

Continuing Education

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House Bill 194

Louisiana's Higher Education Commissioner Jim Purcell and the leaders of the four higher ed managing boards have all come out in support of HB 194, which would transfer tuition authority to the managing boards.

Dear Johnette,

The 2013 Louisiana Legislative Session has begun, and despite all of the discussion about the proposed tax swap, the needs of higher education are garnering attention from key legislators. Louisiana House Speaker Chuck Kleckley (R-Lake Charles) is among those supporting tuition autonomy for Louisiana colleges. His bill, House Bill 194, has been endorsed by the leaders of the higher education boards.

Southeastern Louisiana University is asking the NCAA to accept a set of self-imposed sanctions rather than administer its own punishment for athletics violations. Southeastern is in trouble with the association for allowing 137 ineligible students to play sports since 2005.

Southern University Law School is not helping its brethren as they argue they need more funds for higher education. According to the legislative auditor, \$500,000 in undeposited and unmailed checks were recently found in the office of a Southern Law School employee who had a "key accounting position." The school's financial statement was also off by \$1.5 million for 2012. According to *The Advocate*, "The improperly handled checks and the accounting error were the only two negatives found in the audit."



Quick Links

Colleges and
Governing Boards

Bossier Parish
Community College

Shreveport-Bossier Higher Education News

- Area legislators have filed a number of bills this legislative session including Senator Sherry Buffington's bill requiring higher education management boards to broadcast the live audio and video of all board and committee meetings. *The Shreveport Times, 04.05.13*

Louisiana Higher Education News

- Members of the House Appropriations Committee

Centenary College
LSUHSC Shreveport
LSU Shreveport
Louisiana Tech
Northwestern
Northwest LA
Technical College
Southern University at
Shreveport
LA Board of Regents
LCTCS System
LSU System
Southern University
System
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System
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African American
Chamber
Biomedical Research
Foundation
Bossier Chamber
CERT
Committee of One
Hundred
Manufacturers
Managers Council
Shreveport Chamber

expressed their grave concerns last week about Jindal's plan to fund higher education next year with one-time and contingency money. Rep. John Schroder (R-Covington) was among the toughest asking questions. "Why is it that the administration thinks it's best to load up higher education with all this contingency money rather than spreading it out? Why is higher education being picked on?" [The Advocate, 04.06.13](#)



- House Speaker Chuck Kleckley (R- Lake Charles) says the state must consider capping the growth on TOPS. The cost of TOPS has risen \$100 million in the last decade, and is projected to cost \$204 million this next fiscal year. [The Advocate, 04.03.13](#)
- The Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce issued a statement last week saying they are supporting more autonomy for the higher ed managing boards including the right to set tuition for colleges. [Baton Rouge Business Report, 04.09.13](#)
- The American Association of University Professors says Southern University violated AAUP standards when it terminated tenured faculty. AAUP has a committee considering recommending a vote to censure. [NOLA.com, 04.04.13](#)
- The legislative auditor says a former employee at Southern Law school kept \$500,000 of undeposited and unmailed checks stashed in an office. The law school was also \$1.5 million off on its 2012 financial statement. [The Advocate, 04.02.13](#)
- Southeastern Louisiana University is asking the NCAA to let them impose "self-sanctions" as a punishment for allowing 137 ineligible athletes allowed to play sports. There were violations in all 16 sports at Southeastern. [Sports Illustrated, 04.05.13](#)
- The Advocate and LSU Daily Reveille have sued the LSU Board of Supervisors alleging they violated public records laws. [The Advocate, 04.02.13](#)

National Higher Education News

- A brain-training company called Lumosity recently released a ranking of colleges according to the cognitive ability of their students. The intelligence scores were determined by student scores in five cognitive areas. Sixty thousand students participated, and scores were given to 411 colleges and universities. [Forbes, 04.07.13](#)

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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