

Notre Dame model for Baylor generates debate

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Notre Dame model for Baylor generates debate

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

WACO—Baylor University supporters agree the school is “Texas Baptists’ crown jewel,” but should it aspire to become the “Protestant Notre Dame”? And in a larger sense, what can Roman Catholics teach Baptists?

Doug Henry

Since former university President Robert Sloan led the school to adopt its Baylor 2012 long-range plan and open its Institute for Faith & Learning, supporters have pointed to Notre Dame as an example of a religiously affiliated school that successfully integrates faith and learning.

Rx for marital success: Worship together

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Rx for marital success: Worship together

By Catherine O'Donnell

Religion News Service

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (RNS)—Husbands and wives who attend religious services together are less likely to divorce, new research from the University of Michigan shows.

The study, conducted by researchers connected to the Institute for Social Research, examined how religion affected the risk of divorce for both black and white couples in the first seven years of marriage. Data came from 373 couples initially interviewed in 1986, their first year of marriage, as part of the Early Years of Marriage project at the university.

Leader suggests five ways

Baptists can impact Hispanics

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Leader suggests five ways Baptists can impact Hispanics

By Marv Knox

Editor

WACO—Since Hispanics “represent the future of Texas,” Baptists must reach them spiritually and help them physically if they intend to make a difference in their state, the leader of Hispanic Texas Baptists insisted.

Alcides Guajardo

Alcides Guajardo, president of the Hispanic Baptist Convention of Texas, described the status of Hispanics in Texas and prescribed how to minister to them during the “Be-coming a Racially Reconciled Church & Community” conference sponsored by Mission Waco.

Varied views on integration of faith & learning persist

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[See related story](#)

Varied views on integration of faith & learning persist

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

WACO—Calls for the integration of faith and learning that once polarized Baylor University's constituencies now appear to unite them. But while they rally around the "faith and learning" banner, varied groups seem to use the term in different ways and for a variety of reasons.

Bill Underwood

"Everyone I know on the Baylor campus embraces the concept of integrating faith and learning, but there are very different perspectives on what that means," observed Bill Underwood, former interim president at Baylor and president-elect at Mercer University.

Unrealistic expectations cause stress for ministerial families

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Unrealistic expectations cause stress for ministerial families

By Ken Walker

Special to the Baptist Standard

TUCSON, Ariz.—As a Baptist pastor's spouse for more than 30 years, Julie Barrier has a firsthand perspective on the stress facing ministers' families. So when her daughter, Brianna, helped complete a survey of 4,000 pastor's families while a student at Baylor University, the findings were no surprise to her.

Julie and
Roger
Barrier
lead a
seminar
for other
ministers
and
spouses.
Photo
courtesy
of
*Kentucky
Western
Recorder*

The survey identified four leading causes of stress for pastors and their families—unrealistic expectations, lack of time, finances and health issues.

EDITORIAL: Baylor's atmosphere: Faith & learning?

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EDITORIAL: Baylor's atmosphere: Faith & learning?

This edition of the Baptist Standard includes a package of stories that deliver a message to everyone who thinks the dispute over the future of Baylor University ended with the resignation of former President Robert Sloan: Think again.

Sloan stepped down last summer after more than two years of controversy over his leadership. Interim President Bill Underwood exerted a mediating influence. Morale on campus improved dramatically. New President John Lilley received the regents' endorsement because of his solid reputation as a reconciler and consensus builder. Also, since he lived his entire adult life far from Waco, he didn't have a bear in this fight.

Still, the struggle continues. It focuses on "faith and learning": How does a Christian—in this case Baptist—university integrate the essence of its

Editorial

by Marv Knox

biblical and theological foundation into its myriad academic disciplines? Baylor historically has adopted the "atmospheric" model, which affirms the Christian/ Baptist ethos of the university without expecting professors to discuss Christian ideas or principles in every class. Atmospheric advocates note the Christian character of Baylor is pervasive and compelling. They rest their case on more than 150 years of history. Detractors point to other universities founded on the atmospheric model, such as Harvard and Yale, which slid into secularism. They endorse the "integration of faith and learning" model, which mandates a more overt application of Christianity in the classroom. By infusing faith into every area of learning, they contend, Baylor can maintain its distinctive Christian character, even in the face of trends toward secularism. Atmospheric advocates warn the integration approach leads to legalism, thwarts

academic freedom, and will destroy Baylor's Baptist identity and lead to the university's fall from grace as a respected institution of learning. ([See Ken Camp's articles, which begin on page 12.](#))

The most recent flashpoint in this debate has been a set of papers prepared by a trio of Baylor professors and presented at the Vatican. The presentations by Michael Beaty, Douglas Henry and Scott Moore are, as you would expect, scholarly and complicated. Presupposing the importance of integrating faith and learning, they take an affirming stance toward the Roman Catholic system of higher education and call on Baptists to take a more ecumenical/accepting posture toward the Roman Catholic Church. This issue flared more recently when a pro-Sloan Baylor regent, Joe Armes, endorsed the professors' position, and a couple of well-known Texas Baptist educator/ministers, Russell Dilday and Raymond Bailey, wrote papers opposing them.

DOWN HOME: Phil Strickland: Friend & guide

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DOWN HOME: Phil Strickland: Friend & guide

Many of us—God only knows the number, but it is huge—lost a friend who

felt more like a brother last week.

Although his spirit remained strong and effervescent until the end, Phil Strickland finally lost his longtime battle with cancer.

As I write these words of love and grief, I realize countless others could write them, too. Phil made an intensely personal, unique and Christlike mark on our lives.

For the past decade, I looked to Phil as folks look to an older brother. We actually met about a quarter-century ago, but we became fast friends after I arrived back home in Texas just over 10 years ago.

7 principles for churches to be multiracial

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7 principles for churches to be multiracial

WACO—Seven principles characterize successful multiracial congregations, according to studies conducted by sociologist and author George Yancey.

Yancey, who has written a book titled *One Body, One Spirit: Seven Principles of Successful Multiracial Churches*, described those principles

during the “Becoming a Racially Reconciled Church & Community” conference sponsored by Mission Waco.

Those principles are:

ON THE MOVE

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ON THE MOVE

- D.F. Barrett has resigned as pastor of First Church in Eddy to become associate pastor of First Church in Hewitt.
 - Brandon Blagg has resigned as pastor of Olin Church in Hico.
 - Michael Brinkley to First Church in Flower Mound as preschool/children’s minister.
 - Jason Chism to First Church in Gladewater as minister of music and worship from First Church in Eddy.
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Cartoon

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Before I conclude, let's check what participants in our online sermon poll voted my conclusion should be.

News of religion, faith, missions, Bible study and Christian ministry among Texas Baptist churches, in the BGCT, the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) and around the world.

Family Bible Series for Feb. 26: Have faith that God knows what he's doing

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Family Bible Series for Feb. 26

Have faith that God knows what he's doing

• *Jeremiah 32:6-9, 27-30, 37-41*

By Donald Raney

Westlake Chapel, Graham

Serving God involves participating in God's plans to draw the world back into a proper relationship with him. By nature, these plans are vast in scope.

Explore the Bible Series for Feb. 26: Seek to commend, encourage one another

February 17, 2006

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Explore the Bible Series for Feb. 26

Seek to commend, encourage one another

• *Romans 16:1-7, 17-20, 25-27*

By Trey Turner

Canyon Creek Baptist Church, Temple

When I was in seminary, I dreamed of being in a church of 20-somethings. At the time, this was Generation X, the generation reacting to their “spoiled” boomer parents (just a description, not meant to offend anyone.)