

January 13, 2020

The Executive Committee of the  
Southern Baptist Convention  
901 Commerce Street, Suite 600  
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

Dear Member of the Executive Committee:

I present this report on behalf of the Council of Seminary Presidents of the Southern Baptist Convention. Created by the SBC over twenty years ago, the CSP assumed responsibility for what previously been assigned to the Historical Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention. In order to optimize stewardship for the Convention, the seminary presidents serve as governing board of the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives (SBHL&A) and the Seminary Extension program.

The chairman of the CSP rotates between the six seminaries annually, but from the beginning of the CSP in 1995, I have served as its president. I can affirm that the current structure maximizes the operations and stewardship of our historical legacy and allows for the operation of one of the most respected historical services on the American religious scene.

Dr. Taffy Hall provides excellent leadership of the SBHL&A, and she works with a very competent staff. Southern Baptists can be proud of their work. As before, one of the greatest challenges ahead has to do with the increased demand for archival services charged to the SBHL&A as we serve other SBC entities. The SBC agreement with the CSP when it was formed stipulated that the SBHL&A would be funded by the SBC and would serve state conventions, associations, congregations, and other SBC entities in archival, research, and historical preservation. Given the nature of our SBC work, those needs will continue to grow, and we face the question of how the SBC will want us to fulfill this task. Additional budget support will be required to meet the ongoing challenges.

The Seminary Extension program is led by Dr. Randy Williams. The Seminary Extension ensures that there is not a Southern Baptist who is outside the reach of the theological education programs of this denomination. I am thankful for Dr. Williams and his leadership of this outstanding program.

I am pleased to present this report to you, and I will gladly answer any questions or discuss any issues that may arise in the course of your considerations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "R. Albert Mohler, Jr.", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

R. Albert Mohler, Jr., President