

Continuing Education

Volume 2 Number 32- The Weekly Newsletter of the SBBA - August 20, 2013



Higher Education Quote of the Week:

"This is not going to be easy, but it has to be done...It may well include some layoffs." - ULM President Nick Bruno during his announcement to faculty he will be cutting \$1.5 million from the university's budget.



Quick Links

Colleges and Governing Boards

Dear Johnette,

Bossier Parish Community College's campus on East Texas Street opened its doors just eight years ago in January 2005, but already, it has run out space, especially parking spaces.

In anticipation of a continued boom in enrollment, the school has arranged for Louisiana Downs to serve as an overflow parking lot for BPCC this fall. Students parking at Louisiana Downs will have a shuttle bus ferry them back and forth.

The first day of school for BPCC begins tomorrow and enrollment is expected to set a new record. Last spring BPCC added more than 700 students, and there appears to be nothing slowing down the school's phenomenal growth. Just four years ago, BPCC enrollment was right at 5400. This fall it is projected to exceed 8000.

Shreveport-Bossier Higher Education News

- Centenary College has named a new Vice President for Finance and Administration. Stephanie Owens, who is also a certified public accountant, has been serving in the interim position since March 2013. <u>Centenary</u> <u>College Website</u>, 08.20.13
- LSUS Professor Jeff Sadow disputes the widely held belief that reductions in state funding to higher education are a problem. In The Hayride he writes, "So it's not such a bad thing that state support has diminished because it has been above average to begin with. And it's not such a bad thing that tuition has gone up, because it was so low to begin with." *The Hayride*, 08.19.13

Louisiana Higher Education News

• University of Louisiana at Monroe President Nick Bruno

<u>Bossier Parish</u> Community College

Centenary College

LSUHSC Shreveport

LSU Shreveport

Louisiana Tech

Northwestern

<u>Northwest LA</u> <u>Technical College</u>

Southern University at Shreveport

LA Board of Regents

LCTCS System

LSU System

Remington College

Southern University
System

University of LA System

SBBA Member Organizations

African American Chamber

Biomedical Research Foundation

Bossier Chamber

CERT

Committee of One Hundred

<u>Manufacturers</u> <u>Managers Council</u>

Shreveport Chamber

<u>North Louisiana</u> <u>Economic Partnership</u> presented a sobering picture of the school's finances last week during the State of the University Address. He plans to cut \$1.5 million from the budget. "We will do everything we can to take as much money out of the administrative structure as we can to protect the academic core," he said. Monroe New Star, 08.19.13

- LSU-Alexandria and Northwestern State University are both working to determine how they will make up for cuts in state funding. State appropriations to Northwestern were cut 17% but the school hopes to make up most of that with increased tuition. The total budget cut for this year should be right under \$1 million. Alexandria Town-Talk, 08.19.13
- As students return to school this week and next, almost all are facing higher tuition and higher fees to make up for yet another major cut in state funding. The AP's Melinda Deslatte writes, "In many instances students will have fewer course offerings and campus programs than they could have had only a few years ago for cheaper rates." The Associated Press, 08.19.13
- Louisiana Speaker of the House Chuck Kleckley called on higher education leaders, during a speech at the Baton Rouge Press Club, to come up with a plan to fund postsecondary education in the state. Kleckley failed to offer any suggestions of his own. It should also be noted higher education leaders have drafted many solutions each year which have failed to pass through the legislature. NOLA.com, 08.12.13

National Higher Education News

 U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan has pledged to help parents obtain student loans, even if they have minor credit history problems. This change comes as a result of lobbying by historically black colleges who have seen drops in enrollment resulting from the stricter standards applied to PLUS loan applications. <u>The</u> <u>Washington Post</u>, 08.15.12

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.