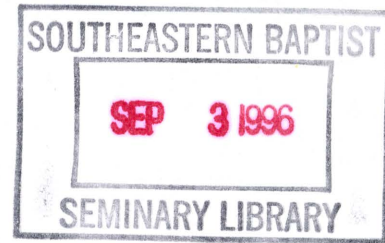


# **Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary**

Post Office Box 1889 · Wake Forest, NC · 27588-1889

Office of News & Information  
Phone (919) 556-3101  
Fax (919) 556-0998  
CompuServe 71173,2451  
Greg Kingry, Director of Public Relations  
Dwayne Hastings, Coordinator - News & Information



## **Start of new degree program brings psychologist to Southeastern faculty**

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP)--A clinical psychologist who affirms the preeminence of Jesus Christ has been appointed to the faculty of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. The announcement was made in anticipation of the start of the counseling track in the master of divinity degree program at the school this fall.

James Porowski, who holds a doctor of psychology from George Fox College, Newberg, Ore., was named assistant professor of pastoral care at the Wake Forest, N.C., seminary July 7.

Noting Porowski's impeccable credentials and his experience in psychology and counseling in particular, L. Russ Bush, dean of Southeastern's faculty, said, "It is his open commitment to Christ and to biblically-based ministries that are especially important to me.

"He has a genuine heart for the pastoral ministry," Bush continued. "Jim Porowski will help us train ministers who can offer real help to meet the real needs of the people in their congregations."

Acknowledging those in the church are often suspicious of the field of psychology, Southeastern president Paige Patterson said Porowski's commitment to God's power revealed in Christ should set those concerned at ease.

Porowski, who has a professional practice in Raleigh, N.C., couched his endorsement of psychology-at-large in terms of the value of counseling techniques for pastors: "Though it is not through psychology and psychological research you are going to find God, the field of psychology does offer certain ideas and counseling techniques useful for the church.

"I am always aware of what the Bible has to say," said Porowski, who earned a master of theology degree at Dallas Theological Seminary, Dallas, Texas. "Scripture is clearly at the foundation of my calling as a Christian psychologist."

Admitting there is a lot of "junk" in traditional psychology, Porowski said, "Students can come to my classes confident their focus on the Word of God will

not be minimized in any way. The more training we can give to pastors in counseling skills the better equipped they will be to fulfill God's calling in the local church."

Prior to pursuing his education in psychology, Porowski served two years with an independent mission's organization in Nigeria, Africa at Kagoro College as a teacher of English and Bible.

Porowski and his wife, Virginia, are the parents of four children: Stephanie, 10; Jody, 8; Corinne, 7; Bridget, 5.

--30--

*by Dwayne Hastings*