

# ACADEM CUS™

Quarterly Newsletter of the Ph.D./Th.M. Program of SEBTS

Volume III, Issue 1

## PRESIDENT PATTERSON'S PERSPECTIVE

### ON GRADUATE STUDIES AT SEBTS

— Dr. Paige Patterson, SEBTS president, responds to questions regarding the future of the seminary in general and the Graduate Studies program in particular.

**Q. What is your current assessment of the Graduate Studies Program at SEBTS?**

A. From the outset we have enjoyed good leadership, but now with Dr. Köstenberger we have the very best conceivable. He brings to the program both intensity and sensitivity. I have been amazed at the ready market for our students. Finally, I am very pleased with the recent SACS recognition of the strength of the program.

**Q. What reports can you share with us concerning the impact of our Graduate Studies graduates in their various ministry positions?**

A. Here the answer is exceedingly positive. Alan Branch and Ken Keathley serve as professors of Ethics and Theology and as Deans of Students in two of our seminaries. Michael McDill and Thomas Howe are both professors of Theology and Philosophy at two additional seminaries. Mark

Howell has served as professor of Theology at still a fifth seminary, and now serves as the pastor of the First Baptist Church of Little Rock, AR. Cky Carrigan occupies a prestigious position with NAMB in the interfaith witness department. Chris Scofield also directs the prayer ministry for NAMB. Meanwhile David Nelson, Pete Schemm, Steve Ladd, Bruce Little, David Jones and Bill Brown have all joined the faculty here at Southeastern. This represents an amazing achievement for a young program.

**Q. What is your vision for the future of the Graduate Studies Program at SEBTS?**

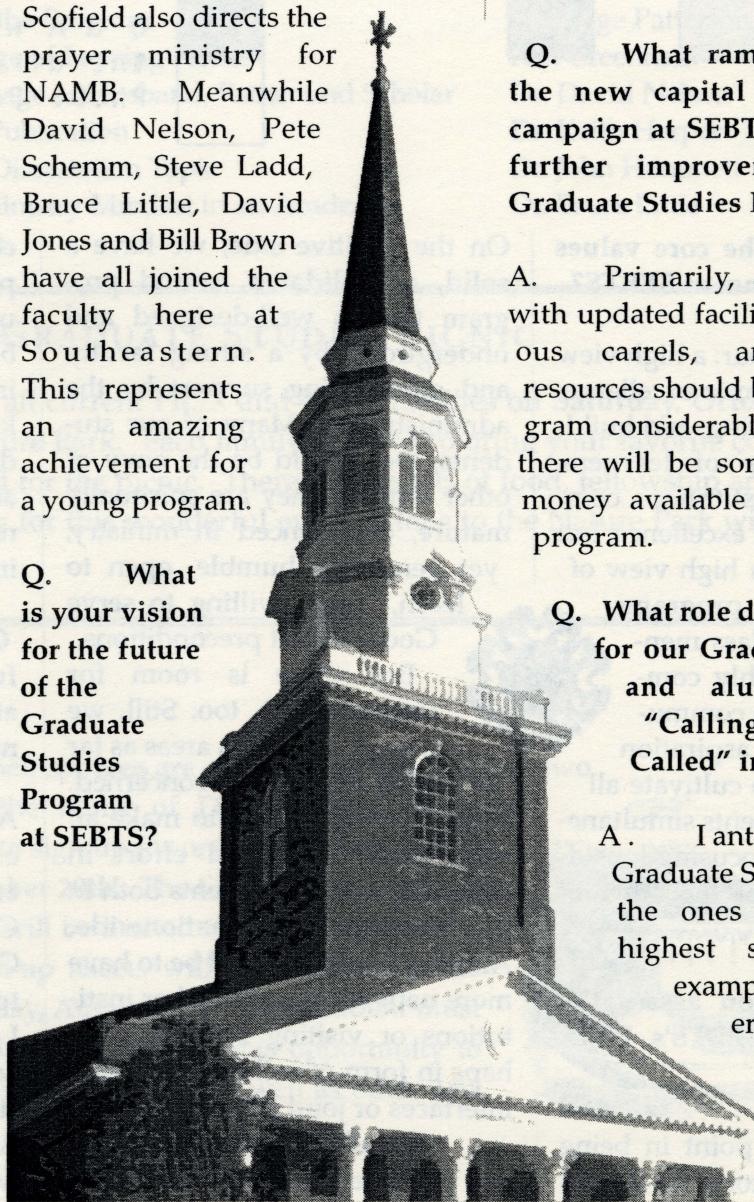
A. My vision all along has been to train scholars for work at 3 different levels: the pastorate, scholastic institutions in America, and missionary scholars. My prayer is to be able to help dispel the myth of evangelical intellectual laziness.

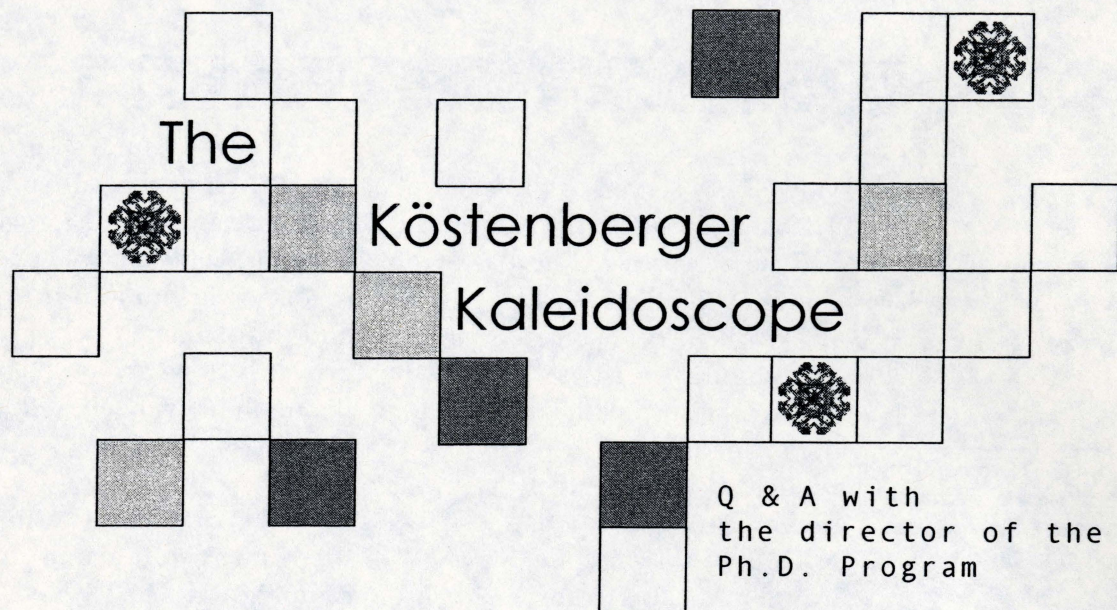
**Q. What ramifications will the new capital improvement campaign at SEBTS have on the further improvement of the Graduate Studies Program?**

A. Primarily, a new library with updated facilities, commodious carrels, and increased resources should bolster the program considerably. In addition, there will be some scholarship money available for the Ph.D. program.

**Q. What role do you envision for our Graduate students and alumni in the "Calling out the Called" initiative?**

A. I anticipate that our Graduate Students will be the ones who set the highest standard and example for all others.





**Q. What are the core values of the Ph.D. program at SEBTS?**

A. There are four: a high view of Scripture, academic excellence, world-class mentoring, and building a community of learners. There are other institutions committed to academic excellence, but there may not be a high view of Scripture. Other programs may have world-class mentoring but are highly competitive rather than community-oriented. Our aspiration here at SEBTS is to cultivate all four core commitments simultaneously rather than focusing lopsidedly on just one or the other of these values.

**Q. How do you assess the current state of SEBTS's Ph.D. program?**

A. There's no point in being too self-congratulatory; we should be self-critical where necessary.

On the positive side, we have a solid, consolidated, sound program that is well-designed and undergirded by a strong faculty and outstanding support by the administration. Many of our students, too, would be the envy of other schools: they are spiritually mature, experienced in ministry, yet genuinely humble, open to learn, and willing to serve God without preconditions.

But there is room for improvement, too. Still, we are weak in certain areas as far as faculty expertise is concerned. Also, I would like us to make an even more concerted effort in attracting quality students both in the Southeast and nationwide. Another frontier would be to have more networking with other institutions or visiting scholars, perhaps in form of colloquia or other interfaces or joint efforts.

Finally, we are, I believe, not yet where we ought to be in preparing our students to use for-

eign languages in their research, particularly German. I would like us to do better in this regard, for I believe this is one of the most important marks of quality in the kinds of dissertations that are produced at a given institution. We are looking into several ways right now how we could further improve in this area.

**Q. What do you see in the future for doctoral studies at SEBTS, say, in the next five years?**

A. I am excited about the emphasis on Calling Out the Called. We want to identify those the Lord has called out and help train them for strategic ministry here in North America and in other parts of the world. Just the other day I had opportunity to meet with a



# INSIDER

Volume III, Issue 1

## • Getting to Know You

### Ph.D./Th.M. Lunch Fellowships

There will be six Ph.D./Th.M. Lunch fellowships this semester. They will be on **Tuesdays after chapel from 11:30 am to 12:15 pm** in the second-floor conference room in Stephens-Mackie hall. The dates, topics and speakers are listed below. Bring your lunch and come for an exciting time of fellowship.

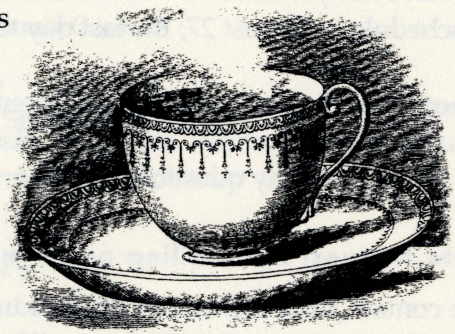
Aug. 27	Welcome to the Program	Dr. Paige Patterson
Sept. 10	The Challenge of Leaving Home	Ant Greenham
Sept. 24	How to Manage as Husband, Father and Scholar	Dr. David Nelson
Oct. 22	Writing for Publication	Dr. Keith Harper
Nov. 5	Choosing a Dissertation Topic	Dr. John Hammett
Dec. 3	Keeping a Ministry Mindset in an Academic Environment	Dr. Bruce Little

## GRADUATE STUDIES PICNIC

There will be a family picnic for all current Ph.D. and Th.M. families on **Saturday, October 19 from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm** at the Durant Nature Park. Each family is asked to bring your favorite covered dish. The Ph.D. office will supplement food for the picnic. There will be lots of food, fellowship and recreation. Be sure to include your entire family for this wonderful event. Maps to the Nature Park will be available in the Graduate Studies office.

### New Student Dessert 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, September 13th** or **Friday, September 20th**. The time for the social will be from 7 pm.-9 pm. Each social will be limited to eight couples on a first-come-first-served basis. Sign-up sheets will be available at the Ph.D. Orientation session on Monday, August 19th. Each student must arrange for his own childcare. Take advantage of this opportunity to become better acquainted with the Köstenbergers as well as other new Ph.D. students and their spouses.



## • Important Dates

### Integrative Seminar Dates

- |            |                                    |                          |
|------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Aug. 23  | Organizational Meeting             | Dr. Andreas Köstenberger |
| • Sept. 13 | Historical Method                  | Dr. Steven McKinion      |
| • Oct. 18  | Open Theism                        | Dr. John Hammett         |
| • Nov. 8   | Gender-inclusive Bible Translation | Dr. Andreas Köstenberger |

### Graduate Studies Committee Dates \*

- |              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| • August 30  | • September 20 |
| • October 25 | • November 15  |
| • December 6 |                |

\* Important Note – Any materials to be submitted to the Graduate Studies Committee (i.e. Prospectus, Thesis, etc.) must be given to Janet Hellard in the Graduate Studies office no later than Monday noon of the week of the meeting.

## • Program Notes

### Senior Visiting Scholar

Dr. Patterson has invited Dr. Adrio König from the University of South Africa to return to our campus during the Spring 2003 semester. Dr. König has published several important works in the field of Systematic Theology. **He will be offering Ph.D. seminar 3097—Seminar on a Selected Doctrine.** Please contact Janet Hellard in the Graduate Studies Office now if you are interested in taking advantage of this great opportunity.

### Updated Graduate Studies Handbooks

The Th.M. Student Handbook and the Ph.D. Student Handbook have been revised. Dr. Köstenberger will give a presentation regarding important matters and recent developments at the August 19th Ph.D. Orientation. If you have not received your handbook, please see Janet Hellard in the Graduate Studies office.

### Registration Information

Please note that the last day to notify the Registrar of your intent to graduate in December is August 27.

If you have not yet decided which seminars to take in the fall semester, be aware that the last day to add a class to your schedule is August 27; the last day to drop a class without academic penalty is September 10.

For those planning to graduate in December, the last day to submit your thesis or dissertation is October 28. Graduates must carefully attend to dissertation/thesis formatting and style. If you have any questions, see your major professor for guidance.

### Update Request for Mailing and E-mail Addresses

Please contact Janet Hellard in the Graduate Studies office to ensure that your mailing and e-mail addresses on file are correct. Mrs. Hellard can be reached by telephone at (919) 761-2491 or by e-mail at [jhellard@sebts.edu](mailto:jhellard@sebts.edu).

ACADEMICUS™

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## Ph.D. Calendar of Events

### Monday, August 19

9:00–1:00 p.m. Ph.D. Orientation at Bay Leaf Baptist Church: required for all entering and returning resident students, optional for ABDs.

### Tuesday, August 20

10:00 a.m. Fall Convocation

### Friday, August 23

1:00–5:00 p.m. Integrative Seminar

### Tuesday, August 27

11:30–12:15 Ph.D. lunch fellowship

Last day for adding classes. Matriculation closes at 5:00 p.m. Last day to notify registry of desire to graduate in December.

### Friday, August 30

2:30 p.m. Graduate Studies Meeting

### Monday, September 2

Labor Day–Seminary closed

### Wednesday, September 4

3:00–5:00 p.m. Academic Council

### Tuesday, September 10

11:30–12:15 Ph.D. lunch fellowship

### Friday, September 13

1:00–5:00 p.m. Integrative Seminar

### Friday, September 13 & 20

7:00–9:00 p.m. First-year Student Receptions at Dr. Köstenberger's home

### Friday, September 20

1:00–5:00 p.m. Integrative Seminar

### Tuesday, September 24

11:30–12:15 p.m. Ph.D. lunch fellowship

### Monday, October 7–Friday, October 11

FALL BREAK

### Monday, October 14–Tuesday, October 15

Fall Meeting of the Board of Trustees and Board and Visitors

### Friday, October 18

1:00–5:00 p.m. Ph.D. lunch fellowship

### Saturday, October 19

2:00–6:00 p.m. Fall Picnic at Durant Nature Park

### Tuesday, October 22

11:30–12:15 Ph.D. lunch fellowship

### Friday, October 25

2:30 p.m. Graduate Studies Meeting

### Monday, October 28

Last day for submitting theses, project reports and dissertations for graduation in the December commencement.

### Wednesday, October 30

3:00–5:00 p.m. Academic Council

### Tuesday, November 5

11:30–12:15 p.m. Ph.D. lunch fellowship

### Friday, November 8

2:30 p.m. Integrative Seminar

### Friday, November 15

2:30 p.m. Graduate Studies Meeting

### Wednesday, November 20–Tuesday November 26

ETS/IBR/AAR/SBL

### Monday, November 25–Friday November 29

THANKSGIVING RECESS

### Monday, December 2

Theses and dissertations to be submitted to the library for binding

### Tuesday, December 3

11:30–12:15 Ph.D. lunch fellowship

### Wednesday, December 4

3:00–5:00 p.m. Academic Council

### Friday, December 6

2:30 p.m. Graduate Studies Meeting

### Monday, December 9–Friday, December 13

Exam Week

### Saturday, December 7

Last day of classes

### Saturday, December 14

10:00 a.m. Commencement Exercises

## • Congratulations

### May 2002 Ph.D. Graduates

Dr. David Jones  
Dr. Steve Ladd  
Dr. John Tarwater

### Ph.D. Prospectus Approval:

Charles Busada  
Derry Hodge  
Chet Roden  
Mark Walton

### Comprehensive Exams Passed:

Bruce Ashford  
James Joseph  
Michael Soud

### Th.M. Prospectus Approval:

James Lesley  
William McMullan

# 54<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

November 20-22, 2002  
Toronto, Canada

The 54th Annual meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society will be held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada on November 20-22, 2002 at the beautiful Regal Constellation Hotel. The theme for this year's meeting is "Evangelical Christianity and Other Religions." Southeastern will be well represented again this year with papers presented by Dr. Emir Caner, Dr. Steve McKinion, Dr. Michael Travers, J.D. Greear, and John Nixon, to name a few. This conference will provide great opportunities for meeting world-renowned theologians, hearing papers presented on a variety of topics across many theological disciplines, and receiving significant discounts (up to 50%) on books from many of the premiere academic publishing houses.

For those who are already ETS members, the last day to receive a discount for early registration is September 30. For those interested in joining ETS, you can pick up a membership application in the Graduate Studies Office. The cost for an annual student membership is only \$15. Some of the benefits of ETS membership include one year of JETS, and a discounted registration fee for the annual meeting.



**THE  
EVANGELICAL  
THEOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY**

prospective student, who is Hispanic and senses the Lord's call to pursue doctoral studies possibly at SEBTS so that he can train other Hispanics to teach still others. We want to be part of what God is doing in this regard.

I am also excited about our faculty increasingly publishing significant work. There has been a very remarkable increase in faculty publications in the last five years, well, even in just the last year. This is vital for the continued

flourishing of our Ph.D. program, for faculty must set the example

**Overall, I believe our sights should be set, not primarily on competing with other schools, but on being faithful to what God has called us to do here at Southeastern.**

for our students, many of whom are attracted to studying at SEBTS by reading materials published by our faculty.

There may also be addi-

tional fields of doctoral studies, most notably Christian Education.

This will enable us to offer an even fuller range of higher theological education.

Last but not least, I anticipate with ever-increasing excitement the construction and opening of a new state-of-the-art library. As the accrediting agencies keep reminding us, a fully equipped library is absolutely vital for a first-rate Ph.D. program. There also may be other related

*Continued on page 8*

**•A Word from the Director**



Some of us traveled abroad on mission assignments, others spent much needed time with family, still others took—or taught—classes on German, Greek, or other subjects. Yet after being scattered around the globe during the summer months, it is once again time for the campus community to come together to study to show ourselves approved by God, rightly dividing the word.

It is my joy to extend a particular welcome to the incoming class of Ph.D. and Th.M. students and to wish all of you well in your academic adventure. Welcome back to those of you who are returning to continue or complete your program. Finally, welcome to the team, Randy Mann and his wife Melanie. Randy, who is a first-year Ph.D. student, will serve as my assistant this year, helping with a variety of Ph.D.-related assignments.

Over the course of the summer we have seen considerable and growing interest in our Ph.D. program. Slowly but surely, it seems, the secret is getting out! I am convinced that Southeastern's Ph.D. is one of the best values in theological education today. As we continue to refine aspects of the program, we remain committed to our core values: a high view of Scripture, academic excellence, world-class mentoring, and building a community of learners.

With the apostle Paul, I pray that this year, by God's grace, we may all live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, and joyfully giving thanks to the Father (Col. 1:10-12).

Andreas J. Köstenberger

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improvements in physical facilities serving the Ph.D. program in the future. There are very ambitious plans for fund-raising and development at SEBTS, which will also benefit doctoral studies here.

Overall, I believe our sights should be set, not primarily on competing with other schools,

but on being faithful to what God has called us to do here at SEBTS. We want to equip our students as effectively as possible within the framework of a high view of Scripture, the pursuit of academic excellence, world-class mentoring, and a community of learners. Let us heed the apostle's

vision, "Forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead, I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus" (Phil 3:13-14).

# 54<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

# ACADEMICUS



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