



BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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February 24, 1983

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83-28

\$125 Million Cooperative
Program Budget Recommended

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--A \$125 million Cooperative Program budget for 1983-84 featuring nearly 70 percent to home and foreign missions, will be recommended to the 1983 Southern Baptist Convention in Pittsburgh.

The budget, an increase of \$19 million above the 1982-83 budget, was approved without opposition by the Southern Baptist Executive Committee during its February meeting.

The budget includes \$114,500,000 in the basic operating budget; \$3,340,385 in the capital needs section and \$7,159,615 in a two-phase challenge portion.

That compares with the current budget of \$96,635,000 in the basic operating budget; \$3,365,000 for capital needs and \$6,000,000 in the challenge section.

Committee members also approved a 1984-88 capital needs budget of \$31,740,000.

Under the Cooperative Program budget, the Foreign Mission Board will receive \$57,250,000, compared with \$47,839,300 in the current year. The Home Mission Board is allocated \$22,634,400 compared with \$19,000,000 in 1982-83.

The six seminaries will receive \$23,605,000 compared to \$20,520,600 in the current year. Golden Gate will receive \$2,312,316 (compared to \$1,917,049); Midwestern, \$2,002,209 (compared to \$1,775,896); New Orleans, \$3,967,340 (compared to \$3,437,840); Southeastern, \$3,707,795 (compared to \$3,201,053); Southern, \$5,040,915 (compared to \$4,497,014) and Southwestern, \$6,574,425 (compared to \$5,691,748).

The SBC operating budget will receive \$1,635,300 (compared to \$1,422,000). The other agencies are allocated:

Annuity Board, \$918,000 (compared to \$478,000); Southern Baptist Foundation, \$243,400 (compared to \$213,450); American Baptist Seminary Commission, \$227,850 (compared to \$203,450); Brotherhood Commission, \$848,900 (compared to \$758,100);

Christian Life Commission, \$710,000 (compared to \$562,800); Education Commission \$423,800 (compared to \$378,400); Historical Commission \$393,600 (compared to \$328,000); Radio and TV Commission \$4,813,350 (compared to \$4,229,000); Stewardship Commission \$396,150 (compared to \$344,500) and Public Affairs Committee \$400,250 (compared to \$357,400).

The capital needs portion of the 1983-84 budget includes:

Midwestern Seminary, \$786,690 for a multi-purpose building; New Orleans Seminary, \$201,295 for a student center and cafeteria; Southern Seminary, \$1,335,000 for a student center; Southwestern Seminary, \$699,000 for renovation work, and the Radio and Television Commission, \$318,400 for equipment.

Phase one of the challenge budget includes \$1,175,000, of which 63.83 percent or \$750,000 will go to the six seminaries and 36.17 percent, or \$425,000 will go to the Radio and Television Commission.

Phase two--\$5,984,615--includes: SBC Operating Budget, \$125,000 for Baptist World Alliance (2.09 percent); Foreign Mission Board, \$3,001,700 (50.16); Home Mission Board, \$1,505,500 (25.16); SBC seminaries, \$1,302,415 (21.76) and Brotherhood Commission, \$50,000 (.83).

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Any overage of the \$125,000,000 will be distributed to all agencies according to the percentage they will receive in the basic operating budget.

The 1984-88 capital needs budget of \$31,740,000 compares with the current, six-year capital needs budget of \$16,705,985. Chairman John Sullivan of Shreveport, La., said noting that \$83,343,400 was requested for capital needs funding.

In the budget, 14 of the 20 SBC agencies are represented. Included is \$8 million for funding a new building to house the SBC Executive Committee, Seminary External Education Division and five SBC agencies. It is the first allocation of capital needs they have received. All of the funding for the SBC Building will come during 1984-85 and 1985-86.

The Executive Committee will receive increments of \$1,800,000 and \$1,400,000 for a total of \$3,200,000. Others include: Stewardship Commission, \$495,000 and \$385,000 for \$880,000; Historical Commission, \$720,000 and \$560,000 for \$1,280,000; Education Commission, \$225,000 and \$175,000 for \$400,000; Christian Life Commission, \$630,000 and \$490,000 for \$1,120,000 and Southern Baptist Foundation, \$180,000 and \$140,000 for \$320,000.

The SEED allocation will be divided equally between the six seminaries in increments of \$75,000 and \$58,333 or a total of \$133,333 each. The composite amount will be \$450,000 and \$350,000, a two-year total of \$800,000.

Also receiving capital needs funds are the Home Mission Board, \$2,400,000 for church loans for churches with limited resources and purchase of potential church sites; and the Radio and Television Commission, \$2,025,000 for a master control center, post production center, Studio A equipment and mobile field units.

The seminaries also will receive additional capital needs funds: Golden Gate, \$2,900,000; Midwestern, \$2,812,000; New Orleans, \$3,208,000; Southeastern, \$2,570,000; Southern, \$2,525,000, and Southwestern, \$4,100,000.

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WMU Names Colombian
To Edit Spanish Publication

Baptist Press
2/24/83

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)--Elina Cabarcas of Cali, Colombia, has been named Spanish editor by Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to Southern Baptist Convention.

Cabarcas will edit Spanish publications including Nuestra Tarea, monthly Spanish missions magazine. She arrived in the United States Feb. 19 and began work Feb. 21. She replaces Gladys Caballero, who left WMU in August of 1981.

Cabarcas holds degrees from Colegio Americano, Universidad del Valle and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. She also attended the International Baptist Theological Seminary in Cali, where she was professor of Christian education.

Cabarcas worked with La Estrella, GA magazine published by the Foreign Mission Board's Baptist Spanish Publishing House, El Paso, Texas. She is one of six WMU employees funded by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. Cabarcas is the first person moved from abroad to serve on the WMU staff.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Richmond Bureau of Baptist Press will mail a photo to state Baptist newspapers to accompany "Jews Show Concern In Wake Of Jerusalem Church Fire," mailed 2/23/83.

CORRECTION: In 18th graf of "Las Vegas Selected As SBC Site For 1989," mailed 2/23/83, please change the name to Gene Watterson, not Doug, as sent.

Thanks, BP

WRAPUP

Executive Committee Endorses
Building, Budget, Giving Plan

By Dan Martin

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--In a marathon two-day session, the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) Executive Committee endorsed a new building to house seven SBC entities, adopted a \$125 million budget and approved a study of the unified giving plan, the Cooperative Program.

The committee also selected sites for the 1989 and 1990 annual meetings, approved a \$31,740,000 capital needs budget for 1984-88, declined to convene a special session of the 67-member committee to discuss tensions in the 14 million member denomination and commented on the work of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs in Washington, D.C.

Along the way, members also approved modifications in the SBC constitution and bylaws.

All of the recommendations will be referred to the 1983 annual meeting of the SBC in Pittsburgh, June 14-16, for final action.

The proposed seven-story building would house the Executive Committee, Seminary External Education Division, Historical Commission, Christian Life Commission, Education Commission, Stewardship Commission and Southern Baptist Foundation. Messengers in Pittsburgh will be asked to approve an \$8 million capital funds proposal to construct the building.

The \$125 million Cooperative Program Allocation Budget for 1983-84, which gives 70 percent to home and foreign mission, exceeds the current budget by \$19 million. It includes a basic operating budget of \$114,500,000, a capital needs section of \$3,340,385, and a two-phase challenge portion of \$7,159,615.

A proposal to allow churches to exclude some SBC agencies from their contributions and still have their gifts counted as Cooperative Program donations was deleted from the report of the Cooperative Program Study Committee. The group's proposal to begin a 15-year plan to increase giving to SBC churches to \$20 billion a year by 2000 AD was adopted unanimously.

In an action which drew the most debate, members voted 32-20 to recommend Las Vegas, Nev., as the site for the 1989 SBC annual meeting. In contrast, members approved with little discussion and almost no opposition New Orleans as the recommended site for 1990.

The 1984-88 capital needs budget, nearly double the current, six-year capital needs budget, provides funds to 14 of the 20 SBC agencies, some of which have never before received capital needs funding. It provides funding for the new SBC building, as well as special projects for the six seminaries, Home Mission Board and Radio and Television Commission.

Committee members "respectfully declined" to convene a special session of the Executive Committee to discuss tensions in the SBC, despite requests from five persons and resolutions from three state conventions, Virginia, Alabama and Georgia.

The action also commended SBC President James T. Draper Jr. of Euless, Texas, "other convention officers, interested and concerned pastors and laypersons for their leadership in striving to bring peace to the convention."

An effort to delete Draper's name was defeated. John McCall of Louisville, Ky., urged that "personalities be removed" and saying: "The central issue of concern is peace in the SBC and there are huge chasms of difference as to how that peace needs to be achieved. There are significant differences in what he (Draper) believes to be right and what others believe to be right for the SBC. It is wrong to endorse what he has done...when some believe what he has done is not conducive to peace."

Jimmy Jackson of Huntsville, Ala., who said Draper "has done more than anyone else to spearhead this effort (for peace)," urged retention of the president's name because "we would be saying more by deleting than retaining."

The committee received a report from the convention's Public Affairs Committee, which relates to the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs in Washington, D.C.

The report, prepared by Russell H. Dilday Jr., chairman, said the Public Affairs Committee expresses "its enthusiastic affirmation of the importance and value of the work" of the BJCPA.

"The (Public Affairs) Committee is also aware of the lively debate and the criticisms of the agency and its director (James M. Dunn)...focused at times on the vigorous style and vocabulary of the director and at other times on the fact that the position taken by the BJCPA in regard to prayer in public schools is inconsistent with a resolution passed in New Orleans (at the 1982 SBC)," it said.

The report added the committee is aware "that while the position taken on prayer in the public schools is not consistent with the recent resolution in New Orleans, it is in keeping with the previous resolutions passed by the convention...and with the vast majority of the statements made by the Baptist state conventions this fall."

The report urged the SBC to "continue to support strongly" the BJCPA.

In actions on the SBC Constitution and bylaws, the committee:

--Postponed consideration of revision or modification of Article III, on membership.

--Agreed to suspend consideration of modifications on Bylaw 22 (Committee on Resolutions) until procedures proposed by SBC President Draper to improve the resolutions procedure are tried at the 1983 annual meeting;

--Adopted further modifications to Bylaw 16 (Election of Board Members, Trustees, Commissioners or Members of Standing Committees) and Bylaw 21 (Committee on Committees).

In Bylaw 16, the committee in September approved modifications calling for persons nominated to serve on committees, boards, commissions and standing committees to "have resided in the state from which they are elected at least one year prior to election" and that the report of the committee on boards be released to Baptist Press "no later than 45 days prior to the annual meeting...."

The February modification adds a provision that "persons desiring to challenge the report of the committee on boards...are encouraged to publicize the nature of their challenge sufficiently in advance of the annual meeting of the convention to allow information concerning the challenge to be made available to convention messengers."

In Bylaw 21, the committee in September also adopted the requirements on residency and release on information. The February modification specifies those named would be notified "by the president" who also would release the data to BP.

--Declined to revise Bylaw 31 (Representation from New States and Territories).

Roy W. Owen, executive director of the Northern Plains Baptist Convention, suggested every state convention have representation on the various boards of the convention.

The bylaw specifies that a state convention must have 25,000 members before it qualifies for representation. Currently, 26 of the 34 state conventions qualify for representation.

--Adopted a rewritten Bylaw 8 on Messenger Credentials and Registration.

The bylaw provides messengers shall register in person, using a completed registration card, a letter or a telegram. The procedure is essentially that used in the New Orleans convention. It also provides for a Credentials Committee to "review and rule on any questions which may arise" from registration and that any challenge shall be studied by the committee and reported back to the convention.

In other actions, the committee approved a committee to study the utilization of trained ministers, adjusted Executive Committee salaries to conform to cost of living increases, elected Tom J. Logue, state student director of the Arkansas Baptist Convention as SBC representative on the Baptist World Alliance Youth Committee, 1980-85 and adopted an SBC Operating Budget of \$2,362,800 for 1983-84.

Oklahoma City Association
Opposes Women's Ordination

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP)--The Capital Baptist Association, in its February executive board meeting, passed a resolution opposing the ordination of women as deacons, a reaction to a January vote in First Baptist Church of Oklahoma City to permit such action.

The vote was 36-8 in favor of a resolution presented by the executive committee. The resolution contains three points:

"A. The doctrinal position of Southern Baptist churches of Capital Baptist Association does not agree with the position of ordaining women, and that,

"B. We do not know of any other churches affiliated with Capital Baptist Association practicing or contemplating the practice of ordaining women, and that,

"C. We ask the present constitutional committee of the association to make the above a matter of study and that we have a report from the committee by June 15."

Gerald Lunsford, pastor of First Baptist Church of Choctaw and association moderator, said the action is aimed at getting "the matter before the association. We are not looking to kick anyone out, but we do feel the association must speak to this matter.

Lunsford added the study is not to determine the doctrinal rightness or wrongness of ordination of women, but is undertaken because the associational constitution does not speak to the matter.

The moderator said he personally disagrees with the ordination of women. "I don't think it is the scriptural position. I am conservative from one end to the other and believe ordination is for men. I even have a little problem with ordination of ministers of music or education; we have gotten much too free with the whole ordination process."

The resolution grew out of a meeting Lunsford called of 15 former moderators of the 127-church association for "advisory purposes."

"We discussed the matter for three hours. We had people with theological positions from one extreme to the other but we came out united in our agreement (to oppose the ordination of women)," he said.

Following the former moderator's meeting, Lunsford and two others visited Gene Garrison, pastor of First Baptist and second vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention, to discuss the matter with him.

"We wanted to try to understand the action and why it was taken. Gene was very congenial in sharing the information. We didn't go to try to change his mind. When a man makes up his mind, you can argue all day and won't change him," Lunsford said.

During the associational executive board meeting, six pastors spoke against the resolution, most expressing opposition because of local church autonomy. One cited the Baptist Faith and Message statement that "such organizations (associations and conventions) have no authority over one another or over the churches."

Others spoke in favor of the resolution, one proponent noting the matter does not deal with local autonomy, but "with what the association is doing and whether we'll have fellowship with churches that ordain women."

The study was referred to a recently appointed constitutional study committee, chaired by Jim White, pastor of Capitol Hill Baptist Church in Oklahoma City.

"They can report any time before June 15, but the executive board requested they report by then," Lunsford said. "We want it by that date in order that we can look at it before the annual meeting in October."

He added that in his opinion the "ball is in First Baptist's court now; it is up to them. Their next deacon election comes in August and it will depend on what they do. The finalization of our action will not come until October."

Lunsford, however, declined to predict if First Baptist will be disfellowshipped by the association.

Garrison told Baptist Press: "I regret this action. I appreciate the association and I am happy to be a part of the association. I regard this action as a departure from the historic understanding of the role of the association, but I refuse to allow this departure to influence my commitment to the autonomy of the local church.

"We will continue to pursue the course of action the church has already determined."

Previous stories indicated the Oklahoma City church is the first Southern Baptist Church in Oklahoma to approve ordination of women. However, Oklahoma officials report Parkview Baptist Church of Tulsa ordained a woman as deacon in 1980 and she has completed a term of service as an active deacon.

Also, in Shawnee, Okla., University Baptist Church voted in 1979 to change its bylaws to allow ordination of women. Glenn Pence, pastor, said women have been on the ballots and have received votes, but that none have been ordained.

While ordination of women as deacons is a big issue in Oklahoma, it is a matter of course in other areas. Southern Baptist churches in North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia regularly ordain women as deacons.

One deacon at First Baptist Church of Raleigh, N.C., indicated the church "ordained its first woman deacon back in 1874. We've had lots of experience ordaining women as deacons."

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High Court Action Ends
FCC-Faith Center Dispute

By Stan Haste

Baptist Press
2/24/83

WASHINGTON (BP)--Ending a six-year controversy between a California church which operated a religious television station and the Federal Communications Commission, the U.S. Supreme Court declined to review the FCC's refusal to renew the church's TV license.

The dispute began in 1977, when the FCC demanded access to financial records and videotapes from Faith Center, Inc., of San Bernardino, Calif., and its station, KHOF-TV. The demands were made because the federal agency had received complaints the church's pastor, W. Eugene Scott, had raised funds over the air which were not used for their stated purposes.

Responding to the complaints, the FCC began an "informal investigation" to determine if the federal law prohibiting fraudulent solicitation over the airwaves had been violated. It requested videotapes and financial records, including accounts receivable ledgers, lists of solicitations and monies received, records of money spent on each project for which funds were solicited, lists of those making contributions and pledges and a list of Scott's own pledges and contributions to the same causes.

After Scott refused over a three-year period to turn over the requested documents, the FCC dismissed the station's license renewal application. That action was subsequently affirmed by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

In its failed request that the Supreme Court review the lower actions, Faith Center and Scott argued that they enjoyed First Amendment protection from the FCC demands, particularly regarding the agency's demands for lists of donors.

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Joining the Faith Center appeal as friends of the court were the Full Gospel Fellowship of Churches and Ministries International, comprised of 2,000 evangelical congregations and presided over by Scott, as well as the Church of Scientology of California and television preachers Jerry Falwell and Tim LaHaye, among others (82-867, Faith Center, Inc. v. FCC).

In other actions announced Feb. 22 after a mid-term recess, the high court:

--Let stand an Oregon court ruling that a "deprogrammed" former member of the Church of Scientology was not entitled to damages from the sect for recruiting and indoctrinating her (82-1036, Christofferson v. Church of Scientology Mission of Davis);

--Declined to review New York courts which upheld a finding of the state division of human rights that the Carnation Co. did not meet the burden of reasonably accommodating the religious needs of a Seventh-day Adventist employee who refused to work on Saturdays (82-1002, Carnation Co. v. New York State Division of Human Rights) and

--Dismissed an appeal from a group of Ohio nursing homes which unsuccessfully challenged a state law distinguishing profit-making from non-profit homes and setting lower workers' compensation rates for the non-profit, mostly church-related, facilities (82-1019, Quality Health Service, Inc. v. Johnston).

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Language Leaders Study Ethnic
Trends, Discuss Global Strategy

By Patti Stephenson

Baptist Press
2/24/83

SEATTLE (BP)--More than 200 language missions leaders focused on the implications of America's increasing internationalism at the 26th annual language missions leadership conference in Seattle.

For the first time, the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board-sponsored meeting included participants from the Foreign Mission Board and Baptist Sunday School Board in acknowledgement of Southern Baptists' need for a global perspective of missions, explained Oscar Romo, HMB language missions director.

Romo also announced the formation of the Language Materials Consortium, a joint venture of the HMB, Sunday School Board, Woman's Missionary Union and Brotherhood Commission. Consortium members will work together and seek to enlist other SBC agencies and state conventions in finding ways to provide language materials for SBC ethnic churches, Romo said.

The Consortium will not usurp the role of any SBC programs in publishing language materials, but will be a "resource and encouragement" to the responsible agencies, Romo noted.

The growing need for language materials reflects the "ethnic assertiveness that has become the vanguard of widespread pluralism in America," Romo said. "The denomination is being challenged to permit the participatory inclusion of ethnics" in SBC life--a critical necessity in metropolitan Baptist associations, he stressed.

Southern Baptists cannot afford to "preach participation and practice paternalism," said Bob Banks, HMB vice president of administration. If Baptists are to meet ethnic needs, "it may mean the agencies will need to reconsider profit from materials" and develop a new approach to publishing, he suggested.

Either Southern Baptists provide language materials for ethnic churches "just as we do for Anglos," or they will find what they need somewhere else, warned Gerald Palmer, HMB vice president of missions. "Either we grant equivalency to ethnic Southern Baptists or they will go it alone."

Declaring "every person has the right to hear of the love of God in the language of their heart," Ralph McIntyre, director of the Sunday School Board's Bible teaching division, described the Sunday School Board's goal as "meeting the material needs of every SBC language church as soon as possible."

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Diverse needs, however, require the agency to set priorities and make long-range plans, he explained. The "overwhelming needs" present a challenge "big enough for all of us."

Clark Scanlon of the Foreign Mission Board's office of overseas operations, listed evangelism as a foreign missions priority and called for ethnic congregations to develop a global missions concern and to support SBC channels for mission efforts.

Scanlon also noted the need for more ethnic missionaries and volunteers to "represent the pluralism of the SBC in its mission forces."

Language leaders were told "the church has the opportunity to lead the way in this new age of internationalism" but must remember "those with the responsibility for presenting a Christian witness to internationals must not confuse it with any political creeds." Hubert G. Locke, dean of the graduate school of public affairs, University of Washington in Seattle, said today's internationals may be willing to accept the gospel but not necessarily American democracy.

Donald N. Larson of Bethel College described the work of the church as "demonstrating reconciliation," but conceded "it is easier to build walls than bridges when two different worlds collide." Larson said an attitude of arrogance toward different groups, combined with narrowness of experience results in a "narrowgance" which nurtures those walls. Churches which seek to preserve their "ethnic isolation" lose their message of reconciliation in their communities, he charged.

The 1983 Mosaic Language Missions Award was presented by Romo to John R. McLaughlin, Spanish work and church administration consultant in the church services division of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Romo lauded McLaughlin's leadership in developing religious education programs among Spanish-speaking congregations and his persistence in seeking to provide them with Spanish language materials.

McLaughlin is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, and earned a diploma in Spanish from the Language School in Costa Rica. Before joining the Texas convention in 1957, he was music and education director for Texas churches in Mineral Wells, Corpus Christi and Lufkin. He and his wife, Moveta, have three children.

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Supreme Court To Review
Private College Challenge

By Larry Chesser

Baptist Press
2/24/83

WASHINGTON (BP)--The U.S. Supreme Court has announced it will review a lower court ruling that the Department of Education legally terminated federal financial assistance to students at a private Pennsylvania college which refused to sign forms showing compliance with federal laws against sex discrimination.

Grove City College, a private liberal arts school affiliated with the United Presbyterian Church, asked the high court to decide whether the Department of Education may classify the school as a recipient of federal financial assistance solely because its students receive federally-backed loans and grants and whether its students' financial assistance may be terminated because of refusal by the college to sign forms demonstrating compliance with a federal anti-sex discrimination statute.

The college refused a 1976 request by the then Department of Health, Education and Welfare to sign forms demonstrating its compliance with non-discrimination provisions of Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments, stating it had consistently refused to accept government assistance nor did it operate programs which received government assistance.

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In response, HEW charged because Grove City students received Basic Educational Opportunity Grants and Guaranteed Student Loans backed by the federal government, the college itself was a "recipient" of federal financial assistance and therefore must fill out the government's "Assurance of Compliance" form.

Despite finding no evidence of actual sex discrimination by the college, an HEW Administrative Law Judge found Grove City not in compliance with Title IX solely because of its refusal to sign compliance forms and declared its students ineligible for federal financial assistance.

On appeal, a federal district court held that the students' assistance could not be terminated because the college refused to sign Title IX compliance forms but agreed with the Department of Education that the grants and loans to the students constituted federal financial assistance to the college.

Both sides appealed to the Third Circuit Court of Appeals which held the college subject to Title IX requirements as a recipient of federal financial assistance and upheld the legality of the Department of Education's termination of assistance to the students.

In asking the high court to review the Third Circuit's decision, attorneys for Grove City argued that the lower ruling conflicts with other Supreme Court and circuit court decisions on application of Title IX.

They also charged that the Third Circuit's ruling "raises significant questions about the limitation on First Amendment rights of association and academic freedom to which the College and its students are entitled."

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Trends Favor SBC Approach To
Reaching Ethnics, Leaders Say

By Patti Stephenson

Baptist Press
2/24/83

SEATTLE (BP)--Two Southern Baptist missiologists gazed into the future and pronounced Southern Baptists' language missions strategies sound but called for "creative restructuring" of SBC life to include growing numbers of ethnics.

Oscar Romo, language missions director of the Home Mission Board, and Daniel Sanchez, director of missions for the Baptist Convention of New York, examined global trends and their implications for ethnic church growth at the 1983 language missions leadership conference.

Romo described the United States as a "modern tower of Babel" with 119 million ethnics rather than a "melting pot"--a pluralistic society with enclaves of language-culture groups clustered by choice.

Ethnics in search of identity in past decades are now asserting that identity in the 1980s, Romo stated. "Sharing the gospel within the context of language and culture" is essential if Southern Baptists are to continue reaching America's ethnics and internationals, he added.

The new ethnic assertiveness also challenges the denomination to actively include and seek ethnics' participation at every level, Romo warned. To exclude ethnic churches as partners in Bold Mission Thrust would mean "multitudes could be overlooked."

An increased influx of immigrants as the world shrinks into a "global village" emphasizes the need for more ethnic leaders as well as Anglo pastors educated to minister to ethnics, Romo said. Southern Baptists must begin to see the homeland as a "world mission field in itself" while developing an integrated, global missions strategy.

The movement from an industrial to an informational society means more ethnics will become upwardly mobile professionals and as laity becomes better trained, they will expect well-educated pastors, Sanchez explained.

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Society's shift from an impersonal to a hands-on technology bodes well for person-centered ethnic churches, Sanchez said. "The ethnic churches which will be most successful will communicate the gospel along friendship and kinship ties," while the gradual move to a global economy and the accompanying swell of internationals will assure the continued need for ethnic churches in the future.

Trends toward decentralization, self-reliance and participatory democracy all complement historical SBC emphasis on the autonomy of the local church and a related trend toward informal networking is reflected by the growing number of ethnic fellowship groups within the SBC, Sanchez noted.

In the future, several types of churches will be necessary to accomodate ethnics at various levels of assimilation, he said. For the monolingual, "a language church is a must," for the median ethnic who can move in two cultures, a bilingual church is needed while an Anglo church can reach an assimilated ethnic.

Sanchez applauded Southern Baptists as "pacesetters" for plotting long-range strategies to win ethnic persons, but urged "creative restructuring is needed to maximize their participation at every level of SBC life."

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Mission Trip To Uganda
Prompts 30 Commitments

Baptist Press
2/24/83

FARMINGTON, N.M. (BP)--A volunteer mission group to Uganda prompted nearly 30 members of Farmington's Emmanuel Baptist Church to a commitment to foreign mission service.

In addition, the 1,200-member New Mexico church boosted its Lottie Moon Christmas Offering gifts to \$56,000 in 1982, up \$14,000 over 1981.

Emmanuel Pastor John P. Preston said seven volunteers who went to East Africa brought back the excitement of firsthand foreign missions, causing nearly 30 people to commit themselves either to volunteer service, the missionary associate program or full-time foreign missions careers.

Preston said he feels he went to Africa to do more than just come back and tell about it. Someday he'll go back as a missionary.

"I'd always shut the door to foreign missions because I didn't think I'd be any good with languages," Preston said. "I found out over there I could use my English and I said to the Lord, 'I'm ready anywhere, anyway, anytime.'"

"I came back with that message to our people," Preston continued, "we often think foreign missions is for somebody who has an unusual gift, but we're all capable of being foreign missionaries and we should not limit the Lord."

The Farmington church members were invited by a home-town boy, Paul Eaton, to help chop out a foothold deep in Uganda's bush. Eaton and his wife, Kay, Southern Baptist missionaries, were beginning a new agricultural evangelism ministry and needed help constructing a new shop, office and storage area.

The trip was a sentimental journey for Ruth Harper, a charter member of Emmanuel whose husband died last year.

"Loyd and I had known Paul since he was a boy," she said. "He needed help out there to get his work started. If Loyd were alive, he'd be there. So I decided to take his place."

The group concluded their one-week visit by dedicating a nearly complete Loyd Harper agricultural building. They placed a Gideon Bible in its foundation in honor of Harper's years of work with Gideons International. Eaton will finish the building.

"Paul and Kay were at our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering emphasis in Farmington in 1981," Preston recalled. "We had set a goal of \$25,000 and collected \$42,000." In 1982 the goal was \$50,000 and \$56,000 was given.

That amount, Preston added, worked out to about \$490 per participating family.

The church had asked the Eatons last year if it could be of some help to them. Later, members donated money for the building at the new Agwata station, and the volunteers traveled there at their own expense to get construction under way.

"If the people could see the Eatons' commitment and how hard they work to get a job done," Preston said, "they'd never doubt the value of missions."

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First State Donation
Given for WMU Building

Baptist Press
2/24/83

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)--Expressing thanks for the past and commitment to the future of missions education, the Florida Woman's Missionary Union staff and president contributed a personal gift of \$500 to WMU, SBC for its new national headquarters building.

The gift marks the first donation by a state WMU to the national organization for the building that is now being constructed.

Vanita Baldwin, executive director of Florida WMU, said the gift is also in honor of Carolyn Weatherford's leadership. Weatherford, executive director of WMU, SBC, is a native of Frostproof, Fla. WMU, SBC staff expects to occupy the building in spring of 1984.

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