



# BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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March 17, 1972

## Southwestern Seminary Board Adopts Budget, New Doctorate

230

FORT WORTH (BP)--The board of trustees for Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here adopted a record budget, approved a new doctoral program, promoted three faculty members, and honored two retiring professors.

A record \$3,047,452 budget was adopted, providing a five per cent cost of living increase on salaries.

Approval was also given for implementation of a new doctor of ministry degree program. The new four-year program will be designed to provide additional advance professional training in various areas of Christian ministry. A faculty committee recommended the degree plan to conform with guidelines of the American Association of Theological Schools.

Three associate professors were promoted to the rank of full professor by the board. They are Clyde Fant, professor of preaching; William Pinson, professor of Christian ethics; and Roy Fish, professor of evangelism.

Retiring professors A. Donald Bell, professor of psychology and human relations, and Franklin Segler, professor of pastoral ministry, were honored by the board. Segler has taught for 22 years, and Bell for 20 years, at the seminary.

In a report to the board, the seminary's buildings and grounds committee outlined progress of plans for a new children's building. The trustees approved elevation and floor plans for the new building. Construction is expected to begin this summer.

The new children's building will provide modern nursery facilities, day school and kindergarten programs for 250 pre-school children of seminary families.

Completion of two construction projects was reported by the committee. Four buildings with 32 apartment units have been added to the J. Howard Williams Student Village, and a new residence for the seminary's president has been completed.

-30-

115

## Motorcycle Accident Takes Life Of New Orleans Seminary Student

ATLANTA (BP)--A theology student at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, Robert Barry Bledsoe, died here the day following a motorcycle accident while he was home visiting his parents.

Bledsoe, 26, was the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Strickler of Austell, Ga. He was minister of music at the Hayne Boulevard Baptist Church in New Orleans.

A magna cum laude graduate of Mercer University Southern School of Pharmacy in Atlanta, Bledsoe had worked as a pharmacist before attending the seminary.

Funeral services were held March 13 at his home church, Mt. Harmony Baptist Church in Mapleton, Ga. Assisting in the service was Gary Lightfoot, pastor of the New Orleans church where Bledsoe served.

Mrs. Bledsoe, a native of Atlanta, is a nurse at Baptist Hospital in New Orleans. She has a 10-month-old son, Jason Robert.

-30-

CORRECTION

In BP story mailed 3-15-72, headlined "Evangelicals in Spain Have Religious Freedom," please make the following corrections: Change graph 2, line 1, to read: "The 1967 Spanish law . . ." rather than "The 1976 Spanish law . . ." as sent. Change graph 5, second sentence, to read: "In 1971, 12 churches were constituted in Madrid . . ." rather than "In 1967, 12 churches . . ." as sent. Thanks.

--Baptist Press

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Baptist Hospital Receives  
Major Gifts for Expansion

150

3/17/72

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (BP)--Baptist Memorial Hospital here has received two major gifts in a one month period, including a grant of \$1 million to help expand a 10-story medical-surgical building, and a \$600,000 contribution to equip a modern cancer treatment center.

Until June of 1970, Baptist Memorial Hospital was owned and operated by the Southern Baptist Convention, but has been released by the convention to become a private Baptist institution.

The \$1 million contribution, the largest contribution in the hospital's history, came from the Wolfson Foundation, created by Miami financier Lewis E. Wolfson. The foundation was a heavy contributor to the hospital's children's building previously.

The addition to the 10-story medical-surgical tower will be named the Wolfson Family Medical Tower, hospital officials said.

The \$600,000 contribution to purchase modern equipment for the hospital's new cancer treatment center was made by Mrs. Edna Sproull Williams, whose late husband was founder of the More Dry Kiln Co., in Jacksonville. The center was named The Charles Judson Williams Cancer Treatment Center in honor of her late husband.



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