

Continuing Education

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Higher Education Quote of the Week:

"The series has suggested that OSU football program coaches and staff took a lax approach to illegal drug use among athletes, failed to properly stress academic performance, and put athletes in phantom jobs to evade NCAA policies prohibiting the use of cash and other gifts to attract and retain recruits." - *The Advocate Editorial Board summary of a Sports Illustrated series alleging various incidents that occurred at OSU while Les Miles was head coach.*

Dear Johnette,

The final report of the LSU Transition Advisory Team outlines the many challenges LSU has faced in recent years, from budget cuts to flight of top faculty, and it contains detailed recommendations for how to address each of the problem areas. The report focuses a good bit on growing research dollars, creating a shared LSU brand for all of the campuses, and improving technology across the system. The report does not include an organization chart as was first proposed by a prior consultant. Overall the report is quite impressive and full of quality recommendations.

There was one challenge mentioned, however, that was a real surprise, "disheartening" to use the words of the Transition Team, and it will not be easy to remedy as it requires a campus-wide culture shift. According to the report, many LSU students are not happy with how they are treated on the Baton Rouge campus.

The report states, "Many students express frustration, disappointment, and even anger at LSU's seeming lack of interest in their needs and these same students leave LSU without a strong sense of loyalty to their alma mater."

The information on student satisfaction at LSU was gathered through an online survey with almost 2000 students participating.

To read the entire 100-page report from the Transition Team, [click here.](#)

Shreveport-Bossier Higher Education News

- Northwestern State University has once again made the national list of "military friendly schools." The list recognizes the top 15 percent of colleges that work to accommodate military members and their families. [Alexandria Town-Talk, 09.12.13](#)



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- Centenary College has just completed a \$5.5 million renovation project that included 16 of the campus buildings. The improvements were made possible by a generous gift in 2011 from an anonymous donor. [*The Shreveport Times, 09.13.13*](#)
- The Shreveport Times Editorial Board congratulated Louisiana Tech, Northwestern and Centenary in Sunday's newspaper for earning spots on the highly-coveted U.S. News & World Report list of top colleges. [*The Shreveport Times, 09.16.13*](#)
- Louisiana Tech had 1200 potential new students on campus last Thursday for its annual "Time Out For Tech" recruiting event. The event set a new Tech record for attendance at a recruiting activity. [*The Monroe News-Star, 09.13.13*](#)

Louisiana Higher Education News

- Sports Illustrated magazine has leveled some harsh and damning allegations against the football program at Oklahoma State University. Louisiana residents are paying close attention because LSU's Les Miles was head coach during a portion of the period the misconduct reportedly occurred. [*The Advocate, 09.12.13*](#)
- Baton Rouge Judge Janice Clark sent sheriff's deputies to the LSU System office to seize records pertaining to last spring's search for a new LSU President, but the deputies returned empty-handed. LSU is still refusing to release the names of the finalists in the search despite Judge Clark's order they do so. [*The Advocate, 09.12.13*](#)
- After almost a decade of declining enrollment, the student population at Southern University at Baton Rouge appears to have stabilized. [*The Advocate, 09.12.13*](#)



National Higher Education News

- The highly-regarded University of Virginia (UVA) receives only six percent of its funds from the state, but like many public universities, they are burdened with a myriad of regulations and requirements. That's why a panel is recommending the school give up its state funding in exchange for greater autonomy. [*The Washington Post, 09.11.13*](#)
- Texas A&M raised \$750 million last fiscal year with the money going to both academics and football. According to A&M Chancellor John Sharp, "Football is one heck of a megaphone for us to tell our story." [*The Chronicle of Higher Education, 09.16.13*](#)

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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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