

Continuing Education

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Higher Education Quote of the Week:

"That medical school is going to stay here in Shreveport." - Governor John Bel Edwards at Shreveport Rotary on Tuesday. During his speech he addressed rumors that the LSUHSC-Shreveport might move to South Louisiana.



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Governor John Bel Edwards spoke to a packed house today when he addressed members and guests at Shreveport's Downtown Rotary Club. During his remarks he discussed Shreveport's medical school, and he committed to keeping it in Shreveport and working to make it stronger. He also told the crowd that no new deal had yet been signed between the state and the Biomedical Research Foundation (BRF) to run University Health, the region's public hospital and medical school partner.

When asked about TOPS, Governor Edwards said he does not believe there will be additional state revenue available to help fund TOPS this spring. At the close of the legislative special session last year, TOPS was only funded at 47% for the spring 2017 semester. The Governor did express hope, however, that full TOPS funding could return in the fall of 2017.

Shreveport-Bossier Higher Education News

- A \$600,000 scholarship fund has been created at Bossier Parish Community College thanks to a gift from the former Bossier Rural Electric Membership Corporation (BREMCO). The funds came from capital credits that were never claimed by BREMCO members and heirs. [*Shreveport Times*, 09.15.16](#)
- The Arizona Wildcats reportedly paid Grambling State University \$575,000 to come to their stadium and play their football team. Part of the payment was used to cover travel for the Grambling band, which played at half time. This arrangement reflects a national trend where larger schools are paying smaller schools to come play their teams at home. [*KVOA-TV*, 09.13.16](#)

Louisiana Higher Education News

- The U.S. News and World Report College Rankings are out and Tulane remains the top-ranked school in the state, breaking into the Top 40 in the nation. Meanwhile, LSU fell six spots to #135. "Well, after nine years and 15 budget cuts, that's what happens to you," explained LSU President King Alexander. [*The Advocate*, 09.13.16](#)
- LSU and Tulane researchers are among scientists around the world studying the Zika virus. At Tulane's National Primate Research Center, researchers have infected

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pregnant monkeys with the virus and will be observing both the mothers and offspring in the coming years. ***The Advocate, 09.13.16***

National Higher Education News

- USA Today has published a list entitled, *The Top 8 Reasons You Will Pay Too Much for College*. So what is the number one reason? You take too long to fill out the FAFSA. "Typically the financial aid budget for institutional, state and federal funds is awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis until the funds run out." ***USA Today, 09.19.16***
- According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Louisiana ranks near the bottom on the list of America's Most Educated States. Only 23% of Louisiana adults have a bachelor's degree compared to a national average of 30%. Louisiana ranked #47, followed by Arkansas, Mississippi and West Virginia. ***Shreveport Times, 09.19.16***

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