



SOUTHWESTERN

BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

January 11, 2018

Executive Committee
Southern Baptist Convention
901 Commerce St. Ste. 700
Nashville, TN 37203-3629

Dear Southern Baptist Partner:

In the next three millennia – should such come to pass – I would never have adequate words to thank Southern Baptists and their churches for the support of our theological seminaries. Because it involves school, very few Southern Baptists even realize how important their investment is. What a wonderful surprise when they stand before the judgment seat of Christ and receive rewards for having prepared the next generation of missionaries and pastors to take the saving gospel of Christ to the multitudes. So, I thank God for all Southern Baptists today and praise His name.

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary is located in Fort Worth, Texas. Here, for generations a large number of the total missionaries who have gone to the ends of the earth have made a stop in order to prepare for their service. Our mission involvement at the present time involves us not only in the regular aspect of missions that you would anticipate, but in addition, as God has given us a consortium of more than 130 seminaries and Bible schools literally around the globe and on every continent except one – we have not yet figured out how to get a mission going in Antarctica, but I think we are working on it. In any event, this expresses the wide extent of your investment.

Particularly, as a part of this is our investment in biblical archaeology. The wonderful discovery to be made here is that biblical archaeology not only contributes to biblical studies with some of the strongest evidence available of the truthfulness of God's Word, but here at Southwestern, it has become part of our mission involvement. And so, archaeology as missions is also a wonderful new endeavor.

In addition to this, our women's studies programs are among the most advanced anywhere in theological studies in the world. We have been able to graduate a number of women, some of whom have been hired as faculty members here, and they are doing an outstanding work. We are grateful to God for people like Dr. Hong-Yi Yang, whose actual work we cannot even describe to you here, but we can tell you that it is revolutionary in a part of the world that desperately needs the gospel. Others are impacting the world through such things as the large evangelistic conference for women that was just held in South America. Many of our women's professors participated as teachers in that strategic conference, which involved over a thousand women and saw many come to Christ.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Post Office Box 22040 | Fort Worth, Texas 76122 | 817.923.1921 ext. 3010 | FAX: 817.923.0610 | www.swbts.edu

Our School of Church Music and our School of Church and Family Ministries (formerly Religious Education) continue to provide training for people who minister in the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention. Our School of Evangelism and Missions – unique in the world – is actively training some of the finest personal witnesses you will ever see or know. Our thanksgiving to God goes out to professors like Dr. Queen and Dr. Kiesling, who have literally turned our faculty and students into some of the most determined witnesses for Christ that I have ever watched.

We are evidently going to experience a substantial increase in our student body this spring and for this we are also grateful. Consequently, as you can tell, we are a happy group of Southern Baptists with hearts full of gratitude for what Southern Baptists do in providing a theological education that is nothing short of remarkable. May God be good to all Southern Baptists in this coming year.

Until He comes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paige Patterson", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Paige Patterson

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