Mission

Under the lordship of Jesus Christ, the mission of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary is to be totally committed to the Bible as the Word of God, to the Great Commission as our mandate, and to be a servant of the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention by training, educating, and preparing ministers of the gospel for more faithful service.
Theological education is serious business. The task of training, preparing, and educating ministers of the gospel is an incredible stewardship invested in Southern Seminary by the churches. Without apology, we serve the church of the Lord Jesus Christ and aim to fulfill this purpose so that generations to come will have an even more faithful and effective ministry.

Only God can make a minister. That fundamental fact frames our responsibility; for humility necessitates our understanding that Southern Seminary does not make ministers. Nevertheless, God makes ministers through the crucible of learning, study, prayer and experience — and Southern Seminary combines all these in a comprehensive program of theological education that combines unquestioned academic excellence with practical application.

You should know that Southern Seminary is deadly serious about theological education that is genuinely theological. We are a confessional institution that stands without compromise upon the faith once for all delivered to the saints. The absolute truthfulness and authority of the Word of God are foundational to our programs of study, and you can be certain that theological faithfulness and doctrinal integrity are hallmarks of a Southern Seminary education.

This institution is more than 150 years old. Over the past 15 decades, many fads and movements have come and gone—but the steady determination to educate ministers of the gospel remains our central focus. Southern Seminary stands as a servant institution to the church of the Lord Jesus Christ, and our eyes are on the mission fields of the world and the frontlines of ministry all around the globe.

Southern Seminary’s faculty is unparalleled in the evangelical world. Here you will find consecrated Christian scholars whose commitment to the gospel, to the church, and to the Lord Jesus Christ is translated into their love for students and the task of teaching.

Our ambition is to shape the minister in every dimension—including heart, soul, mind, and the application of all ministry in the spirit of Christ. To that end, we offer comprehensive academic degrees ranging from baccalaureate to doctoral programs. Standing at the center of every aspect of the curriculum is a steadfast commitment to biblical truth, to excellence in ministry, and to the honorable service to the church of our Lord Jesus Christ. The schools of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary share this common vision, this glorious task, and this priceless stewardship.

Our institutional motto says it all—“For the truth, for the church, for the world, for the glory of God.” The glory of God is the beginning and end of all things, and ultimately, our prayer is that God is glorified in all we do, in all we teach, and in all those who graduate from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

R. Albert Mohler, Jr.
President
Office of the President

R. Albert Mohler, Jr.
President of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Joseph Emerson Brown Professor of Christian Theology (1993)
B.A., Samford University; M.Div., Ph.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Dr. R. Albert Mohler, Jr., serves as president of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary—the flagship school of the Southern Baptist Convention and one of the largest seminaries in the world.

Dr. Mohler has been recognized by such influential publications as Time and Christianity Today as a leader among American evangelicals. In fact, Time.com called him the “reigning intellectual of the evangelical movement in the U.S.”

In addition to his presidential duties, Dr. Mohler hosts two programs: The Briefing, a daily analysis of news and events from a Christian worldview, and Thinking in Public, a series of conversations with the day’s leading thinkers. He also writes a popular blog and a regular commentary on moral, cultural and theological issues. All of these can be accessed through Dr. Mohler’s website, www.AlbertMohler.com. Called “an articulate voice for conservative Christianity at large” by The Chicago Tribune, Dr. Mohler’s mission is to address contemporary issues from a consistent and explicit Christian worldview.

Widely sought as a columnist and commentator, Dr. Mohler has been quoted in the nation’s leading newspapers, including The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, USA Today, The Washington Post, The Atlanta Journal/Constitution and The Dallas Morning News. He has also appeared on such national news programs as CNN’s “Larry King Live,” NBC’s “Today Show” and “Dateline NBC,” ABC’s “Good Morning America,” “The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer” on PBS, MSNBC’s “Scarborough Country” and Fox’s “The O’Reilly Factor.”

Dr. Mohler is a theologian and an ordained minister, having served as pastor and staff minister of several Southern Baptist churches. He came to the presidency of Southern Seminary from service as editor of The Christian Index, the oldest of the state papers serving the Southern Baptist Convention.

A native of Lakeland, Florida, Dr. Mohler was a Faculty Scholar at Florida Atlantic University before receiving his Bachelor of Arts degree from Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama. He holds a Master of Divinity degree and the Doctor of Philosophy (in systematic and historical theology) from Southern Seminary. He has pursued additional study at the St. Meinrad School of Theology and has done research at Oxford University (England).

Dr. Mohler also serves as the Joseph Emerson Brown Professor of Christian Theology at Southern Seminary. His writings have been published throughout the United States and Europe. In addition to contributing to a number of collected volumes, he is the author of several books, including Culture Shift: Engaging Current Issues with Timeless Truth (Multnomah), Desire & Deceit: The Real Cost of the New Sexual Tolerance (Multnomah), Atheism Remix: A Christian Confronts the New Atheists (Crossway), He Is Not Silent: Preaching in a Postmodern World (Moody), The Disappearance of God: Dangerous Beliefs in the New Spiritual Openness (Multnomah), and Words From the Fire: Hearing the Voice of God in the Ten Commandments (Moody). From 1985 to 1993, he served as Associate Editor of Preaching, a journal for evangelical preachers, and is currently Editor-in-Chief of The Southern Baptist Journal of Theology.

A leader within the Southern Baptist Convention, Dr. Mohler has served in several offices including a term as Chairman of the SBC Committee on Resolutions, which is responsible for the denomination’s official statements on moral and doctrinal issues. He also served on the seven-person Program and Structure Study Committee, which recommended the 1995 restructuring of the nation’s largest Protestant denomination. In 2000, Dr. Mohler served on a blue-ribbon panel that made recommendations to the Southern Baptist Convention for revisions to the Baptist Faith and Message, the statement of faith most widely held among Southern Baptists. Most recently, he served on the Great Commission Task Force, a denominational committee that studied the effectiveness of SBC efforts to fulfill the Great Commission. He currently serves as chairman of the Southern Baptist Convention’s Council of Seminary Presidents.

Dr. Mohler has presented lectures or addresses at institutions including Columbia University, the University of Virginia, Wheaton College, Samford University, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, the University of Richmond, Mercer University, Cedarville University, Beeson Divinity School, Reformed Theological Seminary, The Master’s Seminary, Geneva College, Biola University, Covenant Theological Seminary, The Cumberland School of Law, The Regent University School of Law, Grove City College, Vanderbilt University and the historic Chautauqua Institution, among many others.

Dr. Mohler is listed in Who’s Who in America and other biographical reference works and serves on the boards of several organizations including Focus on the Family. He is a member of the Council for Biblical Manhood and Womanhood and serves as a council member for The Gospel Coalition.

He is married to Mary, and they have two children, Katie and Christopher.
Academic Administration

Senior Vice President

Russell D. Moore
B.S., University of Southern Mississippi; M.Div., New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; Ph.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Dr. Moore has served in this role since January 2004. He speaks and writes frequently on issues ranging from the kingdom of God to global orphan care. Prior to entering ministry, he was an aide to U.S. Congressman Gene Taylor. He is the author of Tempted and Tried: Temptation and the Triumph of Christ, Adopted for Life: The Priority of Adoption for Christian Families and Churches, and The Kingdom of Christ: The New Evangelical Perspective. He is also a senior editor for Touchstone: A Journal of Mere Christianity.

Deans

Russell D. Moore
Dean of the School of Theology; Professor of Christian Theology and Ethics (2001)
B.S., University of Southern Mississippi; M.Div., New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; Ph.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Zane G. Pratt
Dean of the Billy Graham School of Missions and Evangelism; Associate Professor of Christian Missions (2011)
B.A., Duke University; M.Div., Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary; Ph.D. candidate, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

Zane Pratt served as a church planter and pastor in New England and as an Army Reserve chaplain before appointment for overseas service in 1991. He lived and worked in Central Asia from then until 2011, during the last 10 years of which he served in the regional leadership role. He has written multiple articles in The Theology and Practice of Missions published by Broadman and Holman in the fall of 2011. He is married to Catherine and they have two children.

Randy L. Stinson
Dean of the School of Church Ministries; Vice President for Academic Innovation; Associate Professor of Leadership (2006)
B.A., University of South Florida; M.Div., Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary; Th.M., Ph.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Dr. Stinson became Dean of the School of Church Ministries in August 2006. Dr. Stinson also serves as the Senior Fellow of the Council on Biblical Manhood and Womanhood. A recognized authority on the subject of biblical manhood and womanhood, Stinson is a regular conference speaker on the subjects of parenting, marriage, and men’s leadership. He has also previously served as a senior pastor as well as other church staff positions.
Vice Presidents

Mark T. Coppenger
Vice President for Extension Education; Director of the Nashville Extension Center; Professor of Christian Apologetics (2004)
B.A., Ouachita Baptist University; M.A., Ph.D., Vanderbilt University; M.Div., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

In addition to teaching at Southern Seminary, Dr. Coppenger is managing editor of the online Kairos Journal. Before attending seminary, he taught at Wheaton and Vanderbilt, where he directed a project for the National Endowment for the Humanities. He has authored, edited, or contributed to numerous books. His articles and reviews have appeared in Teaching Philosophy, Touchstone, American Spectator, Criswell Review, Reformation and Revival, USA Today, and Christian Scholar’s Review. Dr. Coppenger has served as pastor of First Baptist Church, El Dorado, Arkansas; executive director of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana; chairman of the SBC Resolutions Committee; president of Midwestern Seminary; and short-term mission volunteer to Brazil, Russia, Romania, Belgium, Egypt, and Sudan. He is a retired infantry officer.

Gregory A. Wills
Vice President for Research and Assessment; Professor of Church History (1997); Associate Dean, Theology and Tradition; Director of the Center for the Study of the Southern Baptist Convention
B.S., Duke University; M.Div., Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary; Th.M., Duke University; Ph.D., Emory University

Dr. Wills was appointed to the faculty of Southern Seminary in 1997 after serving since 1994 as Archives and Special Collections Librarian with the seminary’s Boyce Centennial Library. Dr. Wills’ dissertation, Democratic Religion: Freedom, Authority, and Church Discipline in the Baptist South, 1785-1900, was published by Oxford University Press. Besides contributions to theological journals, Dr. Wills has also written Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1859-2009.

Randy L. Stinson
Vice President for Academic Innovation; Dean of the School of Church Ministries; Associate Professor of Leadership (2006)
B.A., University of South Florida; M.Div., Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary; Th.M., Ph.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Dr. Stinson became Dean of the School of Church Ministries in August 2006. Dr. Stinson also serves as the Senior Fellow of the Council on Biblical Manhood and Womanhood. A recognized authority on the subject of biblical manhood and womanhood, Stinson is a regular conference speaker on the subjects of parenting, marriage, and men’s leadership. He has also previously served as a senior pastor as well as other church staff positions.

Phillip R. Bethancourt
Associate Vice President for Student Services; Assistant Professor of Christian Theology (2011)
B.A., M.S., Texas A&M University; M.Div., Ph.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Dr. Bethancourt has served Southern Seminary since 2006, holding positions as Director of Academic Advising for the School of Theology and Director of Research Doctoral Studies and Academic Advising and Instructor of Christian Theology at Boyce College. Prior to his current role, he served as Executive Assistant to the Senior Vice President for Academic Administration. In his current position, Dr. Bethancourt focuses on recruiting, student retention and strategic initiatives that enhance student enrollment.
Doctoral Studies

Michael S. Wilder
Associate Professor of Leadership and Church Ministry (2006); Associate Dean for Doctoral Studies
B.B.A., Clayton State College; M.Div., New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; Ph.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Dr. Wilder has more than 15 years of church-based ministry experience serving as a pastor in churches in Georgia and Kentucky. He is the co-author of *Transformission: Making Disciples through Short-term Missions* and has contributed to books such as *Christian Formation: Integrating Theology and Human Development; Perspectives on Your Child’s Education: Four Views; Trained in the Fear of God: Family Ministry in Theological, Historical, and Practical Perspective; Mapping Out Curriculum in Your Church*. He is currently working on a new book entitled *The God Who Goes Before You: A Biblical Theology of Leadership*. Dr. Wilder has been married for 18 years and has three daughters.

Online Education

Timothy Paul Jones
Associate Vice President for Online Studies, Professor of Leadership and Church Ministry, Editor of *The Journal of Discipleship and Family Ministry*
B.A. Manhattan Christian College
M.Div. Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
Ph.D. The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Dr. Jones oversees online education and teaches in the areas of family ministry and apologetics. Before coming to Southern, he led churches in Missouri and Oklahoma as pastor and associate pastor. Dr. Jones has received the Scholastic Recognition Award and has authored or contributed to more than a dozen books, including *Conspiracies and the Cross; Perspectives on Family Ministry*; and, *Christian History Made Easy*. In 2010, Christian Retailing magazine selected *Christian History Made Easy* as the book of the year in the field of Christian education. He is married to Rayann and they have two daughters, Hannah and Skylar. The Jones family serves in children’s ministry at Sojourn Community Church.

Academic Resources

Bruce L. Keisling
Associate Vice President for Academic Resources; Librarian (2002)
B.A., Cedarville University; M.S.L.S., The Catholic University of America

Mr. Keisling came to Southern Seminary in 1998 as Associate Librarian. Prior to coming to Southern, Mr. Keisling served as a librarian at a theological seminary in the Washington, D.C. area. While a resident of Washington, D.C., he was a member of and held leadership positions at Capitol Hill Baptist Church. In 2002, Mr. Keisling assumed his present role as Seminary Librarian. He is an active member of the Southern Baptist Library Association and the American Theological Library Association.

Institutional Assessment

Robert A. Vogel
Associate Vice President for Institutional Assessment; Carl E. Bates Professor of Christian Preaching (2003)
B.A., Western Bible Institute; M.Div., Th.M., Western Conservative Baptist Seminary; M.A., Portland State University; Ph.D., University of Oregon

Prior to joining the faculty at Southern, Dr. Vogel served as Professor of Homiletics at Western Seminary, a position he had held since 1978. While at Western Seminary, he served as Director of the Doctor of Ministry program from 1984-2000 and as Associate Academic Dean for eight years. He was also the chairman of the Division of Pastoral and Church Ministries at Western Seminary. In addition to his many years of teaching, Dr. Vogel also has more than twenty years of active church ministry, during which time he held positions as minister of youth and music, pastor, pulpit supply and interim pastor. Dr. Vogel is also a member of the Evangelical Theological Society.
Institutional Administration

Senior Vice President

Dan S. Dumas
Senior Vice President for Institutional Administration
B.A., Criswell College; M.Div., The Master’s Seminary; Ph.D. (in progress) The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Mr. Dumas became the Senior Vice President of Institutional Administration at Southern Seminary in October of 2007. At Grace Community Church in California he was an Executive Pastor for four years and pastor of the Cornerstone Fellowship Group for five years. Also, Mr. Dumas has served as college and singles pastor at the Westside Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Florida, at Cottage Hill Baptist Church in Mobile, Alabama, and at Victory Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas. Previously, he served on staff at the historic First Baptist Church of Dallas. Dumas is a veteran of the United States Navy.

Vice Presidents

Jason K. Allen
Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Executive Director of the Southern Seminary Foundation
B.S., Spring Hill College; M.Div., Ph.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Dr. Allen became Vice President for Institutional Advancement in 2009. In addition to his duties at Southern Seminary, Dr. Allen currently serves as Interim Pastor at Carlisle Avenue Baptist Church in Louisville. He began his duties at Southern Seminary as Executive Assistant to the President in 2006. Previously, Dr. Allen served from 2002 – 2005 as Senior Pastor of Muldraugh Baptist Church in Muldraugh, Ky., and as assistant to the pastor of the Dauphin Way Baptist Church from 1998 – 2001.

R. Craig Parker
Vice President for Business Services
B.A., Vanderbilt University; M.B.A., Murray State University

Mr. Parker joined the Southern staff following many years of service in churches in the Memphis, Tennessee area. He served fifteen years as Church Administrator at Bellevue Baptist Church, and held similar positions at Germantown Baptist Church and Highpoint Church. Prior to his tenure in the local church, Mr. Parker worked in the insurance industry at Blue Cross Blue Shield in Memphis. He has also served the SBC as a trustee of Guidestone Financial Resources.

D. Andrew Vincent
Vice President for Business Services
B.A., Samford University; M.B.A., University of Louisville

Mr. Vincent began his tenure with The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1991. He became Vice President of Operations in 2009, a position making him responsible for the strategic oversight of auxiliary business units and facilities management. His prior positions with Southern Seminary have included Associate Vice President for Auxiliary Enterprises, Director of Auxiliary Enterprises, Director/Manager of Administrative Support Services, and Duplicating Machine Operator. Prior to serving at Southern Seminary, Mr. Vincent served as Assistant Warehouse Manager at EVCO, Inc., in Birmingham, Ala.

Stephen O. Watters
Vice President of Communications
B.A., Lee University; M.A., Regent University; M.A. (in progress), The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

From 1997 – 2010, Mr. Watters served at Focus on the Family, the Colorado Springs, Co., based ministry founded by James Dobson, as a policy analyst, a project manager and then director of marriage and family formation. He and his wife, Candice, created Boundless (www.boundless.org) as a Web outreach to young adults for Focus on the Family.
Associate Vice Presidents

Jason Heath
Associate Vice President of Campus Technology
B.S., Indiana University Southeast

Mr. Heath previously served as the Director of Information Technology for the College of Business at the University of Louisville. His background was in the field of software engineering, working on contracts for various defense and intelligence agencies, as well as business systems in both the private sector and higher education. He and his wife, Johanna, were members of the core group that started Sojourn Community Church, and they were most recently part of launching the Sojourn campus in New Albany. Within Sojourn, Mr. Heath and his wife serve as deacons of Group Life as Community Group Coaches. They have one daughter, Beatrice, and are expecting their second child in November.

Office of the President

Matthew J. Hall
Chief of Staff, Office of the President
B.A., Grove City College; M.Div., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Th.M., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Ph.D. (in progress), University of Kentucky.

Mr. Hall began his duties as executive assistant to the president in 2009. Previously, Mr. Hall served from 2006 to 2009 as Executive Producer of The Albert Mohler Program, produced by Salem Communications. He serves as an elder at Clifton Baptist Church in Louisville, and is an active member of the American Society of Church History and the Conference on Faith and History.