

Continuing Education

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Higher Education Quote of the Week:

"I can't see my colleagues allowing higher education and health care to be flushed down the toilet for a commitment made by a lame duck governor for an office he doesn't even have." - *Representative Katrina Jackson, D-Monroe.*



Quick Links

Colleges and

Dear Johnette,

Louisiana's legislators have seen budget shortfalls before, but almost all say this year's deficit is different and much more problematic. "If I had to tell you how it's going to end up, I can't," said House Appropriations Chairman Jim Fannin. "We've had shortfalls before, but we've never been here before. I don't think we can get by without some cuts. My goal has to be to mitigate them as much as possible. We can't just cripple all the state services." ***For more of the interview with Fannin click here.***

Higher education leaders are meanwhile advocating for both more funding and greater autonomy. If the higher education cuts are not offset, state funding for LSU in Baton Rouge will comprise just three percent of the school's budget. LSU President King Alexander says that with such a low percentage of funding, the state must take off the shackles. "We want the flexibility to charge as much as our peers," Alexander said. ***For more click here.***

Shreveport-Bossier Higher Education News

- LSUS Professor Dr. Jeff Sadow published an opinion piece on The Hayride website arguing that higher education needs to implement major reforms before receiving additional tax dollars. "Throwing up hands and saying restructuring measures and organization cultural change won't help but more taxpayer money will does not solve the problem; that's not only obscurant smoke-and-mirrors, but it's also patently false." ***The Hayride, 03.18.15***

Louisiana Higher Education News

- The LSU Board of Supervisors is looking at revamping it's scholarship program after receiving criticism from the Legislative Auditor. Among the proposed changes is

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reducing the number of scholarships available to be awarded by each member of the Supervisors from 20 a year to 15. ***Baton Rouge Business Report, 03.18.15***

- The LSU Foundation has hired Stephen Moret, the state's Secretary of Economic Development, to be the next President of the Foundation. Moret's selection was made without a formal job announcement. ***bobmannblog.com, 03.18.15***
- Louisiana College is now in compliance with all SACS requirements for accreditation except for the one barring "undue external influence." SACS is concerned that the Louisiana Baptist Convention has too much say in decisions regarding the school. One former board member is promoting the idea that this can be solved by removing the Executive Director of the LBC as an seated member of the LC Board. ***Alexandria Town-Talk, 03.12.15***

National Higher Education News

- The U.S. Department of Education is considering creating two college ratings systems instead of one as planned. The first would be designed for consumers and the second for policymakers and researchers. ***The Chronicle of Higher Education, 03.16.15***

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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