

THE BAPTIST EDUCATOR



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First Quarter-2007

Bob R. Agee to Retire as IABCU Executive Director, Annual Meeting Set for June 3-5 in Williamsburg

by Tim Fields

IABCU Director of Communications

At the close of the winter board meeting of the International Association of Baptist Colleges and University's (IABCU) Executive Director Bob R. Agee announced his retirement, effective with the June 3-5, 2007 annual meeting or "as soon thereafter as a new executive director can be named."

Agee, 68, has served as executive director of the 51-member association since June of 1998. The Association exists to promote distinctive Christian education among the colleges and universities that have their roots in Baptist heritage.

Agee, former president of Oklahoma Baptist University, has been successfully battling hairy cell leukemia for the past 16 years. He is currently in his fourth remission.

From June of 1998 to September 2002 he also served as executive director of the Consortium for Global Education.

The board expressed their gratitude for Agee's service to the Association and voted to accept his pending retirement with "deepest appreciation."

James Netherton, board chair, told board members he would be appointing a search committee soon to seek a new executive director and asked board members to share any feedback they have regarding the search committee.

In other action, Agee announced that David Gushee, professor of ethics, Union University, would deliver the annual Hester Lectures at the annual meeting and workshops June 3-5 at the Williamsburg Marriott, Williamsburg, Va. The theme for the lectures is "In Search

of a Theological Foundation for Baptist Higher Education."

Also on the agenda for the last plenary session is the final report on the Baylor/ASBCS Conclave.

Agee's letter to the board of directors follows:

"Dear Board of Directors,
Nine years ago we faced some amaz-

ing challenges. Would the schools that historically had been served by the Education Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention find enough common ground and mutual interests to continue to cooperate and support a larger cause? Would the various publics accept the

(Continued on page 2)

Tentative Schedule for IABCU Annual Meeting, June 3-5, 2007 Williamsburg Marriott • Williamsburg, Virginia SUNDAY JUNE 3, 2007

2:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. IABCU Board Meeting
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. First Plenary Session
9:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. IABCU Reception

MONDAY JUNE 4, 2007

7:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. Presidents Buffet Breakfast
Auxiliary Groups Buffet Breakfast
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Second Plenary Session
10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Break
10:45 a.m. – Noon Workshops
12:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. IABCU Business Luncheon
(Presidents and CAOs)
Auxiliary Groups Buffet Lunch
2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Workshops
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. IABCU Banquet - Williamsburg Marriott Ballroom

TUESDAY JUNE 5, 2007

7:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. Chief Academic Officers Breakfast
Auxiliary Groups Breakfast
9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Workshops
10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Break
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Third Plenary Session
12:00 p.m. Adjourn
2:00 p.m. Golf Outing at Kingsmill Country Club

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Agee to Retire...

(Continued from page 1)

association as a legitimate entity representing the interests of the schools as an independent member-owned and operated organization? Could the Association develop a program of work that would provide enough benefits to the schools that would attract participation and involvement of leadership from the schools? Could we develop revenue streams that would support staff, program and services? What did the future hold for the way state conventions and their colleges / universities would relate to each other and as the landscape changed, would the schools be able to rise above the shifting sands and continue to promote the value of being intentionally Christian and unashamedly Baptist?

"I am pleased to report that for the most part, we have risen to the challenges we faced as an Association. The seat on the NAICU Secretariat that had previously been held by the Education Commission was awarded to the ASBCS. The presidents and chief academic officers of the schools along with the executive cabinet leadership personnel have worked together to make our annual meetings some of the most beneficial professional meetings to be found.

The schools have chosen to utilize the services we tried to offer in remarkable ways with invitations to speak on campus, lead faculty workshops, conduct trustee orientation workshops, participate in convocations and commencement, and help with numerous celebrations.

We have established ourselves as a significant voice among Christian colleges and universities as a strong advocate for the importance of the integration of the Christian faith and high-quality academic pursuit. We have become a major resource for the schools through our corporate partnerships, our website services, as an information gathering center, and through various consultation opportunities.

"These past nine years have been meaningful and fulfilling for me as your Executive Director. Tim Fields (IABCU director of communications) is one of the most able and effective professionals

I have ever had the privilege of working with. The friendships with my colleagues in this marvelous family of schools are cherished and valued beyond my ability to describe. My appreciation for our schools and the work they do has grown immensely and my conviction that we are a major force in the larger world of Christian higher education has grown stronger with each passing day. We are stronger today as an Association than any of us ever dreamed we could become nine years ago.

"Our name change will open many exciting and challenging new doors that the Association's executive leadership needs to be ready to walk through."

"We have reached a point in our evolution as an organization where the leadership needs to spend more time on the road, be more visible among

the schools, and able to spend time with potential new members. The limitations of age and health have kept me from being as visible and involved in the public policy arena as we need to be. Our name change will open many exciting and challenging new doors that the Association's executive leadership needs to be ready to walk through. I have come to the conclusion that the time has come for the Board to begin the search for my successor. Therefore, I am tonight (December 11, 2006) announcing my retirement from the position of Executive Director effective at the 2007 annual meeting or at whatever point thereafter that is necessary for the new Executive to assume the position.

"It is my desire to remain deeply and personally involved with the work of the Association in whatever ways I can be of service to the new executive director or to the schools. As long as health and energy allow, I want to devote my efforts to teaching graduate courses in higher education leadership at Union University, conducting and directing research in areas that could benefit our schools, writing, consulting, and spending time with family. When I consider that 16 years ago the doctors gave me a fifty-fifty chance of living longer than three years, the privilege of living and serving is a gift for which I feel a tremendous sense of stewardship.

"The cause of Christian higher education is one of the most noble and meaningful investments I can imagine. Thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving this family of schools," Agee

COMMENT: IABCU CORE VALUES: A Guide to Being Distinctive

Bob R. Agee, Executive Director, IABCU

At the December meeting of the Board of Directors of our Association, I announced my decision to retire as your executive director.

The decision did not come easily, since my passion for the cause of distinctively Christian education within the context of the Baptist family is as strong as ever.



Bob R. Agee

Age and health issues, however, prompt me to believe that with the expanded mission and vision of the IABCU, the executive director needs to be more active and more visible among the current members and available to encourage other Baptist institutions to join our effort.

One of the significant steps we took at last year's annual meeting was to adopt a mission statement and set of core values. Those core value statements represent a philosophical perspective that I hope will be adopted by the leadership of our schools and promoted among our faculty and staff. Carefully crafted by some of our finest minds and discussed at great depth, they can guide not only our Association's future but can provide the set of "stack-pole" values around which each institution can build strategies for remaining intentionally Christian and unapologetically Baptist.

Take a look at what we have stated as our core beliefs:

The International Association of Baptist Colleges and Universities holds these core beliefs:

1. The Christian faith is foundational for all teaching and learning.
 2. There is greater strength as a group of institutions than as individual institutions.
 3. Each member holds to its self-defined mission, creating a worthy diversity within the Association and adding an important dimension of diversity to American higher education.
 4. Churches are vital partners in the ministry of Christian higher education.
 5. Students are the most valuable asset of a college or university.
 6. To lead students to a wholesome academic experience while simultaneously encouraging personal Christian faith and a Christian lifestyle is distinctive.
 7. In the context of Christian accountability, responsible freedom of inquiry and academic freedom are to be encouraged and valued.
- As each of our member institutions hammers out its own mission statement and core values, it would serve well for boards, administrators and faculty to spend time discussing each of these statements and to think of ways they can address those issues within the life and work of the college or university. It is possible for each institution to interpret its mission in its distinctive context and at the same time value these basic concepts.

We must be constantly vigilant about our heritage and our calling to dare to be different. It is possible to be academi-

cally excellent and intentionally Christian at the same time. It is possible to be alert and engaged in meeting the needs of a rapidly changing society without selling our souls to be all things to all people. We have a role to fill in our world. What we have to offer is vital to our students' lives and to the communities we serve.

In June of 1976, as a young faculty member, I attended the first ever major colloquium on Baptist higher education in Williamsburg, Va. Presidents, deans, faculty members, trustees, and denominational leaders gathered to focus attention on what was needed within



We have a role to fill in our world. What we have to offer is vital to our students' lives and to the communities we serve.

institutional life for our schools to be the kind of colleges and universities we ought to be to make a difference in our world.

I had felt a calling to devote my career to Baptist higher educa-

tion several years earlier, but in that meeting I felt a passion emerge for our cause that has grown deeper and more compelling as the years have gone by.

As we face the future, my prayer is that all of us will tackle our task with a passion for a cause far greater and deeper than just the success of our individual institutions.

We'll see you in Williamsburg, June 3-5, 2007. You won't want to miss this meeting. ■

—Mark Your Calendar—

Annual Meeting and Workshops: June 3-5, 2007 at the Marriott Williamsburg, 50 Kingsmill Road, Williamsburg, Va. Go to the IABCU website <www.baptistcolleges.org> for meeting schedule and to make online meeting and hotel reservations. Plan to come early or stay after the annual meeting and enjoy the colonial celebration of the 400th anniversary of the founding of the Jamestown Settlement. ■



Consortium for Global Education
1987-2007



Carolyn Bishop
President, CGE

CGE Begins 20th Year of International Education Projects

To those who have ears, let them hear.

by Carolyn Bishop

As the Consortium for Global Education moves into its 20th year, we will all remember those who captured this vision and initiated the integration of academic excellence with international education projects and a commitment to service and sharing. Thousands of students and faculty from all over the globe have been listening to each other and responding with their perspectives, knowledge, and curiosity about culture and life in many nations. Dr. Daniel Grant, President Emeritus of Ouachita, and others developed this international effort in 1987 and made it a reality. In reflection, this organization has been based on relationships with people that enhanced learning and the growth of quality scholarship for mutual benefit.

CGE representatives found themselves at prestigious universities and many other strategic institutions. Yet with each project or program, it has been the personal touches, the discussions of common interest, the individual insights and statements that seem to touch the core of what CGE is about. Faculties met and discussed their teaching perspectives; students studied together and compared classes, goals for professional careers, their lives and countries. Some discussions have given unique insights.

In Syria, leaders at the University of Damascus told CGE delegates that, due to the political relationships between Syria and America, education was the main conduit for discussion of important issues between their countries. We heard that same statement from US Embassy officials in Damascus as they thanked CGE for sending presidents and vice presidents of American universities and colleges. CGE has the opportunity to understand conflicts and listen to the hope nations have through education for future citizens to work together.

In Vietnam, the CGE delegation had two members who had been there during the Vietnamese - American war. Both CGE members decided to concentrate on the educational opportunities ahead, not bring up past experiences, and be respectful of



CGE delegation visit to the University of Social Sciences & Humanities in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Dr. Bill Mitchell, Baylor, builds friendship with the University dean.

the current progress for both nations. Yet at lunch in a famous restaurant, one CGE International leader was directly asked when he had been there before and the location. After answering, the President of the Vietnamese university reached across the table and asked to shake hands. He said "I was Vietcong and I want to now shake hands for our bright future and friendship." CGE has been blessed to hear the past and join hands for building a better world in peace.

In Iraq, CGE delegates met one Iraqi faculty who said that many faculty were Christians. We asked if he became a Christian

through hearing about Christ from his family or friends or other faculty. He said that his family had been Christians since the first century AD and that their family had committed to always have a Christian family on their land. He has three brothers and they all live either in the USA or



Baylor University and CGE delegation travel to Iraq to work with faculty at University of Dokuk.

Canada yet, as the oldest son, he will always live in Iraq.

We were all really moved by this heartfelt commitment to faith and loyalty to his nation. The next day an engineering faculty associate professor with his Ph.D. from an American university told us his specialty had been nuclear engineering. He said that from 1991 to 1992 he saw some destruction of nuclear materials in Iraq, and until 1999 he was in the energy commission in Baghdad. Next he was assigned to faculty at a northern Iraqi university where he still teaches.

CGE has the opportunity to listen to experiences and learn from different perspectives while helping good come from shared reflection.

The conversations go on throughout Europe, the Soviet Republics, the Middle East, Myanmar, North Korea, Indonesia, and from the northern hemisphere of nations to the southern. Students and faculty of America have much to share and much to hear. Together we commit to continuing the effort to understand each other, to jointly participate in quality academic work, and to know that we can all learn by hearing each other's perspectives. May CGE's next 20 years continue to support students and faculty to engage in fruitful listening and sharing! ■

CGE is Recruiting Teachers for Overseas Assignments in K-12 and with CGE Partner Universities

Opportunities

CGE provides opportunities for teaching overseas in key areas, including Asia, Middle East, and North Africa. Through our extensive network CGE receives requests for new teaching opportunities from more than 240 partnering institutions worldwide.

ESL opportunities include K-12, post secondary, and higher education. In universities and colleges, courses include: Education, English, Business, Economics, Information Technology, Engineering, Law and Nursing.

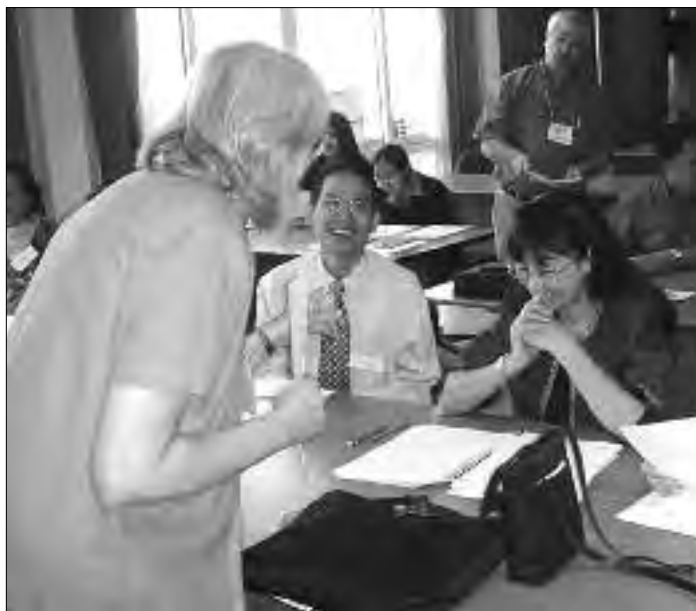
CGE also offers university and college faculty members opportunities to lead seminars in professional and content area skill development. Additionally, CGE specializes in providing locations and contract options for sabbaticals.

Qualifications

The majority of overseas institutions request a master's degree yet will accept a bachelors degree with some ESL experience if the assignment is in ESL. In higher education, some locations require a Ph.D. and classroom experience.

Applications

To apply for a teaching position, complete the online application process on the CGE website at <www.cgedu.org> and select "Overseas Teaching Opportunities." Attach your resume' and list the top three countries in which you would like to teach.



Anderson University and Carson Newman College professors lead English workshops at Praknakorn University in Bangkok, Thailand.



Charleston Southern University professor, Arnold Hite, delivers lecture in Tunis, Tunisia.

Immediate Positions for 2007-2008

Handong University in Pusan, Korea and Ludong University in Yantai, China.

The University of Pelita Harpan in Jakarta, Indonesia is specifically recruiting through CGE contacts. If you are interested in a rewarding teaching opportunity overseas with a generous teaching package, email info@cgedu.org. ■



Graduate students participate in lectures on business & economics conducted by a joint CGE and professional partners conference in Tunisia.

For more information regarding teaching opportunities visit the CGE website at <www.cgedu.org> select "Overseas Teaching Opportunities."

Website is CGE's Primary Source for Upcoming Events and Opportunities

The Consortium for Global Education (CGE) website <www.cgedu.org> has become CGE's primary source for communicating recent events and upcoming opportunities. One can learn about international partnerships, teaching experiences, and ways to be involved in projects around the globe.

"Search for Global Connections" is one of the greatest assets on our website. Through this search feature CGE members can learn what other CGE universities and colleges are doing around the world. Faculty members can see the countries and schools where other members are working and the type of projects being conducted. This facilitates CGE partnerships and provides efficiencies for developing international relationships.

Through CGE's extensive network in more than 80 countries, CGE member universities and colleges conduct hundreds of programs throughout the world each year. "CGE University & College Reports" section of the website provides an effective way for our CGE members to share recent projects and upcoming events in their international programs.

CGE enjoys sharing recent events on our website, such as the December 2006 trip to Vietnam and Cambodia. The CGE



CGE representative, Adam Adams, assisted Anderson University in CGE's first effort in Cambodia.

faculty taught at Tien Giang University in the Mekong Delta. In Phnom Penh, Cambodia, the faculty conducted workshops at the National University of Management (NUM). This is just one example of the many international teaching opportunities provided throughout the year.

If you are interested in learning about how you can be involved with CGE, visit the website at <www.cgedu.org> Upcoming opportunities include a Dubai Business Conference in March. CGE offers many teaching workshops over the summer. ■

CGE to Celebrate 20th Anniversary

In 1987, CGE began with 33 universities and colleges. A task force of 10 presidents, deans and Cooperative Services International representatives met in Atlanta and worked on the fundamentals of a consortium charter.

Four individuals were selected to draft the charter, John Belew (Baylor), Bob Agee (Oklahoma Baptist), Lewis Myers (CSI), and Dan Grant (Ouachita Baptist). The charter was unanimously adopted at the first annual meeting in September, 1987.

After 20 exciting years, CGE has grown to 43 member universities and colleges. CGE looks forward to celebrating our 20th Annual Meeting of the Consortium for Global Education, September 28- 29, 2007 at Samford University, hosted by President Andrew Westmoreland.

Please plan to join us. If you have experiences you would like to share or pictures from the early meetings (1987-1989), please email them to projects@cgedu.org.

We look forward to celebrating our consortium accomplishments together. ■

CGE World

After twenty years of experience in international education, CGE has merged our expertise in overseas experience, educational methodology, content theory, cultural awareness, and English teaching practices into two introductory courses for Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) competency.

As competition continues to grow in every sector for English speaking expertise, CGE commits to being at the forefront of establishing standards and maintaining skills in teaching English.

CGE member universities and colleges provide degree programs and well designed courses for gaining excellence in ESL, TEFL, and TESOL.

These two introductory courses are provided as a response from educators and learners who are teaching or want to teach English in some format in the USA and overseas.

The first course will address the TEFL needs for those who will teach English on short term projects or in non-contractual settings and want to gain English teaching expertise.

The second course will address the TEFL needs for contracted English teachers, primarily in non-native English speaking nations, who want to increase their English teaching competency.

The first CGE Course is scheduled to be available by March 1, 2007.

Watch for details on the CGE web-

2006 Fall Enrollment at IABCU Member Schools

	Undergraduate	Graduate
1. Anderson University	1,700	—
2. Baptist College of Florida	652	—
3. Baptist College of Health Sciences	900	—
4. Baptist Univ. of the Americas (w/25 off campus centers)	700	—
5. Baylor University	11,831	2,209
6. Belmont University	3,774	707
7. Blue Mountain College	365	—
8. Bluefield College	850	—
9. Brewton-Parker College	1,182	—
10. California Baptist University	2,623	786
11. Campbell University	6,654 (w/ 1st professional)	1,559
12. Campbellsville University	1,927	383
13. Carson-Newman College	1,799	150
14. Charleston Southern University	2,678	457
15. Chowan University	932	—
16. Clear Creek Baptist Bible College	205	—
17. Dallas Baptist University	3,610	1,543
18. East Texas Baptist University	1,365	—
19. Fruitland Baptist Bible Institute	200	—
20. Gardner-Webb University	2,642	1,175
21. Georgetown College	1,400	500
22. Hannibal-LaGrange College	1,074	—
22. Hardin-Simmons University (nursing enrollment 160)	1,938	430
24. Hawaii Baptist Academy	1,000	—
25. Houston Baptist University	1,815	328
26. Howard Payne University	1,320	—
27. Judson College (Alabama)	300	—
28. Judson College (Illinois)	1,250	—
29. Louisiana College	987	—
30. Mars Hill College	1,414	—
31. Mercer University	4,169	2,833
32. Mid-Continent University	1,192	—
33. Mississippi College (law enrollment 531)	2,675	956
34. Missouri Baptist University	3,580	983
35. North Greenville University	1,883	—
36. Oklahoma Baptist University	1,606	—
37. Ouachita Baptist University	1,452	—
38. Palm Beach Atlantic University	2,524 (w/ 1st professional)	740
39. Samford University	2,882	1,596
40. Shorter College (including adult degree students)	2,750	—
41. Southwest Baptist University	2,730	773
42. Truett-McConnell College	409	—
43. Union University	2,278	879
44. University of the Cumberland	1,632	210
45. University of Mary Hardin-Baylor	2,575	138
46. University of Mobile	1,436	198
47. Virginia Intermont College	925	—
48. Wayland Baptist University (w 3,895 on external campuses)	4,857 (w/745 off site)	855
49. William Carey University	2,600	993
50. Williams Baptist College	619	—
51. Yellowstone Baptist College	52	—
Total Undergraduate:	100,307	Total Graduate 21,307
Total Graduate and Undergraduate	121,614	

Source: from information supplied by member schools. —= No data reported
(Published in the 2007 Directory of Member Schools: International Association of Baptist Colleges and Universities)

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Belmont Subpoenas Church Records in Tennessee Baptist Lawsuit

By Lonnie Wilkey

BRENTWOOD, Tenn. (ABP) -- Belmont University has subpoenaed giving records from 100 Tennessee Baptist Convention churches in an ongoing legal dispute with the convention over control of the school's assets.

The subpoena asks for records on churches' giving to the Cooperative Program—the unified budget of the Southern Baptist Convention and its affiliated state conventions—between 1951, when the school became affiliated with the convention, and 2005, when Belmont trustees removed the school from convention control.

In a Jan. 3 letter accompanying the subpoenas, Belmont trustee chairman Marty Dickens asked if, "in making those gifts, the churches knew about or relied upon the 1951 document that is the focus of the [TBC] Executive Board's lawsuit against Belmont."

The reference was to a once-forgotten document convention officials are relying on in the suit, filed last year. The agreement says

that, should the school ever remove itself from convention control, it would owe the convention for all the Cooperative Program funds it has received.

Belmont representatives have said the agreement has been superseded by at least two other documents and is no longer effective.

Belmont apparently mailed its letter to all TBC churches, not just to those that received subpoenas. In the letter, Dickens wrote, "We are not serving subpoenas on all of the affiliated churches of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. Rather, we are serving them on the largest donors to the Cooperative Program because Cooperative Program funds are at the center of the Executive Board's claims against us."

Convention leaders responded to the Belmont action in a three-page letter that was mailed to churches across the state on Jan. 12.

The TBC response was signed by Executive

Director James Porch and Clay Austin, pastor of First Baptist Church, Blountville, and chairman of a convention committee that has been studying the Belmont situation.

The letter said: "During 2005 Belmont University acted to terminate its affiliated relationship with the Tennessee Baptist Convention through a charter change. The Executive Board and TBC did not want to have to initiate litigation against Belmont and, to that end, tried for many months to persuade Belmont to honor the promise it made to Tennessee Baptists in 1951.

"That promise, as many of you know, is memorialized in a written document, the Repayment Agreement, which was signed by a former president of Belmont," the letter said.

Porch and Austin observed that the Repayment Agreement "contains a simple and clear promise from Belmont that it would repay all monies given to it by the Executive Board in the event that the TBC ever lost the right to elect the directors/trustees of Belmont. It does not take a lawyer to understand the promise made by Belmont in 1951 in the Repayment Agreement," they wrote.

"By steadfastly refusing to acknowledge, much less honor, its promise to us, Belmont, not the Executive Board or the Belmont Study Committee, forced this matter into the courthouse," the letter stated.

In the Belmont letter, Dickens noted the request for information was "necessitated by the lawsuit filed against Belmont by the Executive Board" and also wrote that "we do not wish this request to create a costly or burdensome task for the churches and do not believe that it will, but we have been informed by the Executive Board's attorneys that they do not represent the churches. Unfortunately, this means that rather than seeking this information directly from the Executive Board, Belmont must request it from individual churches by sending them subpoenas."

In response to that assertion, Porch and Austin noted that "the unfortunate reality is that the information sought by the subpoenas is irrelevant to the lawsuit. None of the churches are parties to the Repayment Agreement. Furthermore, the Executive Board is seeking repayment of Cooperative Program funds only, not funds contributed by churches directly to or for the benefit of Belmont."

The letter from TBC leaders also challenged an assertion that the request for infor-



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mation by Belmont from the subpoenaed churches will not be costly or "burdensome."

TBC officials noted that "at the very least, Belmont's subpoena requires each church to conduct a review of its 55-plus years of books and records. The review task must be undertaken by each church staff even if no documents responsive to Belmont's specific questions exist," they wrote.

"In any event, we can say from experience that the review task alone will fully consume and exhaust the administrative staff of most, if not all, churches," the TBC leaders wrote.

Belmont has requested the churches that received subpoenas to mail their responses to the school's attorneys by Feb. 15. TBC leaders informed churches in the letter that, "since Belmont has chosen to utilize subpoenas, each of the 100 churches which received a subpoena is compelled by law to respond accordingly."

The Belmont letter stressed that Belmont leaders "believed that a resolution of the disagreement between the Executive Board and the university could be reached within the Christian family without resorting to a secular court."

"We regret the decision of the Executive Board to take this matter to court," Dickens wrote. "We continue to desire to mediate this matter believing that this alternative is consistent with our faith," he continued. ■

A CALL FOR NOMINATIONS for the Charles D Johnson Outstanding Educator Award

QUALIFICATIONS: The award must be given to a person as opposed to a corporate entity, foundation, etc. There is no restriction of the rank, title, or position of the person—only that the awardee must be a person who has made a significant contribution to Southern Baptist Higher Education. The Board encourages nominations other than presidents and vice presidents of member schools and encourages nominations of those who have made a significant impact or contribution beyond a single institution.

Please send name of nominee together with supporting materials to:

**Bob Agee, Executive Director, IABCU
P.O. Box 11655,
Jackson, TN 38308-0127**

or e-mail to
bob_agee@baptistschools.org

Baylor Regents Approve Proposal for On-Campus Football Practice Facility

WACO, Texas - Baylor University President John M. Lilley has announced that Baylor's Board of Regents have unanimously adopted a proposal to construct an on-campus football training facility. The facility, which is being funded with private resources, is expected to be located on University Parks Drive adjacent to Baylor's other athletics facilities at the Turner Riverfront Complex. A final review of the project plans and specifications has been scheduled for the February 2007 meeting of Baylor's Board of Regents.

"The project affirms Baylor's commitment to the future success of its football program, which is expected to benefit enormously from the new practice facility," President Lilley said. "Construction of this facility has been a high priority for our athletics program and accomplishes an important component of Imperative X of Baylor 2012, the university's 10-year vision."

The on-campus practice facility means for

the first time in the modern era Baylor will have its football operations located on campus. Games will continue to be played at Floyd Casey Stadium.

"The facility will house football operations and integrate the football program into the campus environment, providing a significant boost to recruiting student-athletes and to our football operations," said Ian McCaw, Athletics Director at Baylor.

The project will be funded at \$22 million, and the scope of the project could increase with the addition of other private support.

Bears' Head Football Coach Guy Morriss said. "This state-of-the-art facility will have a positive impact on the success of Baylor football for years to come."

Construction of the facility will take approximately 18 months.

Further details about the project will be released following the February Board of Regents meeting. ■

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IACBU Website Expands Services

The website of the International Association of Baptist Colleges and Schools found at <www.baptistschools.org> and <www.baptistcolleges.org> has expanded its services to include the following:

1. **Information of interest to IACBU member schools** such as downloadable back issues of the *Baptist Educator* news magazine, information, registration and hotel reservations for the annual meeting and listing of current IACBU board members.
2. A **“School Search”** feature which allows visitors to the site to get an overview of each of the 51 member schools and to visit the website of each school while remaining on the IACBU website.
3. A **welcome page which gives a brief overview of the purpose and mission of the Association**, contact information for IACBU staff and a description and photo of the current directory of member institutions.
4. A **description of online courses available at IACBU member schools** powered by IACBU corporate sponsor The Learning House.
5. An extensive online service **“Special help for prospective students and their parents”** powered by corporate sponsor Sallie Mae.
6. A **“Faith and Learning Bookstore”** where anyone can sell used books and purchase books at a discount.
7. A **“Faith and Learning Bibliography”** that gives a comprehensive listing of titles related to the integration of faith and learning. ■

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Gifts & Grants

Cumberlands Receives \$1 Million for Mountain Outreach Program

WILLIAMSBURG, Ky. – Dr. and Mrs. Monroe Trout announced a million dollar endowment for University of the Cumberlands' Mountain Outreach program at a dedication service held at a new home-built by program volunteers.

The house was built during the summer by Mountain Outreach student volunteers with the Trouts' financial support.

"There are no words to express our profound and personal appreciation," said Dr. Jim Taylor, president of University of the Cumberlands.

The endowment will be used to build one house every year, with the remainder going to the University of the Cumberlands' Trout Scholars Fund. The Trouts dedicated the endowment to the honor of Jim and Dinah Taylor, as well as Dr. Trout's high school Latin, English, math and gym teachers, without whom, Trout said, "I would never have gone on to college."

When referring to the Taylors' generosity, Dr. Trout said, "Jim and Dinah have devoted their lives to helping the less fortunate people of Appalachia; and without them,

Mountain Outreach would not be possible."

Since the program's start in 1982, Mountain Outreach has built 123 homes for members of the surrounding communities. The ministry also distributes donated clothing and household items for those in need.

"Mountain Outreach is not a handout but a hand up," said Marc Hensley, Mountain Outreach director. "The family members work alongside Mountain Outreach volunteers and students to complete every home we build. We want recipients to have pride in what is being done for them, and we want them to have a stake in the process and appreciate the work and dedication it takes to build these homes." ■

Wayland Receives \$200,000 for Women's Basketball Program

PLAINVIEW – Following up on literally a lifetime of support for the Wayland Baptist University Flying Queens basketball program, Marsha Hutcherson George made one final show of support in the form of a \$100,000 gift to the university shortly before her death in December 2006. The donation brings the fund for scholarships in her name to full endowment level.

Fans of the Flying Queens know the

longtime connection of the late Claude Hutcherson and Harley and Wilda Redin to the athletics program. But their families have been equally supportive over the years, and Marsha was an example of that.

Longtime supporters since her days as co-sponsor and his as coach, Harley and Wilda Redin closed out 2006 with a \$100,000 donation to Wayland as well. A portion of the gift goes to the scholarship in their name, established with seed money from American State Bank and other funds accumulated over the years from former Flying Queens, honoring the couple for longtime support of the program as friends, mentors, coach and advocates of women's basketball for many years.

The remainder of the donation goes to the Claude Hutcherson Family Memorial Scholarship established in 1977 in memory of Hutcherson, a 1925 graduate of Wayland and a longtime sponsor for the Queens from 1950 until his death in 1977. His family picked up the support at his death and has continued that pattern. The award is given to a Flying Queen who exhibits leadership on the court, Christian spirit in sportsmanship and loyalty to and love for the university and the program. ■

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Loan Program Assists in Earning Doctorates

A scholarship/loan program for faculty and administrators of Southern Baptist-related colleges, universities and seminaries awarded \$41,800 to 10 individuals at 10 educational institutions beginning with the 2006-07 academic year.

The Southern Baptist Foundation (SBF) of the Southern Baptist Convention administers the program, which awards the loan funds once each year to faculty and administrators of eligible institutions.

According to Margaret Cammuse, loan administrator for the SBF, the program is designed to assist full-time faculty and administrators at qualifying Southern Baptist educational institutions in attaining doctoral degrees.

The degrees must be earned from accredited graduate institutions. Loan applicants must be full-time employees of the faculty or administration of the six Southern Baptist seminaries or Southern Baptist-related educational institutions that receive financial support from their state Baptist Convention through Cooperative Program funds for operations, are promoted by their state Baptist Conventions as part of the convention's programs and ministries, and whose governing boards are elected by the state convention.

Bob Agee, executive director of the International Association of Baptist Colleges and Universities (IABCU) and a member of the loan review committee, said the program has been vital in helping hundreds of faculty and administrators at IABCU member schools to attain doctoral degrees.

"The loan program has greatly strengthened the academic standing of the Association's 51 member schools," Agee said. "We are grateful to the Southern Baptist Executive Committee for allowing our schools to participate in this valuable program."

Also serving on the loan review committee are Doug Hodo, president of Houston Baptist University and board chairman of the IABCU, and Tom Kinchen, president of The Baptist College of Florida.

After completion of the doctorate, loan recipients must agree to

repay the loan in kind through service in a qualifying Southern Baptist Educational institution. Recipients are given \$2,000 credit toward repayment of the loan for each academic year of service completed. Recipients who cease to be employed by qualifying institutions must begin immediately to repay the loan with interest.

Additional Qualifications

- The applicant must be an active member of a Southern Baptist church.
- The applicant must have been accepted in a program of study leading to a doctoral degree in a regionally accredited institution and must have officially informed the administration of the institution where currently employed of the intention to seek a doctoral degree.
- The applicant must plan to complete the doctorate within five years from the date of first registration in the institution unless unusual circumstances justify a request for an extension.
- These loans do not apply to those doing doctoral work at a Southern Baptist theological seminary. An exception might be made in an unusual case.

How to Apply

To request an application form, contact the Southern Baptist Foundation SBC, 901 Commerce, Nashville, Tennessee 37203, (615) 254-8823. Applicants are advised to send in the form and all supporting documents as early as possible. All supporting documents for the application should be received by April 15 for consideration for funds for the next academic year.

2007 IABCU DIRECTORIES ORDER FORM

Please enter my order for:

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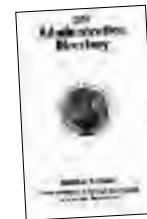
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What One Says on the Internet Counts

I am regularly amazed by the recklessness of postings on the Internet. Some are explained by the cover of presumed anonymity. But some folks seem to write things oblivious of the idea that people read that stuff.

Students, for example, routinely post admissions of misconduct, even criminal conduct, sign their “confession,” and, to assure there is no mistake about their identity, post a snapshot of themselves. Deans of Students read that stuff; so do the police.

It is not just students. Older folks, including faculty members and administrators, sometimes seem to think that what they write on the Internet does not count; that e-mails and postings are in some kind of privileged forum where anything goes.

Certainly the Internet has become a celebration of free speech. The drafters of the first amendment never dreamed about this kind of technology which allows instant and world-wide dissemination of whatever people choose to say on whatever subject. They probably were thinking more about remarks at town hall meetings, folks who stood on a box and spoke to (and argued with) a few passersby, and perhaps the pamphleteer.

Blogs have become a new and inexpensive means to disseminate information (correct or in error) and one's opinion (well-reasoned or poorly informed and/or illogical) to a lot of people. Everyone who wants to be a mover and shaker needs a Blog.

Potential readers need not know about it; they just find it with the ease of the proverbial blind hog who finds acorns.

So while the Internet is a magnificent vehicle for free speech, one is still accountable for what one says on the Internet. The speech can be used against the writer in a host of ways.

For example, the writer can often be brought to account when what is said is not true and it is harmful to another. Defamation (“libel” when it is written, “slander” when spoken) committed online is pretty much the same actionable wrong as defamation committed the old fashioned way.

The law keeps up with the times. Old common law principles of defamation remain, modified by some new legislation designed to speak directly to this new way to deliver the defamation.

The key old rules still apply: Truth is a defense to a claim of defamation. If the person who is defamed is a public figure, the victim must show “actual malice” on the part of the speaker or writer. Opinions are not actionable.

Suits for defamation are not uncommon in academia.

A Columbia professor was sued for libel after he engaged in a study designed to see how restaurants respond to claims of food poisoning. He wrote individual letters identifying fifteen restaurants where he falsely claimed his wife had contracted food poisoning. His research tactic caused him not only to learn how restaurants respond to claims of food poisoning, but also how restaurants respond to defamation. (This case is indexed under “Defamation, academic freedom as defense.”)

There always have been some privileged forums where defamation rules don't apply. For example, The Dean of the Delaware Law School sued the school's accreditation agency, the American Bar

Association, claiming three occasions of defamation. Two were in the inspection team's report. The court said the first was an expression of opinion, and the second was about the school and not the Dean. The third was for a statement the chair of the team made at lunch in the presence of a person not involved in the accreditation.

Clearly, statements made to and in the presence of appropriate school and accreditation personnel in the course of accreditation are made in a privileged forum, an arena in which public policy says the law of defamation does not apply. But the court said it was a jury question whether this statement in the presence of the lunch partner was outside that privileged forum. In any event, the court said the Dean was a public figure and thus he would have to prove the statement was made with malice.

This privileged forum exception has been a sanctuary for colleges and universities when they are sued by faculty who believe they have been defamed in the course of some evaluation of their performance. Public policy permits employers to engage in such evaluations in a forum in which the necessary participants are shielded from defamation suits.

A prospective teacher encountered a privileged forum defense

when she sued the faculty member who had supervised her student teaching, claiming a letter the faculty member had sent to a prospective employer was libelous. The court dismissed the suit saying “If a need exists for full and unrestricted communication regarding matters on which the parties have a common interest or duty, then the writer has a qualified privilege.”

The “privilege” is “qualified” by the requirement that the writer must be acting in good faith.

When people started filing defamation suits for statements on the Internet, the courts had to adapt a few of the rules to the new technology. For example, in certain cases one who repeats (“republishes”) a defaming statement made by another can himself be liable for damages. And, defamation law had treated publishers differently from the book store operator when it came to their liability for distributing a book with defamation in it. So, the new question: Is AOL more like a publisher or a book store?

In the Internet world there are e-mail originators and there are those who forward the e-mail of others. There are Internet users and there are those who provide Internet service and those who establish a site on which others post.

Who is liable for the defaming statement in that context? Clearly, the maker of the statement will be accountable. But, Congress has said Internet users who forward the message of another person, an Internet provider, and a web host are generally not accountable for defaming statements “provided by another.” Oddly, this relaxation of some old defamation rules, adopted in the name of free speech, is contained in the Communication Decency Act of 1996. I say “oddly,” because this Act serves to protect a lot of repeated indecencies.

Jim Guenther is a partner in the law firm of Guenther, Jordan and Price, P.C. in Nashville, Tennessee, (615) 329-2100. ■

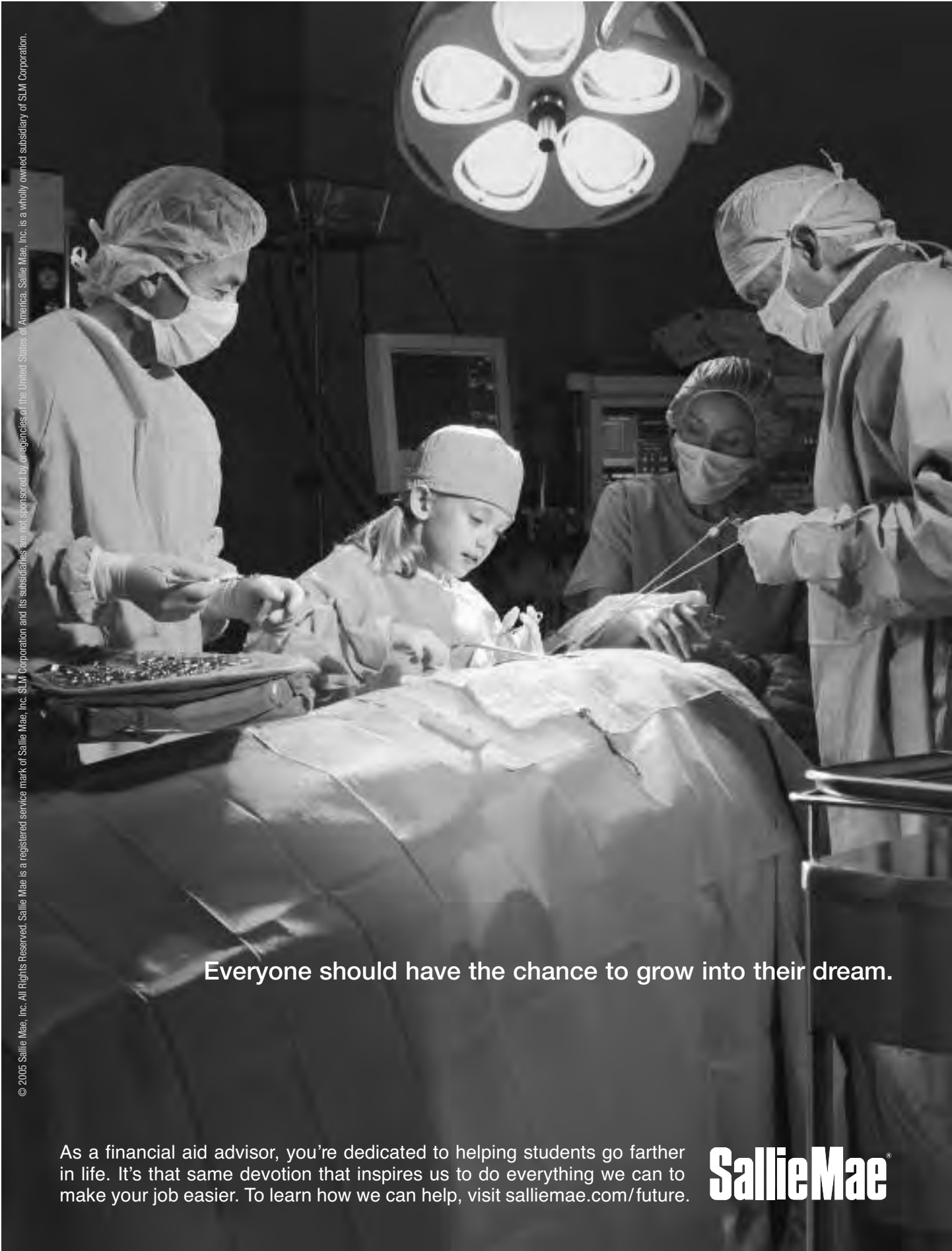
So while the Internet is a magnificent vehicle for free speech, one is still accountable for what one says on the Internet. The speech can be used against the writer in a host of ways.

2006-07 Annual Tuition at IABCU Member Schools

Tuition prices listed are for the 2006-07 term. **Current prices are subject to change at any time without notice. Amounts do not include student fees, books, or room and board. Tuition is based on varying semester hours at each school.**

Source: *information from individual schools provided for the 2007 Directory of Member Schools of the International Association of Baptist Colleges and Universities.*

	2006-07		2006-07
ALABAMA		MONTANA	
Judson College	\$9,800	Yellowstone Baptist College (12 hrs./semester)	\$3,120
Samford University	\$16,000	(OBU credit course are \$155/credit hour)	
University of Mobile	\$12,000		
ARKANSAS		NORTH CAROLINA	
Ouachita Baptist University	\$16,650	Campbell University	\$17,116
Williams Baptist College	\$9,200	Chowan University	\$15,800
CALIFORNIA		Gardner-Webb University	\$16,684
California Baptist University	\$17,680	Fruitland Baptist Bible Institute	
FLORIDA		(North Carolina Residents)	\$920
Baptist College of Florida	\$7,200	(Non-Baptists or Out of State)	\$1,060
Palm Beach Atlantic University	\$18,740	Mars Hill College	\$16,244
GEORGIA		OKLAHOMA	
Brewton-Parker College	\$12,160	Oklahoma Baptist University	\$14,666
Mercer University	\$25,256	SOUTH CAROLINA	
Shorter College	\$14,000	Anderson College	\$17,550
Truett-McConnell College	\$11,950	Charleston Southern University	\$16,780
HAWAII		North Greenville University	\$10,760
Hawaii Baptist Academy (Grades 7-12)	\$9,500	TENNESSEE	
(Grades K-6)	\$9,150	Baptist College of Health Sciences	\$6,800
ILLINOIS		Belmont University	\$17,470
Judson College	\$19,150	Carson-Newman College	\$15,300
KENTUCKY		Union University	\$16,990
Campbellsville University	\$15,960	TEXAS	
Clear Creek Baptist College	\$4,972	Baptist University of the Americas	\$3,600
Georgetown College	\$20,720	Baylor University	\$20,574
Mid-Continent University	\$11,000	Dallas Baptist University (12 hrs./semester)	\$10,920
University of the Cumberland	\$13,298	East Texas Baptist University	\$13,720
LOUISIANA		Hardin-Simmons University	\$14,850
Louisiana College	\$9,750	Houston Baptist University (10 hours/quarter)	\$16,500
MISSISSIPPI		Howard Payne University	\$13,440
Blue Mountain College	\$7,320	University of Mary Hardin Baylor	\$14,250
Mississippi College	\$11,600	Wayland Baptist University (12 hours/semester)	\$8,160
William Carey University	\$8,400	VIRGINIA	
MISSOURI		Bluefield College	\$11,675
Hannibal-LaGrange College	\$12,220	Virginia Intermont	\$16,895
Missouri Baptist University	\$14,140		
Southwest Baptist University	\$13,300		



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Benefits of Membership in the International Association of Baptist Colleges and Universities

1. Administrative staff, faculty and trustees will receive *The Baptist Educator*, the only publication devoted to promoting our members and informing them about the collective efforts of our schools in offering distinctively Christian higher education.

2. Administrative staff and faculty will be included in the tuition exchange program, which includes approximately 40 colleges and universities where your faculty/staff dependents may receive the same tuition benefit they are awarded at your institution. This is one of the most popular benefits available to the faculty and staff of our schools.

3. Your school will be included in the IABCU annual *Directory of Member Schools of the International Association of Baptist Colleges and Universities*. The directory includes information about colleges, universities, academies and Bible colleges that have roots in Baptist history and heritage. This directory is mailed to all state convention offices and is requested frequently by parents of prospective students from across the United States and around the world who are seeking information about schools that are rooted in Baptist heritage.

4. Your school will have a page on the IABCU web site at <www.baptistschools.org>, which receives an average of more than 40,000 hits each month. Most of these hits are from prospective students or parents of prospective students who are seeking access to information on schools that are part of the Baptist family of institutions. A large number of prospective students from within Baptist churches choose to begin their search for information about schools on the world wide web. The IABCU web site serves as a starting point for many people and entities that use the internet to learn more about our schools. In addition, your school's web site and admissions office can be accessed from our web site and your online courses can be listed at <www.baptistcollegesonline.com> powered by The Learning House.

5. Member schools may place free ads for faculty and staff position openings on the IABCU web site. This is a valuable service for schools seeking qualified candidates. The list is updated several times each week.

6. We will serve as a point of contact for your school. Our offices receive hundreds of calls annually from a variety of people (prospective students and their parents, church members, etc.) who inquire about which schools are part of the family of Baptist-related colleges and schools. Often their inquiry is simply: "Is *X school* part of your organization?"

7. The IABCU provides a valuable platform through which your school can join with other schools to take a stand on critical issues in the public policy arena. The IABCU was granted a seat on the Secretariat in Washington, which allows our schools to have a strong and viable voice in the public policy monitoring process through NAICU. Through our involvement, we have prevented several potential infringements on our right to operate as independent faith-related institutions. In addition, we have served as major players in the effort to protect and enhance the federal financial aid program.

8. As an IABCU member, contact information for your school's administrators will be available to your colleagues through the annual IABCU *Administrative Directory*, one of our most highly requested resources. The directory includes important contact information on key people in the member schools in order to facilitate communication with and between key personnel in our member institutions.

9. Key administrators from your school may participate in our annual meeting and workshops. Our presidents, deans and other administrators related to disciplines such as development, public relations, finance, admissions, alumni, denominational relations, and student affairs report that they benefit from the meeting. Benefits come through fellowship with colleagues who share common concerns, through lectures and workshops which hone skills and challenge administrators at your schools to think more deeply about what it means to offer higher education from a Christian perspective, and through the legal affairs workshop that keeps us current on trends in case law that potentially affect our institutions. Our annual meeting and workshops average about 250 participants.

10. Administrative personnel can benefit from participating with other professionals from schools much like yours to share ideas, to learn from one another, and to encourage one another. Many professional groups have organized and relate to the IABCU as auxiliary organizations representing most of the professional areas within the college or university setting. These include associations of student development officers, admissions officers, alumni officers, in-service guidance directors in the religion area, public relations and marketing officers, institutional advancement officers and business and financial officers.

11. Your school can participate in the Consortium for Global Education (CGE), which was founded by our schools (see pages 4-6 in this issue). The health and strength of the CGE is tied directly to our ability to work together as part of the IABCU family. We hold your school's involvement in the global marketplace in the highest regard. We need you and your school to be strong players in both organizations.

12. IABCU sponsors additional vital services for our schools, such as our current group discount plans on student insurance and our alliance with several other corporate sponsors that provide discounted services to our member schools in the areas of software, student loans, alumni services, book store services, food service and on-line education.

13. The IABCU Insurance Consortium has the potential to save each member school thousands of dollars through group purchasing of property and casualty insurance. Several of our schools save in excess of \$100,000 each year as members of the consortium. The insurance consortium committee is exploring possible savings in group purchasing of employee health insurance. We believe that our Association is one of the most valuable memberships a school can hold.

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