

Continuing Education

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Higher Education Quote of the Week:

"We have to fix the structural budget issues that have resulted in eight years of deficits and devastating cuts, especially to higher education. Last year LSU was on the verge of filing financial exigency. That's our flagship university. It can't go on." - *Governor-elect John Bel Edwards*



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Greetings!

Last month, the Baton Rouge Area Foundation (BRAAF) unveiled their plans for a new health district, which includes a medical school that would be a branch campus of LSUHSC - New Orleans.

Earlier this week, BRAAF Executive-Vice President John Spain participated in a Q&A with the Greater Baton Rouge Business Report to further discuss the health district. Here is what he said in regard to the school, "Every time a new medical school for Baton Rouge is discussed, people get upset because there is not enough funding for the ones we've got. So this is a branch of the New Orleans LSU medical school. We've hired consulting firm Tripp Umbach to create a business plan. We have a desire to grow, but not at the expense of our New Orleans or Shreveport campuses." [***To read the entire interview click here.***](#)

Last month, LSU President King Alexander participated in a Q&A with the SBBA and reaffirmed his support for strengthening the medical school in Shreveport. "Let me definitively say the citizens of northern Louisiana have nothing to worry about. LSU Health Shreveport and our training programs in Monroe are here to stay. In fact we want to expand our academic and training programs in northern Louisiana to more fully meet the medical workforce needs of the state." [***Click here for the entire interview with Alexander***](#)

Shreveport-Bossier Higher Education News

- Both Louisiana Tech and Centenary College made the list of 300 schools featured in Kiplinger's Best College Values Report. The only other Louisiana schools making the Best Values list were LSU and Tulane. There were 1200 schools considered. [***Shreveport Times, 12.29.15***](#)
- The LSUS Debate team has done it again! They've been asked to rejoin the U.S. Debate Team that will compete against a British team for the Montgomery Cup. The competitions will take place in early March in both Ireland and Scotland. [***Shreveport Times, 01.07.16***](#)
- Last month LSUS received good news from SACs, their regional accrediting body. Not only was LSUS re-accredited for 10 years, SACS also had no recommendations or suggestions for future improvement, which is highly unusual. "It's a rare thing and quite a compliment to our

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educational programs," said Chancellor Larry Clark.
Shreveport Times, 12.21.15

Louisiana Higher Education News

- As Governor-elect John Bel Edwards prepares to take office, he is getting quite a few wish lists for spending increases despite the well-known \$1.8 billion deficit for the upcoming fiscal year. The Board of Regents has requested almost double the amount of state funds they received last year. ***The Advocate, 12.28.15***
- Monroe Mayor Jamie Mayo says one of his big goals for this year is to strengthen the city's ties to the higher education institutions in the region. "This year we will strengthen efforts to support our four local institutions of higher education. These major economic engines are vital for our city and region," Mayo said. ***Monroe News-Star, 01.04.16***

National Higher Education News

- The Washington Post is reporting that college football coaches are not the only members of the athletic staff who have seen higher salaries in recent years. Athletic Directors' salaries have also risen dramatically. Over the last decade, the athletic payrolls of 48 schools from the wealthiest conferences jumped 69 percent. ***Washington Post, 12.30.15***
- According to the Hechinger Report, state flagship universities enroll far fewer African Americans than other public colleges and the number is declining. On average, just 5% of students at flagships are black. ***The Hechinger Report, 12.18.15***

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*