

Southeastern News

Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

Wake Forest, North Carolina 27587

P. O. Box 712

Phone (919) 556-3101

RODNEY V. BYARD

Assistant to the President

Home: 536 N. Wingate St.

556-1485

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NEW ORLEANS CONVENTION NEWS UPDATE

NEW ORLEANS, LA. - As more than 20,000 Southern Baptist converged on New Orleans the pre-Convention meetings began Sunday and concluded Monday night. In the Religious Education meeting, Bruce Powers, Bill Clemmons, and Tom Halbrooks made a major presentation on the philosophy and practice of Christian Education.

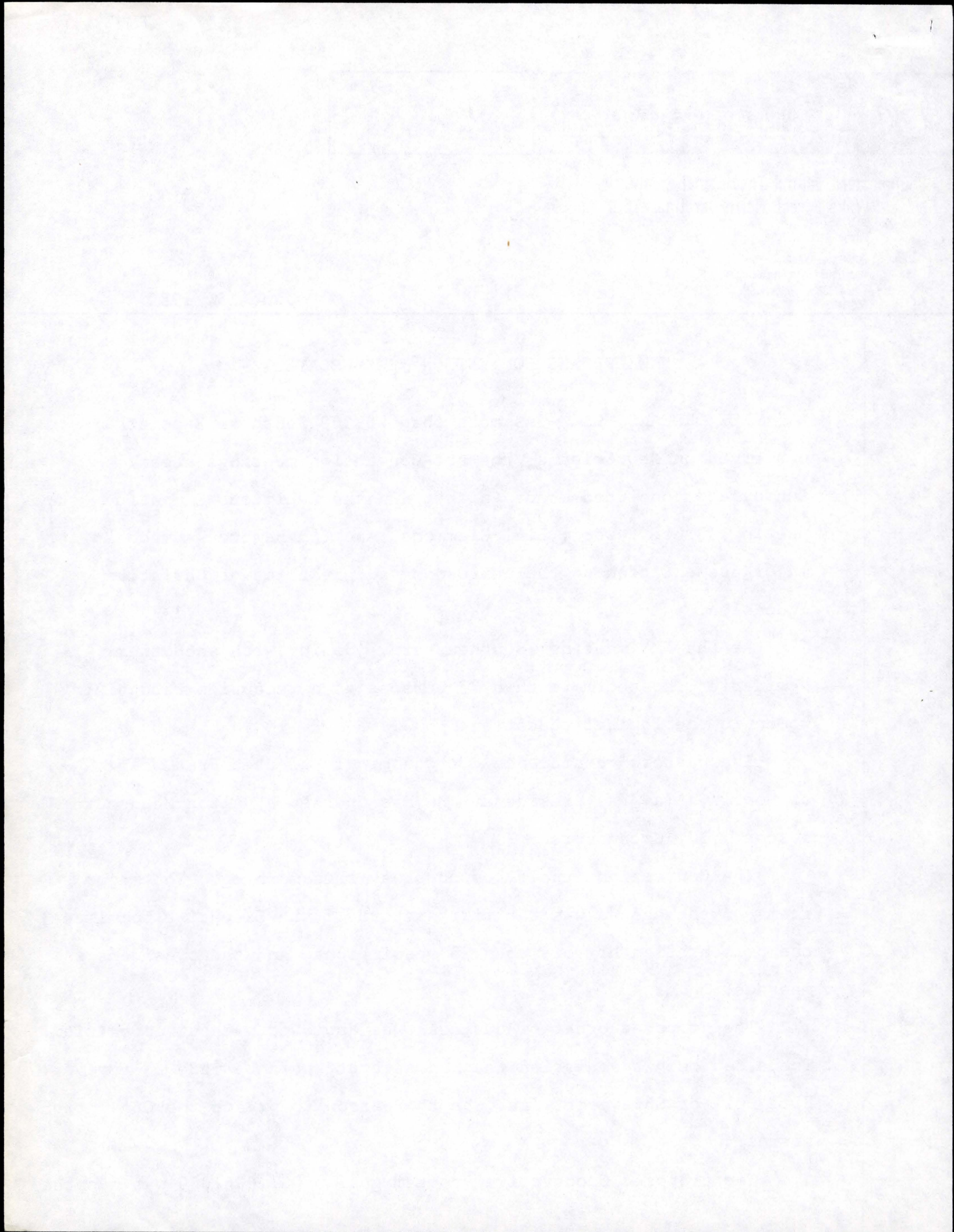
At the WMU meeting, Southeastern, joining with the other seminaries, hosted more than 25 persons at a reception recognizing women in theological education.

The pastors' conference overwhelmingly elected Fred Wolf of Mobile, Ala., as president. He was opposed by Alton McEachern, pastor, FBC, Greensboro.

The Convention itself got underway this morning. The major items on the agenda was the first report of the Executive Committee, the presentation of more than 20 resolutions, and the president's message.

The proposed order of business was approved without opposition. There had been speculation that an attempt would be made to remove Bill Hull of Shreveport, La., as the person to preach the Convention sermon.

The proposed Cooperative Program goal of \$1,006,000 was adopted



as well as the allocation budget of the same amount. In the budget Southeastern is designated to receive \$3,201,053 for operation expenses and \$1,365,000 for capital needs (Student Center and Mackie Hall renovations). In addition the six seminaries are included for \$1,100,000 in the Challenge Budget. All other Executive Committee proposals were adopted except one. That was a proposal that at least one of the three top officers of the Convention be a layperson.

The appointments to the Committee on Committees and the Committee on Resolutions were announced today. The North Carolina representative on the Committee on Committee will be J. D. Grant, of Morganton, and Dwight Ledbetter, (home town not known). Conrad Bost of Salisbury, will be on the Committee on Resolutions.

In his message, Smith challenged Southern Baptists to a recommitment to evangelism. He was strong in his emphasis on the inerrancy of the Bible and his denunciation of anything that would keep evangelism from being a priority in Southern Baptists life. It was not viewed by the Southeastern folk here as a conciliatory or positive message.

More tomorrow.

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