

ACADEM CUS™

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE PH.D./TH.M. PROGRAM OF SEBTS — VOLUME IV, ISSUE 1

CROSS-AREA CONCENTRATIONS CREATING NEW POSSIBILITIES BY COMBINING EXISTING SPECIALIZATIONS

One of the major challenges with which a doctoral program is faced is its ability to prepare students for the evolving needs of those institutions where its graduates will serve. Generally, the academic positions that can be supplied by that program are determined by the concentrations that it offers to its students. This describes the situation of the Ph.D. program at Southeastern, just as it does most doctoral programs that are preparing students to teach in a variety of fields.

As students move through their program, they tend to envision themselves teaching certain classes, in particular those they took as part of their doctoral classwork or at least classes offering subjects in which they have a particular interest and expertise. Teaching in one's area of specialization will be possible for some, since there will always be a need for a few to teach and conduct research in a fairly narrowly specialized area.

It is true as well, however, that many institutions are searching for scholars who can competently teach courses in both tes-

taments or treat biblical language issues having gained proficiency in multiple areas of concentration in a graduate-level studies program. The need obviously depends on the nature of the institution and its own academic mission. In any case, meeting the need for cross-disciplinary competencies re-



quires programs that allow students to study in more than one field, creating what one might call a cross-area concentration.

The need for some students to participate in seminars and engage in research with a cross-area emphasis is becoming more acutely felt, and the Ph.D.

program at Southeastern is endeavoring to adapt to this growing trend toward cross-area competency. Specific changes have, in fact, already been considered by the program's director, Dr. Andreas Köstenberger, and the faculty graduate studies committee. Presently, they are in the process of making significant changes to the program that would for the first time realize cross-area concentrations as part of the formal curriculum. Studying in one of these new cross-area concentrations would be an option both for students who are just beginning their program as well as for those who are presently enrolled.

One new concentration that has particular potential is that of *Bible Translation*. Dean L. Russ Bush and Ph.D. Director Andreas Köstenberger have discussed a new Ph.D. emphasis in this vital area. The impetus for this particular specialization arose with the International Mission Board's (IMB) recent decision to appoint missionaries with Wycliffe Bible Translators for Bible translation work. Students who participate in this new cross-area concentration will take two specialized seminars geared specifically toward Bible translation plus en-

gage in a mentorship program. If approved by the faculty, plans are to offer the *Bible Translation* concentration in the fall of 2004, furthering Southeastern's reputation as one of the leading seminaries preparing the next generation of scholar-missionaries.

There are presently two other cross-area concentrations that are being considered. One of these is a concentration in *Biblical Theology*. Seminars for this new course of study would aim at helping students develop competency in both biblical languages and testaments. The third proposed new concentration is in the area of *Hermeneutics*. Students will take specialized courses in the theory and practice of biblical interpretation as well as a seminar in the history of hermeneutics.

The new concentrations currently under consideration by the seminary faculty will actually be implemented with minimal changes to the existing structure or organization of the program.

New seminars for the cross-area concentrations would include a Biblical Theology seminar and a course in missionary linguistics. The concentrations currently available would remain unaffected. The proposal simply suggests that Southeastern increase the number and availability of possible concentrations by offering a small number of new courses and allow a limited number of students to focus their study on more than one area.

Students who are presently enrolled at Southeastern and who have not yet completed a majority of their seminars may still consider arranging their seminar schedules to meet the requirements for working in one of the new concentrations. However, enrolled students, as well as students who will be entering the program, should consider that their choice of a major professor determines their field of study. Consequently, students who choose one of the new cross-area concentrations would

still graduate in the same field as that represented by their major professor. Of course, students who choose one of the cross-area concentrations will be able to market themselves to prospective employers as having been trained in multiple fields. The dissertation pursued by these students should show a familiarity with issues pertaining to more than one field.

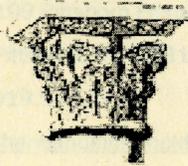
It is fortunate that changes that can enhance the scholarly appeal of Southeastern's Ph.D. program can be achieved with a minimal burden to the faculty and the program's budget. Still, the proposals have the potential of significantly enhancing the program's appeal to prospective and current students. Thoughtful decisions continue to be made as the Southeastern faculty consider what steps should be taken to best structure the seminary's doctoral program to train and send out new scholars and ministers of the gospel. ✠

WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

A new semester is just around the corner. I am sure many of us have stories to tell of fruitful ministry, study, and (hopefully) relaxation these past few months. Personally, I am very excited about the potential for growth and learning in our advanced academic programs this coming year. I am particularly grateful for all of you and for those on the SEBTS faculty and administration who colabor with me to make this program an unforgettable experience for our students. Dessert socials, a family picnic, and a special Ph.D. lunch fellowship with Dr. Mark Dever on November 7 are just some of the activities planned to make our time together more meaningful and enjoyable. Though I will be on sabbatical this coming year, I want to be as available as at all possible, so don't hesitate to let me know if you need any help.

May God give us a year full of growth and fruitful learning as we are being equipped to serve him better, for his honor and glory.



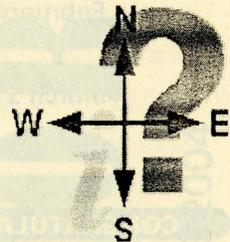


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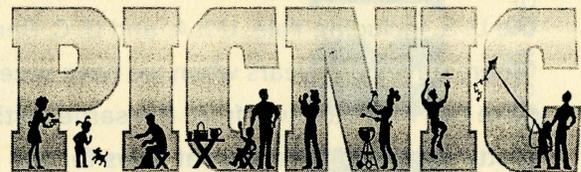
STUDENT ORIENTATION FOR 2003-2004

Student orientation will be held on Monday, August 18th from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. at Bayleaf Baptist Church. Though all Ph.D. students are welcome to attend this function, all students who have not yet successfully passed their oral and written exams are expected to attend. Dr. David Beck (Professor of New Testament) and Dr. Andreas Köstenberger (Director of Ph.D./Th.M. Studies and Professor of New Testament) will be speaking.



GRADUATE STUDIES FALL PICNIC

There will be a family picnic for all current Ph.D. and Th.M. families on September 13 from 2-6:00 pm at Durant Nature Park. Great food, family fun and fellowship will be the main fare. Please sign up in the Graduate Studies office or call Janet Hellard at 761-2491 to make your reservations by September 5. Be sure to include the entire family for this wonderful event. Maps to the picnic site will be available in the Graduate studies office by August 25.



NEW STUDENT SOCIALS

All incoming Ph.D. students and their spouses are cordially invited to one of two dessert socials to be held at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Andreas Köstenberger. Students are asked to sign up for one of two dates: Friday, August 15th or Saturday August 16th, both from 7-9 pm. Each social will be limited to eight couples on a first-come-first-served basis. Sign up at the Graduate Studies office or contact Janet Hellard at 761-2491. Each student must arrange their own childcare. Take advantage of this opportunity to become better acquainted with the Köstenbergers as well as other Ph.D. student families.



IMPORTANT DATES**INTEGRATIVE SEMINAR DATES AND SPEAKERS****Fall 2003**

| | |
|--------------|---|
| August 23 | Orientation (1-3 p.m.) |
| September 12 | Dr. Bruce Little (Professor of Philosophy of Religion, SEBTS) |
| October 17 | Dr. Michael Travers (Professor of English, SEBTS) |
| November 7 | Dr. Mark Dever (Senior Pastor at Capitol Hill Baptist Church, Washington, DC) |

Spring 2004

| | |
|-------------|---|
| February 20 | Dr. Kenneth Coley (Professor of Christian Education/Director of Secondary Education Program, SEBTS) |
| March 19 | Dr. John Sailhamer (Professor of Old Testament, SEBTS) |
| April 16 | Dr. Keith Harper (Professor of Church History, SEBTS) |

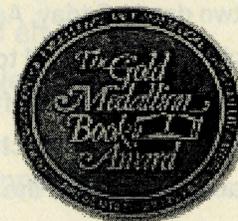
CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations James Hilton and Thomas White for receiving the Lynn E. May, Jr. Study Grants. May is a former president of the Southern Baptist Historical Society. These grants are awarded on a competitive basis and are made available to encourage the use of the unique resources of the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives. The competition is open to a wide variety of applicants, including well-established scholars. In the past grants have been awarded to scholars from some of the most respected institutions in the U. S. including Yale, UCLA, and U. C. Berkeley. Bill Sumners, Director and Archivist for the SBHLA noted, "There have been years when we have received no applications from Southern Baptist seminaries, so to have two PhD students from the same institution apply for grants and receive them in the same year is pretty amazing." This is great news for two excellent students, not to mention the Ph.D. program. Here were their applications: James Hilton, "The Theology of Robert Boyte Crawford Howell: A Theology of Controversy." Thomas White, "J. M. Pendleton."

Congratulations John Nixon, Danny Wilson and Bob Olson for successfully completing their Written & Oral Comprehensive Exams.

LITERARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

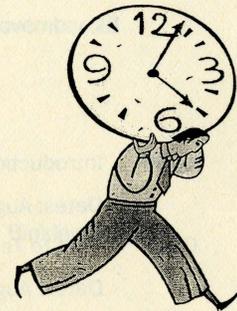
Dr. Andreas Köstenberger (Professor of New Testament and Director of Ph.D./Th.M. Studies) and Dr. Emir Caner (Professor of Church History and Anabaptist Studies) have been honored by the Evangelical Christian Publishers Association with the Gold Medallion Book Awards. Dr. Caner co-authored *Unveiling Islam* with his brother Dr. Ergun Caner (professor at Liberty University in Lynchburg, VA). The Caners' book, *Unveiling Islam*, received the award in the division Missions and Evangelism. Dr. Köstenberger contributed to the Zondervan Illustrated Bible Backgrounds Commentary with his work on the Gospel of John, a project he worked on during a ten-month sabbatical research leave in Cambridge, England in 1999-2000.



PLAN AHEAD

If you have not yet completed your language requirements, please note these details for 2003-2004.

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Summer 2003 | No research languages offered |
| Fall 2003 | Introduction to Theological German (Williams) |
| J-Term 2004 | Theological Readings in German (Köstenberger) |
| Spring 2004 | Introduction to Theological French (Williams) |
| Summer 2004 | Introduction to Theological Latin (Williams) |

**ETS MEETING**

Plan now to attend the Annual ETS Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, in November 19-21, 2003, at the Hilton Atlanta. This year's meeting promises to be especially important, since the Society will be dealing with the question of open theism.

ESSAY ANNOUNCEMENT

Word & World (Theology for Christian Ministry) is designating a prize of \$1000 to encourage scholarship and writing for the church. Essays should be devoted to topics that promote "theology for Christian ministry" and should be written in a lively style that is fully accessible to those engaged in the practice of Christian ministry. Essays, which must be accompanied by an official submission form, must be received by October 1, 2003, and should be 3500 words in length. Applications can obtain a submission form at www.luthersem.edu/word&world. All essays, not only the winner, will be considered for publication in Word & World. Address essays or requests for further information to Dr. Fredrick J. Gaiser, Editor, 2481 Como Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108. Phone: 651-641-3210; e-mail; fgaiser@luthersem.edu. See the announcement posted in Mrs. Hellard's office.

A PERSONAL TOUCH

Here is what's happening in the lives of your fellow students!

Ant and Eva Greenham are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter, Jane.

Tommy Kiker and Carol Ann Yarbrough were married on July 12th and are now residing in Ahoskie, NC.

Mike Vlach, an A.B.D. in Systematic Theology (under Dr. John Hammett), has been teaching an Introduction to Philosophy class at Southeast Community College in Lincoln, Nebraska this summer. He will be teaching a Survey of Theology class at Grace University in Omaha, Nebraska, this Fall.

Bob and Sarah Olsen had a baby girl, Anna, on May 20th.

Brad Hambrick, a Th.M. graduate as of Spring 2003, is working fulltime as a counselor and director of church relations at Crossroads Biblical Counseling Ministries in Augusta, Georgia. His new e-mail address is bhambrick@crossroadsaugusta.org.

Congratulations also go to Bill McMullan with the arrival of a new daughter.

DOCTORAL SEMINARS

Fall 2003

| | | | | |
|------|---|--------------|---|-------------|
| 0580 | Introduction to Research Dates: August 14 and 15 | Köstenberger | 1 | 9-4 (R, F) |
| 0581 | Intro to Teaching in Higher Education Dates: August 14 and 15 | Buchanan | 1 | 9-4 (R, F) |
| 0116 | Introduction to Theological German First meeting August 18, then meets every Friday except Integrative Seminar dates | Williams | 2 | 1-5 (F) |
| 0575 | Integrative Seminar Dates: Aug. 22, Sept. 12, Oct. 17, Nov. 7 | Köstenberger | 3 | 1-5 (F) |
| 1375 | Seminar in Old Testament Theology | Sailhamer | 3 | 12:30-3 (W) |
| 1777 | New Testament Theology: Hebrews | Lanier | 3 | 9-11:30 (F) |
| 3097 | Seminar on a Selected Doctrine: Ecclesiology | Hammett | 3 | 7:30-10 (W) |
| 3281 | Seminar in Western Thought | Bush | 3 | 2-4:30 (R) |
| 3390 | Seminar on the History of Moral Theology | Heimbach | 3 | 7:30-10 (T) |
| 2476 | History & Theology of Spiritual Awakenings | Reid | 3 | 7:30-10 (R) |

Spring 2004

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|------|--|--------------|---|-------------|
| 0114 | Introduction to Theological French Class begins Jan. 23, then meets every Friday except Integrative Seminar dates | Williams | 2 | 1-5 (F) |
| 0587 | Integrative Seminar Dates: Feb. 20, Mar. 19, Apr. 16; Student Conference: April 30 and May 7 | Köstenberger | 3 | 1-5 (F) |
| 1380 | Seminar in Contemporary O. T. Research | Rooker | 3 | 12:30-3 (W) |
| 1775 | N.T. Themes: Evangelism in the N.T. | Beck | 3 | 7:30-10 (T) |
| 3279 | Christian Faith and the Modern Mind | Bush | 3 | 2-4:30 (T) |
| 2177 | Seminar in American Theological History | Harper | 3 | 1-3:30 (R) |
| 3283 | Current Topics in Philosophy of Religion: Coherence of Theism | Little | 3 | 7:30-10 (T) |
| 2381 | Sem. in Contemp. South. Baptist Missiology | Eitel | 3 | 7:30-10 (W) |
| 4179 | The Preaching Tradition | McDill | 3 | 9-11:30 (F) |

Students previously scheduled to take Dr. Patterson's *Seminar on Contemporary Theology* in the Spring 2004 Semester are advised to select another seminar. *Seminar on Contemporary Theology* will not be offered.

Ph.D. Schedule of Events (2003 – 2004)

Thursday, August 14-Friday, August 15

9 a.m.-4:00 p.m. *Introduction to Research and Writing* (Köstenberger; 2nd fl. conference room, Stephens-Mackie)

Thursday, August 14-Friday, August 15

9 a.m.-4:00 p.m. *Introduction to Teaching in Higher Education* (Buchanan)

Friday, August 15 and Saturday, August 16

7-9:00 p.m. Dessert Social for new Ph.D. students at Dr. and Mrs. Köstenberger's

Monday, August 18

9:00-1:00 p.m. Ph.D. Orientation at Bayleaf Baptist Church; required for all entering and returning resident students, optional for ABDs. Classes begin.

Tuesday, August 19

10:00 a.m. Fall Convocation

Friday, August 22

1-5:00 p.m., Integrative Seminar Orientation

Tuesday, August 26

Last day to notify Registrar of desire to graduate in December.

Monday, September 1

Labor Day-Seminary closed

Tuesday, September 9

Last day for dropping courses.

Friday, September 12

1-5:00 p.m., Integrative Seminar, Dr. Little

Saturday, September 13

Ph.D. Fall Family Picnic

Monday, October 6 - Friday, October 10

FALL BREAK

Friday, October 17

1-5:00 p.m., Integrative Seminar, Dr. Travers

Friday, November 7

1-5:00 p.m., Integrative Seminar, Dr. Dever

Wednesday, November 19-Friday, November 21

ETS annual meeting in Atlanta

Monday, November 24-Friday, November 28

THANKSGIVING RECESS

Saturday, December 6

Last day of classes

Friday, December 12

2:00 p.m., Graduation Rehearsal, Binkley Chapel

Saturday, December 13

10:00 a.m. Commencement Exercises

Monday, January 26

Classes begin

Tuesday, January 27

10:00 a.m. Spring Convocation

Tuesday, February 17

Last day for dropping courses.

Friday, February 20

1-5:00 p.m., Integrative Seminar, Dr. Coley

Monday, March 1-Friday, March 5

SPRING BREAK

Friday, March 19

1-5:00 p.m., Integrative Seminar, Dr. Sailhamer

Monday, April 5-Friday, April 9

EASTER RECESS

Friday, April 16

1-5:00 p.m., Integrative Seminar, Dr. Harper

Friday, April 30

1-5:00 p.m., Student Conference

Friday, May 7

1-5:00 p.m., Student Conference

Friday, May 15

Last day of classes

Friday, May 21

2:00 p.m., Graduation Rehearsal, Binkley Chapel

Saturday, May 22

10:00 a.m. Commencement Exercises

STAY IN TOUCH

Keep Up to Date: Students, if you suspect that your mailing or e-mail address or phone number may need to be updated please contact Mrs. Hellard, and let her know what those changes might be. You may contact our Administrative Assistant at 761-2491 or jhellard@sebts.edu. Or if you are not receiving the occasional e-mail messages and reminders about events and happenings in the Ph.D. program, please send an updated e-mail address to buschbrian@hotmail.com.

How Can We Minister to You? We hope *Academicus* is serving your needs. Feel free to send an e-mail concerning the news and issues you would like to hear more of in the future. Include ideas for topics that you believe should be addressed or material that you want to contribute. Send those message to jhellard@sebts.edu or buschbrian@hotmail.com. Please type "Academicus" in the subject heading.



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