

## 2019 Ministry Inquiries

### Cooperative Program:

1. With an understanding that SBC entities which receive Cooperative Program funding share an equal responsibility to promote and advance the Cooperative Program, please give a description of efforts to promote the Cooperative Program both internally and externally as Southeastern engages Southern Baptists.
  - Classroom Emphasis – SEBTS has many classes, including some of the required history courses, that emphasize both the history and the impact of the Cooperative Program.
  - College/Seminary Introduction Courses – These courses introduce students to their educational experience at SEBTS. In both courses, the importance and impact of the Cooperative Program is discussed.
  - Faculty/Staff Church Encounters – We encourage all our Faculty & Staff, when speaking in local churches, to note their thankfulness for the Cooperative Program and that local church’s support of it. The goal is to connect the local churches to what they are supporting through the Cooperative Program.
  - Magazine Advertisements – In each issue of the Southeastern Magazine, a full-page advertisement is included to say thank you to Southern Baptists for their support of the Cooperative Program. The goal is to remind the readers of the magazine of the importance of the Cooperative Program.
  - Communication to Graduates – An email is sent to all graduates each semester letting them know the specific impact of the Cooperative Program’s financial impact on them. In addition, we share the collective impact of the Cooperative Program on the graduating class. The goal is to make sure the graduates know how much they were blessed by the Cooperative Program, and to encourage their continued participation in it.
2. a. How effective is Southeastern in creating an awareness and appreciation for the Southern Baptist Convention and its model for cooperative missions and cooperative funding among the student body? What level of confidence does Southeastern have that its graduates will continue to engage in SBC missions and ministries and support funding these ministries through the Cooperative Program?

SEBTS regularly emphasizes among our students our connection with the Southern Baptist Convention and the benefits of being a part of the Southern Baptist Convention. One of the ways that this is communicated is that the primary source of Chapel speakers are pastors of Southern Baptist Churches. In addition, SEBTS regularly hosts the Executives and other leaders from sister Southern Baptist Entities.

The impact of the Cooperative Program is communicated through the tuition billing for each student that is an active member of a church cooperating with the Southern Baptist Convention. SEBTS believes that a student's time at SEBTS will enhance their desire to be a part of and support the work of the Southern Baptist Convention in their future ministries.

2. b. Please describe in detail the terminology you and your team use to help students and personnel to understand the value of the SBC Business and Financial Plan VI, section D. "In no case shall any convention entity approach a church for inclusion in its church budget or appeal for financial contributions." Please provide anecdotal examples of students making the discovery that the Cooperative Program methodology is amazing and a gift from the Lord.

Please see answer above.

3. Please articulate for Southern Baptists how Southeastern perceives the role of the Cooperative Program to fund theological education. What value does Southeastern place upon its partnership with Southern Baptist churches through the Cooperative Program?

Without the Cooperative Program SEBTS could not carry out her ministry assignments at the same level of effectiveness as with the Cooperative Program. Educational debt is weighing down future ministers across the evangelical world. However, those preparing for ministry among Southern Baptists are able to mitigate the current trends related to educational debt. The Cooperative Program is in part what makes us Southern Baptist. Because of the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptists are SEBTS' largest donor. Therefore, SEBTS places the highest value on our relationship.

4. How does Southeastern benefit from and utilize CP funds to help fulfill its ministry assignments?

SEBTS benefits from the Cooperative Program significantly through the ability to offer reduced tuition to members of churches that cooperate with the Southern Baptist Convention. The Cooperative Program also allows the institution to not have to expend as many dollars as other theological institutions on raising funds to support the ongoing operations of the institution.

### **Ethnic Participation**

5. Over the past 12 months, (2017 – 2018) has Southeastern seen changes (increase or decrease) in the number of ethnic leaders among the faculty and within the student body? Please provide an update.

In August of 2013 President Daniel L. Akin launched the Kingdom Diversity Initiative which serves the Southeastern family by assisting every office to "seek and equip students from every corner of the Kingdom to serve in every context of the Kingdom."

Part of this initiative is increasing minority participation on campus. In the 2017-18 academic year, we were pleased to hire a new underrepresented faculty member. Otto Sanchez serves as Visiting Professor of Preaching and Pastoral Ministry. He is the current president of the Seminario Teológico Bautista Dominicano and will continue in that role during his tenure at Southeastern. In addition, current professor Dr. Walter R. Strickland II was promoted in his academic and administrative roles to Assistant Professor of Systematic and Contextual Theology and Associate Vice President for Kingdom Diversity Initiatives.

Southeastern is excited to announce two significant underrepresented administrative hires. First, Krystal Wilson has been appointed Director of Events on campus. Secondly, the seminary's Global Theological Initiative has expanded its efforts to focus on East Asia and Minwoo Jang (ThM) was hired to serve as East Asian Leadership Initiative Coordinator.

The college and seminary are pleased to announce its most diverse student population in school history. At the conclusion of the 2017-18 academic year, the student body was comprised of 16.83% non-white students. By God's grace, the underrepresented student population percentage has increased while the general student population has increased as well. Furthermore, ethnic minority students are staffing on-campus jobs commensurate with their growth in the overall student population.

## **Mental Health Resource**

6. In response to a Ronnie Floyd motion, June 2013, Houston, TX, requesting that the Executive Committee and SBC Entities assist churches with mental health ministries, the Executive Committee appointed an advisory group, Fall 2013, to determine ways in which Southern Baptist entities and Southern Baptist churches can best help those who are in need of mental health assistance. The final report of this advisory group was presented to Dr. Frank S. Page, Fall 2014.

In the 2015 and 2016 Ministry Report(s) the following question was asked of each SBC entity:

Please give a progress report on what your seminary has implemented to assist Southern Baptist churches with training and equipping people with mental health challenges and how will your seminary continue to seek ways to work in cooperation with SBC entities and others to address the severe challenges imposed by mental illness?

For the 2019 Ministry Report please provide the following:

If Southeastern feels that reporting on this subject is within its purview, or falls within the scope of its ministry assignment(s), or has made any progress in the area of assisting churches with training and equipping people with mental health challenges, or has developed or identified resources to assist Southern Baptist churches in the area of mental health ministry, please provide a detailed progress report.

Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and the College at Southeastern continues its mission to God's world, with mental illness as one of the forms of brokenness that we study, teach, train, and provide services for, in an effort to equip graduates to minister to real people with all of their complexities. The two primary locations for this training are our counseling courses and our counseling services in the Student Life Division. Southeastern is blessed to have three full-time and two part-time faculty with a wide range of formal training, who desire to equip our students with biblical acumen and Christian love to assist those with mental illness. Evidence of this effort is seen in the recent addition of a Master of Arts in Christian Family, Marriage, and Individual Counseling, an Ed.D. in Christian Counseling, and a Ph.D. in Biblical Counseling to our curriculum. Further evidence can be found in the recent addition of our Counseling Office in the student life division through which counseling services are offered to students and in which Masters and Doctoral students in our counseling programs can participate in life counseling practicums.

Beyond residential and online equipping and sending of able counselors, our faculty as a whole have been challenged to give a keen eye to the goals of the majority of our students: the desire to minister to the breadth of human problems and the comprehensiveness of the redemption available to us in Christ and through his body, the local church. Thus, mental illness and other human conditions are integrated into courses like theological anthropology, spiritual formation, pastoral care and the like.

In addition, Southeastern faculty and staff have been instrumental in the development of Christian counseling centers and the installation of countless graduates into churches and para-church organizations that are equipped to point those with mental illness to Christ in a manner that meets people at the point of their affliction.

Finally, our faculty serve the local churches as points of reference for mental health consultation and counseling.

7. What specific efforts is Southeastern making to protect against sexual abuse?

SEBTS is committed to providing awareness and training for our students, faculty and staff. We do this in a few ways:

- We require our all incoming students to participate in a newly updated online sexual harassment and assault training. This training was recently redone by a team including our Assistant Dean of Students to Women, our General Counsel, our Media Services department and a practicing lawyer here in the Raleigh area who is also a seminary student, Samantha Kilpatrick.
- SEBTS provides a mandatory training for all Faculty and Staff provided by the HR department.
- SEBTS is continuing to explore partnerships with third party ministries in order to expand our training to our students, faculty, and staff.
- SEBTS provides 24hour campus security.
- SEBTS has recently opened a counseling center providing free and low-cost counseling services to our students, faculty and staff and their families.

8. What has proven to be Southeastern's most reliable metric indicating future accomplishments of, or challenges to Southeastern across all of its ministry assignments? Why is that metric the one Southeastern believes is most important to watch relative to specific ministry assignments?

One of the main metrics that SEBTS regularly monitors is our student headcount. This headcount is an indicator for the institution to know if future and current ministers are finding SEBTS a place in which they believe they can receive the training that they need for ministry. In addition, the headcount points to the financial stability of the institution. A growing headcount means that SEBTS is able to invest in our Faculty and Staff as well as other resources to benefit the students. Headcount is also a leading indicator of graduates who are heading into various forms of ministry. A growing headcount means more students are heading towards graduation and their future ministry locations. There are many other metrics that are important to measuring the success of SEBTS. However, headcount is integral to all of those other metrics.