

# Continuing Education

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## Higher Education Quote of the Week:

"LSU is searching for a young tiger, currently living in a rescue facility, that could be donated to LSU. LSU will not engage in breeding tigers to obtain a mascot, nor will LSU purchase a tiger. Instead, LSU is seeking to adopt a tiger that is already living in captivity in the U.S. and give it a better home." - *LSU News Release*

Backgroundchecks.org has ranked 20 Louisiana colleges according to how safe they are for students. The website based the rankings on several criteria including campus crime rates, graduation rates, and student retention rates.

Louisiana State University Shreveport (LSUS) had the highest score for safety in NWLA and was ranked #2 in the state. The other regional university making the Top 10 was Louisiana Tech, which ranked #4.

"Campus safety is very important as it relates to the learning process," said Dave Guerin, Executive Director of Communication at Tech. "Students need to feel secure on campus and secure with the people around them in order for learning to take place."

For more on the rankings [click here](#).

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## Shreveport-Bossier Higher Education News

- Grambling State University President Rick Gallot has set an ambitious goal for his college: He wants to make his athletic programs profitable. Currently, LSU is the only school in Louisiana with a profitable athletic program. "I will not stop until that happens. Period. Our brand is too big. We're too well known not to run the kind of business I know we can, and we will," said Gallot. *Shreveport Times, 10.13.16*

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## Louisiana Higher Education News

- On election day, Louisiana voters will decide who gets to set college tuition prices. Currently, Louisiana is one of only two states where legislators, instead of colleges, set tuition. The SBBA, along with CABL and LABI, all support placing tuition authority with higher education leaders instead of with the legislature. *The Advocate, 10.17.16*
- The death of LSU's Mike the Tiger VI has created a national debate about whether LSU should replace Mike with a costumed mascot instead of a live tiger. Despite a petition with 125,000 signatures in opposition, LSU is moving forward with plans to secure a live animal. In a statement, the University defended its choice, "LSU's tiger habitat is 15,000 square feet, includes grass, trees and a pool and is on par with tiger habitats at the nation's top



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zoos." ***InsideHigherEd, 10.17.16***

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## National Higher Education News

- When state budget cuts and a challenge to tenure rights threatened faculty retention at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, the college decided to fight for the faculty they wanted to keep, spending \$23.7 million in salary increases and other incentives to stay. Provost Sarah Mangelsdorf said, "We like to think we made a really strong statement that we will fight to keep our faculty." ***InsideHigherEd, 10.17.16***
- The Governor of Rhode Island has launched a pilot program aimed at saving students' money on textbooks. At Rhode Island College, faculty have been asked to select free, open-licensed materials instead of costly texts. College students across the nation reportedly spend more than \$900 on texts each year. ***The Hechinger Report, 10.12.16***

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For more information on higher education in Northwest Louisiana, please visit our website at [www.sbba4he.org](http://www.sbba4he.org)

Sincerely,

***Johnette Magner, Ph.D., Executive Director  
Shreveport-Bossier Business Alliance for Higher Education***

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*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](mailto:jmagner@sbba4he.org)*