

WINTER 2019

SBU*life*

ALUMNI MAGAZINE

A man with short, graying hair, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and a purple and blue striped tie, is smiling and sitting in front of a dark wood bookshelf. The bookshelf is filled with books and a framed picture. The background is slightly blurred.

A SEASON OF CHANGE

Within the past several months, SBU has gained a new president, started a strategic planning process, and added a new nursing program.

SBUlife

ALUMNI MAGAZINE
WINTER 2019

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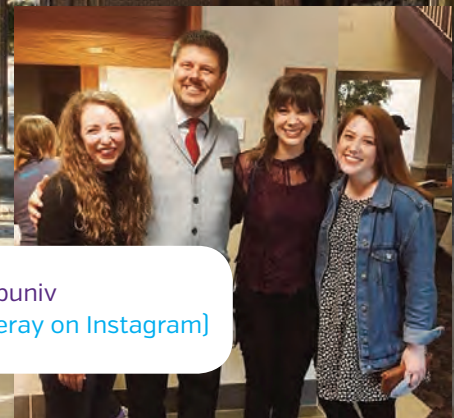
Read what people are sharing about SBU.



"And I think to myself, what a wonderful world" -Louis Armstrong #SBUniv
[\[via @png.mangi on Instagram\]](#)



I booked it across that stage, and Dr. Turner told me not to go running away. Don't worry ET, I just walk fast when I'm really excited. #sbuniv
[\[via @urnchase on Instagram\]](#)



Homecoming #sbuniv
[\[via @abigailanneray on Instagram\]](#)

Be social with SBU on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram. **#SBUniv**

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We are vessels.

An influence to those who lost their self worth and find themselves alone, incompatible for this life.

Rather, encouraged with the fact we are made WITH a purpose and whether you see it or not, God gave you meaning.

You are worthy. You are loved. You can do it. Live the life you were made for. #fca #liveunashamed @sbuniv



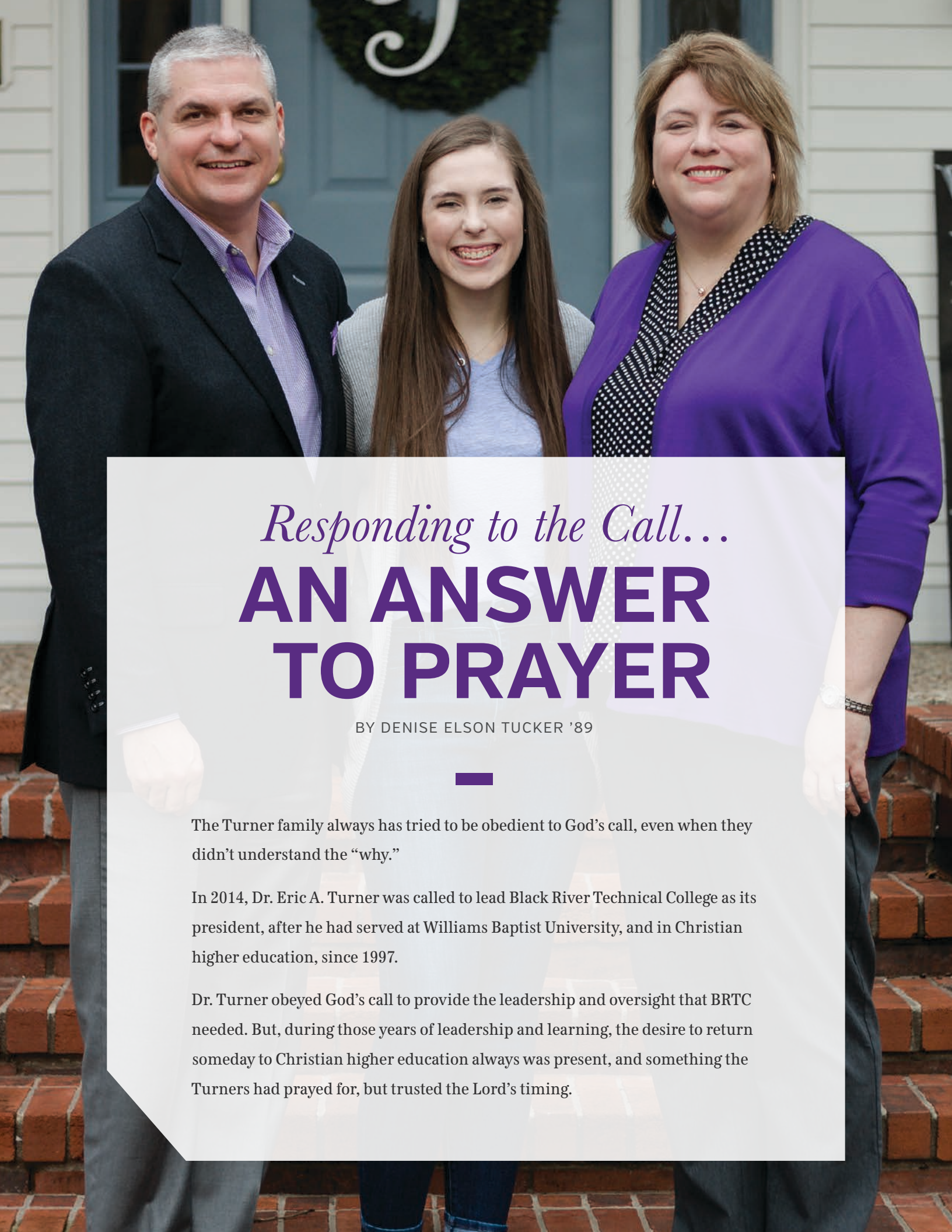
God blessed me with the greatest friends here at SBU. I couldn't be more grateful. ❤️
[@hrhenneke](#)

Worship in chapel this morning was exactly what I needed to refresh my soul. I love #SBUUniv. ❤️
[@Brrrrrenna18](#)



Congratulations to Dr. Rachel Griffin. SBU's newest Doctor.
[#SBUUniv @kpatters](#)

Southwest Baptist University is a Christ-centered, caring academic community preparing students to be servant leaders in a global society.



Responding to the Call...
**AN ANSWER
TO PRAYER**

BY DENISE ELSON TUCKER '89

The Turner family always has tried to be obedient to God's call, even when they didn't understand the "why."

In 2014, Dr. Eric A. Turner was called to lead Black River Technical College as its president, after he had served at Williams Baptist University, and in Christian higher education, since 1997.

Dr. Turner obeyed God's call to provide the leadership and oversight that BRTC needed. But, during those years of leadership and learning, the desire to return someday to Christian higher education always was present, and something the Turners had prayed for, but trusted the Lord's timing.

When Dr. Turner learned that Southwest Baptist University President Dr. C. Pat Taylor was planning to retire, he went to work.

"I started doing my homework when I got word that Dr. Taylor was retiring, and that maybe we were interested in SBU," Dr. Turner said. "I was recovering from pneumonia, so I was at home and I had time because my doctor said, 'You have to go home, or I'm going to put you in the hospital.'"

"That's when I started digesting the catalog and governance documents, anything I could find online, and audits – real exciting stuff, but it's exciting to me."

SBU conducted a nationwide search, which resulted in 25 potential candidates. After narrowing the list to 17 qualified applicants, four semifinalists were selected for in-person interviews.

Dr. Turner was brought to campus on July 16-17 and then recommended to and approved by the SBU Board of Trustees on July 20.

"July 20 was a long afternoon," Dr. Turner said. "I knew the board was meeting at 4 o'clock. The wall clock was in my office and the

ticking was quite loud that afternoon." The call he had been waiting for finally came at 4:47 in the afternoon.

Dr. Don Fahrni '68, then-

chairman of SBU's Board of Trustees, shared the news with Dr. Turner that he was the board's choice as the 25th president of SBU.

"It was about a 30-second phone call," Dr. Turner said. "He didn't give me the opportunity to say, yes or no. He said, 'It was unanimous. This is what we want.'"

And, it was an answer to prayer for the Turners.

"It's a fascinating place," Dr. Turner described SBU after his first semester. "The institutional loyalty – inside and outside – it's fierce. I've been at other institutions, and I didn't see that. I'm curious how our institutional culture is fostering such loyalty.

"People have been very warm and welcoming, and people want to know, 'where are we headed?' I think it speaks to that Bearcat loyalty and the interest in the future of SBU. That resonates. I'm very grateful, and we appreciate it."

During the majority of that first semester, the Turner family spent



TURNER TRIVIA

1. Barbara says Dr. Turner has a chronic "low grade car fever." (He's a "car guy.")
2. Collects vintage staplers.
3. Is often described as an "old soul."
4. Has read a chapter of Proverbs corresponding with the calendar date virtually every day for more than 30 years.
5. Loves to play radio trivia—can usually name song, artist, and year released in certain genres.
6. Is passionate about barbecue.
7. Says the smells of grease and motor oil are almost as enjoyable as hickory smoke. (Did we mention he's passionate about barbecue?)



First Lady:
BARBARA TURNER



EMMA TURNER

After just a couple of months, Bolivar is feeling more like home for Barbara and Emma Turner.

"We're adjusting well. Bolivar is just a little bit larger than Pocahontas, so it feels very similar," Barbara said, since joining her husband, SBU's 25th president, Dr. Eric A. Turner, the week before Thanksgiving.

"It's not like a culture shock or anything," Emma said.

Barbara, who worked for 21 years in financial aid at Williams Baptist University, most recently as director, also is adjusting to life as SBU's First Lady.

"It's different," said Barbara, who is interested in getting more involved with the Women's Fellowship, the SBU Ambassadors and student ministries. "I'm still adjusting, but I'm excited to see what they want to see happen, what they've done and what their plans are on campus."

Emma, who recently turned 16 and got her driver's license, is settling in at Bolivar High School.

"The block scheduling is a lot different," said Emma, who took part in BHS' academic awards banquet. "Pocahontas had first through seventh period, all day, every day, so that was new. The teachers are really nice, so they made that kind of easy. They helped me transition, and I've found a good friend group."

Barbara said she and Emma are proud of Dr. Turner, and are ready for this next chapter.

"We were very excited," Barbara said when they got the news. "We had come to visit the campus years ago, and we had always felt that we were going to come to SBU, but at that time it didn't feel right.

"We were extremely proud. We loved the campus and the town, and it just felt like this was the time." ■

a lot of time apart. Dr. Turner was working in Bolivar, while his wife, Barbara, continued her duties as the director of financial aid at WBU, and their 16-year-old daughter, Emma, wrapped up her varsity volleyball season.

After rotating weekends between Bolivar and Pocahontas, Ark., the Turners were all able to call Bolivar home the weekend before Thanksgiving.

"I'm really glad they're here," Dr. Turner said of Barbara and Emma. "It was the first time we had been together for more than a day or two in three months. We were very deliberate about having no plans [for Thanksgiving]. We're just glad to be back together."

In moving SBU forward, Dr. Turner is eager to expand the presence and the mission of the University.

"There are some growth markets that we need to be a part of, beyond what we are now," Dr. Turner said. "These things will be fleshed out as we continue our planning process, and we're doing this together as a University.

"What I love about SBU is the full complement from that associate level to the doctoral level. We really can invest in the lives of the students at a much more significant level, equipping them for life within a Kingdom-centric focus and Biblical worldview, regardless of their vocation. That's pretty special." ■

Familiar faces, NEW SPACES



Top: Brittany Earl '11, Executive Coordinator for the President's Office; Bottom: Ashley Dinwiddie, Director of Donor Relations

For the past 12 years, visitors to SBU's Office of the President were greeted by a familiar face.

But since September 2018, a new face has welcomed visitors to the president's office.

Brittany Earl '11, who served as Visit and Event Coordinator for the Office of Undergraduate Admissions from 2015 to 2018, moved to the Office of the President as Executive Coordinator to new SBU President, Dr. Eric A. Turner.

She takes over for Ashley Dinwiddie, who was Executive Coordinator to SBU President Emeritus Dr. C. Pat Taylor from 2006-2018. Dr. Taylor retired as SBU president on Aug. 31, 2018, and Dinwiddie has transitioned to University Relations, where she works as the Director of Donor Relations.

"When Dr. Taylor began to plan the announcement of his retirement, I also began to think about my future at SBU," Dinwiddie said. "By the end of my tenure in the president's office, I had assumed many additional roles, and honestly, I was exhausted and ready for something new. His retirement seemed the perfect time for me to consider a change, as well.

"It was an absolute pleasure to work for Dr. Taylor and Judy. Dr. Taylor was easy to work with and was always very transparent. We had a great working relationship. I appreciated that he valued my feedback in solving problems, brainstorming ideas and strategizing for the university, especially in fundraising."

In her University Relations role, Dinwiddie works with Dr. Brad Johnson, vice president for University Relations, to grow philanthropic initiatives among SBU's many constituents. This work includes engaging SBU's foundation and

corporate partners, as well as alumni and friends to strengthen the resource base for the University in order to serve students more effectively.

For Earl, there was a little more of a learning curve going from Admissions to the president's office.

"We hit the ground running," Earl said of the move to the president's office. "Much like other positions, every day is different here. There were many weeks in the beginning where I felt like I was learning a new language. A blessing about the transition was the fact that both Dr. Turner and I were new at the same time. This has allowed us to make decisions together for the office and allowed us to create a great working relationship."

Earl is responsible for managing the administrative flow of the Office of the President, serving as a point of contact for internal and external constituents on all matters, scheduling and managing the day-to-day needs of the office. She also assists the Executive Cabinet and Board of Trustees, as needed, and plans and implements specific campus events that come from the president's office. She also trains and supervises the campus Ambassadors.

"There are so many people who love SBU and are excited to tell their story," Earl said. "I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the Board of Trustees. SBU truly is blessed with the wisdom and years of exceptional, professional service that our board has to offer. They are brilliant men and women of God, and I wish all of our campus could know them more. I also have loved working for Dr. Turner. He is the best boss and the perfect leader for our institution at such a time as this." ■



THE INAUGURATION *of*
Eric A. Turner, Ed.D.

as the 25th President of Southwest Baptist University



Friday, April 26, 2019

MABEE CHAPEL | 10 A.M.

www.SBUniv.edu/inauguration



LETTER FROM THE **PRESIDENT**

Dear alumni and friends,

This issue of SBULife marks yet another milestone in my tenure as President of Southwest Baptist University – my first column to you in this format. As I write this at the end of January, I am wrapping up my first six months at SBU. A presidential transition after 22 years is a significant event in the life of a University – I am humbled and honored to have a small part in leading the University through this transition.

The warm welcome from faculty, staff, students, and alumni has been overwhelming. I am grateful for the many hardworking employees whose commitment to SBU's mission made 2018 a great year for the University.

The most common question I have been asked is about my vision for SBU; I envision the University to be the exemplar Christian university throughout the Midwest and beyond. I think it more important, however, for the University community to define and articulate what this means through a collaborative and iterative process involving internal and external constituencies. Put differently, we should develop this vision together.

This past fall, the strategic planning process commenced with 18 listening sessions internally and many others across Missouri and beyond. We asked two questions: a. What should never change about SBU?, and b. What should change about SBU?

During the spring semester, we have two major goals in regards to strategic planning:

1. The Strategic Planning Committee is compiling and analyzing data from the fall listening sessions, and identifying the emergent themes resulting from the initial data collection. The identified themes will be shared this spring with the University community, and we will be asking the question, "Did we hear you correctly?"

The mid-point check will be shared with the University Board of Trustees at the April Board Meeting.

2. An external Peer Assessment Committee, led by Dr. David Dockery, will oversee a two-tiered University-wide dialogue on faith and learning with deeper conversations about orthodoxy, particularly within the Courts Redford College of Theology and Ministry.

After finishing a season in which I was obedient to God's call to serve in secular higher education, it is a great blessing to my family and me to once again serve within the context of Christian higher education—a context we love and are called to serve. I cannot overstate that the Biblical worldview and perspective that we provide matters—may we never take our mission for granted.

Early last year, in prayerful preparation to re-enter the context of Christian higher education, I desired, regardless of where the Lord sent our family to serve, to ensure the institution had grappled with the hard questions of the integration of faith and learning. For me, the answers to these questions are important foundational items as we aspire to make an impact on the kingdom via Christian higher education.

When we started the strategic planning process at SBU, I intended to have a deeper dialogue about faith, learning and orthodoxy beginning with the Fall 2019 semester, but it quickly became clear this topic was too important to wait, and we decided to move that timeline forward to this semester. I am grateful to Dr. Dockery for agreeing to chair this committee, and I welcome this process to help us more effectively provide a Christian higher education while remaining loyal to our Baptist heritage.

This time next year, I expect to be sharing more information about a strategic plan that we will have shared with the Board of Trustees in October 2019. In the meantime, I encourage you to follow our strategic planning progress and other initiatives by reading my President's Updates that are being posted monthly at www.SBUniv.edu/about/leadership/president.php.

The Biblical values that have defined our University since 1878 continue to serve as a strong foundation for SBU's future. Thank you for your continual investment in SBU students and their future as they make a global Kingdom impact.

Shaping our story together,

Eric A. Turner

President | ROMANS 10:15

2018 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Featuring:

SBU FACTS AND FIGURES

HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

A SEASON OF CHANGE

Southwest Baptist University recently has seen a number of changes, including a new president, the development of a strategic planning process and a new nursing program on the Bolivar campus - just to name a few – and, all of which are designed to help move SBU forward.




22.7
Average ACT for
Incoming Freshmen


\$23,100
Tuition
[Undergraduate]


3,356
total students


2,115
female students


1,241
male students

3.56
Average GPA for
Incoming Freshmen



12:1
Student-to-Faculty Ratio

72%
Percentage of Full-Time
Bolivar Campus Teaching
Faculty with a Doctorate or
other Terminal Degree


693
graduate
students

163
total faculty
[Full Time]

175
total staff
[Full Time]

BUDGET FIGURES

Revenue Budget

	2018-19 Final Budget	
Tuition & Fees	\$49,203,011	81.29%
Missouri Baptist Convention	\$1,170,000	1.93%
Other Undesignated Gifting	\$526,000	0.87%
Investment Earnings	\$295,220	0.49%
Financial Aid Revenue	\$1,154,811	1.91%
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$507,180	0.84%
Auxiliary Enterprise Revenue	\$7,673,778	12.68%
TOTAL	\$60,530,000	100.00%

Expense Summary

Educational and General		
Total Instructional and Departmental	\$17,399,944	28.75%
Organized Activities	\$3,471,644	5.74%
Total Library	\$1,203,282	1.99%
Total Student Services	\$3,035,377	5.01%
Total Operation/Maintenance of Plant	\$3,552,568	5.87%
Total Administration	\$1,912,510	3.16%
Staff Benefits	\$1,670,007	2.76%
Total General Institutional	\$2,966,662	4.90%
Total Student Aid	\$19,052,944	31.48%
Debt Retirement	\$1,268,952	2.10%
Contingency	\$405,000	0.67%
Total Educational and General	\$55,911,708	92.37%
Total Auxiliary Enterprises	\$4,591,110	7.58%
TOTAL EXPENSE BUDGET	\$60,530,000	100.00%



Strategic Planning: MOVING SBU FORWARD

BY DENISE ELSON TUCKER '89

When Dr. Eric A. Turner became Southwest Baptist University's 25th president, he did not arrive with a pre-determined course of action for SBU.

"In thinking about the next chapter for SBU, the thing for me was wrestling with at what point does one begin a planning effort," Dr. Turner said of his thoughts during SBU's presidential search. "I really sensed that it needed to occur, and I really wrestled with the timeline on that."

Dr. Turner recalled Dr. Lee Skinkle, SBU provost, coming to him the first Monday in September to tell him he was on the agenda for the Deans Council meeting.

"I said, 'OK. What for? I just got here,'" Dr. Turner said. "He said, 'they want to hear from you about the future direction of SBU.' And, with the deans beginning to ask the question that I had been asking, that was the final piece for me that the University was ready. So, we began that effort.

"My timeline was accelerated. I would have wanted to announce that planning effort late this spring, but learning and listening from the University itself, that was why we launched earlier than I would have determined."

And, with that, Dr. Turner told the University's Board of Trustees during its Oct. 16, 2018, meeting to expect a finalized strategic plan by the October 2019 board meeting.

"Our timeline is ambitious," Dr. Turner said at the time. "But our planning team is ready to get to work. To broadly represent the University, we expanded the planning team to include representation from a cross-section of SBU constituencies. Rather than prescribing a plan and course of action, I want us to develop this together."

In addition to the Executive Cabinet's involvement in the planning process, an 11-member Strategic Planning Team, which includes representatives of faculty, staff, students, trustees, alumni and multiple campuses, was formed.

THE PLANNING STEPS INCLUDE:

- **Listening sessions: Fall 2018** – University constituents were asked two primary questions: "What should never change about SBU?" and

"What should we change about SBU?"

- **Data compilation and review sessions:** Spring 2019 – Planning Team is reviewing the data and conducting listening sessions with the same constituents to review the emergent themes resulting from the initial data collection.
- **Mid-term report: April 2019** – Information will be presented to the Board of Trustees at the April 2019 meeting.
- **Finalized plan: October 2019** – To be submitted to the Board of Trustees.

"This is the fourth planning effort I have been a part of and the third one that I've led," Dr. Turner said. "The classic way is to sit down and do a SWOT [Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats] analysis; that assumes you know something about the institution. In each of those previous three iterations of planning efforts that I participated in, there would be lots of things that had already been crafted, and then it would be pushed out to the university or college constituents and asking for people's input.

"There was always something internal for me that was awkward about that. In seeking that input, it was almost perfunctory. We checked a box, and I didn't like that. I didn't know how to get around it at the time. So, this time, I turned it on its head. That's why we started with the listening sessions."

Dr. Turner said the internal data will be complemented with external data, as well.

"Once we finish this initial data analysis, and the themes are established, then we will kick it back to the University again and say, 'This is what we've heard. These are the things that we have identified. Have we heard you correctly?'" Dr. Turner said. "So, I'm approaching it much differently than I have before.

"From my perspective, I think people have appreciated being able to be candid; being able to have a voice in the life of the University," Dr. Turner said. "People have been engaged in the process. The data analysis is tedious, but it is time well-spent." ■

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\$50,000 and Above

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STRATEGIC PLANNING: *New Responsibilities*

BY DENISE ELSON TUCKER '89



Dr. Allison Langford, Vice President for Strategic Planning and Initiatives

Dr. Eric A. Turner and SBU's Strategic Planning Team wasted little time in putting the strategic plan into action, which included the restructuring of a few select job titles and responsibilities.

"We are focused on the fundamentals of being good stewards of the people, fiscal, physical and student resources the University is entrusted with," Dr. Turner said. "This is vital in order for us to think and plan toward the next chapter."

The first of those changes, which went into effect on Nov. 1, 2018, included new positions for Dr. Allison Langford, Dr. Dana Steward '95, '03 and Angela Carr '99.

Langford, who previously served as associate provost for teaching and learning, has transitioned into the new role of vice president for strategic planning and initiatives. She is responsible for facilitating the development and communication of the strategic plan, and integrating institutional effectiveness functions in that process.

"The transition has been very positive," Langford said. "I have spent a lot of time supporting the new strategic planning process – organizing listening sessions, providing direction for the Strategic Planning team, and creating a process for analyzing the data. I also have spent time fully transitioning my prior duties to Dana and Angie, getting organized and developing a new organizational approach that is more effective for this work."

More specifically, Langford's duties include developing structure and procedures to ensure that University efforts are deliberate and data-informed, overseeing accreditation and outcomes assessment, while serving as the Accreditation Liaison Officer with the Higher Learning Commissions (HLC), and leading the efforts to prepare documents for HLC accreditation.

While some of her duties include a few of the same responsibilities of her previous position, Langford says she still has a lot to learn.

"Planning is in my DNA – I am a planner at heart," Langford said. "Leading this area requires both a wide-angle lens and microscope – that is, I have to keep the big picture in mind as well as pay attention to all of the

details. This combination is challenging, and it requires me to be deliberate in my approach. [i.e., I can't get in too much of a hurry.]"

Steward takes over as assistant provost for general education and transition after having served as the director of the Ed and Theo Clark University Success Center. She will continue to serve as the lead administrator for the first-year transition programming, the Gordon and Judy Dutille Honors Program, Career Services, Dual Credit, Academic Special Services and Study Abroad, while teaching University Seminar courses, advising first-year students and assisting the Provost with academic duties.

"I look forward to continuing to grow in my understanding of ways to promote student success through effective academic programming," Steward said. "I am very honored and excited to have the opportunity serve in this new capacity."

Carr, who will continue her duties as Blackboard administrator, will serve as senior director of the Center for Teaching and Learning.

Carr said she has widened her focus to include faculty development and support, both in the classroom and in the online environment.

"I am equally excited to put my own spin on things and expand the opportunity for faculty growth," Carr said. "Ultimately, I just want all of our faculty to feel like they have the support and tools they need to thrive as an educational leader and to equip our students for success."

Langford's role in the strategic planning process is one of facilitator or lead collaborator. And, while she will coordinate the efforts, she says "it has to be a team effort – not just the strategic planning team – but beyond."

"The end result [the vision and strategic initiatives] has to reflect the broader SBU family – what they think should change and should never change about SBU – while also addressing the opportunities and threats that SBU faces," Langford said. "What results from this effort has to 'ring true' to the SBU family, reflect and advance the SBU mission, while also demonstrating insight, discernment, strategy, and wisdom." ■



Left: Dana Steward, Assistant Provost for General Education and Transition; Right: Angie Carr, Senior Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning



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SBU Athletics prepares for move to the **GREAT LAKES VALLEY CONFERENCE**

BY DENISE ELSON TUCKER '89

After 33 years in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association (MIAA), Southwest Baptist University Athletics will become a full-time member of the Great Lakes Valley Conference in 2019-2020.

SBU was admitted following a unanimous vote of approval by the GLVC Council of Presidents on May 23, 2018, and will begin regular-season competition and be eligible for GLVC Championships in 2019-2020.

"The Great Lakes Valley Conference is pleased to welcome Southwest Baptist University to our family," GLVC Commissioner Jim Naumovich said after the vote. "In Southwest Baptist, we have found a like-minded institution within our geographic footprint that we feel will be a wonderful addition to the GLVC."

SBU, which has been competing in the MIAA since 1986, has captured 25 MIAA titles in men's tennis [15], women's tennis [5], men's basketball [4], men's cross country [1] and women's cross country [1].

"It was a hard decision to leave the MIAA," SBU Director of Athletics Mike Pitts '85, '10 said. "I've had the privilege to work closely with four MIAA Commissioners, and I have great friends in the MIAA. I've learned so much from being around them, watching them work and asking questions. I think back to some of the great games [in all sports] we've had with our rivals in the MIAA. The MIAA has given us so many great experiences and memories. It's hard to change conferences – especially when you are leaving such a respected league.

"But, we have great rivals in the GLVC, also. I miss playing Truman [State University] as much as we did in the past, and I'm glad we will get to play Drury [University] more. One of the main reasons I'm excited about our move to the GLVC is we get to start playing some of our great rivals of the past like Truman, Drury, William Jewell and Missouri S&T. We feel we are more like these schools than the schools in the MIAA. Our budgets, facilities, missions and overall challenges have the same flavor."

Since 2014, SBU has played football as an associate member of the GLVC under the Strategic Conference Football Scheduling Alliance formed by the GLVC and MIAA in 2013. The Bearcats shared the GLVC Championship with Truman State in 2016.

"Like the MIAA, the GLVC is a very respected, professional confer-

ence with top-shelf leadership," Pitts said. "We already have many great relationships in the GLVC. It's a bit of a different structure as the GLVC has their FARs [Faculty Athletic Representatives] as the governing body that sends action items to the CEOs. It has a strong academic emphasis, which was attractive to us as we studied the potential move."

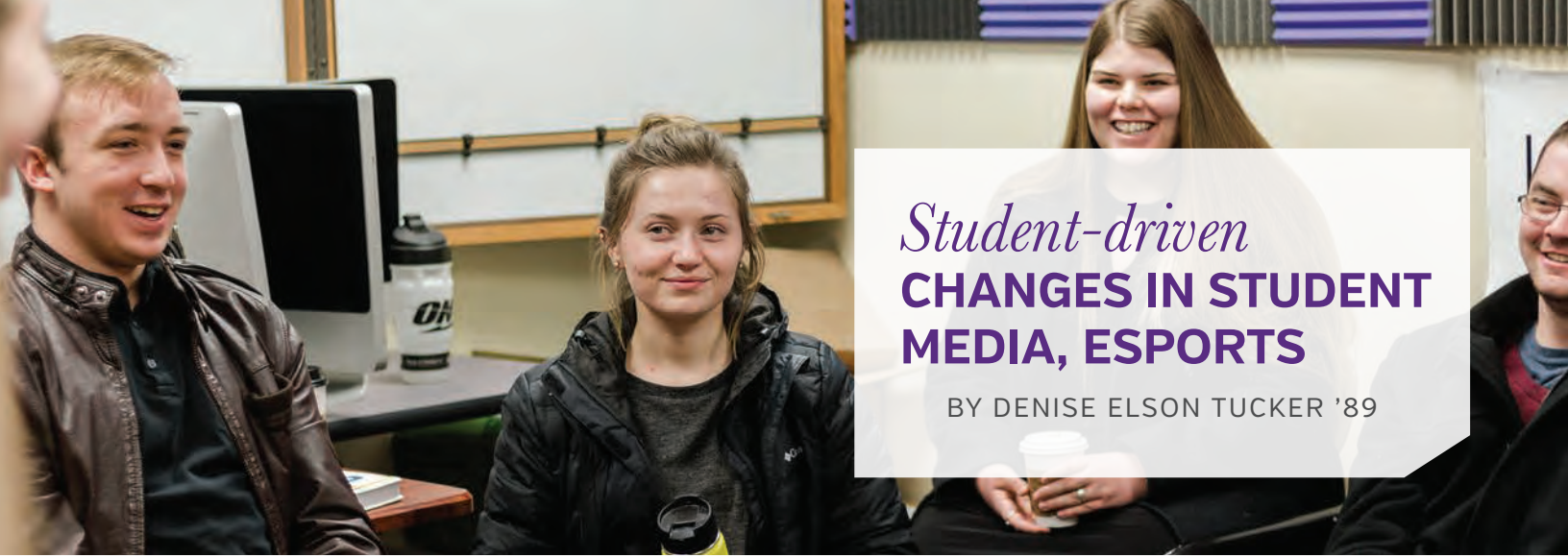
SBU currently sponsors 18 of the GLVC's 22 sports, including all seven of the league's core sports: baseball, men's and women's basketball, men's and women's soccer, softball and volleyball. SBU also will compete in men's and women's cross country, football, men's and women's golf, men's and women's tennis, and men's and women's indoor and outdoor track and field. Additionally, the Bearcats sponsor a co-ed program in esports, as well as women's cheer and STUNT, which began in 2018-19.

The GLVC is one of the largest NCAA Division II conferences in the country, featuring 15 schools and 22 sports. The conference was established in 1978 and made up of six schools in Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio, but has moved westward to include four Illinois schools, seven Missouri schools and one school from Wisconsin among its membership. The current members of the GLVC are: Bellarmine University [Louisville, Ky.], Drury University [Springfield, Mo.], University of Illinois-Springfield [Springfield, Ill.], University of Indianapolis [Indianapolis, Ind.], Lewis University [Romeoville, Ill.], Maryville University [St. Louis, Mo.], McKendree University [Lebanon, Ill.], Missouri University of Science & Technology [Rolla, Mo.], University of Missouri-St. Louis [St. Louis, Mo.], Quincy University [Quincy, Ill.], Rockhurst University [Kansas City, Mo.], University of Southern Indiana [Evansville, Ind.], Truman State University [Kirksville, Mo.], University of Wisconsin-Parkside [Kenosha, Wis.] and William Jewell College [Liberty, Mo.].

"I have learned that it's a long, intentional process to change conferences," Pitts said. "The right stakeholders have to be on board at the right time for a long time. It takes a lot of planning and follow-through. I know there is always a certain nervousness that goes with change, but I'm very excited about this move. In my heart, I think it's a great move for our student-athletes, our fans, and the SBU family." ■

Jeff Smith, Associate Commissioner of the GLVC, contributed to this story.

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Student-driven CHANGES IN STUDENT MEDIA, ESPORTS

BY DENISE ELSON TUCKER '89

Student media has come a long way at SBU. Once delivered to the student body only in printed newspaper form, SBU's Infuse Student Media has become the product of the interest, hard work and persistence of students who wanted to give the student body a voice on campus. Infuse delivers on a variety of digital platforms – online newspaper, podcast and photography/videography.

“While the transition provides a variety of new challenges, the benefits far outweigh any drawbacks, especially as students learn to engage in the current digital focus of society,” said Dr. Paulina Swiatkowski, advisor for Infuse Student Media.

Infuse Student Media, which can be found at www.SBUInfuse.org, includes three branches and a student executive director for each branch, according to sophomore Chance Bedell, executive director for Bearcat Chat.

- **Omnibus** is SBU's newspaper, which last printed in the Spring of 2016 and has been entirely online since April 2018. It is journalism and creative writing-based.
- **Bearcat Chat** is a student-run podcast, which once served as the only student media outlet, and continues to cover events and stories from around campus.
- **PAW Productions** is SBU's photography and videography branch, which puts out weekly campus news in “Not So Live,” as well as special projects, such as updating videos for the dorms online.

Hailey Trimmer, who said she was inspired by friend and fellow Infuse member, Sarah Fletcher, was the driving force behind the re-launch of Omnibus and the growth of Infuse.

“She introduced me to what Omnibus once was, and inspired me to revive it as a branch of the Infuse podcast,” Trimmer said. “We had a large staff the semester of our relaunch, and without the hard work and dedication of each one of them, Omnibus would not have become what it is today.”

Infuse students get hands-on experience with the importance of civic engagement, media literacy, and professional integrity.

“My goal is that they learn to ask hard questions, listen critically to the answers, and move forward with productive inquiry,” Swiatkowski said, “allowing them to refine the skills the Lord has bestowed upon them before setting out into the world to do the Lord’s work on whatever path He has for them.”

ESPORTS

In its brief time as a varsity athletics program on the SBU campus, the esports organization has seen its share of changes.

Esports was introduced to SBU for the 2016-2017 academic year, and became one of about 15 colleges and universities in the nation to offer esports as a varsity athletics program, with scholarships available for the Fall 2016 semester.

SBU's first recruiting class included seven team members in 2016-17, and nine members for the 2017-18 season. After a successful inaugural fall season, SBU's League of Legends Bearcats earned a playoff berth during the spring season. The team also enjoyed success during its second season, finishing 7-3.

Tyler Dugger was hired full-time in October 2018 to serve as the Meyer Wellness and Sports Center coordinator after coming on part-time in July to lead the six-member esports team. He took over for Chris Allison '16, SBU's first esports coach, who left to pursue other opportunities.

Dugger's prior experience in esports and gaming-related content creation came as founder of the Christian video gaming organization and community “Solid Rock Gamers.”

Dugger has adopted the motto, “Real Life Missions. Virtual Mission Field,” for the current esports program.

“My goal is simple,” Dugger said of the program. “I want to impact the lives of students in such a way that they can use the skills they’ve learned here beyond just gaming, so that they may also find ways to present the Gospel anywhere, anytime, on any scale, virtually AND in person. If that winds up including winning or expansion, it would enable an even greater reach for a larger impact.”■



Esports students practice Rocket League, the latest addition in SBU's esports program.



New pre-licensure bachelor of science in nursing program **OFFERED ON BOLIVAR CAMPUS**

BY DENISE ELSON TUCKER '89 AND CHARLOTTE HIGHSMITH MARSCH '97

Since 1996, Southwest Baptist University has partnered with Mercy health system to offer nursing and health sciences education on the associate, bachelor and master's levels on its Springfield campus.

In the fall of 2016, the Springfield campus opened its 15,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art Wayne & Diana Hutchins Center for Nursing Education to better serve its nursing and health sciences students. The training facility features a learning resource center, simulation lab, nursing stations, task training room and a 50-seat classroom.

And, since that time, an ASN bridge program has been offered on SBU's Salem campus; but no such offerings on the Bolivar campus – until now.

Beginning in the Spring 2019 semester, SBU's Bolivar campus started holding classes in its pre-licensure BSN program (PLBSN), providing students with an option for nursing education in a traditional college setting where they can experience residential and campus life.

"The PLBSN's Christ-centered liberal arts curriculum will allow students to grow spiritually and academically to become servant healthcare leaders in a global society," said Nancy Delmont, chair of the Don and Carrie Babb Department of Nursing.

The Missouri State Board of Nursing (MSBN) granted initial approval on Feb. 28, 2018, for the pre-licensure BSN program on the Bolivar campus, which was contingent upon an approved site visit. Applications for the first nursing cohort became available in March 2018 to begin Spring 2019, and construction soon began on renovations, including a state-of-the-art simulation lab, on the second floor of the Jester Learning and Performance Center to house the department.

After a successful site visit from the MSBN on Jan. 8, 2019, the State Board granted initial approval for SBU to begin the program.

"We are extremely excited about this addition to the Bolivar campus of Southwest Baptist University," SBU President Dr. Eric A. Turner said. "The nursing program is a very obvious articulation of our mission to equip students to be caring Bearcats – to be the hands and feet of our Lord. I am grateful for the countless hours spent by our faculty, staff and administration to ensure this long-term dream has become reality. This

is an important milestone as we endeavor to be the shining example of a Christian university to a hurting world."

The State Board approved an enrollment of 24 students to the department, named for Citizens Memorial Hospital CEO Don Babb and his wife, Carrie. Future cohorts may admit up to 30 students.

The pre-licensure BSN program has four full-time faculty: Delmont, MSN, RN, CNE, and instructor of nursing; Heather Daulton, MSN, RN, instructor of nursing; Blair Stockton '18, MSN, RN, OCN, instructor of nursing; and Julie Wilken, MSN, RN, Learning Resource Center and Simulation Center Coordinator.

In preparation for the pre-licensure nursing program, a capital fundraising campaign raised more than \$1.1 million for renovation of a state-of-the-art simulation lab and learning resource center. The renovated space in Jester also includes classrooms, computer labs and office space for the nursing faculty. Citizens Memorial Hospital/Citizens Memorial Health Care Foundation made a lead gift of \$600,000 toward funding startup costs for the program in August 2017.

"SBU's nursing faculty are dedicated to student success," Delmont said. "The Learning Resource and Simulation Center will provide students with a state-of-the-art learning environment to prepare them to practice as safe, competent nurses."

Through education in the pre-licensure program, students will earn a bachelor's degree that prepares them for the licensure examination to become a registered nurse. Students will benefit from SBU's Christian, liberal arts curriculum that provides a strong biblical foundation and enhances problem-solving and critical-thinking skills.

The program will help fill a need for more nurses throughout the CMH system and other healthcare systems. In addition, CMH will provide clinical placements for students in the Bolivar BSN program. SBU's current agreement with Mercy in Springfield remains unchanged.

SBU is now admitting about 200 students to nursing programs each year with an additional 260 students enrolled in RN-BSN completion (bachelor's degree after completing an ASN and passing the RN-ENCLEX exam) and MSN (master of science in nursing) courses. ■

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 Foundation for Springfield Public Schools, Springfield, Mo.
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 Griffin Family Foundation, Mexico, Mo.
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 Harold Baptist Church, Walnut Grove, Mo.
 Harvest Assembly, Fair Play, Mo.
 Hazelwood Baptist Church, Hazelwood, Mo.
 Henry County Cattleman's Association, Clinton, Mo.
 Houston High School Alumni Scholarship, Houston, Mo.

5

Questions with **Lena Campbell**

In each issue of SBULife magazine, we interview one of our staff members so you can meet the people who help make SBU a Christ-centered, caring academic community.



Last December, Lena Campbell received the SBU Life Beautiful Award, an honor given annually to employees — one faculty member and one staff member — who exemplify a “life beautiful.” A native of Korea, Lena has worked in housekeeping for SBU for almost 20 years and attends Korean Presbyterian Church in Springfield, where she helps prepare church dinners and volunteers where she is needed.

Could you describe your journey from Korea to the United States?

I was excited to take the journey to the United States. I was married at that time and his family was here in the United States. Therefore, we decided to move to the United States. My husband at the time was already in the United States. I flew out to the United States shortly after my husband did. I took one suitcase and started my life in the United States.

What motivates you during your workday?

I enjoy what I do, and the staff/faculty are the greatest. I enjoy keeping myself busy, otherwise I wouldn't have anything to do and being bored is no fun. I enjoy the students that come and go, as well.

What is your favorite aspect of your job?

Everything. I really like doing what I do because it keeps me moving and young at heart.

In addition to helping prepare meals for your church, you also provide meals and snacks, on occasion, for the Department of History faculty. What was your motivation for doing this?

They are super-nice and friendly. I enjoy providing for the faculty in the Department of History. The reason why I started bringing snacks was because it's a small crew upstairs and they never had a secretary. What motivated me to start this was when it was a professor's birthday in the Department of History. I thoroughly enjoy bringing in snacks for the Department of History and they appreciate what I bring.

How did you feel when you found out that you won the staff Life Beautiful Award?

I was too excited and surprised that I won the staff Life Beautiful Award. I was also a bit shocked; therefore, I didn't know how to react. I had no idea that I even won the staff Life Beautiful Award. I felt AWESOME!!!

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 LifePoint Church, Lebanon, Mo.
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 Macks Creek R-V Schools, Macks Creek, Mo.
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 New Heights Church, Fayetteville, Ark.
 New Heights Church, Farmington, Mo.
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 Northwestern Electric Cooperative,
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 El Dorado Springs, Mo.
 Springfield Catholic Schools, Springfield, Mo.
 Stockton Christian Church, Stockton, Mo.
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Bearcat Club **\$250 - \$499**

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 AKJ Construction, Martinsville, Ind.
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 Budget Blinds of Northern Utah, Hooper, Utah
 Catalyst Church, Springfield, Mo.
 CBF Heartland, Liberty, Mo.
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 Church of the Four Corners, Independence, Mo.
 Citizens for Education, Houston, Mo.
 Community Bible Church, Olathe, Kan.
 Community Teachers Association, Mansfield, Mo.
 Concord Baptist Church, Hopkinsville, Ky.
 Coon Creek Baptist Church, Collins, Mo.
 Crete Berean Church, Crete, Neb.
 Crossroads Inn & Suites, Salem, Mo.
 Dallas Ridgcrest Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas
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 First Baptist Church, Adair, Okla.

First Baptist Church, Bates City, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Bentonville, Ark.
 First Baptist Church, Bismarck, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Independence, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Dixon, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Harrisonville, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Maryville, Ill.
 First Baptist Church, Nixa, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Swedeborg, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Thayer, Mo.
 First Baptist Church, Waynesville, Mo.
 First Southern Baptist Church, Kimberling City, Mo.
 Gerster Baptist Church, Osceola, Mo.
 Grace Bible Church, Topeka, Kan.
 Grace Evangelical Church, Saint Joseph, Mo.
 High Plains Heritage Foundation, Liberal, Kan.
 High Street Baptist Church, Springfield, Mo.
 HJM Innovations LLC, Elkland, Mo.
 Homewood Evangelical Free Church, Moline, Ill.
 Jasper Engines and Transmissions Inc., Jasper, Ind.
 Kate Duncan Smith DAR School, Grant, Ala.
 Kings Point Baptist Church, Lockwood, Mo.
 Maranatha Academy, Shawnee, Kan.
 Maricorp U.S., Shell Knob, Mo.
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 Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Hartsburg, Mo.
 Neosho R-V School District, Neosho, Mo.
 Northwest Region Association Inc., Saint Joseph, Mo.
 Owensville Christian Church, Owensville, Mo.
 Pleasant Home Baptist Church, Springfield, Mo.
 Porta High School, Petersburg, Ill.
 Pulaski County Bar Association, Waynesville, Mo.
 Reedley Asa Inc., Reedley, Calif.
 Refuge Church, Stockton, Mo.
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 Salem United Methodist Church, Salem, Mo.
 Sharon Baptist Church, Wichita, Kan.
 Shelby Rae Dotson Memorial Foundation,
 Huntsville, Ark.
 Siloam Springs School District, Siloam Springs, Ark.
 St. Clair County State Bank, Osceola, Mo.
 Thursday Musicale, Bolivar, Mo.
 Tower View Baptist Church, Kansas City, Mo.
 Truman Heartland Community Foundation,
 Independence, Mo.
 Victor Baptist Church, Victor, Iowa
 Viola Baptist Church, Shell Knob, Mo.
 Warrensburg R-VI School District, Warrensburg, Mo.
 Webster County Republican Committee,
 Marshfield, Mo.
 Westlake Ace Hardware, Bolivar, Mo.
 Westside Church of the Nazarene, Olathe, Kan.
 Wheatland Baptist Church, Wheatland, Mo.
 Word of Life Community Church, Peculiar, Mo.

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Provost

SBU honors Campbell, Steiert with Life Beautiful Awards



Lena Campbell, housekeeper, and Paula Steiert, instructor of health sciences, received the Staff and Faculty Life Beautiful Awards during the annual employee Christmas banquet Dec. 6 at Southwest Baptist University.

“The designation ‘life beautiful’ is the highest honor a person can receive at Southwest Baptist University,” said Dr. Eric A. Turner, SBU president. “Each year during the Bolivar spring commencement, we honor two graduating seniors who are chosen by the faculty as best exemplifying a ‘life beautiful.’ During our employee Christmas Banquet, we honor a faculty member and a staff member who exemplify a ‘life beautiful.’”

The Faculty Life Beautiful Award was established in 1987, and the Staff Life Beautiful Award was established in 1992.

STAFF LIFE BEAUTIFUL

Lena Campbell, a native of Korea, arrived in the United States in 1979 and began working at SBU in 1999. In addition to her full-time job in housekeeping at SBU and her part-time job in Bolivar, she attends Korean Presbyterian Church in Springfield, where she helps prepare church dinners and volunteers in whatever capacity is needed for her church body.

“She is a very generous person who has taken upon herself over the years to regularly feed and nourish the Department of History faculty by periodically providing us with meals and snacks,” one of her co-workers said. “Her willingness to share her meager resources with us stems from a generous heart and demonstrates her Christ-like love with this sacrificial service of hospitality.”

Known by many as a “bright ray of sunshine,” she makes a positive impact on those with whom she comes in contact.

“She meets the highest standards in the performance of her duties at SBU, and does so with an attitude that exudes kindness and joy,” another co-worker said.

FACULTY LIFE BEAUTIFUL

Paula Steiert, who has been a member of the SBU faculty since 1993, currently instructs the pre-requisite science courses for nursing and radiography on the Springfield campus.

She has a bachelor of science degree in biology from the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul, Minn., and a graduate degree in microbiology from the University of Minnesota.

“She has a long-standing history on this campus as being a dedicated faculty member that truly cares for each student,” a colleague wrote. “She will go above and beyond to help any student to be successful.”

And, her students echo that thought.

“Her pathophysiology class made the biggest impact on my career, not only as a student, but as a nurse,” one of her students wrote. “Pathophysiology set the tone for the BSN program; it was tough, but well worth my time. This class drove me to ask ‘why’ questions and to propose possible answers to the questions I was asking.

“She never robbed me of the time I needed to critically think. She helped me develop the answers to my own questions. Without her as my critical-thinking coach, I would not be the student or nurse I am today.”

Steiert is active in her church and volunteers for SBU’s Mercy College of Nursing and Health Sciences home-school health fairs and college open houses. She and her husband, Jack, have one child, Brianna, who is a research assistant at the University of Kansas Medical Center. ■



The Alumni Office is taking nominations for the **Life Service Award** and the **Edwin Lightfoot Distinguished Alumni Award** until March 11, 2019.



Submit nominations at **ADVANCE.SBUNIV.EDU**

Southwest Baptist University graduated 204 students at two winter 2018 commencement ceremonies in the Jane and Ken Meyer Wellness and Sports Center on the Bolivar campus.

The SBU Mercy College of Nursing and Health Sciences held its commencement on Thursday, Dec. 13, and the ceremony for all other graduates was held on Friday, Dec. 14. The University holds graduation twice a year, in December and May.

SBU President Dr. Eric A. Turner said, "Commencement is the most important academic event for any university. For SBU, we are a Christ-centered, caring academic community preparing students to become servant leaders in a global society.

"Our graduates are extraordinary people, working diligently to achieve

this milestone. Our faculty, as you well know, are outstanding Christian scholars, devoted to providing excellent academic and spiritual examples for our students."

Marisa Mayo, a political science graduate from Springfield, Mo., delivered the Bob R. Derryberry Senior Address at Friday's commencement. She is the daughter of Wes and Tiffany Fanning, and Kent and Vicky Mayo.

Dr. Troy Bethards '93, dean of SBU's Robert W. Plaster College of Business and Computer Science, delivered the commencement address, and Douglas Wayne Glick Jr., a bachelor of science in health science graduate, was the speaker for Thursday's ceremony. ■

SBU confers degrees upon 204 graduates in winter commencement ceremonies



SBU's Glasgow honored with lifetime achievement award



Southwest Baptist University's Dr. Bob Glasgow '84, professor of mathematics, was presented with the Leroy Sachs Award for lifetime achievement (or contribution) on Nov. 30 at the Missouri Council of Teachers of Mathematics Fall Conference in Columbia.

"I was very surprised and humbled to receive this award," Glasgow said. "It is a recognition that comes from my colleagues across the state of Missouri; people I have worked with, learned from and respect greatly. God has blessed me immensely to have so many great friends to work with over the years, and I am thankful to Him for all of my opportunities."

The award was established in 1993 to recognize an individual who has given time, energy, and expertise to benefit the organization and to promote the improvement of mathematics education across the state of Missouri, the MCTM website states. It is named in honor of Leroy Sachs, a well-known St. Louis educator, who is recognized nationally for his excellence in teaching and support of teachers. Sachs, who is now 104 years old, was a former president of MCTM as well as the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

"It was a great honor to receive the award

and it was very exciting that my daughters were there (without me knowing) to experience the night," Glasgow said. "I am also very thankful to SBU and the support I have received for the last 30 years to be involved in mathematics education in the state of Missouri. I am honored to represent who we are as a university in all that I do."

Glasgow previously was honored by the MCTM in 2011 as the Outstanding Post-Secondary Mathematics Teacher. He also received SBU's Orien B. Hendrex Distinguished Teacher Award in 2017, the Science and Christian Faith Award in 2007, which is given by the SBU College of Science and Mathematics, and was the SBU Faculty Life Beautiful Award recipient in 2005.

"Bob has been an integral part of the mathematics department at SBU since 1989," said Dr. Kevin Hopkins, department chair. "His lifetime of service has been evident to the department and to his church since that time. He has repeatedly demonstrated for our students what it looks like to be a servant leader. MCTM's awarding him the 2018 Leroy Sachs Award is a recognition of his service to and leadership in Missouri mathematics beyond his contributions at Southwest Baptist University." ■

1950s

Beth (Toppass) Snowden '51 lives in Lee's Summit, Mo. She can be reached at cbsnowden@att.net.

Eddie Henson '52 and his wife, Mary, live in Sylva, N.C., and will be celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary on Feb. 14. Eddie can be reached at eddie.henson333@gmail.com.

1960s

Charlotte (West) Earp '62 lives in Carrollton, Texas. She can be reached at cearp@hsutx.edu.

Fred Bryant '64, '67 lives in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. He can be reached at freddieknox@hotmail.com.

Elizabeth (Hall) Moeller '69 and her husband, **Charles '67**, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 27, 2018.

1970s

Edward Farris '70, lives in Topeka, Kan. His wife, Roberta, passed away on Jan. 19, 2015. Edward can be reached at farrissudden@gmail.com.

William Kahler '74, and his wife, Davene, live in Fairland, Okla. William can be reached at w.kahler@sbcglobal.net.

Theresa Boggess '78, lives in Littleton, Colo. Theresa can be reached at theriboggess@hotmail.com.

1980s

Michael Boothe '81, and his wife, **Karen (Pressler) '81**, live in Gladstone, Mo. Michael can be reached at mdboothe@gmail.com.

Brent Dickerson '84, lives in Independence, Mo. He can be reached at brent.dickerson@att.net.

Lisa (Bacon) Masters '87, and her husband, Paul, live in Troy, Ill. They have three sons: Colton, who is a senior at SBU, Brett, who is a junior at Missouri S&T, and Andrew, who is a senior in high school. Lisa can be reached at master5are@charter.net.

2000s

Khristina (Anderson) McCord '00, and her husband, Tracy, live in Republic, Mo., and have three children, Abigail (15), Andrew (12) and Aubrie (9). Khristina, who works for Mercy, can be reached at khristina75@gmail.com.

Jack Belcher '08, and his wife, Jennifer, live in Leavenworth, Kan. Jack can be reached at audienceofone4@hotmail.com.

2010s

Jordan Green '10, and his wife, **Sarah Beth (Oakley) '10, '13**, live in Wichita, Kan., where Jordan is the Connections Pastor at First Evangelical Free Church. Jordan can be reached at jgreen@firstfreewichita.org.

Jeremiah Bechtold '16, and his wife, **Leah (Cleek) Bechtold '16**, live in Lafayette, Ind. Jeremiah can be reached at jeremiahbechtold@gmail.com.

Bearcats in the News

Matthew Easter '05 and **Lori Kitrel '98**, were among 109 St. Louis-area educators to receive an Emerson Excellence in Teaching award on Nov. 11, 2018. Now in its 29th year, the awards pay tribute to area educators – from kindergarten teachers to college professors – for their achievements and dedication to the field of education. The Excellence in Teaching Awards program is sponsored annually by St. Louis-based Emerson, a diversified global manufacturer and technology leader. Award recipients will have the opportunity to apply for a Gold Star Grant from Emerson, to be presented in Spring 2019, according to Emerson's news release. Honorees from this year and the past five years are eligible to apply for the competitive grants, which are designed to fund educational projects that reflect the pillars of the Emerson brand – technology, innovation and leadership. Since 2006, Emerson has awarded \$615,000 to area teachers and schools through the Gold Star Grant program.

In Memory

Dr. Martha K. Hicks, of Opp, Ala., and formerly of Selma, Ala., passed away Jan. 26, 2019, at the age of 65, after a two-year battle with cancer. Dr. Hicks served as a faculty member in SBU's department of music from 1997 until her retirement in 2017. She served as department chair from 2009-2017. Dr. Hicks is survived by her siblings, Betty Hicks Elliott, Kenneth E. Hicks, Nancy Hicks Cole and Lisa Hicks Sexton; nieces and nephews, as well as 14 great-nieces and nephews. Services were held Jan. 31 at Elkdale Baptist Church, with interment in New Live Oak Cemetery, Selma. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Therapy Dogs International, 88 Bartley Road, Flanders, N.J., 07836 or www.tdi-dog.org.

Elaine (Toppass) Riney '52, passed away on Sept. 2, 2018, at the Belton Regional Medical Center, at the age of 85. Riney received her Associate of Arts degree from Southwest Baptist College (SBU). She was a member of First Baptist Church of Rich Hill, Mo., and was known for her love and talent for photography. She also enjoyed playing shuffleboard and played in the hand bell choir. Riney is survived by her brother, Oscar Toppass; sister Beth Snowden; and many nieces and nephews. A memorial contribution can be made to the Foxwood Springs Living Center, 1500 Foxwood Dr., Raymore, Mo., 64083.

David Bennett '72, passed away on June 21, 2018, at the age of 69, after a sudden illness. Bennett was Chairman Emeritus of the U.S. Nuclear Council, and served as an advisor on several Senate sub-committees regarding shipment of radioactive materials. Bennett also served on the Board of Trustees for Southwest Baptist University since 2011, in addition to being a donor, was a charter member of the Christian Business Men's Connection, a member of First Baptist Church of Joplin, where he served as a deacon and a member of the hand bell choir. He is survived by his wife, Kathy (Kissinger) Bennett; his son, John Bennett and family; daughters Sarah Truitt, Jennifer Wilkins and Alison Parker and their families; and his only sister, Nancey Gillogly. Memorial contributions may be made to Southwest Baptist University in care of Mason-Woodward Mortuary and Crematory, Joplin, Mo.

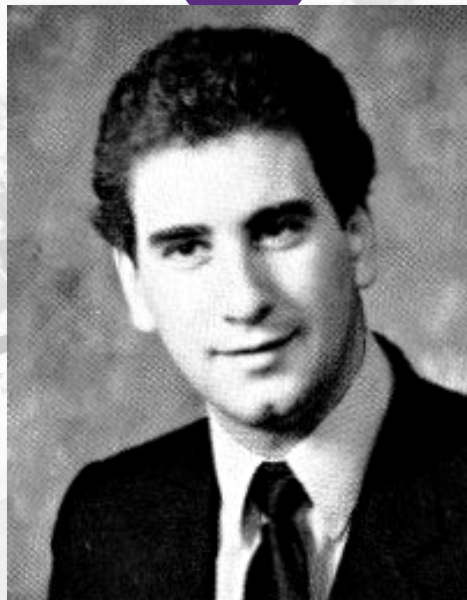
Guess Who?

SBU is blessed with employees who have given many years of service to promoting the SBU mission to be a Christ-centered, caring academic community preparing students to be servant leaders in a global society. The three individuals pictured here are our longest-serving current employees, each having served here since 1980! **Can you identify any of these employees pictured below?**

1



2



3



Everyone who correctly identifies at least one of these employees will be entered into a prize drawing. Submit your guesses by email to **SBUcommunications@gmail.com** or by mail to:
Office of Marketing and Communications, 1600 University Ave., Bolivar MO 65613.
Entries must be received by March 22.

Thank you to all who participated in the previous Guess Who contest.
The pictured faculty members were Dan Cochran, John Bryant, and Mark Tappmeyer.

The following all submitted correct responses: Sharla Bailey, Janell Barger, Ruth Herron Betts, Juanita Boro, Michael Brenneis, Tiffany Burton, John Campbell, Mark Carpenter, Pat Carpenter, Lyle Catron, Rebecca Clemens, Kevin Clinton, Tammy Condren, Loree Cox, Stella Cunningham, Todd Decker, Roger Driskill, Shelley Earp, Rocky Eaton, Terri Fallin, Pam Ferguson, Sandra Fortner, Gary Foster, Linda Porter Fuerst, Tricia Gage, Michelle Chronister Gentile, Bill Gravely, Charla Porter Green, Martha McFerron Green, Martha Hale, Jennifer Hayes, Chuck Haymes, Pam Wootton Hickey, Paul Hickey, Juanita Highfill, Duane and Linda Hileman, Holly Hill-Stanford, BW and Karen Honeycutt, Mick Hood, Sandra Jones, William Kahler, Gary Kelb, Chris Keller, Maria Korte, Betsy Walkenhorst Lange, Debbie Latshaw, Bill Lower, Linda Maberry, Melanie Sisler Maifeld, Zach Manis, Dorothy Clark Mantonya, Anita Oesch Martin, Claudia Beeman Martindale, Mac McCully, Brenda McGill, Angela Sheppard McGowan, Carol Micke, Bonnie Miles, Denver Miller, Julie Mpofu, Deborah Muir, Jay Pankey, Elaine Dueker Parsley, Mark and Jill Penticuff, Daniel Prier, Holly Richardson, Mike Roy, George Rudisaile, Larry Scantlan, Naomi Fultz Scantlan, Vicki Simmerman Schmidt, Linda Shipman, Steve Shipman, Jim Shrimpton, Gloria Simpson, Jennifer Albert Smith, Micah Snodgrass, Robert Stamper, Mark Stephens, Greg Stewart, Stan Sullinger, Paul Turner, Jolene Vereecke, Mike VonMoss, Kristi Walkup, Melissa Leck Warden, Pam Watson, Rodney Welch, LeaAnn West, Kevin Wilcoxon, Pam Williams, Lynne Wilson, Michaela Wingerd, Julie Woods, Carolyn Fuchs Wright, Earl Scott Wright.

SBUlife

Southwest Baptist University
1600 University Avenue
Bolivar, MO 65613

UPCOMING EVENTS

SBU Theatre Production

You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown

MARCH 7-9 | 7 P.M.

William and Kathy Brown Guest Artist Series

Duo MemDi

APRIL 26 | 7:30 P.M.

SBU Department of Music: Masterworks

MAY 3 | 7:30 P.M.

www.SBUniv.edu/news-events

SBU Alumni Events >>

St. Louis Cardinals

APRIL 6 | 11:15 A.M.

Wonders of Wildlife

APRIL 13 | 8:30 A.M.

Sporting Kansas City

AUGUST 10 | 7:30 P.M.

advance.SBUniv.edu/alumni-events