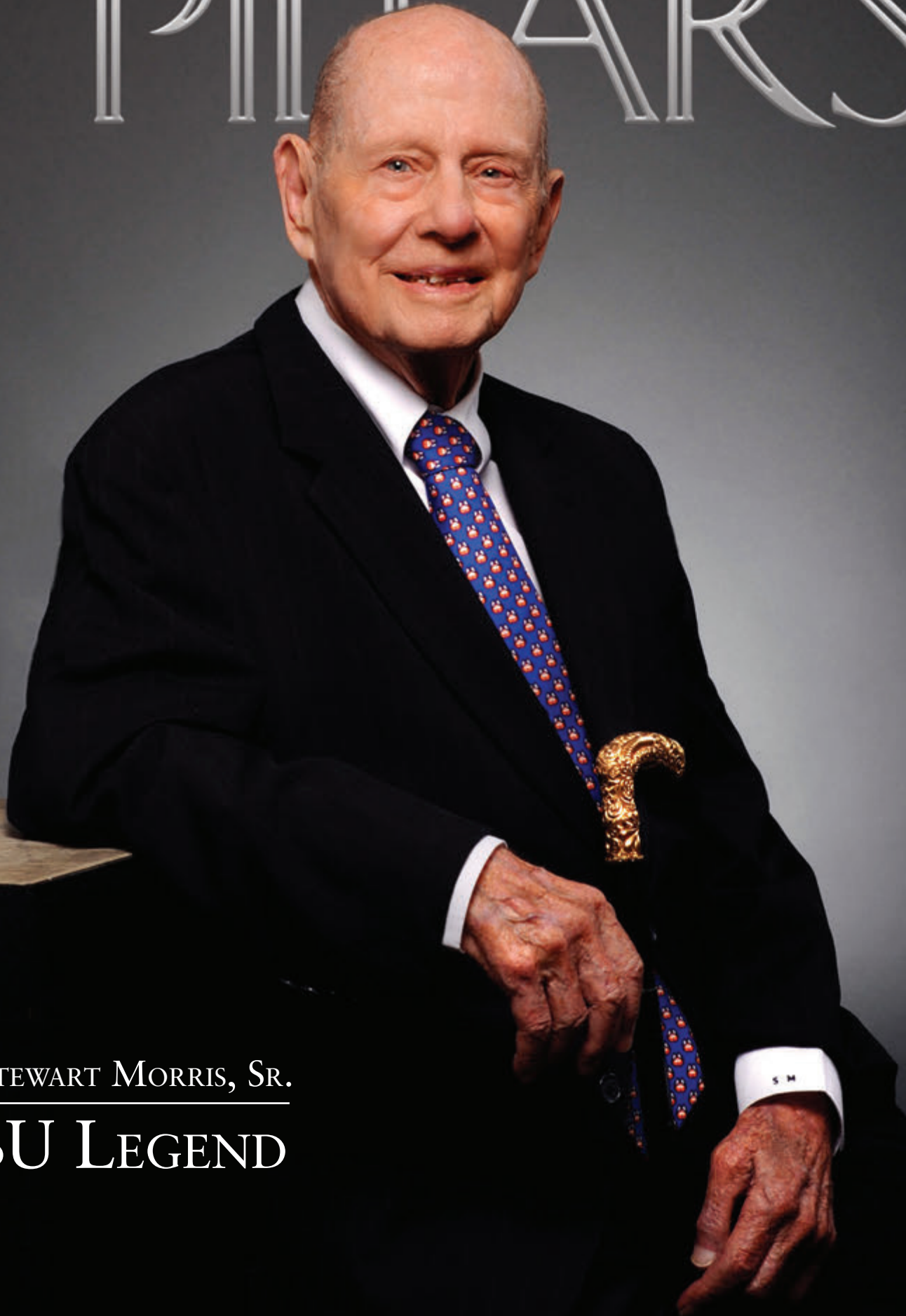


THE NEWS MAGAZINE OF HOUSTON BAPTIST UNIVERSITY / Fall 2018

THE PILLARS



DR. STEWART MORRIS, SR.

HBU LEGEND



The Book of Revelation speaks of a great coming day when, at the return of Christ and the resurrection of the dead, God will “make all things new” (21:1-5).

The word “new” is used in Scripture to refer to the start of a new calendar year, but also and especially to a new era – something happening that is so dramatically fresh that it changes everything that follows.

The “new covenant,” walking in “newness of life” and the announcement of the “good news” of God through Jesus are all scriptural markers of a fresh work of God – the start of a new era.

Compared to these world-changing events, the things that we usually call “new” might well appear small. But, we do have some significant, new things happening at HBU that, at the very least, merit notice to all and the giving of collective thanks to the Lord.

First of all, Dr. Stewart Morris, consistent with his many decades of commitment to HBU, not only as our central, but greatest, supporter, has made an additional \$10 million pledge to The Center for Law and Liberty. In gratitude, we’re going to name this center after the Morris family. The Center is already operating, but we will build a new building for it that will be modeled after Independence Hall in Philadelphia. It will be an iconic reminder of our commitment to teach American constitutionalism and the principles of the American founding. All things that relate to liberty – political liberty, human liberty, the liberties guaranteed by American exceptionalism, and the liberty to hold property that generates free enterprise will be taught and celebrated through this Center. Already, plans are underway for designing the building. We will make sure you know when we will start construction. I give a special word of thanks to Dr. Chris Hammons for his envisioning and other hard work related to this project. There are still more funds to raise to make sure we can finish the structure properly, as well as furnish it with the appropriate period furniture, but we are now a long way down the road already; we give God thanks for this new thing at HBU.

Secondly, we have just announced and launched an alliance with the American Association of Christian Counselors. This amazing network of Christian psychologists and counselors will come alongside HBU to help us develop our new Global Center for Mental Healthcare and Ministry. We have already built numerous programs both for residential majors and for online programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Already, our residential degree programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels are the largest on-campus majors at HBU.

Most of all, we give God thanks for the opportunity we will have in a world that is so riddled with emotional, spiritual and mental healthcare needs to speak to, counsel and mentor others in matters related to the many mental health crises that are plaguing our world. These include opioid and other addictions, marriage and family conflicts, gender confusion, depression, suicide and sexual abuse. We know that the Church, the Scriptures and the Christian faith can offer a lens through which these problems can be understood, and insights with which to address them faithfully and profoundly.

This kind of work has been going on at HBU for a long time through our outstanding faculty in our Christian psychology and counseling programs, and this new partnership will expand those efforts.

One last word – oftentimes when we say things are “new,” we have to point out at the same time that they have been a long time coming. Envisioning, planning, prayers, fundraising, and a lot of other preparation and hard work over a long period of time have gone into the creation of these two “new things” at HBU.

Continue to watch for new developments, and join us in celebration and thanks.

Dr. Robert B. Sloan

HBU President

  @DrRobertBSloan

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The Pillars is the news magazine of Houston Baptist University and is published quarterly in print and online.

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Pillars, Houston Baptist University, 7502 Fondren Road, Houston, TX 77074

THE MISSION OF HOUSTON BAPTIST UNIVERSITY is to provide a learning experience that instills in students a passion for academic, spiritual, and professional excellence as a result of our central confession, "Jesus Christ is Lord."

– Unanimously approved by the Board of Trustees,
February 24, 2009.

EDITOR'S CORNER

by Dr. Jerry Johnston

Houston Baptist University has an *Advantage!*



When you encourage your grandson, granddaughter, son or daughter to enroll at HBU, there is a distinct advantage. First, values, character and Christian convictions

are compassionately taught and emulated by our outstanding faculty members in every course. This makes HBU unique in a corroding culture. Achieving a degree or postgraduate degree without maturing in your Christian faith is incomplete. Second, Houston may be the most dynamic city of opportunity in America. Earn a degree in an environment in which there is a plethora of available jobs and the promise of advancement. Pulitzer Prize writer, Lawrence Wright, in his recent book, "God Save Texas," documents the singularity of Houston. Opportunity is waiting for you!



- The population of Texas is projected to **double** by **2050, to 54.4 million** – almost as many people as California and New York combined.
- The GDP of Texas is **\$1.6 trillion dollars**, as an independent country, its economy would settle in around 10th – eclipsing Canada and Australia.
- Texas exports nearly outrank those of California and New York combined. Texas also tops California in exporting **technology**.
- Between 2000 and 2016, job growth in Dallas and Houston expanded by **31 percent**, which is three times the rate of job growth in Los Angeles.
- Houston has **70,000** energy-related jobs.
- Houston's Texas Medical Center, the largest medical complex in the world, has more than **100,000 workers** in 59 institutions, occupying an area larger than Chicago's Loop.
- Houston added more than **700,000 jobs** between 2000 and 2014, almost twice the number of jobs created in New York City.
- The latest surveys show that 81 percent of people say life in Houston is **excellent** or **good**.
- Houston is now rated as one of the five best **restaurant** cities in the United States (*Washington Post*).
- Houston is the only major city in America without **zoning laws**. You can build pretty much anything you want anywhere you want, except in designated historical districts.
- According to City Journal, a publication of the Manhattan Institute for Policy Research, Houston now has the **highest standard of living** of any large city in America, and among the highest standards in the world.
- Houston will soon bypass Chicago to become the United States' **third-largest metropolitan area** behind New York City and Los Angeles.
- Houston is now the single most **ethnically diverse** metro area in the country; residents speak **142** languages.
- Nearly **40 percent** of Houston's population is under **24 years old**. It is an incredibly youthful town, so education is a pressing issue.

Enroll at Houston Baptist University residentially or online today!

P.S. Pickups are as common as yellow cabs in Manhattan. One-fourth of all vehicle sales in Texas are pickups. Texas buys more than any other state – more than California, Florida and Oklahoma combined, and nearly every manufacturer has a special Texas edition!

Wright, Lawrence. "God Save Texas: A Journey into the Soul of the Lone Star State." New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2018.

Visit HBU.edu/Admissions or call 281.649.3211.



DR. STEWART MORRIS, SR.
A Legend and a Gentleman



In the late 1930s, much of what is now covered in buildings and roads was prairie and marshland in Houston. The University of Houston was barely a decade old, and student Stewart Morris, Sr., rode his horse from the family ranch, tying it to a hitching post next door before going to evening classes each weekday dressed in his boots and spurs. In the daytime, he worked in the family business, Stewart Title Company. After work, he would get a ride home before galloping off to school.

Morris was the fifth child of William Carl-ross Morris and Wil-lie Stewart, born in October 1919. Like many families who once lived in Galves-ton, the Morrises had moved further inland after the Category 4 hurricanes that hit the coastal city in 1900 and again in 1915. The family members were de-vout Christians, and at 9 years old, Morris was at First Baptist Church when the preacher gave an invitation to accept Jesus Christ as savior.

“A friend of mine came up to me and said, ‘Why aren’t you going down?’ I said, ‘Well, okay.’ I got a conviction and went down bawling. When they got through praying

and the preacher had everybody stand up and he made the announcement, I remember to this day as I left there I went running because I knew my family was waiting and I felt like I was taking 10-foot leaps. I just felt free. It was really for me a moment of change when I accepted Christ,” he remembers. “After that, they thought I was going to be a preacher – my daddy did. But I told him ‘no’; I was going to work in the family business.”

As a child, Morris began working as the resident “office boy” at age 10, sweeping the floor, running errands, filing papers and delivering coffee. With earnings of \$5 per week, Morris was instructed by his father to give \$1 to church, to save \$1 and to buy his own items such as clothing.

While his parents were strict and had high expectations, Morris kept a cantankerous side. He notoriously adopted a pet leopard named “Spot,” and boarded him in his bedroom to keep family members from traipsing through his personal space. “At work, I went from office boy to head office boy, and then later on I progressed up to where I was posting business transfers,” he said. “There was a man there named ‘French.’ He said, ‘Boy, I don’t know if you





can ever amount to anything. I'll be surprised if you ever made \$300 a month.' I was about 15."

But Morris had drive and a natural way of relating with people that gave him success. He graduated from San Jacinto High School, and at U of H, he was named the class president his sophomore year. His junior year, he adopted a Ford Model A as his mode of transportation and transferred to the University of Texas for his bachelor's degree. Like many in his family, he also pursued a law degree from Southern Methodist University.

It was at SMU that he reconnected with an old friend, Joella Mitchell. "We met at a Baptist camp when she was 10 and I was 13. We had sat on the back of a boat with a watermelon and had a contest between the two of us – who could spit the seed the farthest," he said. "I saw her for the first time in 10 years when she was going to SMU. She was a grown-up, good-looking lady. We started dating."



The year 1943 marked several huge milestones. Morris graduated with his BA, law degree and also with a midshipman's degree from Columbia University. He and Joella married and Morris joined the Navy, all before the year was out. World War II was raging, and Morris was sent to the South Pacific to serve as an officer. "I had one stripe on my sleeve when I reported for duty in San Diego. I got on this ship and it was filthy. There were 120 men living there with no discipline. I took it upon myself to clean up this ship," he said. While he worked to bring discipline and order, Morris put aside his own fears. "I was a scared sailor," he said. "It was the first time I had seen dead men ... in the water. I lost some of my hearing from the canons."

Houston and Business

At the close of the war in 1945, Morris returned home to Houston to again work in the family business. Full of ambition, Morris was determined to expand Stewart Title beyond the region. "I told my dad, 'Why don't I just go to Brownsville and start at the end of Texas, and work up to San Antonio, Fort Worth, Dallas and El Paso.'"

His stint in Brownsville extended when the man who had been hired to run the Stewart office there passed away. Always a learner and a communicator, Morris became proficient in the Spanish he had begun learning in school. As he drove from town to town, establishing business contacts, it became clear to him that flying would be more efficient. Morris took the airlines for a while, but the

service was not expedient. So, he learned a new skill, securing his pilot's license and flying a single-engine Bonanza. As more of Texas was under his belt, Morris began spreading the title business into surrounding states.

He and Joella's three children, Carlotta, Stewart Jr. and Lisa, grew up with horses in what is now the Rivercrest neighborhood. They also raised cattle. Lisa '76, remembers a childhood spent largely outside and in pursuit of adventure. "Dad would fly us and we would go to places that were not really commercialized," she said. "I remember going to places like Cozumel, and we would buzz the runway first to get the animals off the runway and then land."

Morris instilled in his children and employees a forward-thinking ethos, a hunger for excellence and a deep faith in God. When Morris was at the helm of a project, it seemed like there was nothing that would be impossible.

In 1950, the World Wide Pictures team was working to create "Mr. Texas," which evangelist Billy Graham called "the first Christian Western." They were short of funds, and Morris was called upon to help raise \$75,000. "I got the idea of going to the Houston Club," Morris remembers. "I invited 15 people – my brother, mother and 12 others. We had the vice president of the Second National Bank sitting down with us. The actors came in and told the story of the film. I said, 'Each one of you present is going to sign a guarantee of \$5,000 apiece, and we're going to have the bank lend \$75,000. But we're all going to guarantee the note, with an agreement with Billy Graham that at every showing of the film, they'll take up a collection. And then all the money collected goes to the bank to pay back the loan.'"

Starting with his mother and brother, the bright-eyed Morris inspired every contributor in the room to give, and the loan was paid back as promised. Perhaps that experience was just the practice that was needed for an even bigger undertaking.

Beginning in 1952, the Union Baptist Association began asserting the need for a Baptist College in Houston¹. A Special College Committee explored options for making the dream a reality in the bustling city, working with the Education Commission of the Baptist General Convention of Texas. In accordance with the growth pattern of the city, the UBA was glad to learn of a site in Sharpstown.

A 390-acre tract was ultimately offered in return for \$760,000 in cash. It was Houston businessman Jake Kamin's involvement in the project that propelled the idea into action. The committee asked Kamin, the founder of American Mortgage Company, to talk to Morris about being involved on the property committee. Morris now jokes that he would have let Kamin talk as long as he wanted to since Kamin was in the mortgage business and he was in the title business.

Morris joined the effort, ultimately helping secure a loan of \$500,000 after



When Morris was at the helm of a project, it seemed like there was nothing that would be impossible.

-Dr. Stewart Morris, Sr.



L to R: Stewart Morris Jr., Stewart Morris Sr., Carlross Morris and Malcolm Morris in front of the former office of Stewart Title.



Early campus aerial photo

speaking to C.A. Dwyer, business manager at Rice Institute (now University). With such a significant sum secured, the group still needed \$260,000 more. Morris suggested that the Bank of the Southwest lend the remaining funds based upon the personal guaranty that a group of founders would back the loan.

Like he had done with the Billy Graham film, Morris used the same method for raising money for the land. In 1958, the personal notes for \$10,000 by 25 men allowed the UBA to purchase the land. The acquisition of such a significant amount of land in a prime location was nothing short of a miracle. While there were still obstacles to overcome, the sale of portions of the property to entities including Southwest Memorial Hospital (now Memorial Hermann Southwest Hospital) allowed for the payback of the loan.

In his book about the history of HBU, “An Act of Providence,” Dr. Don Looser said of Morris, “His knowledge of the dynamics of the city and of the real estate business, along with his commitment to the realization of a Christian college, made him the gifted leader and advocate the project required.”

HBU Legacy

“The Bible says really simply: ‘It’s more blessed to give than to receive.’”

-Dr. Stewart Morris, Sr.

HBU president, Dr. Robert B. Sloan, calls Morris “indomitable.” He said, “There is no other single person more influential in the founding and earliest history of HBU than Dr. Stewart Morris, Sr. He was involved from the very earliest days, bringing his expertise, hard work, faith, ingenuity, financial creativity and generosity of time and treasure that brought HBU into being. Humanly speaking, we would not be here without him.”

While Morris was heavily involved on the front end of the college formation and in its founding in 1960, his labor of love continued as he helped shepherd matters ranging from founding documents to facility construction decisions.

Looser records some of the bold sacrifices that University founding fathers like Morris made in the early days of the school: “Many of these founders laid aside their personal career and business activities for months at a time to respond to the extraordinary needs of the new college. On many occasions — some recorded and many doubtless unrecorded — trustees personally paid College expenses.”

For Morris, failure was never an option. “If you start something, don’t quit,” he said. “Every life has bumps in the road. That’s what heroes are made of — they just don’t quit.”

Over the years, Stewart and Joella gave in numerous ways. The beautiful Joella and Stewart Morris Cultural Arts Center was dedicated on campus in 2007. They helped bring to life the Museum of Southern History in the Center, and even supported the Morris section of Husky Stadium. In 2018, The Morris Family Center for Law & Liberty was established. In all, Dr. Morris’ lifetime giving to the University is \$25 million, along with countless hours. This fall, a bench with a seated statue in his likeness is being added to the campus. Fittingly, the statue depicts him in his cowboy boots and hat, holding a Bible turned outward.

“What my father taught me when I was 10 years old about giving and saving – I still observe it,” Morris said. “The Bible says really simply: ‘It’s more blessed to give than to receive.’”

Through the years, Morris helped grow Stewart Title into an international powerhouse, with operations in all 50 states and in 40 countries. Still, Morris is the same person he always was. Beside the modest home he has lived in for six decades, Morris keeps a carriage house full of his beloved antique carriages, which he continues to drive with Stewart Jr. The structure, which was once a restaurant in a bygone era, is lined with walls and shelves that are full of memorabilia from past generations and from his own legendary undertakings and accomplishments.

Yet, outside of his family, Morris said he is most proud of his life’s work to make HBU a reality. From the beginning, he wanted to help ensure that HBU was, and would continue to be, a Christian institution where “Jesus Christ is Lord.” He said, “Every staff and faculty member has to accept Jesus Christ and believe the Bible. I was so determined to set and keep that standard.”

When he thinks about the last 99 years of his life, Morris has ready advice for others. “I keep a Bible on my kitchen table where I eat breakfast. I decided the Bible is more current than the Houston Chronicle. The Word of God is alive and powerful,” he said. Morris quotes his favorite passage, Proverbs 3:5-6: “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.”

Reference: Looser, Dr. Don. “An Act of Providence: A History of Houston Baptist University, 1960-2010.” Halcyon Press, 2010.



Dr. Stewart Morris, Sr.

- Was a Navy Officer in World War II
- Served as president and co-chief executive officer of Stewart Title
- Helped secure land and found Houston Baptist College (now University)
- He learned to converse in Spanish
- Got his pilot’s license and logged 6,300 flight hours
- Expanded Stewart Title into all 50 states and 40 countries
- He served for 80 years at Stewart Title
- He is a history aficionado and still drives horses pulling antique carriages
- His lifetime giving to HBU is \$25 million
- He and his late wife, Joella, are the namesakes of the Morris Cultural Arts Center
- Donated 10 of 16 stately columns from the former, 1899 Galveston County Courthouse to the University
- The Morris Family Center for Law & Liberty will be housed in a classroom building modeled after Independence Hall
- A statue in his likeness is being dedicated on HBU’s campus in October 2018
- He has three children, eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren

THE MORRIS FAMILY CENTER



for LAW & LIBERTY FOUNDED





Before friends of HBU, Dr. Stewart Morris, Sr., University founding father, businessman and philanthropist signed an agreement in September in the Joella and Stewart Morris Cultural Arts Center to donate \$10 million through the Joella and Stewart Morris Foundation. The transformational gift establishes the Morris Family Center for Law & Liberty at Houston Baptist University and will allow the construction of a classroom building modeled after Independence Hall in Philadelphia.

As a Navy veteran and a lifelong patriot and entrepreneur, the project is especially close to Dr. Morris' heart. "Values like patriotism, duty and honor may seem old-fashioned, but they are important to the future of our nation," he said. "University students should be taught about our nation's Founding Fathers, and why the principles of liberty, limited government, the rule of law and free enterprise are so important. It is a privilege to give this gift."

HBU president, Dr. Robert B. Sloan, expressed his and the University community's gratitude for such a generous offering. "The impact of this gift will be seen for generations to come in the lives of our students, and therefore in the cultural fabric of Houston, the State of Texas, America, and even in nations around the world," Sloan said.

Dr. Chris Hammons, Center director, said he envisions the Independence Hall model as a place in which classes, seminars, programs and discussions will take place revolving around American history and the Constitution. Hammons presented Dr. Morris with a 1926 certificate from the 150th anniversary of the USA's independence, including a piece of the original, 1733 Independence Hall wood floor.

A daughter of Dr. Morris and the chairman of MFT Interests, Lisa Morris Simon '76 shared how important it is to the family that United States history be remembered and

taught. "My parents were always hysterically historical," she said. "We've been taught to look to history to not repeat the mistakes of the past. And, my dad taught me to always look up first to God before you look ahead."

Stewart Morris, Jr., said the Morris family shared his father's desire that all Americans know about the Constitution and about free enterprise. "We have a real opportunity, but we also have a responsibility to teach the next generation," he said. "I think this is the right thing to do. We want to perpetuate the thought that fed into the miracle of the creation of the American Constitution. It is a document that is still alive and powerful today. We don't want to lose what we have in the greatest nation on Earth. Although there are competing ideas, as the Bible says, 'There's nothing new under the sun.' I very much enjoy the concept of free enterprise; it is the engine for our economy and a key part of the Founding Fathers' principles. After a lot of prayer and discussion, we're excited that now this historic symbol of America will be built on this campus."

Hammons said that, as he got to know Dr. Morris, he learned that Morris would reminisce on the past only briefly before bringing up the future. "What I've discovered is that he's a remarkable man – he loves the Lord, his family and his country," Hammons said. "The quality I've come to most admire in him is that he's always thinking about tomorrow. He'll ask, 'How can we make HBU better?' This project is appropriate to his worldview. This building is about the past, but it's also about tomorrow. On college campuses, we have seen young people tearing down monuments. Here, we want to build something. We want students to take classes in the setting where the Founding Fathers sat. We envision college students, schoolchildren, teachers, lawyers, businessmen and women, educators and others coming to learn here for a long time."



Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is the birthplace of the United States of America. The Declaration of Independence and US Constitution were both debated and signed inside this building.

About Independence Hall

- Construction on the building started in 1732. Built to be the Pennsylvania State House, the building originally housed all three branches of Pennsylvania's colonial government.
- Built in Georgian architecture, Independence Hall has become nothing less than the cradle of our republic.
- The Pennsylvania legislature loaned their assembly room out for the meetings of the Second Continental Congress, and later, the Constitutional Convention.
- Here, George Washington was appointed commander in chief of the Continental Army in 1775.
- Both the Declaration of Independence and the US Constitution were formed inside the structure.
- The universal principles of freedom and democracy espoused in the founding documents laid a foundation for our great nation.
- Independence Hall is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

About the Assembly Room

- The Declaration of Independence and US Constitution were both signed in this historic room.
- Greats including George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, Patrick Henry, John Adams, Samuel Adams and John Hancock walked its floors.
- The room became a symbol of the founding of the nation, displaying the Liberty Bell for a time and original paintings of the Founding Fathers.
- President-elect Abraham Lincoln visited the assembly room and lauded the ideals presented in the Declaration of Independence. Following his assassination, Lincoln's body lay in repose in the room.

**Independence Hall information is courtesy of the US National Park Service.*



The Assembly Room: The Declaration of Independence and US Constitution were

United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice,
insure the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves
and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the
United States of America.

A Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House
of Representatives, chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors
in each of the States.



both signed in this room.



In Congress, July 4, 1776: Declaration of Independence

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen United States of America, When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed...

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America...

United States Constitution

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, ensure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America...

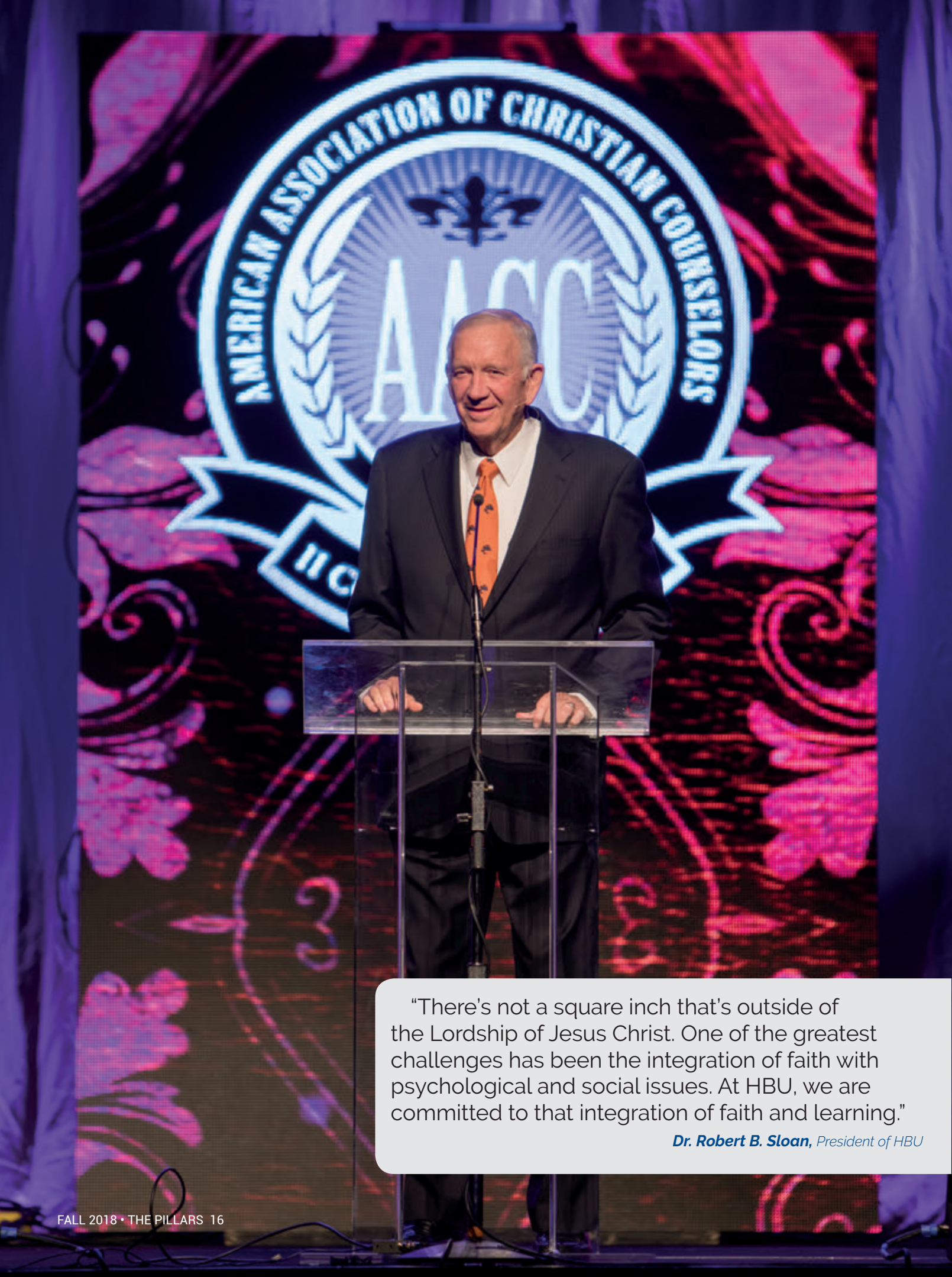
★ Visit HBULaw.org ★

The Morris Family Center for Law & Liberty is dedicated to the promotion of American founding principles, the rule of law, the preservation of liberty and free enterprise. Its mission is

- 1) to educate our fellow Texans about the principles that make America an exceptional nation;
- 2) to train and equip teachers, lawyers and the business community to articulate and defend these principles; and
- 3) to facilitate civil discourse among diverse groups about the political, social and economic implications of a nation truly committed to liberty and justice for all.



SECTION A-A, SHEET 223
FIRST FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 3/8" = 1'-0"



“There's not a square inch that's outside of the Lordship of Jesus Christ. One of the greatest challenges has been the integration of faith with psychological and social issues. At HBU, we are committed to that integration of faith and learning.”

Dr. Robert B. Sloan, President of HBU

The Global Center for Mental Healthcare and Ministry at Houston Baptist University

VISION STATEMENT

The goal of The Global Center for Mental Healthcare and Ministry at Houston Baptist University is to be a world leader providing faith-based, postsecondary and graduate mental health and ministry education and training.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Global Center for Mental Healthcare and Ministry at Houston Baptist University will provide academically sound, clinically excellent and distinctively Christian mental health and ministry education and training worldwide.

Houston Baptist University's esteemed College of Education and Behavioral Sciences has entered into a strategic alliance with the respected American Association of Christian Counselors (AACC) for The Global Center for Mental Healthcare and Ministry at Houston Baptist University.

Students may take classes on campus and via HBU

Online from some of the best mental health educators and experts in the field. Bachelor's, master's and doctoral programs are being offered in the areas of professional counseling, marriage and family therapy, psychology, human services and pastoral counseling. Certificate programs are offered as well. The programs are in line with recent research and standards of care, and are Christian-based.

"Both HBU and the AACC are committed to mental, emotional and spiritual health, and we believe that Christian education is one of the most powerful ways we can contribute to the growing mental health crisis in America."

Dr. Robert B. Sloan, HBU President

"For years I have believed the future in online education belongs to the universities that will build best-of-breed educational curriculum that features classroom instruction with some of the leading mental health educators and experts around the globe. HBU has done just that."

Dr. Tim Clinton, President of the AACC

DISTINCTIVES OF THE CENTER



STRONG REPUTATION

The AACC is recognized as the world's premiere Christian counseling organization. The HBU College of Education and Behavioral Sciences prepares students to perform their God-given calling. Together, these organizations provide an incredible entity in the Center.



CONNECTIONS

Students will learn from some of the most respected mental health leaders and experts in the world.



MEDIA-RICH

Video-based presentations and a rich, digital library of materials provide invaluable guidance for learners.



MEETS & EXCEEDS STANDARDS

Degree courses and programs are developed as needed to meet state, regional and national accreditation programming and licensure standards. Careful attention has been given to help ensure the programs incorporate some of the best in research, practice and care!



CONTINUING EDUCATION

Learning doesn't stop at graduation! Graduates have access to leading-edge seminars, workshops, webinars, professional development and certificate programs.

HBU.edu/MentalHealth

Compelling Need for Mental Health Services



"HBU is serious about having a voice in the mental health space. It's an amazing venture. I'm so delighted and pleased for HBU and the steps they're taking. It's a joy to come alongside them to address mental health needs with Christ-centered care."

Dr. Tim Clinton,
President of the AACC

Residential and Online Programs

In the summer of 2018, the deaths by suicide of designer Kate Spade and celebrity chef Anthony Bourdain shocked America and the world. Both people were accomplished and well-liked, making their deaths even more egregious. Then, the suicide of Andrew Stoecklein, a 30-year-old California pastor, rippled through the Christian community. Again, he was successful and loved. While the circumstances surrounding the tragedies are unique to each person, the undercurrents of mental and emotional health are shared.

According to the National Institute of Mental Health (NIH)¹, warning signs to look for in those who might be considering suicide range from obvious behaviors like speaking of wanting to die, to seemingly benign things like changing eating or sleeping habits. Because personality types self-express in varying ways, it can be difficult to predict the manner in which a person will respond in his or her situation.

While suicide is at the extreme end of the mental health spectrum, its precursor is one of the most common mental disorders in the US² – depression. The intensity of depression can range from person-to-person and can change over time, but its affects are life-altering for sufferers and their loved ones.

Other common mental health issues include post-traumatic stress, anxiety, eating disorders and personality disorders. From mild to severe cases, the NIH estimates that almost 20 percent of US adults deal with some form of mental illness³. Mental health issues affect men, women and youth from all age groups, backgrounds, religions and ethnicities.

Mental health struggles are not unique to this generation or time period, but some of the trappings of modern life have not made them better. People generally must be more intentional to build strong support systems. For example, more people live alone and away from family than in the past, and face a generally more complicated world in which to navigate. Even those with strong families and connections can struggle alone with issues that aren't shared with their loved ones.

Additionally, increased workloads, traffic, financial pressures, violence, the ever-present pull of the 24-hour news cycle and social media-esque opportunities for comparison⁴ all add to the layers of stress that individuals can feel. Added to modern lifestyles are the prevalence of drugs, and the social acceptance of behaviors, ranging from large debt loads to abortion, that lead to further grief and crises.

Dr. Tim Clinton, president of the American Association of Christian Counselors (AACC), said, "As I scan the landscape of everyday life, I see people in a lot of pain. The pace is frantic and the pressure is extraordinary. The antidote to trauma is relationship – vertically with God and horizontally with relationships with others."

The AACC provides Christian-based resources and services for mental health professionals and lay people throughout the

Drives New Center at HBU

world whose calling is to help others. Even devout believers are overwhelmed at times by life's circumstances, troubles or disappointments. While church attendance and Christian fellowship offer the opportunity for healthy connections, spiritual education and social support that people need, psychiatrist Michael R. Lyles said in a Christianity Today column⁵ that a number of his believing patients don't readily find the encouragement they are looking for in church. "Many people of faith are too ashamed, guilty or embarrassed to take the risk of revealing their struggles with mental illness," he said.

Still, Lyles points out that when Christian communities can reach people, they are surprisingly effective. Christian circles are addressing mental health more now than perhaps at any other time. In a survey⁶ conducted by LifeWay Research, in partnership with Focus on the Family, about half of Protestant pastors said they have broached the topic of mental illness with parishioners.

Dr. Robert B. Sloan, HBU president, said HBU's affiliation with the AACC for the new Global Center for Mental Healthcare and Ministry will be helpful to many. "Our strategic alliance is helping HBU to expand our program offerings both residentially and online in these critical healthcare areas," Sloan said.

The Center will prepare practitioners to assist others in a holistic manner, taking into account physical, spiritual, mental, emotional and relational aspects of each situation. While trained professionals can't solve every problem, they do offer an avenue for disclosure and support, and can offer proven guidance for healing and progress.

"We want to train students, not only with good head knowledge, but also with a real heart for God's work. Each person has a soul and is an image-bearer of God," Dr. Steve Warren, vice president of professional development for the AACC said. "People and families are in crisis. We need to do everything we can to help them."

Clinton said, "I really believe HBU could quickly become an epicenter for the church when it comes to mental healthcare and ministry."

If you know someone in crisis, call the toll-free National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255), 24 hours a day, 7 days per week.

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2. "Depression." National Institute of Mental Health Online.
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"I believe mental health is the apologetics issue of our time."

Dr. Jeremiah Johnston,
Founder of the Christian Thinkers Society
(a resident institute of HBU)

An estimated 1.1 billion people worldwide are affected by mental health or substance abuse issues. The need for mental healthcare, social work solutions, medication and financial resources is staggering.

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World-Renowned Scientist Dr. James Tour Remains in Wonder of Creation

Dr. James M. Tour, a synthetic organic chemist, joined the Center for Nanoscale Science and Technology at Rice University in 1999, where he is presently the T. T. and W. F. Chao Professor of Chemistry, Professor of Computer Science, and Professor of Materials Science and NanoEngineering.

Tour's scientific research areas are broad, including medical, mechanical and bioengineering solutions. He has published myriad research articles, developed many patents, and formed several businesses. Tour has received numerous awards for his research, and for his work as a professor. He has served on many boards, consultancy groups, committees and panels, bringing his expertise to each arena. Dr. Tour is married to Shireen; they have four children. A weekly gathering that the Tours host has become a place of discipleship for college students and fellow church members.

Visit JMTour.com.

Rice University's Dr. James Tour sweeps over complex terminology adroitly, explaining the microscopic processes that he has come to know so well. The scientist is especially known for his development of nanocars, a molecule which has garnered attention worldwide.

"A nanocar is a single molecule," he explained. "It has a chassis, axles, wheels and motor. You can park about 50,000 of them across the diameter of a human hair. We make a billion, billion of them at a time." Tour's team recently won a nanocar race in Toulouse, France, beating competition by a longshot. They finished in 90 minutes, while the next team finished five hours later. The rest of the teams did not finish within the 30-hour time limit.

But Dr. Tour's goal is far beyond accomplishing things of mere scientific interest. His research areas include carbon nanovectors for medical applications, green carbon study for environmentally friendly oil and gas extraction, water purification, hydrogen storage and more. He has even developed science curriculum for K-12 students.

One of his most promising studies involves fusion of a separated spinal cord. "We've developed a material

where we can take a split spinal cord of a rodent, put one drop of the material on it, and then put it back together," he said. "In that one drop, there is one percent of graphene nanoribbons. The nanoribbons will align longitudinally with the spinal cord. And then what happens is that the neurons grow from top to bottom, and then from bottom to top. Without the graphene nanoribbons, they just miss each other. So, two weeks after the surgery, the rodent can walk just fine. It scored an 18 out of 21 in mobility, with 21 being perfect mobility. In three weeks, it scored a 19, able to run and do most everything that it was doing. This particular rodent had still a little bit of a curl in one of its paws. But hopefully we'll get better at that."

In John 14:12, Jesus says, "Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father." Tour aims to do just that. "We're working on restoring optic nerves where we could do whole eye transplants – something that's never been done. We already have in our group where we've developed a system that can restore hearing. We want to restore walking. We want to restore seeing. We want to make the lame walk, the blind see and the deaf hear. We want to do the works of Jesus Christ."

With the nanocars specifically, Tour envisions them being utilized in biotechnology. "We have motorized versions, too, where you shine a light on them and they will propel across the surfaces. The motor spins at three million rotations per second. We've now translated these and taken the wheels off them and are using them in solution to drill into cells," he said. "We're using it as a new way to do therapy. We put a peptide on them, which is a small protein. And that will target a specific cell type, and then it goes and it binds to that cell. Then we turn them on, and the motor goes on and drills a hole into the cell. It kills it in about one minute. And so now we're targeting things like pre-melanoma and seeing if we can use it to target specific cancer cells and very rapidly kill them. So, we're moving it more into a medical scenario."

The possibilities of the natural world are only beginning to be tapped into, he said. For Tour, his passion for science is not surpassed by his love of the Maker of it all. Before he became a researcher and professor, Tour was a young man who knew very little about the God of the Bible.

COMING TO FAITH

"I grew up in a very secular Jewish family in the suburbs of New York City. I didn't know the difference between the Old Testament and the New Testament. I had picked up a Bible a few times and tried to read it. It never made any sense as a child. We never talked about God in my home. We went to the synagogue a few times a year. And I think the difference between my home and many other Jewish homes is that we were never taught against Jesus Christ. Most Jewish homes speak poorly of Jesus. And because of that, it's harder to speak to people about Jesus," he said. "So, when somebody told me that he would like to share with me an illustration of the Gospel, and Jesus was then presented, I didn't immediately discount him, because I had never been told anything negative about Jesus. And then when I was deeply convicted by the Scriptures that I was reading, it just really hit me. And I was exposed to my sin for the first time. Modern secular Judaism does not look at sin; it does not consider sin. When I was confronted with my sin, my first realization I had, when I was 18 years old, is that I was a sinner. It really hit me. Then, a few months after realizing that I was a sinner, I prayed and invited Jesus into my life. He lifted that burden of sin from me. It really affected me. Jesus stood in my presence, though I couldn't see Him. I was on my knees. And His presence is so delightful. I wasn't scared. I just couldn't stop weeping. It was so overwhelming. To this day, I remember it very clearly. And He's given His life for me. And He continues to lead me."

While faith must be accepted with an element of trust, it is not so different from many scientific tenets that are taken by faith, Tour said. "A lot of science is inference based upon facts," he said. Tour is truly a student of the Bible. The Scripture God has revealed is precious to him; he has studied it as diligently as he has studied science and molecules.

His typical mornings begin at 3 a.m. "Actually, the first thing I do is I just fall on my knees and I spend 45 minutes in prayer. There are a few things on my prayer list that I pray specifically

for every day. I just look through the list and offer those up to the Lord. Jesus says in John chapter 17, 'I glorified You on Earth by accomplishing the work that You have given me to do.' I say, 'Lord, let me glorify you by accomplishing this day the work that you've given me to do.' And I'll repeat that each morning. And then I pray. I pray for conversions – that I would see people come to the Lord. I say, 'Lord, don't let this week go by without a conversion. Let me see somebody brought to Christ.' And then I pray that He gives me the wisdom like Bezalel had, who constructed the tabernacle across many disciplines. He was skilled in all sorts of matter of bronze, gold, silver, wood and fabrics – very unusual. And he had the ability to teach it. Bezalel creativity: creativity comes from God. Something that is really different – something that someone else in the world doesn't see that you see. And I'll wash up and then read the Bible, spending time and meditation on the Word of God. I pick up where I left off the day before and then also prepare for the Bible study that I teach each week, and read the Scriptures and just say, 'Lord, speak to me through this passage. What do you want me to say?' There's so much that could be said. Our biggest problem in the Scriptures is that we have an embarrassment of riches. 'What shall I say Lord? What shall I bring out? Lord speak to me.'"

LIFE'S WORK

Tour's meditation time on the Word of God is precious, and has borne fruit in his life, as the Holy Spirit brings to the forefront the Scriptures that apply to his situation. When he and his wife, Shireen, had been married for only a few years and Tour was in graduate school, they started a Bible study in their home. Some of their student guests were very casual, putting their shoes on furniture and letting food drop off their plates. A few days after one of the studies, their toddler daughter found a lingering chicken bone behind a couch cushion and put it in her mouth, leading to a scare for her parents.

"The students would come in and they were messy. The chicken bone – that's what really set me off. But the Lord spoke to me. I was praying about this. And God spoke to me through the Scriptures, through Proverbs 14:4. It says, 'Where no oxen are, the manger is clean, but much increase comes by the strength of the ox.' I knew, 'If you want to see the power of God in these people's lives, these student's lives, the manger is going to get dirty.' And so that changed. And I said, 'Forever our home would be open.' So now we have a lot of students in it. But we just paint a lot and replace furniture and shampoo the furniture and things like that."

Also as a young man, Tour made it a priority to invest in his family. Each morning he would wake his children at 5:30 so they could have family devotions together. "I would read through the story of the Bible. We would have portions that we would be memorizing together. Then we would get on our knees and each of us would pray. I'm not a trained Bible teacher, but I taught them. I read to them the Word of God. I did the best I knew how. I wasn't always perfect. A lot of times, I was tired myself."

Tour explains the deep relevance of Scripture in his daily life. "Moses said in Deuteronomy 32, 'This word that I've spoken to you, you are to command your sons carefully to observe. It is not an idle word for you. Indeed, it is your life.' I believe the Scriptures. Every word of God in that book, every word is true. It is never contested. There's never been a contest between the Bible and any scientific fact. There has been controversy between what the Bible says and scientific speculation. But the speculations constantly are changing. There has never been a problem between what the Bible says and a scientific fact. This is my life – the Scriptures. The Scriptures are my life. They speak to me. God speaks to me primarily through the Scriptures. I read them from Genesis chapter 1 to Revelation chapter 22. And then when I'm done, I start again. And I leave off just where I left off the day before every day for the past 40 years. It is my life."

knows. When something dies, it's very hard to even explain what it is you've lost when the cell has stopped functioning. Try to restart that thing – very hard. You don't even know."

The discrimination against people of faith within the scientific community is an ongoing issue, Tour said. "They make it so hard for people to speak up. You take a young assistant professor who is going to speak up boldly about his or her faith – and then you threaten that person, that if you don't follow the party line, you're not going to get into the societies. I mean, it's a frightening thing. You wanted conformity? Okay, you've got it. This is part of why I'm here. We have to fill universities with people who love the Lord and are not afraid to talk about Him. I even understand and I see myself what's happened in the last 20 years with my being here at Rice. Students used to come to me to say, 'Biology professor so-and-so is mocking Christians all the



Drs. Jerry and Cristie Jo Johnston interview Dr. James Tour, a world-renowned scientist, at Rice University.

SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY

Being a devout believer and a leading scientist isn't unheard of, but it's rare. Tour stands strong in the origin of life debate. "When I look at biological systems, and the amazing functionality of a biological system, even if we just take a cell – just a single cell – and you look at the mechanisms within that cell, it is utterly amazing. How can you look at that and just say, 'Oh well, 3.8 billion years ago, under a rock, it just got started up' – that's idiocy. It is amazing to look at that. You don't even have to look at a human being with all of this. You just look at a single cell – a simple cell and the mechanisms within that cell are huge in complexity," he said.

Part of being a good scientist is realizing what is still unknown. And the more Tour has learned and studied, the more he is in wonder of creation. "Take any chemist, any biochemist, any evolutionary biologist, and say, 'I will give you all the components of a cell. I'll give you all the nucleic acids, all the proteins, all the lipids and all the carbohydrates. Could you hook them up in the orders that they need to be hooked up?' The answer is 'no.' But even if I gave them to you in whatever order hooked up that you wanted, could you then put them together in the cell and have the cell operate?' And the answer is 'no.' Anybody who would claim otherwise is a rookie. They really don't know what they're talking about. We have no idea how to get this thing working. And when you put it all together, what is the spark of life that gets the thing running? How do you start this thing? Nobody

time.' Mocking Christians? Why would they want to do that? Have they not enough biology to teach? Why don't they come and mock me? We'll go toe-to-toe. Would you like to put your credentials against mine and tell me how stupid I am? And they can mock me and tell me how silly I am. And we'll put my credentials against theirs. Students don't come and tell me this anymore. I think it's shut the mouths of people."

Although he hasn't been welcomed into all circles, Tour's love of God, people and science has remained intact. "So many mornings, I wake up and feel defeated. I spend time in Scriptures and in prayer, and I come out a roaring lion. Jesus Christ changes lives. He's the Creator of the universe. He was in the beginning before anything was and anything that's been created – He did it. Then He lived this perfect life – this perfect life before us – teaching us what it is to walk with God, to have a relationship with the Father. I shudder to think of what my life would be like without Him. If I had to come to work every day and I were just a regular scientist, it would be terribly boring. I know Jesus Christ is with me. I know the God of the universe who created the heavens and the earth guides me. And the only thing that holds me back is my insufficiency of faith. He does great things and He has great things planned for me. By His grace, we swerve into things. I just trust Him. And I want to glorify Him on earth by accomplishing the work that He's given me to do."



HBU Offering "A Higher Education" through Growing Programs

Houston Baptist University is a national, comprehensive University, with 68 undergraduate and 43 graduate degrees, along with 19 certificate programs.

The Pinky Pampell Online Division, launched in 2017, is reaching students with the same quality education for which HBU is known.

In 17 NCAA Division I sports, Huskies compete at the highest level.

Houston Baptist University is fulfilling its mission of instilling in students a passion for academic, professional and spiritual excellence stemming from our central confession, "Jesus Christ is Lord."

[Learn more at HBU.edu/Majors](http://HBU.edu/Majors) and HBUhuskies.com.

Engineering and MSME Programs Launched this Fall

Houston Baptist University eagerly began four new program offerings after receiving official approval from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).

- The HBU College of Engineering, established in September 2017, specializes in cyber security. Beginning in the 2018-2019 school year, the college enrolls for Bachelor of Science degrees in Cyber Engineering, Computer Science and Electrical Engineering.
- In the Archie W. Dunham College of Business, the Master of Science in Management and Entrepreneurship (MSME) is also offered for the first time this fall. Students gain the tools to launch their ventures in this one-year, flexible program.
- The Master of Arts in Human Services Counseling was launched in the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences. Additionally, the Master of Arts in Counseling degree was altered to now become the Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling.

Ritamarie Tauer, associate provost of HBU Academic Operations and SACSCOC accreditation liaison, said the programs are the culmination of work to create strong curricula that meets a need for students and the market.

[Learn more at HBU.edu/Engineering](http://HBU.edu/Engineering) and HBU.edu/MSME.



New HBU Provost Named

The Houston Baptist University Office of the President is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Michael Rosato to the position of HBU provost and vice president for Academic Affairs.

Dr. Rosato began serving the University in 2015 as associate provost for Academic Affairs. He has also served as the interim and acting vice president for Academic Affairs, and the interim dean of the HBU College of Education and Behavioral Sciences. Dr. Rosato earned an EdD from Indiana University, a MEd from Texas Wesleyan University and a BA from Carson-Newman University.

Dr. Robert B. Sloan, HBU president, said, "As we strengthen and grow our academic offerings both on campus and online, the leadership of Dr. Rosato will be greatly beneficial in continuing to move the University forward in each area."



Veteran and International Student Center Serves Specific Populations

For the first school year, HBU is combining its outreach to veteran and international students in one office. Located on the second floor of the Baugh Center, the Veteran and International Student Center provides resources for HBU students in these specific populations.

Shannon Bedo, director, and Aubrey Aldave, coordinator, work with students from recruitment and enrollment to graduation. At first glance, it seems the two groups are dissimilar, but they have commonalities, Bedo said. "There are so many federal regulations guiding both of them – veteran and international students both have extra needs as far as filing documents with the US government and navigating through the process of applying, registering and succeeding," Bedo said. The assistance doesn't end with their office, but translates across campus, where Bedo and Aldave work with faculty and staff members to ensure that needs and services aren't lost in translation.

Another similarity between the groups is that the students often have different backgrounds and needs than their classmates. Veteran students are typically older than their fellow students, and have different life experiences. Likewise, international students, quantified as those who are at HBU on a non-immigrant visa, have significant adjustments to make in a new environment. The Veteran and International Student Center is especially welcoming, providing a living-room feel where students can study and talk with peers. The office also sponsors the two related student groups. The Husky

Veterans Association is a point of connection for veterans, reservists and family members. The International Student Organization gives students an outlet for forming relationships, and serves as a launching pad for campus events like International Week.

Both groups of students ultimately merge into and add to the greater student body, Aldave said. "Whether they are working toward a bachelor's or graduate degree, military veterans bring a distinct set of skills and experiences to the classroom. Their previous work experience lends context to what they are learning, and I have found that veteran students have a very high level of motivation toward success in their studies. Similarly, international students who come to HBU tend to be responsible go-getters who are eager to make the most of their time at HBU. They bring a diverse, global perspective into the classroom, and are able to participate in conversations differently as a result of their experiences."

Bedo said, "Our vision is to make HBU the most welcoming environment that it can be, both to international students and veterans. We are able to counsel them, not only academically, but spiritually as well. We build those relationships. My number one goal is that they walk away with a relationship with Christ, or are strengthened in their Christian walk. I want the students to love HBU and to be successful for the rest of their lives. It's such a privilege to be able to share the Gospel with the world from my office."

[Visit HBU.edu/Veterans](http://HBU.edu/Veterans) and HBU.edu/International.

The Academy

"A Higher Education for High School"

College Credit • Faith-Based • Classical Methods

The Academy is holding an essay contest for sixth through ninth-grade students from Dec. 15, 2018 to Jan. 15, 2019.

Visit HBUAcademy.com for details!



The Academy at HBU Offers Classical Foundation for

Students in The Academy at HBU get the best of both worlds – a classical, Christian education at the secondary school-level and college credit. In its seventh year, The Academy serves area homeschool families and partner schools. Students learn from faculty on HBU's campus or at partner school locations.

The foundational courses are Great Books I (Composition and Literature I: The Ancients), Great Books II (Western Civilization), Great Books III (Introduction to Philosophy) and Great Books IV (Modern Composition and Literature II: The Moderns). Also offered during select semesters are Spanish I, US History to 1877, US History from 1877, and a junior high, not-for-credit Introduction to Great Books. The Academy follows the Oxbridge education model, which combines the Socratic method of discussion with dynamic lectures and time-tested literary classics.

Academy Director Julianna Leachman describes the great books approach as learning from the pieces that are – ideally – shared cultural knowledge, such as the ideas of philosophers and authors like Plato and Homer. "The staples of Western thought are applicable to all majors and career paths," Leachman said. "We're teaching

students how to wrestle with questions that don't have clear answers, and to be okay with that tension."

Classes on HBU's campus are offered between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. for commuting ease. A special perk for families is the head start on college credit with a reduced cost – The Academy classes are one-third of HBU's regular tuition. The Academy classes also allow more time than regular college classes. Each three-credit class is spread over two semesters. Younger students who come to HBU's campus have their own class group, while high school juniors and seniors may take courses with other high school students or with the general HBU population. The dual credit option and the reduced tuition extend to Academy students who enroll in general University class offerings as well. For upper-level high school students, the general population classes greatly expand options for dual enrollment. The most popular classes for high-schoolers include math, science and government courses.

"We don't compromise the rigor of the college classroom for the high schoolers," Leachman said. "We teach them what it means to be a college student. They gain strategies for research, time management and study

For information, visit
HBUacademy.com or call
281-649-3214.



Eighth-Graders and High School Students

skills. Best of all, we have dedicated Christian faculty who teach from a biblical viewpoint."

Student Gabrielle Thomason describes The Academy as "exciting and challenging." She said, "My experience has been one of personal and intellectual growth, through which I have become a more confident student. It is also a wonderful transition between a high school and college education. Each class is a real college course, just at a more manageable and personable level specifically for high school students. We also have the benefit of experiencing college life. I think The Academy prepares the up-and-coming college student better than any college preparatory school because it is college."

Toni and Steven Thomason, Gabrielle's mother and father, added, "After much research and prayer, we selected the perfect fit - The Academy at Houston Baptist University. During her time at The Academy, we have been truly pleased with the academic excellence and college environment. Our daughter has flourished as a student as a result of the high expectations and encouragement of her professors, along with the small classroom setting. Meanwhile, she is gaining college

credit hours that will be utilized wherever she ultimately matriculates."

A number of Academy students find HBU and its professors to be such a good fit that they come back after graduating from high school. Students who have been through The Academy receive automatic acceptance into the HBU Honors College with a recommendation from a faculty member.

Sebastian Calderon is one of those students who is continuing his studies at HBU this fall. "The experience I had over the five years I spent at The Academy had a huge impact on who I am as a student today," he said. "In addition to the wonderful faculty, my peers and I had thorough discussions, which made me want to have a deeper understanding of the texts. I'm choosing to continue my studies at HBU because I truly fell in love with everything about the school."

There are about 100 students enrolled in The Academy at any time. "There is a huge homeschool community in the area," Leachman said. "From a classical, Christian perspective, you can't find what we offer anywhere else in Houston right now."

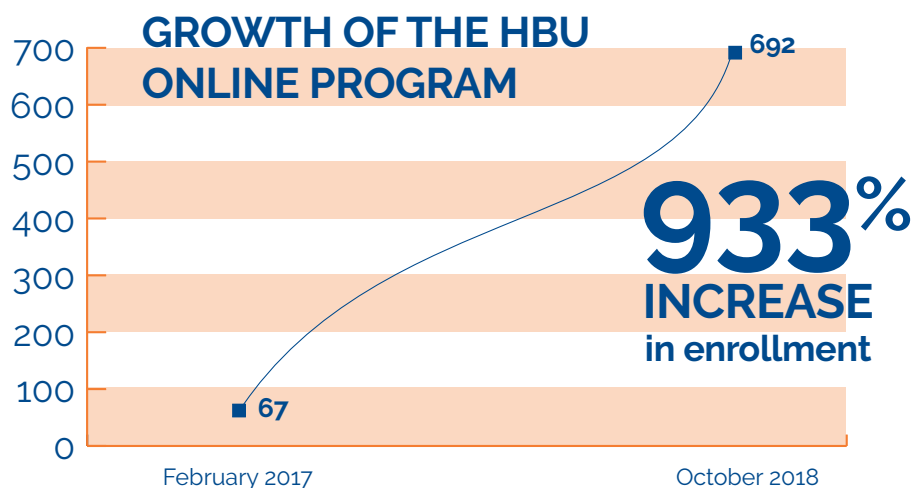
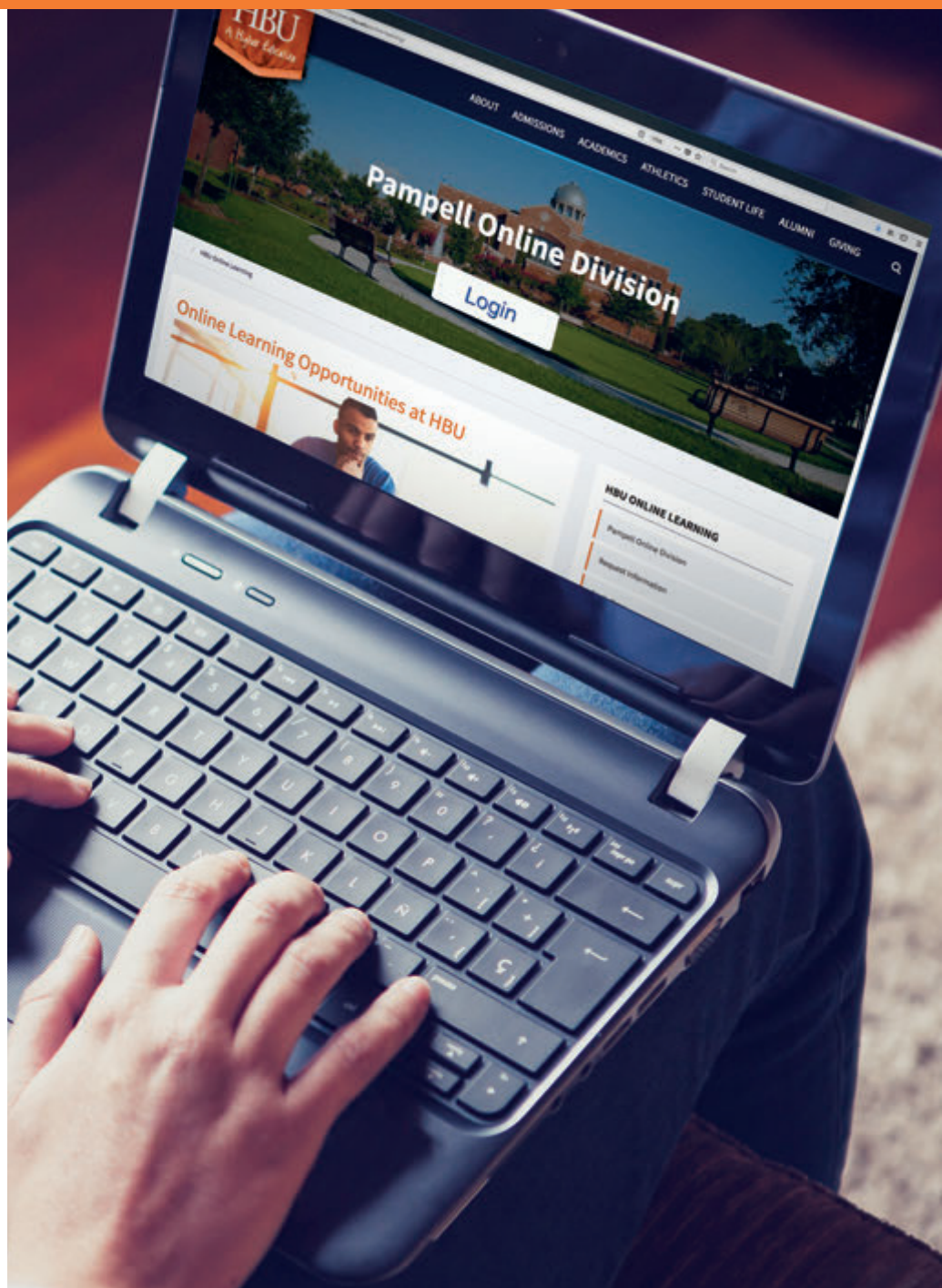
Pampell Online Division Reaches 692 Students

The Houston Baptist University Pampell Online Division has reached and surpassed 500 students enrolled after one academic year. Launched in February 2017, the online education branch was an initiative to serve students with greater access to the quality undergraduate and graduate programs for which HBU is known. There are 24 online programs of study encompassing healthcare, business, education, theology, human resources and behavioral sciences. The online venue helps pave the way to students' goals in Houston and around the world. Small class sizes, a high level of interaction with professors, flexible scheduling and affordability have been winning factors for students.

University president, Dr. Robert B. Sloan, said, "This is a significant milestone for HBU and our online programs. We will always have the residential experience at the heart of the University, but the cost of higher education in today's market and the importance of the digital delivery of the university experience are realities that encourage and motivate our expansion in these fast-changing professional and academic areas."

Dr. Steve Peterson, HBU vice president for Online/Digital Learning, said, "Students can now fit HBU into their schedule versus the other way around. Both our customer service and our educational offerings are tailored for ideal student outcomes. We're committed to helping learners succeed academically and professionally."

[Visit HBUonline.com](http://HBUonline.com) to learn more.



HBU Online Partners with Alpha Omega Academy and Alpha Omega Publications

The Houston Baptist University Pampell Online Division is pleased to announce a partnership with Alpha Omega Academy (AOA) and Alpha Omega Publications (AOP) as the preferred university partner for high school students who wish to earn college credit in high school.

Alpha Omega Academy is a private, online, K-12, internationally accredited institution offering students an individualized learning plan based upon each student's goals, academic standing and style of learning. Alpha Omega Publications is a leading Christian homeschooling curriculum publisher that offers print-based, computer-based and online homeschooling curriculum formats to families around the globe. Eligible AOA and AOP high school juniors and seniors may enroll in select online college courses offered through the HBU Pampell Online Division and earn both high school credit and college credit.

Josh Rose, executive director of Alpha Omega Academy, said, "AOA is committed to expanding excellent Christian education options for our families and helping them manage the rising costs of education. Our partnership with HBU is a great example of this commitment."

Students who desire to further their education at HBU once they graduate high school will also be eligible to receive special scholarships that will reduce their tuition, room and board as a result of the HBU partnership.

Dr. Jay Spencer, associate vice president of the HBU Pampell Online Division Operations, said, "We are pleased to be able to offer Alpha Omega students our academic, faith-based and flexible programs of study. Dual credit courses are an excellent opportunity for families to save time and money on future college costs."



WHY SHOULD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TAKE DUAL ENROLLMENT CLASSES?

SAVE MONEY: Families can make their college dollars go further by using their 529 Savings Plan on dual enrollment tuition.

SAVE TIME: The flexibility and convenience of online courses with the HBU Dual Enrollment program is ideal. The majority of courses are offered in eight-week terms, six times per year (two terms for each Fall, Spring and Summer semester). Since all of the courses are offered online, students can study and complete assignments whenever and wherever they choose.

EASE OF TRANSFER: Since HBU is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), credits are easily transferable. HBU is nationally ranked in several areas, and is listed as one of the 25 best colleges for homeschool graduates!

A PERSONAL ACADEMIC ADVISOR: Students will be assigned an academic advisor who will offer guidance from enrollment to completion.

TAKE THE NEXT STEP: *Applicants and families may call 855-HBU-1960 (855-428-1960) to speak with an admissions counselor.*

Learning with Faith: A Complete Education

Like many young adults, Karla Iglesias of Sugar Land looked to time in college as a chance to explore her freedom and test the limits she had previously known. After graduating from a college preparatory school, Iglesias went to a state university where she studied business and advertising. It became easier to let go of responsibilities as her Christian standards took a slide.

"I had always looked forward to living on my own and being with friends. I was very focused on pursuing a college experience," she said "I definitely had a decline in my spiritual life. I was living between two worlds. I got into the party scene and involved in smoking marijuana. My GPA went from a 3.4 to a 1.27."

Iglesias realized that she couldn't continue on the same trajectory. "I was going to a small church. One day I talked to a pastor. I said, 'I'm having this issue where I don't feel convicted.' I opened up about what was going on in my life," she said. "He gave me a word of encouragement. That act of confession and the result was unbelievable. Later, by myself, the Lord's presence was so heavy in my room. I said, 'If you want me to change, if you want me to do something different, take over.' I felt Him giving me the strength I needed."

After that, Iglesias quit the old habits. She started to read her Bible again and told her parents what had been going on. Her symptoms were just a sign of the need that she and her peers were experiencing, she says. "It's crazy to see how hungry everyone is for God. They don't know what they're hungry for, but they know they need something," she said.

Iglesias decided to return home to help with the family business and finish college in an environment that would nurture her faith. "I think

everything with HBU just kind of clicked; I got a grant and it felt right here," she said. "I remember one of my professors, Jesse GrothOlson, sat next to me and helped me register for all of my classes. I had never had that kind of caring at school before. There is such a peace about this campus."

AT HBU, Iglesias majors in Mass Media with a minor in Marketing. She cherishes weekly convocation (chapel services), praying in class and open dialogue about faith. She's had more hands-on learning opportunities than

ever, including an internship with a local radio station and a large-scale marketing project. She even served as a writer and editor in a new student magazine, Satellite. During a project with a local advertising company, she was offered a job on the spot.

"It's wonderful. The people at HBU have been the main reason that these opportunities have opened up. I haven't experienced the support that I've had here elsewhere," Iglesias said. "I think the small classes have something to do with it. And the professors are so kind; they see all of their classes as an opportunity to help us. The staff are so approachable and helpful too."

The college experience is much better this time around, with much to be proud of and nothing to hide. "For peers, I think you really have to keep yourself busy with good things. If your spirit is strong, it can fight off the temptations that you have. If you neglect it, it's easier to give in. Feed your spirit, have a positive community at church, good friends you can trust, and be open with your family if you can," she said. "I think with the academics and the spiritual side, you get the best of both worlds here at HBU. Things have fallen into place for me."

Visit HBU.edu/Admissions to learn more.



"The people at HBU have been the main reason that these opportunities have opened up. I haven't experienced the support that I've had here elsewhere."

-Karla Iglesias



Cohorts Make Graduate Programs Accessible to Area Educators

School districts and schools are particularly interested in growing their own for leadership, making sure the best teachers are able to advance to become assistant principals, principals and more as they are ready.

The HBU College of Education and Behavioral Sciences has partnered with area school districts, Houston ISD, Cy-Fair ISD, Katy ISD, Fort Bend ISD, Spring ISD and Aldine ISD, as well as River Oaks Baptist School, to provide graduate-level education classes on-site at school locations that are convenient to learners.

Students are earning their Master of Education in Educational Administration (and Educational Diagnostician Certification in Katy ISD). While HBU serves many school districts and schools with its on-campus and online programs, the cohorts provide a unique opportunity for students to take classes near them.

For example, this year, Spring ISD gave a Principal Preparation Grant to 10 staff members, awarding them \$10,000 each to be part of the HBU MEd cohort. This cohort has 36 students enrolled who are earning their Master's in Educational Administration and completing Texas requirements to qualify for Principal Certification.

HBU offers a tuition discount for those enrolled in the cohorts. Dr. Julie Fernandez, dean of the HBU College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, said, "Every child deserves a great teacher and a great school. What we provide are teachers, counselors, principals, specialists and diagnosticians who are not only focused on children's academic success, but their entire well-being."



"What we provide are teachers, counselors, principals, specialists and diagnosticians who are not only focused on children's academic success, but their entire well-being."

-Dr. Julie Fernandez
Dean of the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences

Visit [HBU.edu/Education](https://www.hbu.edu/education) to learn more.





Summer Launch Offers Exciting Beginning for Incoming Freshmen

HBU Academic Success Center's Summer Launch is a mixture between summer camp and boot camp, helping orient incoming freshmen to the work and fun that college life offers. About a month before school starts, new Huskies are invited to a week on campus in which they stay in dorms as first-time University students. The days are chock-full of peer mentoring, academic workshops led by faculty and staff, as well as games and outings. It's all designed to launch students into a successful freshman year and beyond.

Summer Launch began four years ago as an outreach to students identified as especially needing the boost. In 2017, the program extended to all freshmen. Sophomore Emily Hernandez attended Summer Launch that year. The Sugar Land native wanted to stay close to home and go to a faith-oriented school; her high school counselor mentioned HBU and she never looked back. "I didn't know what to expect, but Summer Launch was a great experience," she said. "I built so many friendships and learned so much."

This year, Hernandez was back, this time as one of 10 student mentors who each worked with a group of about five students. "I believe that Summer Launch really shaped me," she said. "I wanted to give that same experience back."

Sergio Rivera was one of the new students who participated in activities ranging from capture the flag to time management training. "This week you get to know a lot of people," he said. "I really like a small school, and the attention that students receive is personalized academically, spiritually and socially. I'm going to be in the Honors College and the part that has me most excited is the challenge."

This fall, Summer Launch introduced a brand-new program that provides launchers the opportunity to continue their bridge relationships by enrolling in IMPACT, which stands for Innovative Mentoring Program Achieving College Transformation. IMPACT is a yearlong mentoring program designed for students who want inspiration and guidance. It is for students who are especially focused on their academics, and was developed to help them be more confident about continuing their education, applying for scholarships and accomplishing their goals.

"We are thrilled to see Summer Launch continuing to be innovative and growing to meet our students' needs through IMPACT, in partnership with the First-Year Success team," said Margaret Humphreys, director of the ASC.

Student mentor Raven Towns, who is mentoring for the second consecutive year, said Summer Launch teaches students how to implement study skills, plan around a syllabus, access resources and more. "The way I guide students is by answering any questions with the help and tips they need," she said. "HBU has become a second home to me. Everyone is so nice and caring. They want you to succeed, and they give you the tools and resources that help you build your own path to being successful."

[Visit HBU.edu/ASC](https://www.hbu.edu/asc) to learn more.



Office of Career and Calling Helps Students Take the

What do you want to be when you grow up?" It's a question that youth ponder long before they become college students. The query is answered not in one step, but in many, through occupation exploration, experiences along the way, the declaration of a college major and minor, as well as presented opportunities.

Like many college students, HBU senior Zachary Louder had a general idea of what he wanted to do in a future job. He was drawn to business, so he decided upon a management major. A professor noticed that Louder had the aptitude to excel in accounting, and steered him to specialize in that area. The new major was a natural fit, but Louder needed more guidance to put the career puzzle together.

His junior year, he stopped by the HBU Office of Career and Calling, located on the first floor of the Hinton Center. The office helps students determine their paths through testing, coaching and training. Staff members are Certified Professional Resume Writers, and assimilate students' experiences into appealing presentations. The office offers classes and seminars, mock interviews, career fairs and networking events, and a myriad of connections and resources which students can tap into.

"They helped me build my resume and taught me how to do it properly. They helped select a business card for me. I took a business etiquette course, went to a financial seminar, and I listened to a professions panel too," Louder said. His extra effort paid off, and at the recommendation of Debra Bell, HBU coordinator of Student Work-Study and Internships, Louder was selected by The Maven Food Service Group for an accounting internship in the summer of 2017.

"It was a big learning experience going from theory

to actually putting accounting concepts into practice. Things started to make sense," Louder said. The company extended his internship past the summer, and by that November, they offered him a full-time position. As an accounting specialist, he handles accounts payable and receivable, journal entries and reconciliation of accounts. Louder is balancing his schoolwork and career work, and will graduate with his bachelor's degree in December.

"My employers were extremely happy that they chose a student from HBU," Louder said. "One of the reasons is the level of education; the HBU curriculum goes more in-depth. Also, coming from HBU, it's expected that we have higher morals and standards. They've said they love having me there."

Louder never dreamed he would have a professional position a year before graduating from college. He said the Office of Career and Calling helped unlock his potential. "They've done a lot – above and beyond. Ms. Debra went to bat for me. I was very blessed to have them," he said.

Whether a student is required to complete an internship for his or her major or not, it's always an excellent idea, Aaron Swarts, assistant director of the Office of Career & Calling, said. "It helps students determine if the major they're pursuing and the career path they've chosen will be a good fit," he said. "It's the answer to the circular argument: 'How do you get a job without experience? How do you get experience without a job?'"

Bell and Swarts cultivate relationships with area companies and organizations for the HBU Community Internship Program. They organize the Career Insiders Series, a set of workshops that prepare students for job searching, networking, negotiating and more. There are multiple ways for students to move forward in the pursuit of their goals – from joining professional organizations to



Next Step

working on campus, to even interviewing with companies who visit campus.

The office's partnerships span from employers to professors to the 2018 Co-Partners of the Year, Dress for Success and Career Gear. The two organizations provide young women and men with the clothing they need to make their best impression. Both organizations were recently involved in HBU's Dining for Success Fashion Show.

An important point for students to know is that it's never too early to visit the Office of Career and Calling, Swarts said. "Careers may not be the first thing on students' minds as freshmen, but planning ahead is in their best interest," he said. "See what resources we offer. Don't be that senior who regrets that they didn't see us earlier."

Even if students aren't ready to enter into an internship or job yet, it's important to establish new friends and business contacts, Bell said. "It's good practice to go to a career fair and give an 'elevator speech.' Freshmen should build relationships now," she said. "A career fair is a great way to do that." When employers complete a survey at the end of career fairs hosted by HBU, they often say they wish there were more students in attendance, but they say they'll be back, Bell noted. "They have come to expect quality over quantity," she said. "One of the best pieces of feedback we get from employers is that they get a more polished and confident candidate through our program," Swarts said.

The work of the office is really a ministry to students, many of whom have a mix of apprehension and excitement as they peer into their future. The faith basis of the University allows students to truly explore their career and calling, as the department name connotes. Bell is even a licensed minister with experience in corporate career services. Swarts taught professional and career development at the college level before taking on his current role. They have adopted Isaiah 30:21 as the department's theme verse: "Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, 'This is the way; walk in it.'"

Swarts said, "I hope we can reach even more students. Students and alumni are welcome to come here at any point. I think HBU students bring a level of professionalism and integrity to the workplace. Any role we can play in transitioning people to their jobs, we want to do that."





Retired Air Force Chaplain Shares his Love for God and People

Ret. Col. Newton Cole was a Hallmark Award recipient at the 2018 Spirit of HBU Awards, and has been named an honorary HBU alumnus. He established the Linda & Col. Newton Cole Endowed Scholarship for the School Christian of Thought through an outright gift, and has since added to the scholarship fund through gifts of property and a bequest.

Ret. Col. Newton Cole, a US Air Force chaplain for 36 years, has more than a few stories to tell at 90 years old. He enrolled in Texas A&M at age 15 in 1944, and graduated at 18. Sensing a call for ministry on his life, he then went to Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. At the same time, he was asked to pastor Rock Prairie Baptist Church in College Station.

"I got a knock on my door, and there were two men standing there. One said, 'Are you Mr. Cole? We hear you're gonna make a preacher. We need a preacher Sunday; could you preach for us?' I told them I only had one sermon, but I went," Cole said. "We hit it off quite well, and they said, 'We'd like for you to come back Sunday.' I didn't have a second sermon but they said, 'Maybe you can come up with one.'"

That began Cole's role as a minister at 18. He learned to drive a 1934 Oldsmobile so he could make the trek from Fort Worth to College Station and back each weekend. Then, in 1951, he joined the Air Force and began serving as a chaplain. Throughout his career, he was stationed in 25 different places, including a tour in Vietnam.

Throughout his life, Cole has seen God's faithfulness, guidance and protection. Like he did in college, he became involved in a part-time pastorate – this time in Tincup, Colorado for about 30 years. Both his first wife, Sue, and his second wife, Linda, are deceased, and he has three children, seven grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren.

With a desire to help the next generation of pastors and church leaders, he established scholarships at Southwestern and at Baylor University. Living in Houston, Cole was introduced to Houston Baptist University, and was quickly taken with the University's mission.

"My father was one of nine children. He was the first in his family and the only one to get a college degree. He talked education from the time I was born. I don't think any of us ever thought of anything else other than getting a higher education," Cole said. "What I like about HBU is that, not only is it a great institution of learning, it's a great Christian school."

Inspired to give, Cole donated a 1576 Geneva Bible to the Dunham Bible Museum and established the Linda & Col. Newton Cole Endowed Scholarship for the School Christian of Thought. Since the scholarship was established, he has added to it far beyond his humble acknowledgement. "I really have taken my faith seriously all my life, and I never had a lot of money, but I've been able to sell some property and been able to invest it," he said. "I count it a real blessing to be able to help the school. I like the diversity, the quality of people they have here and how much they love the school and how much they love the Lord."

Cole's investments in students are an ongoing blessing. "I love the really strong Christian emphasis at HBU. I think that's so badly needed today," he said.

[Visit HBU.edu/Giving](http://HBU.edu/Giving) to learn more.





DOLAN FAMILY ESTABLISHES **GARRETT DOLAN** ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

The number “40” is significant for Brett and Cathy Dolan. Their eldest son, Jared, was number 40 as a standout football player for Barbers Hill High School. Then, as a linebacker for McNeese State University from 2003 to 2007, he wore the number again. Younger brother Garrett Dolan followed in his older brother’s footsteps by donning the number in the same high school as well, also becoming a talented player and graduating in 2013. When Garrett entered Houston Baptist University to help start the new football program as a linebacker that fall, he chose to be number 40 once again.

Tragically, Garrett passed away in May 2018, one week before graduating from HBU with a Business Administration degree. During his time as a Husky, Dolan was a major contributor on the inaugural football team.

He is one of the “Original 13” in the football program, serving as a three-time captain, being defensive player of the year for four seasons, and twice receiving the HBU Athletics Robbie Robertson Male Athlete of the Year designation. He was a two-time All-American, a four-time All-Southland Conference selection, and at 467 tackles, he ranks seventh in career tackles all-time in the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS).

Now, the Dolan family is honoring Garrett in a special way. They have established the Garrett Dolan Endowed Scholarship at HBU, which will benefit deserving recipients in the football program. They’ve founded The 40 Foundation, which is a nonprofit organization that will support the HBU scholarship and a planned future scholarship at Barbers Hill High School.

“We wanted to give back to the University that did so



much for Garrett," Cathy said. "We wanted to keep the '40' number going, so that's why the initial donation of \$40 thousand was made, and why the number was used in the naming of the Foundation. We wanted other young men to have the same opportunities that Garrett did, and the same experience. It was just an awesome time for Garrett there – from the classroom to the football field."

The family shared their reflections about Garrett's talents and the ways in which he was a remarkable young man. "Garrett loved football," Brett said. "He started out watching his older brother play football – going to the games as a young boy. As he got older and got involved in football, and with Jared's guidance, he realized it was something he loved to do. He loved the contact, the sport, the camaraderie. By the time he reached high school, he just really decided to commit and give it everything he had. He would have liked to play at the next level – the NFL – that was his ultimate goal."

Jared said HBU and the football program felt like home right away for Garrett. "HBU seemed very welcoming – from the recruiting visits, to practices, games and events on campus. He had some interest from other schools but he was excited to be able to build something from

the ground up," he said. "He started his first game at 18 years old against the number one team at that time – Sam Houston State. He always succeeded, and we got to see him play on a much bigger stage, and at an earlier age, than players typically do. It was fun to watch."

Although Garrett didn't vie for the spotlight, it seemed to find him naturally. Even as a young player, he was looked

to as a leader, and came through under pressure. Football staff members including Head Coach Vic Shealy, Drew O'Daniel, Shannon Kelley, Charlie Camp, Scott Smith, Burl Jordan, Kendrick Kitchens, Roger Hinshaw, Brent Veiselmeyer and several others who have left the program all contributed to Garrett's experience and success. Most became dear friends of the Dolan family.

Defensive teammate and roommate, Cody Moncure, along with his family, developed into one

of the best relationships for Garrett and the family at HBU. "Cody and Garrett were the best of friends from the summer of 2013, and they wouldn't have had it any other way," Cathy said.

Seeing Garrett play under the stadium lights in Houston was a win for the whole family. "We felt very fortunate from day one that Garrett got to play in Houston in a conference





that we were really familiar with," Brett said. "Being a Christian university with the coaches they have, and the background and history of HBU, we were blessed. He had high-caliber, high-character coaches. The more we got involved and met Dr. Sloan (HBU president) and Steve Moniaci (HBU athletics director) and some of the other administrators, it just kept getting better." Cathy added, "Coach Shealy, and his wife Holly, were like parental figures to him there. He respected them tremendously."

Jared's wife, Ashley, said going to the games was a family affair. "We had a toddler wearing his jersey and cheering for him: 'Go, Uncle G!' Our son would light up. '40' was our number," she said. "He was such a talented young man. We are so proud of him."

The admiration was reciprocal. "Little Luke was very special to Uncle G also," Cathy said. "When Garrett found out that Jared and Ashley were expecting, he was so happy and emotional. He loved hearing Luke call him 'Uncle G.' Theirs was a special bond."

While Garrett's success elevated the status of HBU's program, the benefit was mutual, Brett said. "We have discussed how fortunate it was that Garrett got to play in Houston and have the exposure," he said. "Without that opportunity, who's to say how much recognition he would have gotten or awards he would have received."

In addition to the benefits of athletics, the Dolans were pleased with Garrett's educational experience. "He enjoyed a lot of the professors and would talk about how

fun their classes were," Cathy said. Garrett was beloved by many across campus for his caring nature. "He was a beast on the field, but he had a soft and kind heart," she said.

After Garrett's death, the University leadership and coaches were supportive, coming together for a touching memorial service and honoring the family when Jared received his brother's diploma at graduation. "The relationships with the coaches and the others have been really special to me," Brett said. "Before this tragedy, I was trying to piece together in my mind something to write to the administration and coaches about how much the University has meant to the Dolan family. I wanted to convey the appreciation and admiration I felt."

When people hear the name Garrett Dolan, they should think of the person many admired. "No matter who got the award or made the play, he always celebrated them; he took the time to seek people out and speak to them," Brett said. "I would like for future players and scholarship recipients to model his commitment to the University, to teammates and to the football team. When they see his picture, I want them to think about attacking the field, as well as life, with the same intensity. Most importantly, we want them to make a difference."

You may contribute to the Garrett Dolan Endowed Scholarship at [HBU.edu/DolanScholarship](https://www.hbu.edu/DolanScholarship).

Learn more about The 40 Foundation and contribute at [The40Foundation.com](https://www.The40Foundation.com).



Recent Major Gifts to the University

The HBU College of Engineering is grateful to accept a **\$2.5 million** major gift from **The Cullen Trust for Higher Education**. The funding supports the Trust's goal of bolstering higher education programs that boost the community members of Houston and the area. Funds will go toward recruiting and hiring faculty members and students, and equipping laboratories with resources. To date, the College has received a total of \$3,714,230.

The HBU School of Nursing and Allied Health is thankful to accept a gift from the **John S. Dunn Foundation** in the amount of **\$200,000**, which will fund scholarships for undergraduate and graduate nursing students. The award brings total support from the John S. Dunn Foundation to \$2.3 million. The new funds will be utilized to support 10 undergraduate and 11 graduate scholarships. The new scholarships, combined with Dunn Endowed Scholarships, provide 29 nursing students with scholarships in the fall of 2018.

The HBU College of Engineering is delighted to accept a major gift from **The William Stamps Farish Fund** in the amount of **\$750,000** to support its Cyber Security programs. The award will be distributed over three years, and will support the development costs of hiring new faculty members, purchasing equipment, and generally supporting the program during its initial years.

Houston Baptist University offers gratitude to the **Hamill Foundation** for an award of **\$150,000**, which will strategically benefit undergraduate and graduate students across the University. The gift will be split in thirds between

- 1) The Hamill Scholars program, which supports undergraduate students in a number of fields of study,
- 2) scholarships for undergraduate and graduate Allied Health majors in the HBU School of Nursing and Allied Health, and
- 3) the HBU Academic Success Center.

90% of Incoming HBU Students Receive Financial Aid



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This information is not intended as tax, legal or financial advice. Gift results may vary. Consult your personal financial advisor for information specific to your situation.



The Ober family

The Story Had a Place to Go: HBU Alumni Bring Classical Education to Houston Families

By Patti Hinze, advisory board member for Trinity Classical School

In January 2009, HBU alumna Olivia Ober '98 was walking the halls of the NICU. Her 3-year-old son, Joshua, was gravely ill, and had been in and out of the hospital since birth. While Ober walked, she did not allow herself to be overcome with despair over Joshua's future. Instead, she thought about curriculum. She educated herself on the fundamentals of the Trivium. She wrote a handbook. She had hope that Joshua was going to get better and finally go home. She had hope that there was a way to educate her children that would allow her family to spend as much time together as possible. Ober and her husband, Eric, along with three other like-minded families, had decided to start a school.

Trinity Classical School began that fall with 22 students, including the Obers' two daughters, Elizabeth and Rebekah. The founding families had three priorities: that their school be Christ-centered, classical and collaborative. Today, students are taught by campus

teachers on Mondays and Wednesdays, and at home by their parents on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. This hybrid model appealed to the Obers because it meant having flexibility to treasure more time together as a family, while working around Joshua's frequent hospital stays. Ober says, "Having a medically dependent, terminally ill child makes you realize you don't want to miss anything. I wanted to play a significant part in their education, but I didn't want

to be solely responsible. I didn't want to plan; I wanted to spend my time teaching and being with my kids." This time became even more valuable when the Obers adopted a sibling group in 2011, and Hannah, Isaiah, Leah and Eli joined their family.

The distinctive Christ-centeredness of Trinity Classical School was also important to the Obers. Olivia, who played volleyball at HBU and earned a dual degree in Christianity and Business Management, had several professors who encouraged her in her



Neil Anderson, MLA '17, head of Trinity Classical School, works with students.

faith, while challenging her academically. She confesses that the classical distinctive of Trinity Classical School was not initially important to her. She had a lightbulb moment when, early in their first year, her daughter was reading about Julius Caesar. She looked up from her book and said, excitedly, "Julius Caesar! He's going to be assassinated by senators in 44 BC!" The timeline she had been memorizing was no longer just a series of facts. "The story had a place to go," says Ober.

The classical model is based on the Trivium, the ancient mode of educating children following a pattern of grammar, logic and rhetoric. The grammar phase generally coincides with the elementary grades, and takes advantage of a young child's mind to absorb great quantities of information. These years are characterized by the memorization of facts and rules — the building blocks. The logic years, which coincide with the middle grades, focus on critical thinking about the learned facts. Students are encouraged to ask, "Why?" and to formulate well-reasoned arguments. The rhetoric stage is the culmination. Students have the facts, they can think about them critically, and they then learn to use these tools to write and speak with originality, clarity and skill.

In its second year, Trinity Classical School hired a head of school. Neil Anderson, MLA '17, and his wife, Marian, had been seeking a different path for educating their four children, Antonella, Jeremiah, Samuel and Augustine. Anderson remembers, "We were interested in ancient paths of wisdom. We were interested in the great books. We were interested in pedagogies that all the thinkers we admired had gone through. We began to embrace a view of education as the pursuit of godly wisdom and virtue. We wanted the human flourishing vision of the liberal arts, even though we didn't quite have that language at the time."

While serving as head of school, Anderson completed his MLA at HBU in 2017. He says, "I believe classical schools need school heads who don't just love the idea of what goes on in their classrooms, but who also embody and practice those ideals because they love them." He mentions that Dr. Robert B. Sloan, HBU president, is a role model. "His talks on organizational leadership were infused with spontaneous references to figures, storylines and ideas from the classics. It seems organic — not filled with pose and pretense. I want to be like that when I grow up."

Anderson says his coursework at HBU only deepened his love for the liberal arts tradition. "Dr. Gordon revived a passion for scientific thinking, and helped a non-scientist to remember that scientific investigation cannot be separated from the study of the history of ideas. Dr. Davis gave me Erasmus, a thinker I most likely would never have exposed myself to, and I would have missed out. Dr. Hemati took me through the hard discipline of logical thinking. Dr. Garbarino taught me that every sentence matters. And Dr. Boyleston ... I already had a hunch that poetry creates, sustains and renews the world, but he brought that idea to its consummation in me. The MLA at HBU made me more convinced that I was on the right track. I want this for myself. I want it for my kids. And I want it for other people's kids."

Anderson's zeal for continued intellectual growth has been contagious among his faculty. Pam Jackson, MLA '18, who has taught first grade and worked in administration

at TCS for seven years, says this of her HBU coursework, "The Roman World class, with Dr. Garbarino, deepened my appreciation of the Roman influence on our country's culture, not only in government and architecture, but in education as well. Many of the ancient practices (copywork, recitations, poetry) are practices we use at TCS today. It was illuminating and affirming to know that what worked then works today too." Another HBU alumnus, Joseph Christopherson, MLA '17, teaches second grade and is also the Memorial Lower Campus Director.

This year, Trinity Classical School celebrates its 10-year anniversary with its first graduating class, including the Obers' oldest daughter, Elizabeth. The 22 students and 3 teachers have grown to 667 students and 93 staff members on three campuses. The model has attracted parents in other cities, and Trinity Classical School of Houston has started the Trinity Classical Network as a means to generously share its resources, systems, and experience to see that other Christ-centered, classical, collaborative schools experience the same level of flourishing. The Classical School of Dallas began classes for the first time this fall, opening their morning assembly with student, teacher, and parent voices raised, just as they are at Trinity Classical School of Houston, in the opening lines of their first quarter hymn:

*"Come thou fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace.
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise!"*



"I believe classical schools need school heads who don't just love the idea of what goes on in their classrooms, but who also embody and practice those ideals because they love them."

-Neil Anderson


Marking Our Books: Learning to Read all over Again

By Dr. David J. Davis

The submission is from the HBU Humanities Blog, "Reflection and Choice."




In 1612, the English schoolmaster John Brinsley wrote in his "Ludus Literarius":

 [Mark] with little lines under them, or above them, or against such parts of the word wherein the difficulty lies, or by some pricks, or whatsoever letter or mark may best help to call the knowledge of the thing to remembrance ... To do this, to the end that they may oftentimes read over these, or examine and meditate of them more seriously, until that they be as perfect in them, as in any of the rest of their books. *Quoted from William Sherman, "Used Books," p. 3-4*

For many people today, I'm sure that Brinsley's advice almost sounds heretical. Marking in books – let alone doodling in the margins, dog-earring pages, or jotting down notes around the printed text – is a travesty. We want our books clean, crisp, uniformly black and white, and without any evidence of other readers. I know I struggled with this for a long time, and even today, I feel a twitch of frustration when I see someone else's markings in a used book I purchased.

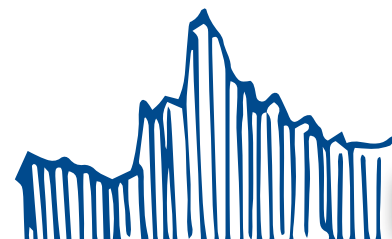
However, this ideal notion of the book as a perfectly uniform object, I believe, has negatively affected our reading habits. Books as untarnished and "pure" objects is a notion that has created a mental block in our minds. Since textual engagement is not encouraged (in order to preserve the sanctity of the book) – at least not in any systematic or institutional way – we grow accustomed to going to books for knowledge, entertainment, etc., and very little else. The act of reading is segregated not just to the cerebral, but even more narrowly to those parts of our brain that receive information and those that register pleasure. And what follows, I would surmise (though with very little evidence on hand), is what we have witnessed in terms of literacy and reading comprehension rates over the past few decades.

Early modern readers, on the other hand, treated books as practical items. Books were not merely conveyors of knowledge, information, entertainment, art, etc. They were tangible objects that should be engaged with in a palpable way. Early modern readers repeated (in writing) what was said in books. They argued with their books, sometimes to the point of violence (scratching out portions of text). Others created their own margin notes, with references to other works. Readers would write their signatures in random pages (often more than once in a single book), seemingly to practice their penmanship or to state ownership at various points in the text. Handwritten prayers, critical commentary, snarky remarks,  arrows, a pointing finger, circles, illustrations, and doodling all were typical marginalia in the early modern book.

One of the major reasons for encouraging these reading practices was, as Brinsley says, "to call the knowledge of the thing to remembrance." It also created a relationship between reader and book that went beyond merely accessing information or enjoying a good story. Furthermore, it demonstrates an approach and understanding of the reading act – that of internalizing, slowly assessing, reading and rereading, and interacting with the text – that is often either discouraged or overlooked today.

While there were certainly fewer people who could read in the early modern Western world than there are today, those who could read seemed to have done it with much more flavor, gusto and enjoyment than we do.

Early modern readers repeated (in writing) what was said in books. They argued with their books, sometimes to the point of violence (scratching out portions of text).





The Odyssey: Freshmen Outdoor Adventure

By Cassie Sorrell, HBU Campus Recreation Coordinator

The Odyssey is HBU Campus Recreation's outdoor adventure trip created specifically for incoming freshmen as an early opportunity for them to begin their journey at Houston Baptist University. For the past three years, Campus Rec. has partnered with Camp Eagle, which is located in the heart of the beautiful Texas Hill Country. Those attending participate in hiking, zip-lining, cave exploring and other outdoor activities. The incoming freshmen have the opportunity to interact with current HBU student leaders and HBU staff through outdoor activities and various group discussions focused on starting their collegiate journey. Topics cover how to create a well-balanced HBU college experience and discussions about what kind of legacy they want to leave behind.

Josh Dunn, director of Campus Recreation, tells the students, "The Odyssey and college are like any journey. It is what you make it. Minimal investment equals minimal return. Maximum investment means maximum return." The open discussions and activities focus on the academic, social, spiritual and wellness aspects of college. Vanessa Cuellar, an incoming freshman, stated, "The knowledge I received and the connections I made have given me the feelings of readiness and excitement!"

"This year, as we were up at the windmill, the highest point at the camp, looking up at the beautiful stars and worshipping Christ together, I was overcome with emotion."

The overall goal of The Odyssey is to create a safe environment for learning about spiritual belief and discipline and the appreciation of wellness. Also, students build community that will transfer directly to the University, the Houston community, their home life and to the professional environment.

The outdoor adventure experience heightens attendees' awareness of God's creation, which includes, not only nature, but also individual wellness. The Odyssey physically challenges individuals and groups through hiking, ropes courses, cave exploring and other physical demands, pushing students to their limits and creating life lessons. Ariana Alexander, a TRIO Student Success coach, hopes that "when a class becomes challenging, students will reflect on the perseverance they showed in zip-lining or scaling a mountainside. When students feel isolated, they will recall the teamwork, compassion and listening skills acquired from scrambling through a dark maze. I hope that they remember God's provision and brightness is enough to blot out any darkness. Resiliency, grit and grace - these are the lessons of The Odyssey."

-Cassie Sorrell

Participation in these physical activities also promotes a positive mental and emotional awareness of,

"I had so much fear regarding college and my relationship with the Lord. Over these several days, the encouragement from the leaders and the beauty of God's creation erased any trace of those negative thoughts."

-Sebastian Calderon



not only wellness, but also the need for community support. Odyssey student leader, Joreim Perales, who also attended as a freshman, said, "I was anxious to try the zip line, but with the encouragement of those around me and by placing my trust in the Lord, I was able to take that step off the platform. I was able to reflect on life and how sometimes we might be afraid of what is to come, but we have to place our trust in Him and He will take care of our fears and anxieties." The outdoor adventure changes our perspectives through expanding our comfort zones, developing leaders, creating lasting bonds and providing a unique wellness experience. Incoming freshman, Brianna Romero, said, "The Odyssey pushed me beyond my comfort zone in so many ways. I feel extremely blessed to have had this opportunity to learn from these amazing student mentors, staff and other freshmen."

The outdoor experience also poses a unique way to learn and develop one's relationship with God and others, focusing on stewardship, service and leadership, as well as spiritual discipline. In Colossians, we are reminded that Jesus is the One who made all of Creation, so it should be of no surprise that His handiwork creates an environment that elicits awe for God. With The Odyssey retreat being in the Texas Hill Country, it allows us to examine our relationship with Christ in the silence and solitude of the outdoors. The serene environment creates the opportunity to reflect on our personal relationship with Him and clearly hear God's voice and guidance on our journey.

Cassie Sorrell, Campus Recreation coordinator reflects, "This year, as we were up at the windmill, the highest point at the camp, looking up at the beautiful stars and worshiping Christ together, I was overcome with emotion. All you could hear were the crickets chirping, frogs croaking and the students' voices praising God and crying out to Him. In that moment, I was filled with peace, pure joy and absolute gratitude that He has blessed me with the opportunity to work with these amazing people and create events like The Odyssey. It was a moment on my personal journey I will never forget."

The incoming freshmen are provided with an opportunity to build community and relationships with current HBU student leaders and HBU staff. They, through discussions of various topics, are able to lay the foundations to develop mentoring and discipling relationships. The Odyssey is also a wonderful opportunity for student leaders to flourish and use their passion for serving others. Diana Cardenas, who has now attended The Odyssey three times, said that she came in as a "scared and lonely freshman," but now, she states, "I can proudly say that after all the love and support I received from my fellow peers and the HBU staff members, there is nothing but absolute joy in my heart and a passion to serve others as I have been served. I finally learned to let go and let God."

Each leader goes through an application and interview process; once selected, they receive specific leadership training just for The Odyssey. The outdoor adventure activities naturally create open communication, trust, encouragement and genuine connections between all those who attend. Freshman Sebastian Calderon said, "The experience I had at The Odyssey was life-changing. I had so much fear regarding college and my relationship with the Lord. Over these several days, the encouragement from the leaders and the beauty of God's creation erased any trace of those negative thoughts. This experience replaced those fears with happiness and confidence that Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior. I will always remember those four days at The Odyssey as one of the best experiences of my life."

The HBU staff collectively agree that their prayer for those who attend is that the overall experience, relationships and community built through The Odyssey will allow the students to grow in their relationships with Christ, and that they gain a connection and sense of belonging to the University that will last a lifetime.



For more information on The Odyssey, and to help support it, please visit HBU.edu/Odyssey and email CampusRec@HBU.edu.

HBU Apologetics Professor Nancy Pearcey Makes Waves with New Book



HBU Apologetics Professor Nancy Pearcey is exploring taboo issues and the ideas that have become culturally normative tenets in her latest book, "Love Thy Body: Answering Hard Questions about Life and Sexuality." With a combination of reason, boldness, real-life stories and her characteristic tenderness, Pearcey brings common sense and biblical application to matters like abortion, assisted suicide, transgenderism and homosexuality.

While many have adopted the creed that morality is a matter of personal preference, the doctrine of self-determination is fraught with snares. In "Love Thy Body," Pearcey goes past the surface assumptions and exposes the ramifications of secular and sacred belief systems. The message of the book has resonated, and has resulted in opportunities for her to speak in many forums including national and international radio and television shows, the Heritage Foundation (the nation's largest conservative think tank), C-SPAN and even to members of the US Congress in the Capitol Building in Washington, DC.

"People are so hungry to get answers that go beyond the soundbites," she said. "I'm digging deeper and looking at the worldview – your ethics depend upon your worldview and what it means to be human."

In spite of connotations of liberation from stuffy rules, the move away from a biblical perspective has led to a lower view of humanity, Pearcey said. "The secular, liberal worldview is demeaning to human dignity and denies human rights," she said. "Take abortion. Most bioethicists agree that life begins at conception – that the fetus is human. But they say it's not a person until it achieves a certain level of cognitive functioning. The implication is that as long as the fetus is 'merely' human, it has no rights. It can be killed for any reason or no reason. It can be used for research and experiments, tinkered with genetically, picked through for sellable body parts (as Planned Parenthood does), then tossed out with the other medical waste. In other words, being human is no longer the basis for human rights. This is a very negative view of what it means to be human."

Pearcey continued, "Support for euthanasia uses the same reasoning in reverse: It says if you lose a certain level of cognitive functioning, you're no longer a person – even though you are obviously still human. At that point, you can be unplugged, your treatment stopped, your food and water withheld, and your organs transplanted. Again, being human is not enough for human rights. This is very dehumanizing."

This split or division between being human versus

being a person explains a host of other cutting-edge issues as well, Pearcey noted. "Take homosexuality, for example. It, too, rests on a divided view of the human being that denigrates the body. Think of it this way: on the level of biology, physiology and anatomy, no one really denies that males and females are counterparts to one another. That's how the human sexual and reproductive system is designed," she said. "To embrace a same-sex identity, then, is to contradict that design. Implicitly you are saying, 'Why should my body have any say in my moral choices? Why should my biological identity as male or female form the basis for my psychological identity?' This is a very disrespectful view of the body."

The denigration of the body is even more obvious in the transgender movement, Pearcey said. "Arguments for transgenderism explicitly say my biological identity is completely dissociated from my authentic self. A BBC documentary says at the heart of the debate is the idea that the mind can be 'at war with the body.' And when that happens, the mind wins," she said. "But why accept such a low view of the body? Why not try to recover a higher view? I recently read an interview with a 14-year-old girl who had lived for three years as a trans boy, then embraced her identity as a girl again. She said the turning point came when she realized it was okay to 'learn to love my body.' The antidote to transgenderism is learning to love your body."

Such conversations go far beyond the simple truisms that many are taught in church. Pearcey knows she's not alone in searching for answers to the complex questions that present themselves. In multiple surveys, youth have indicated that they left the faith simply because no one around them could satisfactorily answer their tough questions, she said.

That's a dilemma that is all too familiar for Pearcey. She grew up in a Lutheran home where the message of salvation wasn't scratching her intellectual itch. "I asked a Christian professor once point-blank, 'Why are you a Christian?' He said, 'Works for me.' I asked a seminary dean about how he knew the faith is true, and he said, 'Don't worry; we all have doubts sometimes.' I decided that Christianity must not have any good reasons," she said. "And if you don't have good reasons for something, you shouldn't believe it — whether Christianity or anything else."

Having spent part of her childhood in Germany, Pearcey returned to Europe in the early 70s. She was soon drawn into the group of other searchers in theologian and evangelist Francis Schaeffer's home in Switzerland called "L'Abri," which means "the shelter." Pearcey and many others had been delving in drugs to expand their consciousness, and looking for answers to the questions that had never been satisfied.

"At age 16, I had pulled books off the philosophy shelves looking for answers. I pretty rapidly realized that if there is no God, there is no foundation for ethics, or truth, or meaning to life. We're on a rock flying through empty space," she said. "At L'Abri, I found Christianity appealing

because I had never encountered apologetics before. Here were people who actually understood the secular philosophies I had immersed myself in. They could even help me ask better questions!"



Nancy Pearcey (L) at L'Abri

"L'Abri was so attractive that I was afraid I might become a Christian before I was intellectually convinced. So, I fled, and went back to the States," she said. But in her time with the Schaeffers, Pearcey had discovered other apologist writers like C.S. Lewis and G.K. Chesterton. In her own study of the theological giants she had been introduced to, Pearcey

became utterly convinced that Christianity was true. Hungry for a Christian family to help her grow in the faith, she went back to Switzerland for four months.

Since that time, Pearcey's compelling motivation has been to help others like the seeker she was. "Teaching apologetics is my heart and soul — that's how I became a Christian," she said. "What really drives me the most is helping people answer these questions. I love teaching and interacting with students."

As a professor, Pearcey knows that students at many institutions are presented with psychological arguments against their faith, such as the idea that God is a social construction by people who never grew out of the need for a father figure. "My long-term goal is a book on how to stay Christian in college," she said. "I had one student who told me after going to graduate school elsewhere, 'If I hadn't taken your class, I might have lost my faith because they sure do make secular ideas sound persuasive.'"

While the message of the Gospel is foundational, Christian teaching would do well to go further into the application of all the Bible presents. Some Christian faith traditions focus so much on the conversion experience that they fail to engage the whole person, Pearcey said. "Evangelicalism has been marked by an anti-intellectualism at times that has made people afraid to ask the hard questions," she said. "The Bible applies to all areas of philosophy. It's as comprehensive as any other worldview, and is meant to pertain to every part of life."

A two-time winner of the ECPA Gold Medallion Award, Nancy R. Pearcey has been hailed in The Economist as "America's preeminent evangelical Protestant female intellectual." A bestselling author and speaker, Pearcey is a professor of Apologetics and the scholar-in-residence at HBU. She is editor at large of "The Pearcey Report," and a fellow at Discovery Institute's Center for Science and Culture. Her past books include "How Now Shall We Live?" co-authored with Chuck Colson and Harold Fickett, "Total Truth," "The Soul of Science" and "Saving Leonardo."



Q&A with Dr. Todd Bates, Dean of the HBU School of Christian Thought

Visit HBU.edu/ChristianThought.

1. Please tell us about your background.

I was born in Alabama and grew up in Orlando, Florida in a very traditional, Southern home. We went to church most Sundays, said our prayers before meals and at bedtime, and were expected to represent our family well; but, my faith commitments were primarily superficial and lacked any substantive depth.

As I grew older and engaged life more deeply, I began to question the strictures of my upbringing. When I didn't receive answers that really satisfied me — quite frankly, I am not sure any answer would have satisfied me — I decided to trust my own judgment and live as I wanted to. As I look back on that period of my life, the answers I received were not necessarily bad answers. I simply wanted to live as I wanted to live and, well, you know how that usually goes!

Late in my collegiate days, I experienced a time of deep conviction of my sin. God allowed me to catch a glimpse of His holiness and see myself in light of it. It was as though God pulled back the rock covering my heart and allowed me to see all the ugly, creeping things that lived underneath. I saw for the first time how sinful I was. I clearly remember thinking that God would be perfectly just to condemn me and I could not utter any defense. But, thanks be to God, at that moment, God enabled me to truly understand the grace He had shown in sending His Son, Jesus Christ, to die on the cross. I flew to the cross!

From those days forward, my goal in life was to know God, the one who loved me so graciously. Every aspect of my life is influenced by that goal — endeavoring to receive all things as expressions of the love of God and seeking to love God in all things.

2. How does your pastoral experience influence your approach to academia?

Great question. Pastoring has helped me in many ways. It taught me to be patient with human frailty — my own and others'. We are all broken and in need of Christ. That vantage point gives a perspective on both disappointments and successes.

Being a pastor has also shaped my academic research and writing. No matter what the topic, one question that is always important to me is how this research helps people love God and love their neighbor more effectively. One of my greatest academic influences is St. Augustine, who was both profound scholar and involved shepherd. The model of pastor-theologian deeply informs all that I do.

The burden of caring for souls is a craft that demands all of you, but is dependent upon none of you. So, perhaps the greatest influence pastoring has on my approach to academia is the simple desire to be faithful. At the end of the day, have I honored God in my efforts, and have I encouraged His people to follow Christ more closely? If so, it was a good day.

3. What appealed to you about HBU and the School of Christian Thought?

First, I think it was Dr. Sloan's vision of a comprehensive Christian university foundationally committed to the liberal arts. The challenge to work out the implications of our central confession, "Jesus Christ is Lord," in a university setting was deeply appealing.

Second, it was the opportunity to work with such great scholars. My colleagues are some of the best and brightest scholars in evangelicalism. To work shoulder to shoulder with them to fulfill the mission of Houston Baptist University in the service of God's Kingdom is a profound blessing.

Finally, the privilege of serving God in the heart of such a great city. Houston is a dynamically complex city that presents many opportunities and challenges. The challenge of shaping the next generation of Christian leaders in such a dynamic setting is an extraordinary honor.

4. In what ways do students benefit from an education at HBU?

Students at HBU benefit from a great core curriculum that enlightens and enlivens minds with the great truths that have enriched human lives throughout the ages. The skills developed through these core classes not only equip students for courses in their major, but also enable students to be lifelong learners. In their majors, students are able to work closely with skilled professors who are experts in their fields and genuinely care for their students.

Outside of the classroom, there are tremendous opportunities to build community through "Kaleo," our campus discipleship initiative, Baptist Student Ministry organization and many other campus groups that serve our students. Special events bring extraordinary speakers to campus and allow students to interact with nationally and internationally renowned speakers.

5. What are you looking forward to for the future?

I am excited about the potential of HBU's Houston Theological Seminary! Our seminary offers a high level of academic preparation in biblical scholarship together with a high level of competent practice in effective church ministry. Our collaborative partnership with Second Baptist Church offers our students the best of theory and practice. This, again, at the heart of a great city like Houston is a tremendous opportunity to serve the needs of the Church for the glory of God and the good of Houston.

Another area that offers exciting possibilities is our Classics and Biblical Languages department. Our classics program offers tremendous potential for impacting the Kingdom of God through classical Christian schools. Dr. Steven Jones regularly speaks to schools in Houston and around Texas. His passion for the classics is contagious! The department is also launching an MA in Classics and Early Christianity. This degree focuses on the world into which Christianity was born and the New Testament was written. Dr. Jones and Dr. Tim Brookins are the lead faculty members for this degree, which is unique among evangelical universities.

I also anticipate the continued development of partnerships with ministries that serve the city of Houston. From church-planting, to prison ministries and ministries that meet the needs of the poor, homeless, hungry and trafficked, HBU and the SCT is deepening and expanding our commitment to love God in loving our neighbors.

These are just a few of the exciting things the SCT is developing in an effort to live out our central confession, "Jesus Christ is Lord," by offering a Christ-centered, biblical education for the Church, the academy and our city.

"Being a pastor has also shaped my academic research and writing. No matter what the topic, one question that is always important to me is how this research helps people love God and love their neighbor more effectively"

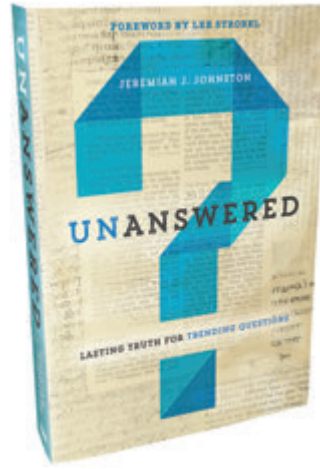
-Dr. Todd Bates



HBU's Dr. Jeremiah Johnston Hosts National Radio Show

Visit MyFaithRadio.com and ChristianThinkers.com.





As a New Testament scholar, apologist, writer and speaker, Dr. Jeremiah Johnston, HBU associate professor of Early Christianity and president of the Christian Thinkers Society (CTS, a resident institute of HBU), has dedicated his life to addressing the questions and needs of seekers and believers alike. Carrying his mission a step further, Christian Thinkers Society launched a national show through Faith Radio Network. "The Jeremiah Johnston Show" began on September 8; it will air from 11 a.m. to noon CDT on Saturdays through Faith Radio Network stations, online, and is available through iTunes and other on-demand podcast platforms.

Johnston is the author of several books including "Unimaginable" and "Unanswered." In "Unanswered," he delves into some of the 10,000 questions that CTS has received. "The number one reason why people walk away from the faith is that they have unanswered questions concerning things like the legitimacy of the Bible, eternity, purpose and suffering," Johnston explained. "So often people are too embarrassed to ask hard questions or they're afraid that there might not be an answer. It's not a sin to ask questions or, for that matter, question your faith. My show is a safe place to deal with difficult questions and to have honest conversations."

The live, Q&A format allows listeners to submit their questions verbally and through AskJJJ.com. In his inaugural show, Johnston fielded queries about topics ranging from the biblical timeline to horoscopes. In addition to answering each question with Bible-based answers and references to proven scholars and reliable resources, he exhorts listeners to study the Bible and to engage their minds with their faith.

"We have to hold the Bible to the same critical thinking test as we would any other document in history," he said. "The Bible is reliable, it's relevant, and it does have

infallibility and authority. Therefore, it can stand up to critical questions and concerns and earn our trust."

While information is readily available in the technology age, it is not usually personalized, and it rarely addresses the deepest questions of faith and life that many people hold. "We're in a culture of confusion with so many competing voices," Johnston said. "My prayer is that the radio program will be a go-to place for listeners to receive encouragement."

Neil Stavem, director of Faith Radio Programming, said, "The Jeremiah Johnston Show" fits in well with the network's content and mission of leading people to Jesus Christ and helping them grow. Late evangelist Billy

Graham was the first personality on the air in 1949. "Over time, that heart about what the Bible says and proclaiming that has been at the center of our mission," Stavem said. "We have been encouraged by Dr. Johnston's wisdom, insight and ability to present deep truths in compelling ways. The show will address complicated issues in winsome, relevant and thoughtful ways."

In addition to providing responses to each question, the show will include discussions with other scholars and teachers,

inspirational teaching and engaging interviews. Johnston has announced an impressive list of show guests, including Sheila Walsh, Sean McDowell, Dr. Robert B. Sloan, David Limbaugh, Rick Renner, and other Christian thinkers. Each guest is asked, "What is the most difficult question you personally have struggled with in your faith journey?"

Johnston said, "We live in a radically skeptical age. Today, more than ever, the Christian Church needs people who are able to communicate truth in a postmodern environment that is sometimes hostile to Christianity. Important questions deserve informed and conversant answers."

"We have been encouraged by Dr. Johnston's wisdom, insight and ability to present deep truths in compelling ways. The show will address complicated issues in winsome, relevant and thoughtful ways."

*-Neil Stavem,
Director of Faith Radio Programming*

Music Has Opened Doors for Alumnus Kevin McBeth



Throughout his life, music has created opportunities for Kevin McBeth, '85. As a youth growing up around what was the Astrodome, McBeth spent much of his time at Fiesta Missionary Baptist Church. "I remember singing from a very young age. Every Sunday after church, I made my way to the piano or organ," he said.

With six children, it was a sacrifice for his parents, Preston and Madie (now deceased), to purchase a piano, but they found a way. "I started taking lessons. I would play hymns, Gospel songs, and what was playing on the radio like Lionel Richie," he said.

His talents paved the way for McBeth to attend the Houston High School for the Performing and Visual Arts. By age 15, he was directing his church's choir. For college, McBeth decided to look nearby. "HBU made me an offer I couldn't refuse, and I liked the small school atmosphere," he said.

As a talented tenor and a pianist who could play by ear, the time with intentional instructors at HBU refined McBeth's skills. "I'd been told for a long time that I had a lot of natural talent. My instructors really helped with getting me focused," he said.

At HBU, McBeth sang from a full musical menu, ranging from operatic arias, to show tunes, to Spirituals. "The great teachers fostered my love of music and expanded my horizons," he said.

McBeth remembers the influence of HBU on his Christian walk as well. "It deepened my faith and understanding of the Bible and of biblical history," he said. "I think all of that time was very formative in being able to shape who I was."

After graduating, McBeth went on to lead music programs at Westbury United Methodist Church, and to complete graduate work at the University of Houston. From there, he led music at a church in Cedar Rapids, Iowa for about six years before moving to St. Louis, Missouri in 1995. He continues to serve as the director of Music and Worship at Manchester United Methodist Church. About 500 people are involved in the church's music program, where four different worship styles are given an avenue.

Outside of church, McBeth has been involved in several music organizations, now serving as an associate conductor for the St. Louis Symphony. McBeth's sons, Cameron and Austin, are also accomplished musicians.

"Music has opened doors I could never have imagined," McBeth said. "I've seen the power of music drawing people together. I think music is really formational and transformational."

HBU marked the beginning of a learning process as a mature musician that has never stopped. "It was a great time and a great place to study," he said. "Even now, I'm always studying and learning, and going further down the path musically."

[Visit HBU.edu/Alumni.](http://HBU.edu/Alumni)





Student Foundation Revives Signature Orange Blazers

In an era of ripped jeans and purposely untied shoelaces, the classically styled ensembles of HBU's Student Foundation are a contrast in a crowd. Students on assignment in the prestigious group are polished from head-to-toe, and serve as fitting representatives of the University, interacting with friends and guests of HBU. Most importantly, the external presentation is a reflection of the students' internal poise and professionalism.

The Foundation was formed during the 1969-1970 school year. From the beginning, the organization has included some of the best students of HBU, who act as exemplars of the school, serving at events, receptions, and giving campus VIP tours. It is the only student organization affiliated with the President's Office.

Ed Borges, HBU senior director of Special Projects, describes the evolution of the group's signature look, and its representation of the school's recognizable color combination, orange and blue. "In the 1960s when the college was established, it wasn't uncommon for the men to come to class in blazers and the women in dresses," he said. "Originally, the bright color of orange was chosen because, if you wore a blue blazer, you would blend in."

In the early 2000s, the buttoned-up look gave way to cardigans, polos and khakis. While the Foundation was still represented at events, for some, it seemed that the group had drifted out of prominent sight. A conversation began in 2016 about reviving the vibrant blazers and the sense of formality and presence they held. "The students are at a lot of high-profile events, and it makes sense for them to stand out," Borges said.

Borges, who works with the University Events Office, along with the Advancement Office, to coordinate the Foundation's schedule, collaborated to explore options for Foundation apparel. Finding the right shade of orange, and a fabric weight that made sense for Houston, wasn't an easy task. "We tried one that ended up being more peach in person, then we looked at one that was too blood orange," Borges said.

But, they finally found the blazer that fit – a Maxwell Park, striking orange, 100 percent polyester stunner with brass buttons. The best part is that the design comes in men's and women's cuts. Of course, the jacket must be paired with the right complements for best effect. Male Foundation

representatives wear a tie patterned in black-and-white pinpoint, orange and blue accents, and – if anyone is still unsure of their affiliation – an HBU logo layered in. The women wear a matching scarf in the same pattern as the tie.

Foundation students debuted their new attire in the spring of 2018 at the Silver Tea fundraiser. "They got so many compliments from friends of the University, and those who remember the orange coats from their years," Borges said. "Everyone was taken by them; it definitely made an impact."

Junior Elizabeth Saldivar, Foundation chair and a student worker in the President's Office, helped select the ladies' outfit. She said the older generation, and the younger ones too, can appreciate a sharp-dressed student who is checking them in at an event or starting a conversation with guests. "I love the orange blazers. When we took our group photo, people were asking, 'Who are you, and what is this for?' We're being noticed, and that's helping the Student Foundation, and the University too, to be known."

Students become part of the Foundation after being recommended by a faculty or staff member, and they must go through an interview process. Desired qualities are involvement in the University, a love for its traditions, and factors such as high academic performance and strong morals.

"We are very proud of them, so we want others to get to know them too," Borges said.

Members go through customer service training, etiquette lessons and image polishing. In the process of students serving, they often receive in return, meeting others who enrich their collegiate experience and establishing points of contact for their lives after college.

"I love hearing alumni reflect on their years in the Student Foundation as one of the greatest honors of their HBU careers," Sharon Saunders, vice president for HBU Advancement and University Relations, and a Foundation advisor, said. "They remember the special relationships with administrators, faculty, staff and friends of the University, as well as their bond together."

Saldivar said, "It's a blessing to be part of something that's being revitalized – something that's bigger than ourselves. We're a proud community of students who want to serve and want to represent the University."

BGCT Donated \$10,000 for Students Affected by Hurricane Harvey



The Baptist General Convention of Texas (BGCT) graciously donated \$10,000 to help assist HBU students who were affected by Hurricane Harvey. Mr. Ernest Dagohoy, BGCT Houston area representative, visited campus during a convocation (chapel) service to present a check on the behalf of the organization and its executive director, David Hardage.

HBU and CCB Hosted “Managing Nonprofits: A Faith Leadership Perspective” Luncheon

The Houston Baptist University Archie W. Dunham College of Business and the Center for Christianity in Business hosted the “Managing Nonprofits: A Faith Leadership Perspective” Luncheon on September 28.

Panelists were:

- Pierce Bush, CEO of Big Brothers, Big Sisters, Lone Star
- Michael Mantel, CEO of Living Water International
- Hank Rush, CEO of Star of Hope Mission
- Jonathan Wiles, senior vice president of Living Water International

Visit HBU.edu/CCB.

Youth Attend First-Ever Camp HBU

The inaugural Camp HBU was held on campus the week of July 16-20. Campers, ages 10 to 16, spent the week living in the dorms, going to their choice of six academic and eight extracurricular sessions, and participating in recreation, devotional time and worship. They volunteered at the Houston Food Band as well. There were 16 campers who committed their lives to Christ. Thank you, campers and parents, for a great week!

Visit HBU.edu/CampHBU.



Welcome Days Kick Off the School Year



HBU freshmen and transfer students participated in Welcome Days, four days of orientation and fun, on HBU's campus. Welcome to the pack, new Huskies!



Huskies Gave Big on HBU's Day of Giving

On HBU's Day of Giving, August 31, Alex and Randy Sorrels, '84, matched the first \$50,000 in donations to the University. Additionally, 18 gifts were matched by the donor's employer. In one day, 177 gifts raised more than \$224,100 in support of HBU. The funds will go toward scholarships, mission opportunities, academic and athletic support and more!

Thank you to everyone who gave and who gives!

Visit [HBU.edu/Give](https://www.hbu.edu/give).



HBU Dedicated Engineering Class Lab

The Houston Baptist University College of Engineering dedicated the Engineering ClassLab on September 18, in the SAFE (Securing America's Future Through Engineering) Lab in Atwood II.

The classlab serves as a learning and creative space for the Engineering program's inaugural students. Launched this school year, the College offers a Bachelor of Science in Cyber Engineering, Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering and

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science. The three programs employ project-based learning, hands-on and design elements, and team activities. Curricular themes include cybersecurity, cloud computing, mobility, data analytics and project management. Additionally, all students complete a year-long senior project, directed by faculty and sponsored by industrial partners.

[Visit HBU.edu/Engineering](http://HBU.edu/Engineering) to learn more.



Robert Griswold Finance & Analytics Lab Opens

The Houston Baptist University Archie W. Dunham College of Business now offers an innovative learning space with the addition of the Robert Griswold Finance & Analytics Lab. The finance lab ribbon-cutting was held on September 18.

The glass-enclosed room catches the eyes of passersby with a stock market ticker running around its perimeter. The room will serve as a space in which finance students can practice concepts like data analytics and mock investments. The lab is being provided through the generous donation of Dr. Robert M. Griswold, MBA '79, also a former faculty member of HBU, along with additional gifts by Susan and Richard H. Redding, '82, William E. Mearse, Chris D. Wallis, Michael R. Weeks and Prosperity Bank.

[Visit HBU.edu/Business](http://HBU.edu/Business) to learn more.



Fall Online Open House

The HBU Pampell Online Division hosted the Fall Open House for dozens of visitors. Representatives from HBU Admissions, Advising and Financial Aid offices provided personalized information.

Visit HBUOnline.com.

Graduate Student Fall Orientation

During HBU Graduate Student Fall Orientation, attendees met fellow Husky students, faculty members and staff during a networking breakfast. They consulted with University department representatives, took in a resource fair, and went on a campus tour. Welcome, HBU graduate students!

Visit HBU.edu/Grad.



HBU Department of Music Hosted "History & Hymns Concert"

The Houston Baptist University Department of Music hosted the "History & Hymns Concert" on September 24 in the Morris Cultural Arts Center. The concert centered around the beloved hymns of America. The choir and congregants sang favorites including "Holy, Holy, Holy," "Amazing Grace" and "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross." Also included were spirituals, shape-note hymns and modern adaptations of traditional hymn texts.

Visit HBU.edu/Music.





Huskies Visit China

There were 13 students from an array of majors who traveled with four sponsors to China as part of a cultural experience trip. As guests of a school in a Chinese village, HBU students taught conversational English skills to eighth-graders for two weeks and developed some wonderful relationships with the staff, faculty and students of the school. In addition to their service work, the students rode a riverboat through downtown Shanghai, explored the former Chinese imperial palace and hiked on the Great Wall of China.





*Distinguished Alumnus Award Recipient:
The Honorable Jeff Norman '82*



Meritorious Service Award Recipient: Lynda DeLoach '67

2018 Spirit of HBU Awards

The HBU Alumni Relations Office held the 2018 Spirit of HBU Awards Dinner and Walk of Honor Induction on September 15. The annual event honors notable alumni, faculty, staff, students and friends of the University.

2018 HBU Athletics Hall of Honor Recipients

- Ricky Bennett, Men's Basketball '03 – '05
- Robbie Buller, Baseball '09 – '11

- Robert "Rock" Holley, Contributor
- Matt Perri, Cross Country/Track & Field '09 – '11, '13/'10, '12 – '14
- Henrick Simonsen, Men's Golf '88 – '90

Additionally, the President's Award, Opal Goolsby Outstanding Teacher Award, and the Mayfield Outstanding Staff Award recipients were inducted into the Walk of Honor, located in the Bettis Quadrangle of the Brown Administrative Complex.



*Hallmark Award Recipient:
Colonel Newton Cole*



*Hallmark Award Recipient:
Dr. Chris Hammons*



*Emma Key Faithful Servant Award:
Paul Arce*



Guevara Rewriting the Record Books

By Jeff Sutton

HBU senior goalkeeper Alanis Guevara started the 2018 season ranked in the top five of all six career goalkeeping categories maintained for the school's women's soccer program. By the beginning of October, she had assumed the top spot on three of those career records lists.

"Alanis has been able to make such an impact and break records due to her tireless work ethic and her extra training that she puts in with Coach (Chris) Dodd," said HBU Head Women's Coach Misty Jones. "Goalkeeper is such a specialized position that requires self-discipline, confidence and nerves of steel. Alanis embodies all of those qualities and so much more."

The first record to fall was career saves. Guevara entered the season with 202 saves recorded in her first three seasons as a Husky – 23 behind Michelle Rich who played at HBU from 2007 through 2009. It took five matches for the senior to overtake Rich as the program's new leader in saves with an eight-save performance on the road in a 2-1 loss at SMU on September 2, 2018.

By the time the Huskies were halfway through their Southland Conference schedule on October 1, Guevara's career-save total stood at 270. Through 53 career games, she had recorded at least 10 saves in a game on four occasions with a career-high of 12.

Three weeks after breaking the save record, on September 21, she recorded her second-consecutive shutout and her third of the season at home in a 3-0 victory over visiting Stephen F. Austin. That shutout was the 13th of Guevara's career and placed her alone in first on the program's all-

time shutouts list ahead of previous record-holder Shelby Horn. Horn totaled 12 shutouts between 2010 and 2013.

Then, just three games later, Guevara became the program's all-time leader in wins with a four-save shutout on the road at Nicholls on October 1. To a casual observer just looking at a box score, that win at Nicholls might not stand out, but Guevara earned that win within 24 hours of a six-save performance the day prior at Southeastern Louisiana. The game at Nicholls was rescheduled due to a rainout of the regularly scheduled game on Friday, Sep. 28. The previous wins record of 24 also belonged to Rich.

So, for those of you counting at home, through 53 career games, Guevara became the program's all-time leader in saves (270), shutouts (14) and wins (25). Additionally, her total of 5.09 saves per game ranks third in program history, her .801 save percentage ranks fifth and her 1.30 goals against average is sixth all-time."

"Alanis has been a four-year impact player for us as well as a fantastic leader on and off the field," Jones added. "She has been a captain since the spring of her sophomore year. She's well-liked and well-respected by her teammates. She leads vocally as well as through her actions, and she keeps her teammates accountable to do their jobs. She has greatly impacted the soccer program here at HBU and we will be sad to see her go."

**All statistics are through games ending Oct. 2, 2018. The 2018 HBU women's soccer regular season schedule ends Oct. 26 with the Southland Conference tournament scheduled for Oct. 31 through Nov. 4.*



For ticket information,
call **281.649.3143**,
or visit **HBUHuskies.com**.

MEN'S BASKETBALL HOME SCHEDULE

11.10	Fordham	7 p.m.
11.26	UTSA	7 p.m.
12.14	Arlington Baptist	7 p.m.
12.29	Dallas Christian	7 p.m.
1.2	*Lamar	7 p.m.
1.19	*Sam Houston State	7 p.m.
1.23	*Southeastern Louisiana	7 p.m.
2.2	*Texas A&M-Corpus Christi	7 p.m.
2.6	*Stephen F. Austin	
2.16	*Nicholls	7 p.m.
2.20	*Northwestern State	7 p.m.
3.2	*McNeese	7 p.m.
3.6	*Incarnate Word	

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL HOME SCHEDULE

11.11	McMurry	4 p.m.
11.14	Texas A&M International	7 p.m.
11.21	Howard Payne	7 p.m.
11.27	University of the Southwest	7 p.m.
12.16	Oral Roberts	4 p.m.
12.19	ULM	Noon
1.5	*New Orleans	2 p.m.
1.16	*Abilene Christian	7 p.m.
1.19	*Sam Houston State	2 p.m.
1.30	*Incarnate Word	7 p.m.
2.2	*Texas A&M-Corpus Christi	2 p.m.
2.13	*Central Arkansas	7 p.m.
2.16	*Nicholls	2 p.m.
2.27	*Lamar	7 p.m.
3.2	*McNeese	2 p.m.
3.13-17	Southland Conference Tournament, Katy, Texas Merrell Center	

**Southland Conference game
All Times Central and subject to change*

*Men's and women's basketball season ticket plans
are on sale now by calling the HBU Athletics Ticket
Office at 281.649.3143.*



HBU has had some solid shortstops in its history, but if there had ever been any serious debate about which one was the best defensively, Tyler Depreta-Johnson put that argument to bed when he was awarded the ABCA/Rawlings NCAA Division I Gold Glove Award as the best defensive shortstop in the nation for the 2018 baseball season.

The ABCA/Rawlings NCAA Division I Gold Glove Awards recognize the best defensive player at each position and are chosen by the American Baseball Coaches Association All-America Committee. The award is the second in HBU history, as first baseman Michael Crabtree earned the honor in the NAIA division in 2007; it is the first in Southland Conference history.

Depreta-Johnson was named the shortstop on the Southland Conference All-Defensive Team for the second-straight year, was a third-team, all-conference selection and a member of the Academic All-Southland Conference Team. The Rancho Santa Margarita, California native committed only one error all season, tied for seventh in the nation with 283 total chances and finished the season without an error in his last 232 chances — a span of 48 games. Depreta-Johnson turned 32 double plays and did not commit an error in conference play in 149 chances.

"Tyler joins good company in Michael Crabtree, as the only two players in HBU history to win the Gold Glove," HBU Head Coach Jared Moon said. "This is a great honor for Tyler and great for our program. With him getting drafted, this is just icing on the cake and proves his worthiness of being picked.

"When we signed him out of Golden West, the coaches said, 'Don't worry about what he does offensively, just put him at



Tyler Depreta-Johnson Awarded the ABCA/Rawlings NCAA Division I Gold Glove Award

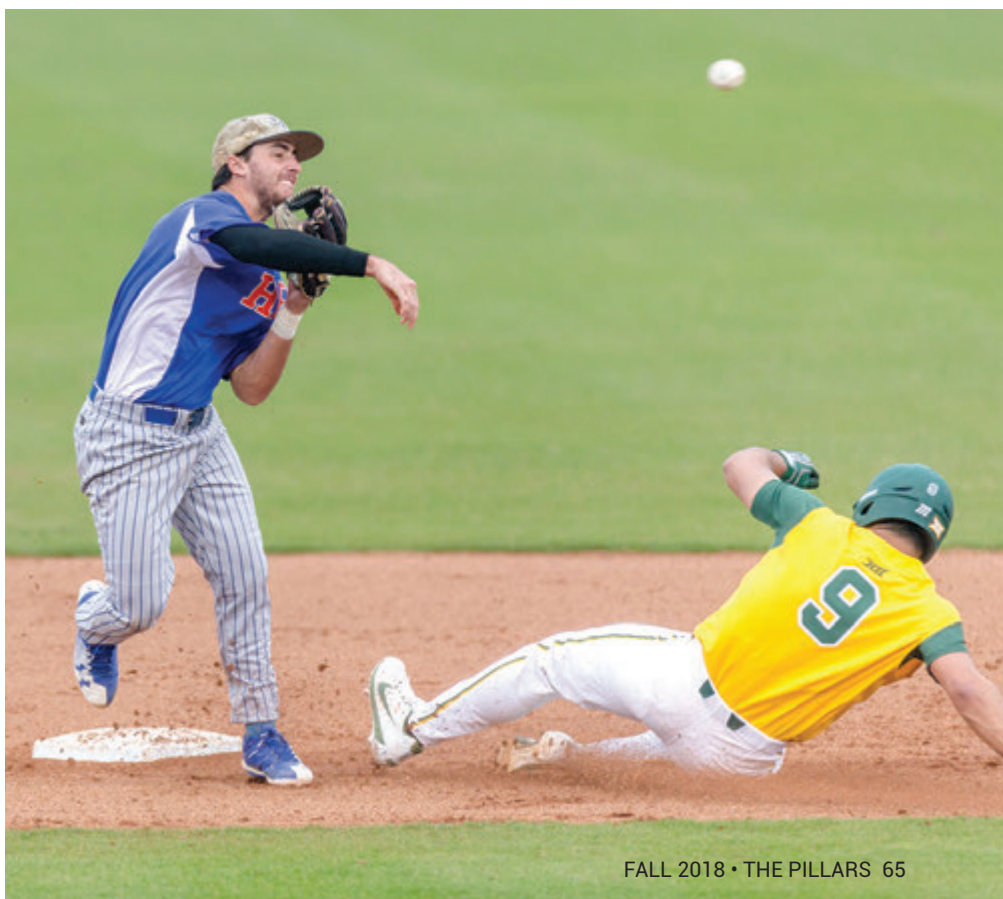
shortstop and let him do his thing.' That's exactly what we did, and regardless of what he did at the plate, most of his RBIs were in his glove. He saved us so many times from a big inning possibly developing. Then, in the conference tournament, he made so many big plays on such a big stage. I told him at the end of the season that he is by far the best shortstop I have ever seen in my coaching career."

Offensively, Depreta-Johnson hit .321 with three home runs, seven doubles, 20 RBIs and scored 17 runs in conference play. He hit .253 with five home runs, 12 doubles, 30 RBIs and 33 runs overall. He recorded a seven-game hitting streak from May 1-13 and finished the year with 16 multiple-hit and seven multi-RBI efforts. All three of his three-hit games came in conference play, going 3-for-4 with a home run and three RBIs against Nicholls on March 16, 3-for-5 with an RBI and a run against Abilene Christian on April 14, and 3-for-4 with a double and three RBIs against Incarnate Word on April 20.

Depreta-Johnson was selected in the 35th round with the 1,049th pick by the Texas Rangers on the final day of the MLB Draft in June and is played out the rest of the season with the Spokane Indians, the Rangers' short-season A affiliate in the Northwest League.

ABCA/Rawlings NCAA Division I Gold Glove Team

- C Shea Langaliers - Baylor
- 1B Jake Vieth - Gonzaga
- 2B Michael Massey - Illinois
- 3B Brandon Perez - Southern California
- SS Tyler Depreta-Johnson - HBU
- OF Brandon Lockridge - Troy
- OF Jake Magnum - Mississippi State
- OF Zach Watson - Louisiana State
- P Joe DeMers - Washington



Alum-A-Grams

1960s

John Gillespie '67, president of Gillespie Global Group, translated a book on the unique modern Japanese dance form known as Yomota Inuhiko.

Brenda Maddox '69, retired from teaching in 2017 and is enjoying her time traveling. Her son and daughter-in-law are HBU alumni as well.

1980s

Chris Bauim MS-HRM '82, has joined the National Air Transportation Association (NATA) as a senior advisor, specializing in general aviation business security issues. Chris joins NATA as an industry veteran and former military aviator. Chris comes from Charlie Bravo AeroSafety, LLC, where he served as president.



Randy Sorrels '84, managing partner at the Houston personal injury law firm of Abraham, Watkins, Nichols, Sorrels, Agosto & Aziz, was sworn in as president-elect of the State

Bar of Texas at the State Bar's Annual Meeting on June 21 in Houston. He will serve as the 139th president of the State Bar beginning in June 2019.



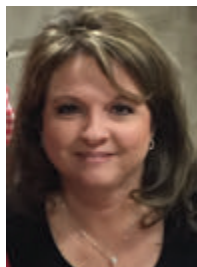
Benny Agosto, Jr. '86, partner at the Houston personal injury law firm of Abraham, Watkins, Nichols, Sorrels, Agosto & Aziz, has achieved Life Fellows membership status

in the Texas Bar Foundation. Fellows membership is an honor reserved for one-third of one percent of attorneys in Texas. Membership selection is based on outstanding professional achievements and commitment to the improvement of the justice system in Texas and is restricted to members of the State Bar of Texas.

1990s

Sapana Patel '90, is a realtor with Keller Williams Realty.

Gina Vickrey Mann '91, is a preschool and kindergarten teacher at All Nations Community School.



Sandra Jelliff Wilson '91, has joined First Baptist Academy as the school counselor after 16 years at Clay Road Baptist School.



Charlotte Goedken '92, recently retired from nursing.

Jane Boyd Moughon '92, is the author of "35 Silent Business Killers."

Christopher Hoffman '94, recently retired after 38 years of applications engineering with Hydraulics Equipment. He is now enjoying work as an off-road driver for a company which provides field training to upstream geologists and geophysicists.



Monica Hoffman '94, MEd'00, married Matt on January 27. Together, they live in Park Hills, Missouri and have six children and two

grandchildren. She is currently a stay-at-home mom and finishing her EdD.

Wendy Allen Sharp '94, is family nurse practitioner at Calvary Medical Clinic. She is running for the New Caney ISD Board of Trustees, Position 3.

Amy Suhl MBA '94, of Sugar Land is the vice president and CEO of projects & technology with a worldwide energy company, with over 30 years in the field. She is a member of the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society and the Texas A&M University Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering Advisory Council, and volunteers at the Sugar Land Senior Center as a technology trainer, as well as at local schools as a mentor and tutor.



Melba Heredia Johnson '94, is the new principal at Love Elementary in HISD.

Tina Burleson '95, is now working with TCB Collaborative Consultant and is a healthcare IT project consultant.



Michelle Gilliam Hingle '96, married Jimmy Hingle on July 5 and moved back home to Santa Fe, Texas.



Four-time Olympian **Ruben Gonzalez '98**, is training to become the first person to ever compete in five Winter Olympics – each in a different decade! When he

competes at the 2022 Beijing Olympics at the age of 59, he will become the oldest person to ever compete in the Winter Olympics. Ruben took up the sport of luge at the age of 21, when he was a student at HBU. He competed in Calgary in 1988, Albertville in 1992, Salt Lake City in 2002 and Vancouver in the 2010 games.

Robert L. Villarreal '98, is in his first year as a Middle School Counselor in Texas City ISD.

2000s

Nicci Niedenthal Byrd '03, is now a seventh-grade English teacher at Lamar Junior High.

Dr. Rachel Garcia '03, was named one of four Outstanding Women in Texas Government for her ability to find solutions that positively impact the current and future students of San Jacinto College. Garcia was selected among the 2018 Outstanding Women in Texas Government Award winners by the State Agency Council.



Yaminah Tucker '03, was named Teacher of the Year in 2017-2018 and was chosen as a top five teacher in Frisco ISD.

Dominique Royem '04, was recently appointed music director for the Mobile Symphony Youth Orchestra, and the director of the Orchestra at the University of South Alabama.

Andrew Hallon MA'07, recently published an article about HBU Women's Basketball forward Taylor Kollmorgen for the Memorial Swoon.

Mordecai Ian Brownlee '08, MS-HRM '11, is now serving on the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Apply Texas Advisory Committee.

Winston Hottman '08, is now the director of Institutional Effectiveness at Criswell College in Fort Worth.



Sandra Mathoslah '08, married Munir Sayegh on April 15, and is currently a pharmacist in Bethesda, Maryland.

Chelsey Hernandez '09, an educator at the Dr. Kirk Lewis Career and Technical High School in Pasadena ISD, has been recognized by the Yale Office of Undergraduate Admissions as a recipient of the 2018 Yale Educator Award. The Yale Educator Recognition Program recognizes outstanding educators from around the world who support and inspire their students to perform at high levels and to achieve excellence. Of this year's 371 nominees, who represent 42 states and 12 countries, 59 teachers and 28 counselors were selected to receive the award.

Ravon Justice MA '09, has been recently named the new head coach of the women's basketball team at Sam Houston State University.

2010s

Holly Schellberg '12, CPA is tax senior associate at BDO USA LLP.



Abbe Adams '13, was recently elected as president of the Student Bar Association at the University of Oklahoma College of Law. Abbe is beginning her final

year of law school and advanced to the National ABA Arbitration Competition in Chicago earlier this year.

Julianna Fort '15, is a special programs teacher's aide at Challenger Elementary School in Pearland ISD.



Dr. Obiaukor Princess Mokolo HBU MEd '16, HBU adjunct professor in the HBU Archie W. Dunham College of Business, and business coach in the McNair Center for Entrepreneurship

and Free Enterprise, was named the top winner of nominations across all categories and presented the Vigor Award 2018, recognizing her as the Humanitarian and Volunteer Hero of 2018 by Vigor Awards International. She was honored during a reception in Toronto in September.



Mary Ellen Leisering Ermis MLA '14, married Reis Ermis on July 28 in Houston. Mary Ellen is currently the assistant to the music and ministry department at West U Baptist Church in Houston.

Stephanie Lake-Garcia MEd '17, was recently promoted to assistant principal of Greentree Elementary in Humble ISD.

Bryan Brody '18, is now a staff assistant to US Senator John Cornyn in Washington, DC.

IN MEMORIAM

ALUMNI

Mary Catherine Farrington Miller '79, passed away on July 22. She will be deeply missed by her family and her many friends. Mary Catherine valued education and community service.



Rudy Laney '84, passed away June 22. He is survived by his wife, **Ruth Mixon Laney '91**.



Manuel "Pete" Castrejana MBA '90, passed away on June 4 from multiple myeloma. He is survived by his wife, Josie. He fought the myeloma for 15 years, and is one of

the longest survivors of myeloma at MD Anderson. Manuel worked in IT for many years, making many friends from colleagues along the way and influencing the lives of everyone he met.



Wilson Dunn, Sr. MS-HRM '95, passed away in July. Education was a lifelong obsession for him, earning degrees at multiple universities while earning a Master

of Science in Human Resource Management at HBU. Wilson's professional career spanned 30-plus years in the insurance industry employed by United Services Automobile Association (USAA) Insurance, Nationwide Insurance, Apex Property Group, Texas Windstorm Insurance Association and Summit Consulting.

Carole Bapoo '10, passed away September 9. She was a part of the women's basketball team.

FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY



Michael "Plank" Shepard passed away on July 28. Mike was a faithful employee of Houston Baptist University, working for the Office of University Events & Conferences since

2010 as a set-up services assistant. Michael will be remembered for his resilient attitude and hard work.

Dr. John Bisagno passed away on August 5. Dr. Bisagno was the pastor of Houston's First Baptist Church for 30 years, and was a friend of HBU, serving on the University's Board of Trustees. He is the endowed chair namesake of the HBU John Bisagno Distinguished Professor of Christian Origins, held by Dr. Craig A. Evans.

William Carlross Morris III passed away August 8. He was a lifelong Houstonian and Christian businessman. He was a longtime supporter of Houston Baptist University and husband of Sharon, a member of The Guild at HBU. William and Sharon generously supported the HBU Museum of Fine Arts, Friends of Fine Arts, the President's Leadership Council and student scholarships.



Cynthia Blair Belin passed away August 22. Blair was the wife of Greg Belin, the son of Mary Ann Belin and Dr. Bruce Belin, Jr. She was passionate about Jesus Christ and took

every opportunity to share her deep faith in Him. She also loved spending time with family, reading inspirational books, gardening at the farm, and visiting with her dear friends. Blair was a former member of The Guild.



The Rev. Milton W. Bailey passed away recently at the age of 104. He pastored more than 20 churches in the Houston area including First Baptist of Pearland, First

Baptist of Humble, Meadowbrook Baptist and First Baptist of Willis. He served for many years on the board of trustees for Memorial Baptist Hospital System of Houston and was a member of the site-selection committee for the founding of Houston Baptist University, influencing the lives of everyone he met.

HUSKIES GIVE BIG 8-31-18

Husky Social Hour - Huskies Give Big

Huskies united to celebrate a hugely successful first Huskies Give Big, day of giving, on August 31. The Husky Social Hour was underwritten by **Sue & Ashkan '86 Nowamooz**, at their restaurant, Hungry's in Rice Village. Alumni spanning all the decades enjoyed reconnecting with friends and making new alumni friends! During the event, Dr. Sloan announced that Huskies did indeed give BIG and exceeded the inaugural day of giving goal! **Alex & Randy '84 Sorrels**, who provided a match for the day of giving, shared the interest behind providing a match was about motivating others to get involved in giving at any level. "I truly feel giving back to the University is one of the most important things we can do as alumni," said Sorrels.



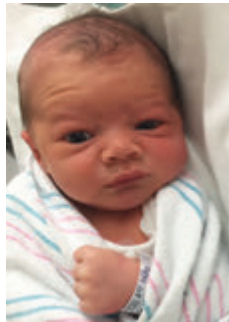
Heather Rowland Aleman '07, and husband, Anival, along with big sister, Evie, are happy to announce the arrival of Nicolò Cortez Anival Aleman, born on October 23, 2017.



Meredith Elliott Frith '06, and husband, Brandon, welcomed Amelia Jane Frith on August 2. Big sisters Olivia Mae, 8, and Eva Rose, 4, along with big brother, Henry David, 4, love their new baby sister!



Roshell Sampson Arterburn '07, and husband, Mike, welcomed Leah Rae Arterburn, born on August 21, 2017.



Melanie Stuff Hagerty '06, Advancement Services manager at HBU, and her husband, Michael, welcomed Louis David Hagerty on July 9.



Jenna Worley Fones '07, and husband, John, welcomed their son, Jackson Walker Fones, on December 28, 2017.



LaToya Deese-Richardson '10, and husband, Noah, welcomed a baby girl, Riley Noelle Richardson, on March 19.



Brittney Adams Ford '06, and husband Jeremy, welcomed Ryan Jeremy, born on May 3, weighing 9 lbs. 8 oz. and measuring 20 3/4 inches long. Big brothers Connor, 5, and Parker, 3, love their new baby brother!



Page Butera Hernandez '05, is the new director of Alumni Relations at Houston Baptist University. Page graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Speech Communication and Business Management. She was recently married to Gabriel Hernandez after returning from Haiti where she was a missionary.



Hunter Smith Neesley '15, is the new director of University Events and Conferences at Houston Baptist University. Hunter graduated with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Management. She is married to Andrew Neesley '15, and they live with their dogs, Harley and former HBU Mascot, Wakiza II.

THINK ABOUT IT...*HBU*

September 10: Tim Clinton



AACC President
Dr. Tim Clinton is president of the American Association of Christian Counselors (AACC), the largest and most diverse Christian counseling association in the world. The organization hosts

numerous events aimed at equipping mental health professionals, clergy members and lay people. He is recognized as a world leader in faith and mental health issues and is a respected author. Tim and his wife, Julie, have two children, Megan and Zach. HBU.edu/p54-Clinton

October 8: Dr. Todd Bates



Dean, Professor of Theology School of Christian Thought

Dr. Todd Bates is particularly interested in Christianity within culture. He has written broadly in the areas of philosophy,

theology, rhetoric and education. As an ordained Southern Baptist minister, he has pastored several churches. In addition to the SCT's renowned programs on campus and online, students may learn through the Houston Theological Seminary.

HBU.edu/p54-Bates

September 24: Dr. Kristie Cerling



Dean, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences

Dr. Kristie Cerling is the associate dean in the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, and an associate professor of Education.

Dr. Cerling's experience is extensive; she worked as a K-12 teacher, principal, curriculum director and superintendent of schools before moving into higher education. Her specialties include teaching strategies, classroom management and content area reading. Dr. Cerling has presented in numerous professional settings and has received multiple honors. HBU.edu/p54-Cerling

October 15: Meredith O'Hara

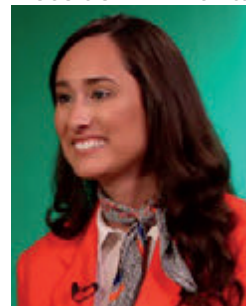


Associate Professor of Biology, College of Science and Mathematics

Dr. Meredith O'Hara is director of the "Under the Microscope" HBU Biology Speaker Series. Dr. O'Hara's teaching specialties include

embryology and anatomy and physiology. She emphasizes critical thinking and the integration of scientific concepts. HBU.edu/p54-OHara

October 22: Elizabeth Saldivar



Chair, Student Foundation

Elizabeth Saldivar serves as chair of the Student Foundation, a group whose members serve as fitting representatives of the University, interacting with friends and guests

of HBU at various events. She is a student worker in the President's Office, at the desk of the Academic Success Center, and serves as a tutor. Saldivar also serves as a mentor for the Summer Launch and Impact programs, and is a historian for the Filipino Student Association. As a management major, she is the first person in her family to go to college. HBU.edu/p54-Saldivar

October 1: Dr. Keith Drake



Program Coordinator for Electrical Engineering, Cyber Engineering, and Computer Science Bachelor's Programs, College of Engineering

Dr. Keith Drake served four years in the US Air Force

where he supervised research in intelligent crew-aiding systems and related research. He worked for 25 years in industry, focusing on medical technology where he excelled in data mining, automation and data science. He brings much real-world experience to the program.

HBU.edu/p54-Drake

PODCASTS AVAILABLE FREE ON iTUNES

October 29: Dr. Terre Johnson



Chair of the Department of Music and Director of Choral Activities, School of Fine Arts

Dr. Terre Johnson is widely recognized as a leader in choral music, church music, and professional

performance production. He has conducted choral groups in university, community, workshop, and church settings across the nation, and in international settings. His original compositions have been performed at HBU and around the world.

HBU.edu/p54-Johnson

November 5: Dr. Melissa Carlton



Associate Professor of Computer Science, College of Engineering

Dr. Melissa Carlton brings specialized cybersecurity strength to the College of Engineering through her

participation in the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education (NICE), experience with one of the National Security Agency (NSA) Centers of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense (CAE-CD), and the Joint Task Force for Cybersecurity Education. She worked in information technology in corporate and higher education settings for 26 years before completing her PhD in Information Systems and Security.

HBU.edu/p54-Carlton

November 12: Dr. Chris Hammons



Program Coordinator for Government and Professor of Government, School of Humanities

Dr. Chris Hammons is eager to ensure the Constitution and American founding principles

are taught to the next generation. He is the director of The Morris Family Center for Law & Liberty. Thanks to a gift by University founding father Stewart Morris, a replica of Independence Hall will be constructed on HBU's campus. The project will further the Center's educational and community engagement objectives. HBU.edu/p54-Hammons

November 19: Paul Hoyt



Student, Student Programming Board

Paul Hoyt and his teammates were finalists in the first American History and Western Civilization Challenge Bowl, presented by the American Heritage

Education Foundation last year. He serves as a member of the Student Programming Board's executive team. As a scholar in the Honors College, Hoyt has balanced rigorous academics with extensive student involvement and leadership.

HBU.edu/p54-Hoyt

November 26: Aaron Swarts



Assistant Director of Career and Calling Career

Aaron Swarts has excelled in coaching students and alumni in their search for the right fit, whether that be part-time jobs, internships

or full-time positions. Swarts has formed partnerships with employers in all industries, assisting small to large companies in finding top candidates. From individual job search strategies to career development workshops, to classroom instruction, Swarts brings a passion for helping HBU students and alumni on their career path, and in their life calling.

HBU.edu/p54-Swarts

December 3: Margaret



Humphreys Director, Academic Success Center

Margaret Humphreys has a MS in Student Affairs & Higher Education from Indiana State University and is the director of

the HBU Academic Success Center. The ASC helps students excel academically through tutoring, test reviews, weekly study groups, supplemental instruction, English Language Learners (ELL) and reading comprehension specialties, and academic coaching. The department coordinates programming that facilitates strong relationships and effective college experiences for each student.

HBU.edu/p54-Humphreys

December 10: André Walker III



Student, Defensive End, HBU Football

André Walker is a pre-med major and involved in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Alpha Epsilon Delta (the pre-med society).

In the summer of 2018, he shadowed team physician, Dr. Vishal M. Shah, and participated in the Summer Health Professions Education Program at Columbia University.

HBU.edu/p54-Walker

December 17: Colette Cross



Director of Discipleship Spiritual Life

Colette Cross' office helps integrate spiritual life into each aspect of University life. Much of the University's

spiritual activities fall under the umbrella of "Kaleo," an initiative made possible by Terry and Doris Looper. Cross is passionate about helping students find their spiritual and life callings.

HBU.edu/p54-Cross



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