



Higher Education and Workforce **SUMMIT**

**Thursday
February 13, 2014**

2:30 pm to 4:30 pm

**University of Louisiana
at Monroe campus**

**Student Union Building
Ballroom**

Open to the public

HELP FORGE THE FUTURE OF HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING!

This summit will organize and build long-term public support for a statewide agenda to support higher education funding.

A public conversation about community priorities for higher education and to learn about the Workforce Innovation for a Stronger Economy (WISE) Plan.

Featured guests

Regional area legislators, university and community college leaders.

Other invitees:

Mayors and local elected officials, chambers of commerce, business leaders, faculty, students, community members.

PARTNERSHIP COALITION

Northern and Central Louisiana Interfaith; Grambling State University Faculty Senate; Louisiana Delta Community College Faculty Council; Louisiana Tech University Senate; University of Louisiana at Monroe Faculty and Staff Senates

Pre-Legislative Session Summit on Higher Education and Workforce February 13, 2014

A public conversation with Legislators about Higher Education and Community priorities for the development of Human Capital in Louisiana

A summit convening by **Northern and Central Louisiana Interfaith** in collaboration with the **Faculty Senates** of the University of Louisiana at Monroe, Louisiana Tech University and Grambling State University and Louisiana Delta Community College.

WHEN: Thursday, February 13, 2014, 2:30 – 4:30.

WHERE: ULM Student Union Building

WHO: Northern and Central Louisiana (NCLI), an affiliate organization of **Together Louisiana**, is a broad-based coalition of institutions dedicated to providing a way for ordinary families to have a voice in decisions being made about them and their families. Member institutions organize for power to create real change in our community. Leaders seek to identify needs within the community and work together to address these needs across lines of race, religion, culture, socioeconomics and geography. Interfaith and Together Louisiana are non-partisan, political organizations. We do not endorse political parties or candidates, nor do we solicit or accept money from government officials, office seekers or political parties. Interfaith works by addressing issues that come up directly from the families and individuals of its member institutions.

NCLI has approximately 60 member institutions in Alexandria/Pineville, Lake Providence/Tallulah, Monroe/Ouachita Parish, and Shreveport/Bossier. Together Louisiana is a collaboration of NCLI with sister organizations in Baton Rouge and New Orleans, which together represent approximately 200 institutions with 200,000 members across the state. Organized in 2012, Together Louisiana played a key role in the movement which derailed the tax swap proposal in 2013. NCLI organized a regional campaign for public awareness of the privatization of the public hospitals which resulted in approximately 3000 letters being delivered to the governor and legislators, a public town hall meeting in south Monroe and community representation on the new hospital operating board.

Background and Purpose of the Summit: Education has been a focus of NCLI since its founding in 1998. Leaders in member institutions are concerned repeated State budget cuts threaten the capacity of area universities and technical community colleges to educate and prepare residents for careers and quality jobs in the region. In this context, professional workforce development and higher education are an agreed priority of NCLI and Together Louisiana in 2014. Individual meeting with legislators and stakeholders recommended a pre-legislative community forum to increase public awareness of the concerns and build broad-based support.

WHAT: As part of a strategy to organize and build long term public support for a statewide agenda to support higher education, NCLI is organizing a regional summit on higher education to feature participation from ULM, LaTech, GSU and LaDCC. The conversation will center around the Incentive Plan for Louisiana higher education as jointly proposed by the presidents of the LSU, ULS and LCTCS systems. A second regional convening will occur in the fall to publically evaluate and plan next steps.

Featured guests: Regional area legislators, university and technical community college presidents. **Other invitees:** Mayors and local elected officials, chambers of commerce, business leaders, faculty, students, community members.