

CSP Ministry Accomplishments Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives

Assist churches through the administration of the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives. (The Council of Seminary Presidents reports this activity jointly.)

Goals and Challenges:

Goals: 2016-2017

- Assist Southern Baptist Convention entities in the retention, preservation, and transfer of vital and historical records
- Assist churches, associations, and state conventions with the preservation of records of enduring value through website information, consultation, and microfilm program
- Inform Southern Baptist Convention Building guests of the history of Baptists through exhibits and displays
- Maintain an active and up-to-date web presence with an online catalog, finding aids, and digital resources
- Collect, catalog, and make available for use books, serials, archival material, audio-visuals, and other resources to a wide range of scholars and researchers
- Maintain a sound archival environment for the preservation of the largest, most diverse, and most accessible collection of Baptist material in the world

Challenges:

- To provide meaningful assistance and advice to Southern Baptist entities on the preservation and retention of digital records
- To provide adequate and appropriate space for the growing collection of Southern Baptist Convention denominational records
- To adequately staff the largest and most diverse collection of Baptist material in the world and use financial resources in the best way possible

Accomplishments and Highlights: August 2014-July 2015

- Added 1969 books and pamphlets, 11,137 periodicals, 56 archival collections, 85 microfilm reels, 71 audio-visual items, 549 photograph files, 341 informational files and 244 annuals
- Coordinated the transfer of 1300 boxes of books, periodicals, archival materials, artifacts, and Vacation Bible School material to the SBC building from the E.C. Dargan Library at LifeWay Christian Resources
- Processed 300 boxes of periodicals from Dargan Library and added about 9,200 volumes and issues to the collection
- Completed the arrangement, description, and finding aid production to the Richard D. Land Papers.
- Completed the processing and finding aid production of the Lantern Slide Collection.
- Hosted 251 on-site researchers and provided research assistance through 2,108 patron contacts
- Reviewed more than 300 boxes of records of the NAMB/HMB for retention and transfer to SBHLA. Received approximately 90 boxes of records and acquired two boxes of Lantern slides from the North American Mission Board.
- Hosted the Fellowship of Baptist Historians annual dinner and the annual meeting of the Association of Librarians and Archivists at Baptist Institutions (ALABI) in April, 2015

- Received a collection of early documents on the Convencion General de Iglesias Bautistas de Cuba Oriental (Eastern Cuba Baptist Convention)
- Received the presidential papers of Fred Luter, President of the SBC, 2012-2014
- Reviewed and awarded sixteen Lynn E. May Study Grants for the 2015-2016 period
- Completed major exhibit on evangelism and evangelists on the third floor of SBC building