



2017 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 SWBTS's efforts to promote the Cooperative Program.

Southwestern promotes the Cooperative Program through both events and classes which impact students from the point of matriculation through graduation. The president extols the virtues of the Cooperative Program when addressing new students at orientation each year and first year students learn the value of the Cooperative Program in the required courses on spiritual formation. In the second and third years of the master's degrees, the Cooperative Program is again promoted through the Baptist history class as well as through the pastoral ministry class. Students can also learn of the benefits of the Cooperative Program through advanced electives in stewardship. At the point of graduation, all students are again reminded of the value of the Cooperative Program through an announcement made both orally and in writing that communicates the exact dollar amount of their education provided by the Cooperative Program.

2. How effective is SWBTS in creating an awareness and appreciation for the Southern Baptist Convention and its model for cooperative missions and cooperative funding? What level of confidence does SWBTS have that its graduates will continue to engage and invest in SBC missions and ministries?

Southwestern is highly effective in creating an awareness and appreciation for the Southern Baptist Convention and its model for cooperative missions and cooperative funding. The values of the Southern Baptist Convention are presented through the Baptist Heritage course, pastoral ministry courses, and stewardship courses. The president and the speakers he selects regularly promote the values of the Southern Baptist Convention through chapel services and special events like the Grindstone, where students hear the president and professors address matters of the greatest significance to ministry in today's culture. The SBC model for cooperative missions and cooperative funding is presented as an essential element of the seminary's mandatory Introduction to Missiology course. Within this course students learn about this model from professors who have directly benefitted from this model during their times of service with the International Mission Board and North American Mission Board. Southwestern has a high level of confidence that the above measures ensure that its graduates will continue to engage and invest in SBC missions and ministries.

3. Please articulate for Southern Baptists how SWBTS perceives the role of the Cooperative Program funding theological education in the Southwest. What value does SWBTS place upon its partnership with SBC churches through the Cooperative Program?

Southwestern sees Cooperative Program funding as absolutely essential to the provision of theological education in the Southwest. The institution was founded in 1908 to provide theological education for preachers who would reach this region of the country with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Although the institution's mission has enlarged to include the development of ministers for Southern Baptist Churches in other regions as well as missionaries to carry the good news to the ends of the earth, Southwestern continues to be the Southern Baptist Convention's center of theological education for the Southwest. The institution's one hundred and nine year history of faithfulness to this task has been made possible only by the generosity of the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention through the Cooperative Program.

4. How does SWBTS benefit from the Cooperative Program?

Although Southwestern has a student body size of 4,276 and the blessing of an endowment given directly to the institution by faithful individuals and churches over the course of its history, the institution is only able to provide its high quality education due to the generous funding of the Cooperative Program. While tuition and endowment income are important to the operation of the institution, having a third consistent income source from the Cooperative Program provides a firm foundation for the operational budget. Each year approximately 15% of Southwestern's total income is provided by the Cooperative Program. This support is essential to the continued operation of the seminary. In a national culture where esteem is dropping rapidly for the biblical education of God-called men and women for ministries which fulfill the Great Commission and glorify God, Southwestern depends on Cooperative Program funding to provide affordable education for the students the local churches send to us. Our founding fathers and subsequent administrations wisely chose not to seek government funding to supply the lifeblood of seminary operations, instead trusting the Lord to provide what is needed for operation through His people. This relationship with the churches of the SBC ensures the continued operation of the seminary regardless of the degradation of the surrounding culture.

Ethnic Participation

5. Please give a descriptive report of participation of ethnic leaders, ethnic churches and other ethnic church leaders in the life and ministry of your entity. Over the past 12

months, (2015 – 2016) has your seminary increased or decreased the number of ethnic leaders among the faculty and within the student body?

Southwestern seeks the participation of ethnic leaders and churches in the life and ministry of the institution through both involvement in special events and speaking opportunities. Each year, Southwestern conducts events like an annual picnic that are attended by multiple ethnic churches and organizations. This provides students an opportunity to learn about and participate in the ministries of these churches and organizations throughout their time in seminary. Each year the president invites speakers from ethnic churches to preach in chapel. Ethnic participation is also evident among Southwestern's governance, leadership, faculty, and students. The entire faculty of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary has an ethnic diversity that matches the diversity of the Southern Baptist Churches. Ethnic minorities represented among the current faculty include African-American, Native-American, Korean, Hispanic, Chinese, German, Jewish, and several more. A large ethnic minority also exists at the institution among the student population. Southwestern's online Master of Theological Studies program is offered entirely in Spanish to provide education for the growing Hispanic population in the United States and for Spanish-speaking pastors in other countries. Southwestern's Financial Aid Office offers minority student scholarships to all qualifying ethnic students.

Over the 2015-2016 school year the ethnic faculty numbers remained relatively constant. Two ethnic faculty departed, one for the pastorate and another for service at a different institution. One new ethnic faculty member was hired to teach humanities. A total of 21 ethnic faculty serve at Southwestern. During this same time period the ethnic student population has grown significantly, rising from 1,295 ethnic students in 2014-2015 to 1,477 ethnic students in 2015-2016.

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

Please give a progress report on what SWBTS has implemented to assist SBC churches with training and equipping people with mental health challenges and how

will SWBTS continue to seek ways to work in cooperation with SBC entities and others to address the severe challenges imposed by mental illness?

For the 2017 Ministry Report please provide the following:

If SWBTS 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 SBC churches in the area of mental health ministry, please provide a detailed progress report.

Southwestern continues to provide assistance to local churches working with people with mental health challenges through two main avenues. First, the institution's Master of Arts in Biblical Counseling is designed to train counselors for the local church who are equipped to speak the truth of God's Word to those with mental health challenges. This degree program presently has three full-time faculty dedicated to instruction in this area. Student enrollment stands at 121. Second, Southwestern continues to offer conferences each year to assist local church staff and laity in the development of skills necessary to address mental health challenges.

SWBTS Specific Ministry Inquiries

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

Southwestern's mission is to assist the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention by the biblical education of God-called men and women for their respective ministries, which fulfill the Great Commission and glorify God. The most reliable metric for measuring the future accomplishment of this mission continues to be the number of graduates we send back to the local churches.

8. Understanding the seminary ministry assignment(s) to "*....assist churches by programs of master's level, professional doctoral and research doctoral education for ministers and theological educators...*" please list each degree program offered at SWBTS.
 1. Bachelor's Degrees
 - a. Bachelor of Science in Biblical Studies
 - b. Bachelor of Arts in Humanities and Biblical Studies
 - c. Bachelor of Arts in Music

- d. Bachelor of Music in Performance
 - e. Bachelor of Music in Worship Studies
2. Master's Degrees
- a. Master of Divinity
 - b. Master of Arts (Theology)
 - c. Master of Arts (Archaeology and Biblical Studies)
 - d. Master of Arts (Christian Apologetics)
 - e. Master of Theological Studies
 - f. Master of Theology
 - g. Master of Arts (Islamic Studies)
 - h. Master of Arts in Missiology
 - i. Master of Arts in Christian Education
 - j. Master of Arts in Christian School Education
 - k. Master of Arts in Biblical Counseling
 - l. Master of Music in Church Music
 - m. Master of Arts in Worship
 - n. Master of Arts in Church Music
3. Doctoral Degrees
- a. Doctor of Educational Ministry
 - b. Doctor of Ministry
 - c. Doctor of Musical Arts
 - d. Doctor of Philosophy

9. Can you predict the long term viability and sustainability of multiple campuses for SWBTS? Does the growing number of online students impact future projections along this line? Please explain.

Southwestern predicts the continued long term viability of its off-site campuses. Smaller extension centers may remain at present levels of enrollment, however the institution's Houston campus is expected to grow. This campus provides full-degree instruction for the Doctor of Ministry, Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Christian Education, Master of Arts (Theology), Master of Theological Studies, and Bachelor of Science in Biblical Studies. The institution expects that enrollment at the Houston campus will grow as its programs are promoted. Also of note, some students who begin degrees online have shown interest in completing those degrees at Southwestern's residential campuses and the institution plans to continue serving these and other students through extension education.

10. What is the most newsworthy feature, initiative or issue currently orbiting around the programs of SWBTS? Please explain.

Southwestern continues to champion the proclamation of the gospel through every means possible. Students and faculty together regularly share the gospel with the community surrounding Southwestern through the institution's Second Mile program, designed to share the gospel with every home in a two mile radius around the seminary. Students and faculty also participate in the yearly spring revival program called Revive This Nation. A hundred preachers a year are sent out to conduct revivals and assist with evangelism in local churches all over the United States. This evangelistic fervor continues the great hundred and eight year heritage in this endeavor established by Southwestern's first president B.H. Carroll.