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News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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March 17, 1988

Gregory To Nominate  
Smith To Lead Pastors

By Greg Warner and Toby Druin

88-45  
N-CO  
(Fla., Texas side)

AUSTIN, Texas (BP)--Ralph Smith, pastor of Hyde Park Baptist Church in Austin, Texas, for the past 27 years, has become the second Texas pastor to agree to be nominated for president of the SBC Pastors' Conference this June in San Antonio, Texas.

Smith told the Florida Baptist Witness, newsjournal of the Florida Baptist Convention, he agreed last November to a request that fellow Texan Joel Gregory be allowed to nominate him.

Gregory, pastor of Travis Avenue Baptist Church, Fort Worth, said the recent announcement Paul Powell, pastor of Green Acres Baptist Church in Tyler, Texas, will be nominated for the post made it "appropriate" to announce his own intentions ahead of time. "I had intended just to get up and do it," he added.

"I'd like to make it clear this is not in reaction to any other announcement," Gregory told the Baptist Standard, newsjournal of Texas Baptists. "I would like to underscore emphatically that I made that invitation to Dr. Smith in November 1987."

A third likely nominee, Tom Elliff, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church in Del City, Okla., told the Witness he has not yet decided whether he will allow his nomination.

Elliff, the brother-in-law of former Southern Baptist Convention President Bailey Smith and Smith's successor in the Del City pastorate, is the only one of the three possible nominees who is scheduled to speak during the 1988 Pastors' Conference. He preaches immediately prior to the election of officers.

According to Stan Coffey, pastor of San Jacinto Baptist Church in Amarillo, Texas, and this year's Pastors' Conference president, Elliff was the choice of conservative leaders who met privately in Atlanta in mid-February. The group also tapped Jacksonville pastor Jerry Vines as their preference for SBC president.

Gregory said his invitation to nominate Ralph Smith "is totally my undertaking. I talked to absolutely no one before deciding to nominate Ralph. I certainly do not represent any group, faction or cause and will not be involved in any campaign, as Ralph will not."

"It is healthy and like old times for several good men to be nominated," Gregory said. "Ralph Smith is a great evangelistic church-builder who deserves this opportunity. ... We'll just let the brethren decide."

Smith described himself as a "conservative" who believes in the "full inspiration" of the Bible.

He said the support Elliff has received from some conservative leaders would not change his mind about being nominated. "I would be very pleased to have the conservative support because that's what I am," he said, adding he also would welcome the support of moderates in the convention.

Smith told the Witness he has been pleased with the direction of the Pastors' Conference in recent years and would not suggest changing it to appeal to moderate pastors, many of whom have met separately in the SBC Forum since 1984.

"If a group like the Forum forms a schism, it is incumbent on them to come back and get in the mainstream," he said.

Southwestern Trustees Respond To  
Peace Committee, Affirm Dilday

By Mark Wingfield

N-CD  
(SWBTS)

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)--Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary trustees adopted a positive response to the Southern Baptist Peace Committee and affirmed Russell Dilday on his 10th anniversary as seminary president during their spring meeting March 14-16.

The board also elected four new faculty members, adopted several changes in the Fort Worth, Texas, seminary's bylaws and approved a \$19.7 million budget.

Trustee Wayne Allen of Carrollton, Texas, presented the motion affirming Dilday in the last minutes of the board meeting. Allen called for "a vote of confidence and appreciation for 10 years of leadership."

The board unanimously adopted Allen's motion on a voice vote, with applause from some trustees. The night before at a banquet for trustees, administrators and faculty, Dilday received an extended standing ovation after a program about his 10th anniversary.

Rumors had circulated for several weeks before the meeting that trustees would reprimand Dilday for his public comments on the ongoing theological/political conflict in the Southern Baptist Convention. But no confrontation occurred.

"People expecting us to have difficulty are in error," trustee Chairman Ken Lilly told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

Trustee James T. Draper Jr. of Euless, Texas, presented the report of a trustee subcommittee assigned last fall to formulate a response to the Peace Committee. The Peace Committee's statement, approved by messengers to the SBC annual meeting last summer, called on seminary trustees to "determine the theological positions" of administration and faculty members in light of the 1963 Baptist Faith and Message Statement.

"The response of our faculty and administration has been remarkable," Draper reported to the board. "I don't know how it could have been any better."

Southwestern's faculty has shown a "tremendously strong commitment" to the kind of teaching that has characterized the school in the past, Draper said.

"The administration has been very meticulous in dealing with concerns that have been expressed," he said, explaining that only "four or five" questions had ever been raised about Southwestern. All of those concerns have been answered adequately, he added.

One concern was that not all faculty members believed in the "historicity of Adam and Eve," Draper said. But he told trustees Vice President for Academic Affairs John Newport convinced him this was not the case.

"I feel like we've been met with great cooperation and a good spirit," Draper said.

The formal statement adopted by trustees notes Southwestern had been dealing responsibly with the inerrancy question as early as 1978. "Southwestern has in the past and will continue to require all administration and faculty to sign and agree to teach in accordance with the 1963 Baptist Faith and Message Statement. Our administration and faculty support this position," the statement says.

The statement also notes that Southwestern's faculty has committed "to avoid using unfair caricatures and cynicism in teaching, lectures and addresses" and to provide balance in "alternative positions, textbooks and lecturers."

According to the statement, a teacher's freedom is limited by "the pre-eminence of Christ, the authoritative nature of the Scriptures and the distinct purpose for which the seminary exists."

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The suggestions of the Peace Committee are being implemented at Southwestern in the spirit of the six SBC seminary presidents' "Glorieta Statement" that the books of the Bible are "not errant in any areas of reality" and have "infallible power and binding authority," the statement says.

Trustees noted their appreciation of the Peace Committee subcommittee that found Southwestern to be "right in the heart of our basic Southern Baptist commitments to the Bible, evangelism, missions and excellent academics."

In other business, trustees adopted a \$19.7 million budget for fiscal year 1988-89. The new budget is an increase of 4.8 percent from the current year and provides a 2 percent salary increase for faculty and staff.

The seminary is "holding its own in a difficult financial context," Dilday told trustees. Although endowment has increased, earnings from those funds have not increased due to poor economic conditions, he said. Also, Southwestern's percentage of funding from the SBC Cooperative Program unified budget is decreasing each year, he explained.

To balance the budget, trustees approved increasing the student matriculation fee from \$350 to \$400 per semester. However, trustees asked seminary administrators to study ways to keep student costs down.

Four faculty members were elected without opposition. They are Grant Irven Lovejoy, instructor in preaching; Henry Newton Smith, instructor in missions; Paul Wateson Stevens, director of field education and associate professor; and Rhonda Jayne Edge, assistant professor in church music education.

Trustees also adopted several bylaw changes, moving election of board officers from the fall meeting to the spring meeting and giving the board chairman authority to make committee assignments immediately upon his election.

In other matters, Southwestern's board:

-- Affirmed the current policy of requiring students to carry medical insurance and provide evidence of church involvement.

-- Named a new chair in student work for Edgar "Preacher" Hallock, longtime pastor of First Baptist Church of Norman, Okla.

-- Granted tenure to professors William Tillman, Robert Raus and William Mac Davis.

-- Named Dan Crawford to the George W. Truett Chair of Ministry, Al Fasol to the E. Hermond Westmoreland Professorship of Preaching, Harold Freeman to the Ralph M. and Bess Smith Chair of Preaching, and Roy Fish to the L.R. Scarborough Chair of Evangelism.

-- Promoted Paul Gritz to assistant professor of church history, Thomas Lea to professor of New Testament, Dan Clement to assistant professor in psychology and counseling and W.A. "Bud" Smith to associate professor of foundations of education.

-- Recognized outgoing trustees James Coggin of Fort Worth; Davis Cooper of Denver; Stanley Hand of Winter Park, Fla.; and Art Sherwood of Houston.

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Home Mission Board Elects Officers,  
Adds Staff, Increases 1988 Budget

By Joe Westbury

Baptist Press  
3/17/88

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)--Directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board re-elected officers, elected Charles Chaney as a new special assistant to the president and voted to increase the agency's 1988 budget to \$78,517,663 during their March meeting.

The directors met at the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union headquarters in Birmingham, Ala., in observance of the centennial of the women's missions organization.

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*N HMB*

Board members unanimously re-elected last year's slate of officers to second one-year terms. Clark G. Hutchinson, pastor of Eastside Baptist Church in Marietta, Ga., was named chairman of the Atlanta-based missions agency.

Other re-elected officers are William J. Viel Jr., pastor of First Baptist Church of Essex, Md., first vice chairman; Lawson Schroeder, Atlanta dentist, second vice chairman; Barbara Fain of Dunwoody, Ga., secretary; and Paulina Brown of Shelbina, Mo., assistant secretary.

The board increased the 1988 budget by \$1,042,728, nearly half of which was earmarked to supplement pensions for missionaries who retired with inadequate income.

That \$400,000 adjustment will be divided among nearly 250 missionaries based on length of service, said Margrette Stevenson, associate vice president for the board's services section.

"Many of these individuals are still working at 75 years of age to provide adequate income for themselves. One missionary was earning income by baking and decorating cakes until her health recently failed," Stevenson said.

"We are attempting to partially reconstruct what their pension plan would be if they had been included in a retirement program earlier in their ministries."

The program also will provide information on healthcare facilities, government programs and resources that could be of assistance.

Board members also approved a statement that explains why they previously voted to deny church pastoral aid to ordained women who are pastors of local churches. The statement was in response to a request from a motion made at the 1987 Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting and referred automatically to the board for a response.

Directors said they believe the policy, adopted in October 1986, "is in harmony" with a resolution adopted by the 1984 Southern Baptist Convention meeting.

Directors unanimously voted to delete from their response a paragraph that drew opposition at their October 1987 board meeting from Beth McGhee of Tucson, Ariz.

Shortly after voicing concern that the paragraph might be divisive, McGhee collapsed at her seat and died of a heart attack.

The deleted sentence said: "Also, we feel that this action of our board (the 1986 policy) is commensurate with the faith and practice of the majority of Baptist churches affiliated with our Southern Baptist Convention."

Board members did not deal with a "sensitive personnel matter" concerning employment of George Sheridan, regional director of the board's interfaith witness department. Sheridan recently declined a transfer from Union, N.J., to a position in the board's Atlanta office.

Hutchinson announced that HMB President Larry Lewis and others involved in the administrative decision to transfer Sheridan would be available in a private meeting room during coffee break to answer questions from board members.

In staff appointments, directors employed Chaney of Bolivar, Mo., to fill a newly created position of special assistant to the president.

Chaney, assistant to the chancellor and dean of the Courts Redford School of Theology and Church Vocations at Southwest Baptist University, will join the board staff May 16. He is a native of Alexander, Texas.

The position is needed to help Lewis direct the agency's primary emphases in evangelism, church planting and church growth, Hutchinson said.

Chaney, president of the university from 1983 to 1986, also will assist Lewis in implementing changes in strategy and organizational structure at the board.

Dean Doster, associate director of the personal evangelism department since 1984, was promoted to associate vice president of the evangelism section. Doster, a native of McKenzie, Tenn., succeeds Fred White, who is retiring.

Chan Garrett, associate director of the black church relations department for nine years, was elected regional coordinator for the planning section. A native of Brooksville, Fla., Garrett will be responsible for coordinating the agency's strategy planning, budget and goal evaluation with eastern states. He replaces Carlisle Driggers, who has been named minister of outreach at Northminster Baptist Church in Conyers, Ga.

Joseph Talmadge Davis of Tallahassee, Fla., was elected assistant director of the interfaith witness department. He has been associate pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church since 1984. He will replace Gary Leazer, who was promoted to direct the department in October.

Directors also upgraded two national missionary assignments in the metropolitan missions department to elected-staff status. The move will enable the board to better coordinate its strategies in evangelizing major metropolitan cities in the Northeast and the West, Lewis said.

Nelson Tilton, director of the church starting department for the past 12 years, will be the department's assistant director for the Northeast. He plans to move to metropolitan New York City. The other position has not been staffed.

In another matter, Lewis Burnett was elected director of military chaplaincy. The promotion will be effective following the retirement of Pat Davis on Dec. 31. Burnett, who has been associate director of military chaplaincy for three years, is a native of McCamey, Texas.

Directors also changed the named of the specialized evangelism department to the evangelism church growth department to fine-tune the department's responsibilities. The restructuring will allow the department to concentrate on church growth and evangelism as well as pastoral growth and development of evangelism skills.

Lewis noted 75 percent of Southern Baptist churches have either leveled off in their growth or are dying. Now is the time to strengthen ministries in the area of church growth, he said.

In other business, directors approved \$180,240 from the Cecil B. Day Memorial Fund for a variety of church starting projects. Included were funds earmarked to provide pastors for a Spanish mission, a black church and a deaf church.

Directors also appointed 10 missionaries, eight missionary associates and approved financial aid to 26 mission pastors.

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BWA Executive Committee  
Makes Deficit Reductions

N-10

Baptist Press  
3/17/88

WASHINGTON (BP)--Faced with an "unprecedented" financial deficit for the fiscal year ending March 31, the executive committee of the Baptist World Alliance took steps during its annual March meeting to reduce expenditures.

Members were told the international organization will have an operating budget deficit of nearly \$145,000 for the current fiscal year. Coupled with the financial shortfall, contributions to a \$2 million building fund goal have been less than half the amount projected. The financial situation was complicated further, officials said, by currency controls and the fluctuations in the value of the American dollar.

BWA General Secretary Gerhard Claas told committee members a recent study showed 64 of the 137 BWA member unions/conventions are in countries that have currency controls. None of the groups is able to contribute financially to the BWA, he said.

When Third World, or so-called developing countries, whose currency is of little international exchange value even though not subject to stringent controls, are added, an even higher percentage of constituent bodies find support for the world Baptist organization practically impossible.

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The Southern Baptist Convention annually contributes about one-third of the \$1 million annual budget, giving \$360,000 annually.

BWA executive committee members were told \$822,000 has been received for the \$2 million building goal fund set when the BWA moved into a new building in McLean, Va., in 1985. Projections had called for the entire amount to have been raised by the end of the current fiscal year.

In order to meet the deficit, the executive committee approved reduced expenditures in staff travel, extended the current building fund drive for another year, accepted the resignation of communications division Director John M. Wilkes and declined to extend the appointment of Samsom Mathangani, assistant youth department director, for a new term.

Claas had cautioned the BWA general council at its meeting in Amman, Jordan, in July 1987, that another year's deficit in the BWA operating budget would consequently lead to reduction in programs or staff or both. In his report to the March meeting of the executive committee, he called on the executive and budget/finance committees to determine means to "cover the million-dollar deficit (which includes building fund shortfalls), plan for the future and continue to finance BWA programs."

Claas said Wilkes and Mathangani will remain on staff through Sept. 30, mid-point of the 1988-89 fiscal year. Both of them are exploring other employment opportunities, but neither has another job.

Wilkes, a former Southern Baptist foreign missionary and editor of European Baptist Press, was elected to the executive staff at the BWA World Congress in 1985, when two divisions -- communications, and promotion and development -- were created from the former division of communications and promotion.

Mathangani, a citizen of Kenya, originally was employed on a four-year agreement to help the youth department prepare for the 1984 youth conference in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The agreement was extended for four more years in order for Mathangani to assist with preparations for the 1988 youth conference in Glasgow, Scotland.

Neither staff member will be replaced, Claas said. The communications and promotion and development departments will be merged again, and Reinhold J. Kerstan, a staff member since 1980 and currently director of promotion and development, will be director of the merged departments.

In other business, the BWA executive committee voted to proceed with plans for the 1990 BWA World Congress, scheduled Aug. 14-19 in Seoul, Korea.

BWA President Noel Vose told the executive committee, "I am more than ever convinced that we are right to go to Seoul and am completely committed to holding the congress there."

In another action, the executive committee considered an invitation from the World Alliance of Reformed Churches to a second round of theological talks and recommended initiation of talks with all world Mennonite groups, probably represented by those in North America.

The international committee, which acts in behalf of the general council between its annual sessions, also noted Claas' statement that "28 Baptist national organizations, associations or groups" around the world have submitted BWA membership applications; and voted "that the Baptist world family be encouraged to celebrate International Human Rights Day in December 1988."

The impetus on Human Rights Day came from the BWA study commission on human rights, whose members are preparing an order of service and sermon outline for the international day Dec. 10.

Claas, in his report, said revival is still going on, especially in Asia and Eastern Africa. In Kenya alone, he said, Baptists started more than 700 new churches and baptized 14,144 new converts during 1987.

Human Needs Examined  
During CLC Seminar

By Kathy Palen

N-B/C

WASHINGTON (BP)--The human face of hunger, homelessness and other needs captured the attention of participants at a Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission citizenship seminar.

Two speakers helped personalize the fact that poverty touches one of every four children in the United States and famine threatens the lives of millions of people in Africa.

Americans have become immune to statistics, said Ginny Britt, executive director of Crisis Control Ministry in Winston-Salem, N.C. But, she added, in her work "every figure translates into a face and every face haunts you. Percentages take human form as someone's brother or mother or child."

Britt recalled thinking when Crisis Control Ministry opened in 1973 that with a \$2,500 monthly budget it would be able to "fix" everyone and everything in a maximum of two years. Fifteen years later, the ministry receives requests from more than 17,000 clients per year.

"Where, I sometimes wonder, are those who fought for social justice in the '60s?" Britt said. "Why did anyone think we could win a war on poverty in such a few years when it attacked problems which had taken centuries to develop? We were winning skirmishes and battles. We need to fight on."

Crisis Control Ministry was organized out of a desire to meet the "survival needs" of citizens in the Winston-Salem community in a "more extensive, more dignified and more caring way," said Britt, who joined the ministry's staff in 1974 and became executive director in 1977. The ministry, she said, functions as the extended arm of the religious community to help those in need by combining the resources of local churches -- including money, clothes and food -- in a central location and training volunteers to understand other public and private resources so that church money is used only when no other funds are available.

Britt, who is a member of Winston-Salem's First Baptist Church, said this structure allows assistance to be more than a mere hand-out. She explained that with each bag of food come directions on how and where to apply for food stamps, with each rent check comes encouragement to apply for subsidized housing and with each fuel oil order comes information on weatherization programs.

"Ministry to people in need through Crisis Control is an expanded model of the Good Samaritan's individualized, hands-on rescue," she said. "In our case, we have institutionalized assistance but for the benefit of the clients and with an unwavering commitment to remain flexible and responsive."

That flexibility, Britt said, allows decisions to be made on a case-by-case basis, rather than with a rule book.

The program utilizes 240 volunteers each week. Britt said volunteers -- who bring in a freshness and avoid the cynicism professionals often develop -- become disciples. "They see and experience first hand the pain and plight of folks living on the line, the inequities of our society, and they share these experiences in church settings and in social settings."

She said the ministry's bylaws mandate a majority of its board of directors be active volunteers. "The beauty of that critical provision is that control resides with those people who daily face across the desk a hungry person or a cold person," she said. "And believe me, it makes a difference in the decisions made about policies."

Britt advocated a "trickle-up theology" in which each individual begins by changing himself or herself.

"I quit some time ago debating whose fault this whole mess of poverty is," she said. "I say justice demands I begin by changing myself. Justice then demands I act on behalf of others. God demands we take responsibility for the needy if we are good citizens of his kingdom."

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She added: "Compassion means removing terms from our vocabulary like 'truly needy' and 'worthy' and 'deserving.' Jesus never stopped before healing anyone and asked them, 'Are you deserving?' His compassion met the woman at the well, the tax collector in the tree and it called them, as it calls us, to be citizens of the kingdom."

To personalize the increasing human need in Africa, Ross Coggins, director of the U.S. State Department's Office of African Emergency Coordination, said the number of people -- 13 to 14 million -- in Ethiopia, Mozambique, Angola and Sudan who are in danger of starvation is almost equal to the number of Southern Baptists. *MM/len*

Although the current African food crisis may become as severe as the famine of 1984-85, Coggins said the factors are different. Rather than drought, man-made factors -- including civil conflict, counterproductive agricultural policies, and weak, inefficient and corrupt governments -- are causing the current crisis, he said.

He described the endangered countries as having governments "where millionaire dictators preside over a kind of 'cleptocracy' in which the government steals from the people."

Coggins, a former Southern Baptist missionary to Indonesia and former CLC director of communications, said internal strife in the four countries is "going to force us to be dealing with the famine situation ... almost on a permanent basis." He said such conflict closes off the movement of food within those countries.

He urged seminar participants to begin to raise a public cry for a "food truce," in which all sides in the various conflicts would agree to stop fighting for a period of time to allow for transportation of food within the countries. For example, he said, in Ethiopia all three warring sides are Marxist groups that could be asked to halt their fighting for a month to six weeks.

In addition, he told the participants they can help by giving informed support to what the government is doing, expressing their views to their elected representatives, and raising others' awareness through Sunday school lessons, sermons and the like.

"I think that this would be an issue that would be very good for Baptists to try to major on right now," he said. "It would be so much a better image than the prevailing one, so much a better image for us to be seen showing compassion for a hungry world than the prevailing image which too many people have of a mean-spirited search for textual deviants. I think we need to put that image behind us and to be seen as a people doing what I think is the most Christ-like thing we can be doing out there in the world and that is to feed the multitudes."

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Home Mission Board Honors  
WMU's 100 Years In Missions

By Susan Todd

Baptist Press  
3/17/88

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)--Southern Baptist Home Mission Board trustees and staff paid tribute to Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union's 100 years of missions work during a banquet March 15 at the WMU headquarters building in Birmingham, Ala.

Board President Larry Lewis announced the establishment of the Carolyn Weatherford Scholarship Fund "in celebration of Woman's Missionary Union's centennial and in honor of outstanding leadership given by the present executive director."

The fund's purpose, he said, is "to provide scholarship assistance to young women who wish to commit their lives to service with Woman's Missionary Union-related careers."

"The Home Mission Board takes great pleasure in contributing \$25,000 to this worthy objective and encourages others who share in this concern to join us," Lewis said. "The principal will provide the foundation for future assistance, and interest alone will be used to fund scholarships."

"This gift is symbolic of the 100 years of service multiplied by the millions of women who have committed their lives to Southern Baptist mission causes."

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Accepting the \$25,000 check, Weatherford said: "It isn't easy to overwhelm me, because my life is just one wonderful thing after another, but you have overwhelmed me.

"I think back through the years of my life and the fact that I grew up in a little Southern Baptist church in a little town in a poor Southern Baptist family, and yet through all this, the Lord was working to prepare me for his service.

"When I think what you have done for all the little Carolyn Weatherfords in the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention, I am overwhelmed. You have honored me, but most of all, you have honored the Lord and his call to women."

Another gift acknowledging WMU's 100 years of mission service was presented by board Chairman Clark Hutchinson to Marjorie J. McCullough, WMU national president.

A framed calligraphy inscription, which will hang in the WMU national headquarters building, was unveiled and read by Hutchinson. Inscribed on the plaque is a congratulatory message and a pledge of commitment to "full support to your second century of service to missions in America and around the world."

Weatherford told board trustees and staff the second century of WMU will be much like its first. The organization will remain true to its purpose, she said.

"I don't like for us to be called the women's organization of Southern Baptists," she said. "We are the women of the Southern Baptist churches, but our purpose is not to be the women's organization. Our purpose is to be the missionary organization for women and girls."

WMU has never intended to be a women's rights organization, she added.

"We do have a very strong dream that in our day the comprehension of who women are will dawn on all of us, not just the women but the men, too, recognizing that we're not struggling for rights which we do not have," Weatherford said.

"But we are struggling for the right of women to serve. And we believe that Woman's Missionary Union is a good channel for preparing them to do that.

"We're here for the sole purpose of serving you and the (Southern Baptist) Foreign Mission Board, and you can help us as we try to do that better."

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Baptist College Faculty Explore  
Integration Of Faith And Discipline

By Lonnie Wilkey

N-10  
(Ed. Comm.)

Baptist Press  
3/17/88

NASHVILLE (BP)--An attempt to strengthen the integration of faith and discipline in Southern Baptist college classrooms has been initiated by the Southern Baptist Education Commission.

The commission recently held its first faith and discipline seminar for non-religion faculty members representing 11 Baptist schools across the nation.

The seminar represented the Education Commission's first attempt to assist individual faculty members in the formulation of how personal faith can be communicated as part of their area of teaching, said Arthur L. Walker Jr., Education Commission executive director.

The idea for such seminars resulted from reading various statements of purposes from college catalogs and wondering if faculty members really are aware of such statements, Walker reported.

"The fulfillment of the institutional statement of purpose depends upon the involvement of the faculty members," he said in a background paper for seminar participants.

An institution cannot carry out any statement of purpose without classroom involvement of faculty members, he added.

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"When an institution claims to have a religious purpose and a religious identity, there is value in the school doing what it claims to be doing in terms of faith," Walker contended. He told participants he hopes to find ways and offer opportunities for exploring how institutions take areas of human knowledge and relate them to individual faith.

Karen Longman, vice president of the Christian College Coalition in Washington, an organization of 75 Christ-centered liberal arts colleges, shared how other religiously affiliated institutions are tackling the dilemma of integrating faith and discipline.

The integration of faith and learning is the "integral relationship between the Christian faith and human knowledge as it relates to the academic disciplines," Longman said.

She cited three aspects of integration, claiming the relationship of faith and discipline must go beyond those bounds. Integrating faith and discipline is more than using academic disciplines to illustrate spiritual truths, she contended.

Also, the integration is more than simple verbage and a faculty member thinking about his or her faith and putting it alongside an academic discipline, she added.

Longman noted integration of faith and discipline has to be more than "talking a good line." The integration takes place because of "people whose teaching is transformed because they believe that their faith is somehow influencing their teaching and academic work."

Seminar participants discussed several factors that block some faculty members' integration of faith and discipline.

Longman pointed out most professors at religiously affiliated schools earn their doctorates at secular research universities where "at best our faith is irrelevant, and often it is ridiculed." They have no training in the integration of faith and discipline, but when they go to teach at Christian schools they are expected to be able to do so, she said.

A.V. Huff, a history professor at Furman University in Greenville, S.C., agreed training is a problem and said denominations do little beyond the undergraduate level except for students who attend Baptist seminaries. "We could do a lot, from a denominational perspective, for our graduate students (on the collegiate level), especially on a topic such as this," he said.

Christian Zinkhan, a business administration professor from Campbell University in Buies Creek, N.C., said the increased technical nature of some disciplines is a limitation. It is much more difficult to integrate faith and learning in disciplines such as engineering, accounting and mathematics, he added.

Longman noted another problem is "biblical illiteracy." Some faculty members are asked to "integrate what they don't know anything about," she said, adding they do not have a systematic view of theology.

Academic freedom also is an issue in regard to integrating faith and discipline, said Patricia Pinson, a fine arts professor at Union University in Jackson, Tenn. She noted professors must not allow their faith to become indoctrination.

Walker agreed: "Among Southern Baptist institutions, the primary concern is not for indoctrination in religious experience or faith. Primarily, our concern is being the best educational institutions we can be and at the same time integrating into that educational experience opportunities for faith development."

Similar conferences will be held in 1989 and 1990 for participants from other colleges. Participants in the smaller groups will be trained as leaders for a larger conference in 1991.

The conferences are calling for Baptist colleges to take seriously this emphasis on relating faith and academic discipline, he stressed.

"Only with this kind of emphasis can we truly say we are fulfilling the purpose of these institutions and that the statements of purpose as printed in the college catalogs are something more than high-flown and religious-sounding language," Walker concluded.