Higher education leaders throughout Louisiana quickly voiced their support for their international students and faculty following President Donald Trump's announcement of an immigration ban on visitors from seven majority-Muslim countries.

According to LSU President King Alexander, the ban has created significant alarm on campus. There are currently 100 students at LSU affected by this order. *Baton Rouge Business Report, 01.30.17*

UL System President Jim Henderson also sought to immediately reassure his system’s employees and students. "We value immensely the work of our faculty and staff from the U.S. as well as those from other countries including employees from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen," he said in an issued statement.

Meanwhile, ULL President T. Joseph Savoie is telling his people to stay put. "To avoid possible delays re-entering the United States, we advise students and faculty members from the seven affected countries to consider postponing or canceling travel until more details about the executive order are available." *The Advocate, 01.31.17*

**Local Higher Education News**

- Bossier Parish Community College and Louisiana Tech have signed an agreement that will allow BPCC employees to enroll at Tech at a reduced cost. "Providing BPCC personnel with an opportunity to strengthen their education credentials will benefit the region and the state. We are honored to partner with BPCC in this new way," said Louisiana Tech President Les Guice. *Shreveport Times, 01.26.17*

- Northwestern's Bachelor's degree in Allied Health Science has been named by BestColleges.com as the 12th best online health science degree in the country. Northwestern currently offers 39 online degrees, more than any other college in the state. *Bestcolleges.com, 02.02.17*

- The ULM School of Construction Management was listed as #6 in the Bestvalueschools.com list of the "50 Best Value Schools for Construction Management." The program was also the first in the nation to be accredited by the American Council for Construction Education. The program was founded in 1966. *Monroe News-Star, 01.30.17*
Grambling State University's spring enrollment is up 5.7% this year. Current enrollment is at 4596 students, but Grambling President Rick Gallot says he hopes to increase enrollment to 6000 in the near future. *KSLA-TV, 02.01.17*

### Louisiana Higher Education News

- As the Governor and legislators prepare to deal with a mid-year budget shortfall, many are now publicly saying that restoring full funding to TOPS will be difficult. Advocate opinion writer Stephanie Grace recently wrote that during an editorial board meeting, Governor Edwards acknowledged that restoring funding would be tough. *The Advocate, 01.31.17*
- Dr. Kim Hunter Reed, the former Chief of Staff for the Louisiana Board of Regents, has been named by Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper as the Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Higher Education. Reed most recently served as a Deputy Under Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education. *Colorado Statesman, 02.17.17*

### National Higher Education News

- According to research from the Hechinger Report, 95% of colleges in the United States enrolled students requiring remedial courses in 2014. The 560,000 students requiring the coursework reportedly cost taxpayers $7 billion in federal grants and loans. *The Hechinger Report, 01.30.17*

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)