

Lowrie named dean of HPU School of Christian Studies

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BROWNWOOD—Howard Payne University appointed David Lowrie, longtime Texas Baptist pastor and former president of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, as dean of the School of Christian Studies.

Lowrie brings more than 43 years of ministry experience and leadership to the role and will begin the position in August. Gary Gramling, current dean of the School of Christian Studies, will continue to serve as director of Christian studies graduate programs and professor of Christian studies.

“I am excited to welcome Dr. David Lowrie to this new leadership role at HPU,” said HPU President Cory Hines. “Dr. Lowrie is passionate about equipping young leaders to be faithful and effective pastors and ministers.

“He brings tremendous ministry experience and has provided leadership for 20 years through our board of trustees. We look forward to Dr. Lowrie and his wife Robyn joining the HPU family.”

Lowrie has served First Baptist Church of Decatur as senior pastor for the last eight years. His career in ministry spans four decades and encompasses rural and urban settings, as well as church planting and mission work. He was pastor in El Paso, Canyon, Mabank, Lewisville and Roanoke, as well as Milwaukee, Wisc.

He has led mission teams to Mexico, Paraguay, Brazil and East Asia.

He was president of Texas Baptists for two years and has served in numerous Baptist associational and state leadership positions.

‘Equip and train the next generation of ministers’

Lowrie served on the HPU board of trustees since 2005, including as chair for two years. He previously taught several Christian studies courses at HPU’s extension center in El Paso when he served as pastor of First Baptist Church in El Paso. He also assisted in the relocation of the extension center to the First Baptist location during his time there.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Baylor University, a Master of Divinity degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Ministry from Bethel Seminary in St. Paul, Minn.

“I am deeply humbled to be given the opportunity to build on the great legacy of the School of Christian Studies,” Lowrie said. “For decades, HPU has turned out world changing leaders.

“The Lord has given me a calling to join this mission to equip and train the next generation of ministers with spiritual depth, intellectual rigor and practical tools to be effective in leading churches to change the world.”

Robyn Lowrie has served as an adjunct professor at HPU. The Lowries have four daughters—Kalie Lowrie, Lorin Scott, Jamie Villanueva and Madison Lowrie—and six grandchildren.

“Robyn and I love HPU. We cannot wait to plant our lives in Brownwood. In many ways, HPU is our ‘family business,’” Lowrie said.