered around securing stable funding or granting more autonomy. Shreveport's Thomas Carmody is the author of two bills on the list. *[LSU Budget Hub, 04.15](#)*
- Legislators have begun reviewing bills this session and are finding there are many more than usual designed to raise revenue. House Speaker Chuck Kleckley said, "It shows the interest from the membership, across party lines, to find ways to balance the budget and minimize cuts to higher education and health care." *[The Advocate, 04.13.15](#)*

National Higher Education News

- The US Department of Education has fined Corinthian Colleges \$30 million and told them it is now time to close their colleges in the Heald College chain. "Corinthian violated students' and taxpayers' trust. Their substantial misrepresentations represent a blatant disregard not just for professional standards, but for students' futures," said Education Secretary Arne Duncan. *[InsideHigherEd, 04.15.15](#)*

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*

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