Higher Education board positions are among the most coveted appointments made by the Governor of Louisiana. Over the holiday break, Governor John Bel Edwards named his 15 choices to replace board members with expiring terms on the Board of Regents, University of Louisiana Board of Supervisors, and Southern Board of Supervisors.

From North Louisiana, the Governor appointed W. Clinton "Bubba" Rasberry to serve on the Board of Regents. Rasberry previously sat on the board for a term and served as Board Chairman in 2014.

Joining the University of Louisiana system board is Lola Dunahoe of the Dunahoe Law Firm in Natchitoches and Liz Pierre, a lawyer and Senior Vice President of the North Louisiana Economic Partnership. Pierre is based in Monroe.

Richard Hilliard, a Shreveport resident and engineer with Manitowoc will be joining the Southern Board. NOLA.com, 01.04.17

Shreveport-Bossier Higher Education News

- Dr. Chris Maggio, the new Acting President of Northwestern, says he wants to focus his attention on some capital projects this spring. At the top of his list is renovations to Vernardo Hall, which will increase housing for students. Natchitoches Parish Journal, 01.02.17
- Louisiana Tech had a stellar 2016, with numerous national recognitions for return on investment. Here are the TOP 10 stories from Louisiana Tech. Monroe News-Star, 01.01.17
- LSU Health Shreveport started the new year with $1.2 million gift from Medical Center Clinics, Inc. The gift will be used to create an endowment that will enhance the school's resident and fellowship programs. According to Chancellor G.E. Ghali, it is the largest gift ever received to support residency training. Shreveport Times, 12.30.17

Louisiana Higher Education News

- The Duke Talent Identification Program (TIP) has selected LSU to serve as one of its sites to offer programming to
 gifted students over the summer. The programs are three-week residential sessions for students entering eighth through tenth grade in the fall. LSU is the 13th site selected for the Duke program. NOLA.com, 01.05.17

- The President of McNeese State University in Lake Charles has announced he plans to retire at the end of the academic year. Dr. Phillip Williams has served as President since 2010. KSLA-TV, 01.03.17

- Construction is expected to begin this year on a $21 million, 60,000 square foot campus, in downtown Alexandria for Central Louisiana Community and Technical College. Jim Clinton, CEO of Economic Development for Central Louisiana says it will make downtown Alexandria even more attractive. "It drives up everybody's property value. There's nobody who loses in this because anything within 10 blocks of here is suddenly more valuable than it was." Alexandria Town-Talk, 01.03.17

National Higher Education News

- New York Governor Andrew Cuomo wants to provide college tuition to New York residents with family incomes under $125,000. The plan is projected to cost $163 million over the next two years. "If you want to offer everybody a fair shot, then you have to get up-to-date, and you have to say what high school was 75 years ago, college is today," Cuomo said. Education Dive, 01.04.17

- In response to complaints about rising tuition costs, some colleges around the country have instead been hiking fees. The result is fees are now increasing even faster than tuition costs, and students are voicing their anger. Dr. Jennifer Delaney, a specialist in higher education finance said, "Tuition gets all of the media attention, while fees are hidden to students and also to public knowledge and oversight." Hechinger Report, 01.03.17

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