

The Connection Source



Southwest Baptist University

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Letter from the Dean. . .

Jesus Christ came to earth as a way for individuals to have eternal life (John 3:16-17). In fact, Jesus came into this world to be the perfect sacrifice for the sins of the people (Hebrews 2:17). The quick summary is that there is no substitute for Christ.

Today, and especially during this year's Christmas season, I pray that you are not ashamed of Christ and will proclaim His name by exalting and recognizing Christ within Christmas. Christmas is so much more than just a "holiday." While public school systems and businesses may believe they have the authority to take Christ out of the holiday by word substitution, I believe the LORD looks upon His creation with His Son exclaiming in the background, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34).

Here's a thought...forget the obligation to purchase items for your significant others during the Christmas season, but show your authentic love to them in a caring manner that communicates your gentle, kindhearted, and compassionate feelings. While I personally dislike substituting the word holiday for Christmas, it does make me pause and wonder if Christ truly wants His name associated with such a shopping frenzied and materialistic day. If, however, individuals authentically loved one another and expressed that love in a non-materialist fashion, then I am sure that Christ would accept and enjoy having His name imbedded into Christmas.

I hope you celebrate Christ this December in a magnificent and passionate way by showing others your genuine love and kindness. Christmas is a time of celebration, not simply a holiday. There is no substitution for Christ.



Merry Christmas,

Rob Harris
Dean of Students
Romans 3:22-25

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Upcoming Events

Jan 3, 2010 2p.m.
Residence Halls Open

Jan 4, 2010
Winterfest Begins

Jan 18, 2010
Impact Day

Jan 23, 2010 2-9p.m.
Jan 24, 2010 2-9p.m.
Residence Halls Open

Jan 25, 2010
Spring Semester Begins

[Click here to view
the Complete
University Calendar](#)

Prayer Requests

For our students, faculty and staff to have safe travel during the holiday season.

That our students would find rest and quality time with loved ones

For our January Mission Teams serving around the world. (see page 3)



The Road to Success. . .

I'm sure that you are looking forward to having your son or daughter home for several weeks between semesters. I know from visiting with students that it is clear that they are excited about being at home and having a break from classes. As you prepare for your son or daughter to be home, I encourage you to be ready to encounter a person who has grown over the past few months. Your son or daughter has learned lessons related to self

-management, they have been exposed to and possibly acquired new interests and they have expanded their friendship network. Sometimes this new growth can make the transition back to home a little rocky. I encourage you to be intentional in your communication to your son or daughter. Ask them questions about their experiences this semester and support them as they continue to move into adulthood.

For first-year students, remember that they are still in a transition to SBU. Some first-year students still have some areas of college life that feel uncomfortable for them. This is not uncommon, even after being here for four months. You can encourage them that the transition takes time. Also, continue to encourage them to get involved in campus life and to stay connected with his or her Success Center advisor.

All of us in the Success Center would like to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. The Savior has been born! (Luke 2:10-11)

Blessings,,

Dana Stewart

University Success Center Director

Final Grades will be
available on
WebAdvisor on
December 23, 2009.



Zeke Clawson
Assistant Director
Safety and Security

Increased Security on the Bolivar Campus

During the fall semester, SBU installed 140 new cameras on the Bolivar campus. This has been part of a university wide effort to increase security on the campus. At this time, most parking lots and building entrances are being recorded. This enables the university to verify persons who come and go from buildings and parking lots as well as investigate reports of crime. Since the system came on-line in September, the cameras have proved useful. We were able to capture valuable evidence that assisted in the arrest of 2 people stealing from vending machines in several towns in southwest Missouri. We have captured video of at least 4 auto accidents. We have used the system to track people who have lost property. This week we were able to locate a visitor to the campus who dropped a ring on the floor by a dorm entrance. At this point, word has gotten out that SBU has cameras and as a result incidents of theft and vandalism have begun to decrease. We are planning to add 20-40 additional cameras during the 2010 summer to provide additional coverage areas on campus and increase quality of coverage in some parking lots.

Chemistry and Physics Tutorial Services Provided

As a learning aid to students taking beginning chemistry and physics classes, the Department of Chemistry and Physics offers three hours of free tutorial sessions each week during the Fall and Spring semesters. In the Spring, free tutorial sessions are also provided for the general education physical science courses. Help is provided on homework exercises, homework problems, laboratory reports and/or calculations, and classroom concepts. For Fall 2009, the chemistry sessions meet on Monday evenings from 6:00 – 8:00 PM, and the physics sessions meet on Tuesday evenings from 6:00 – 8:00 PM. Combined sessions are held on Friday mornings from 10:00 – 11:00 AM. All sessions are held in the Wheeler Science facility, normally in room 142. The chemistry sessions have three student tutors and two faculty tutors, the physics sessions have two student tutors and two faculty tutors, and the physical science sessions have one student tutor and one faculty tutor. These days and times may vary slightly from semester to semester, but a minimum of three hours per week is provided each semester.



Dr. Bob Kitchin
Professor of Chemistry
and Physics



The Department of Athletic Training equips students to serve TJ John, MA ATC/L, Program Director

The Department of Athletic Training was established in the Spring of 2002. Since its establishment the Department has been committed to fulfilling one key Scripture. The Scripture... “A student is not above his teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like his teacher”. (Luke 6:40) The Department desires the Athletic Training Students’ to also fulfill the Scripture in Matthew which states, “let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven (Matthew 5:16). Molding students to become Entry-level Certified Athletic Trainers, who will go out and serve Him skillfully and faithfully best

It has seen many students utilize their educational experience to go and serve across the globe, from Greece, Turkey, Florida (Disney Wide World of Sports), to Bolivar, Missouri. Many of the students go onto continue their education and obtain degrees within, Physical Therapy, Physician Assistant, Masters in Education, Masters in Exercise Physiology and Masters in Business programs. It is exciting to see the impact Christ has made on these students at Southwest Baptist University. Lives are truly transformed for eternity. That is the MOST exciting and eternal work the Department is committed to.

The Program is currently accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education. More information can be obtained by calling 417-328-1792, or visiting the AT Web-site at www.sbuniv.edu/cosm/at

PANAMA

Leadership: Curtis Goss January 9-21st, 2010 Team Members: 7 members
Minister to children at VBS, telling stories, singing, and playing soccer or baseball.

GUATEMALA

Leadership: Brad Aslin & Heidi Lewis Dec. 28th, 09 – Jan. 18th, 2010 Team Size: 26 members
Minister to children at Case Bernabe orphanage. Complete a service project for the facility. Provide help to give the orphanage staff a retreat.

PHILIPPINES

Leadership: Diana Gallamore January 5-19th, 2009 Team size: 10 members
Teach conversational English in small groups. Lead recreation and hang out with students. Encourage the local church. Relational evangelism.



Go therefore and make disciples of all Nations. . .



INDIA

Leadership: Matt & Pamela Burke Dec. 29th, '9 – Jan 19th, 2010 Team Size: 12 members
Meet people and research in a city in the heart of India. Do groundwork for future Church planting efforts.

NEW ZEALAND

Leadership: Jaben Houk Dec. 20th, 2009 – Jan. 11th, 2010 Team Size: 7 members
Travel between youth hostels to spend time with backpackers from all over the world, sharing the gospel as opportunities arise.

AUCKLAND

Leadership: Caleb & Jeny Martin Jan. 4 – 22, 2010 Team Size: 9 members
Travel between youth hostels to spend time with backpackers from all over the world, sharing the gospel as opportunities arise.

HOUSTON

Leadership: Chuck Mix & Kim Jeffers January 4-18th, 2009 Team Size: 22 members
Minister to the inner city of Houston through service projects, community service, evangelism, counseling, relationship building, and recreation.

Bearcats

Athletics

Spring Sports

Women's

Basketball

Soccer

Cross Country

Volleyball

Men's

Basketball

Cross Country

Football

Golf

Click sport for schedule

Intramurals

Flag Football

Sand Volleyball

Indoor Volleyball

Ultimate Frisbee

SBU

SBU cross country finishes 15th at NCAA Championships



Senior Michael Pierce



The team at Regionals

Photo's taken by:
Greg Miller

[Click here to read full story](#)

Intramurals

Intramurals has strong Fall semester
Chris Martin, Director of Intramurals

The goal of Intramural sports program is to provide facilities, programs, and services that address all physical, recreational, and leisure pursuits of the university community. Emphasis is placed on participation and sportsmanship. After each game teams are given a sportsmanship grade (A-F) by the officials refereeing the game. At the end of the season a team must have a sportsmanship GPA of 3.0 to participate in the playoffs. Game conduct, interaction with officials and interaction with the other team are all factored into this score.

Participation is very important to the program. An effort is made to have a wide variety of sports and activities throughout the semester. Two leagues and two tournaments were held this fall. A sand volleyball tournament was held in the early fall and a ultimate frisbee tournament was held in early December. They complimented the fall leagues of flag football and indoor volleyball.

There was a men's and women's league for football and a men's and two women's leagues

for volleyball. 211 students participated in football. This was a 22% increase from last year. The start of the season was pushed back one week this fall in an effort to increase participation and that seemed to help. Volleyball also saw a slight increase in numbers as 247 students participated (up from 241 a year ago). In the spring a basketball league will be held in the early spring along with a dodgeball and soccer league in the late spring. A softball tournament and disc golf tournament is also in the early planning stages.



[Click here for more news in Athletics](#)