ince its establishment, the Russell H. Perry Free Enterprise Award Dinner has raised over $2,900,000 toward scholarships for more than 1,250 students pursuing entrepreneurial, economic, business, and other academic studies at Dallas Baptist University. Co-sponsored by The Dallas Morning News, the dinner is named in honor of the late Russell H. Perry, a Dallas financial, civic, and philanthropic leader and faithful supporter of DBU. Mrs. Russell H. Perry remains one of the University’s strongest supporters. Coordinated for the past 20 years by John Clem, DBU director of development, the dinner recognizes outstanding citizens who use their God-given talents and abilities to make the most of opportunities created for them by the free enterprise system and for their service to the community.

Past Recipients of the Russell H. Perry Free Enterprise Award

William S. Banowsky - 1988
Bobby Inman, Gerald Ford - 1989
Kenneth H. Cooper - 1991
Drayton McLane, Jr. - 1992
Tom Landry - 1993

Raising $2.9 Million in Scholarships

ANNUAL RUSSELL H. PERRY
FREE ENTERPRISE AWARD DINNER

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Past Keynote Speakers

William S. Banowsky - 1988
Bobby Inman, Gerald Ford - 1989
Kenneth H. Cooper - 1991
Drayton McLane, Jr. - 1992
Tom Landry - 1993
Jack W. Evans - 1994
John Sharp - 1996
Tracy Rowlett - 1997
Grant Teaff - 1998
Kay Bailey Hutchison - 2000
Barbara Bush - 2001
Pete Sessions - 2002
John Cornyn - 2003
George Gallup - 2004
J. C. Watts - 2005
Kenny Marchant - 2006
United States Congressman Sam Johnson (center), stands along with Dr. Gary Cook, and Adam Wright, DBU assistant to the president for advancement, at the Inaugural Tom Landry Leadership Award Dinner, held in the Spring of 2007. Congressman Johnson, a member of the House of Representatives since 1991, as well as a war hero and former Vietnam Prisoner of War, was named the first recipient of this prestigious award. This past spring, the dinner presented Dr. Jack Graham, pastor of Prestonwood Baptist Church, with the 2008 Tom Landry Leadership Award.

Patty and Bo Pilgrim (center) break ground on the new DBU chapel in August of 2006, along with Dr. Gary Cook and Dr. J. Blair Blackburn, DBU executive vice president. Long-time friends of DBU, the Pilgrims generously donated $8 million for the construction of the first chapel on the DBU campus. Once completed, the Patty and Bo Pilgrim Chapel will seat 1,400 individuals and serve as the spiritual center for the DBU campus. Bo Pilgrim has visited the campus on numerous occasions, speaking to the DBU student body. He is also a past recipient of the Russell H. Perry Free Enterprise Award and a former member of the DBU Board of Trustees.

Dr. Gary Cook and Jeannette Sadler sit at the piano in the Hillcrest Great Hall in the John G. Mahler Student Center during a dinner that was held in Mrs. Sadler’s honor. A lifelong member of the Oak Cliff Community, Mrs. Sadler has become a dear friend of DBU and has donated $1 million for the construction of the Patty and Bo Pilgrim Chapel. Recently, she donated the largest land gift in the history of the University, 800 acres owned by her and her late husband, Cletys Sadler. She is an active part of the Women’s Auxiliary Board and also a current member of the DBU Board of Trustees.
The Dallas Baptist University International Student Program is an exciting and growing arm of the University. In 1988, only 12 international students were enrolled in classes at DBU, but by the fall of 2007, that number had grown to 504. Through English training, cultural experiences, and special programs, these students receive the tools and support needed for them to succeed as they pursue their DBU degree. In addition, American students and DBU faculty and staff members have opportunities to spend time with the international students and share with them the love of Christ.

DBU offers a variety of special services to help international students become integrated into an American collegiate environment.

✦ Orientation to American Culture
✦ Advising
✦ Host Families
✦ Conversation Partners
✦ International Clubs
✦ Big Brother/Big Sister Program
✦ Airport Pick-Up
✦ Weekend Enrichment

Sharing the Love of Christ Makes a Difference!

Dr. and Mrs. Cook host a special reception for new international students every year in the DBU President’s Home. In addition to greeting each one of the students and giving a welcome from the University, Dr. Cook often entertains the guests by playing a hymn on an old-fashioned pump organ.
Abraham Sarker came to the United States as a missionary of the Muslim faith. Shortly after his arrival, however, he became a Christian and looked for a Christian college to complete his undergraduate degree. That is when he found DBU, where he completed not only a bachelor’s degree, but also an MBA. After completing his master’s degree, Abraham went on to receive a Ph.D. Due to his conversion to Christianity, Abraham became estranged from his family, but the Lord provided him with a new family at DBU. In 1999, when Abraham planned his wedding with his bride-to-be, Amie Hatton, he asked Dr. Gary Cook to serve as his best man, David Cook to serve as a groomsman, and Mark Cook to serve as an usher. Pictured right are (from left to right) David Cook, Sheila Cook, Amie and Abraham Sarker, Dr. Gary Cook, and Mark Cook at the Sarkers’ wedding.

**International Students’ Lives Touched and Changed through DBU**

Yuta Motegi arrived at DBU as an international student from Japan, enrolled to receive an American education. While at DBU, however, he received much more as he became a Christian and, in turn, began to lead Bible studies and share his faith with other international students on campus. During the fall of 2007, Yuta, like many other students, was shocked to discover Dr. Cook had been diagnosed with acute myelogenous leukemia. The evening he discovered this, he attended a fellowship with non-Christian Japanese students on the DBU campus, and as word of the illness spread, these students all began to pray for Dr. Cook. A few months later, Yuta, who graduated from DBU in December of 2007, wrote the following note to Dr. Cook. “God used you that night. God brought non-Christians to the prayer meeting. God threw questions at them about Himself, Christianity, their life, family, and emptiness....Dr. Cook, God is using you when you are sick. God is using you when you do not even realize. God encourages Christians through your sickness, and also brings salvation to non-Christians.”

In the summer of 2004, over 100 DBU students, faculty, and staff traveled to the southern African country of Swaziland in order to spread the love of Christ and teach abstinence-based programs in the country’s schools. In connection with the organization Dream for Africa, students spent a month in the country, visiting schools and showing them the movie, *Beat the Drum*, and leading students in discussion groups. Swaziland’s population has become decimated over the past several decades due to the AIDS epidemic, with estimates that over half of the population between the ages of 25-29 have already contracted HIV. The joint effort on the part of Dream for Africa and the DBU family sought to “Turn the Tide” and provide students with an alternate future. Pictured to the right are students at one of the schools watching the movie along with Dr. Gary Cook and Dr. Bob Garrett, DBU professor of missions and a sponsor on the trip.
The DBU Athletic Department seeks to go beyond just producing excellent athletes and winning teams. The desire of the department, along with the rest of the school, is to build into student athletes a strength of character, demonstrated by a growing love for Christ and commitment to their communities. To accomplish this goal, coaches hold Bible studies for the teams, challenging students to discover God’s Word and apply these truths to their lives.

In addition, teams learn firsthand the principles of servant leadership by going into the community and participating in service projects, discovering ways in which they can serve their fellow man. Recently, members of the DBU Basketball Team have worked as a group sorting clothing and food supplies for Mission Arlington, while members of the DBU Women’s Soccer Team have visited and ministered in area nursing homes.

In the Fall of 2007, the DBU Patriot Baseball Team took a special trip to Guatemala to minister to local children and take on the Guatemalan National Team in the first ever President Orphan’s Cup Series. Along with the baseball squad traveled 58 other DBU students and sponsors, including members of the DBU Cheerleading Squad and the DBU Diamond Belles.

The trip, in partnership with Buckner International, allowed students to continue the DBU orphanage ministry in Guatemala and also provided an added opportunity to hold special baseball clinics with children in Guatemala. At the conclusion of the trip, DBU came home with the President Orphan’s Cup and a renewed sense of commitment to service, both at home and around the world.

“The thing that impacted me most was going to the orphanages and seeing our players and the way they were interacting with those kids,” explained Dan Heefner, DBU head baseball coach. “I’ve never seen a group of college baseball players have more joy than when we were there. That was probably most meaningful for me—to see our players realize that it really is greater to give than to receive.”

Dr. Gary Cook delivers the opening prayer before one of the games versus the Guatemalan National Team.
Dallas Baptist University has long maintained a standard of excellence in athletic achievement. Over the past 20 years, this standard has continued as the athletic department has expanded, propelling the Patriots into membership in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). The move from membership in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) to the NCAA began in 2002, and currently all DBU athletics, except for baseball, compete in the Division II Heartland Conference.

The most recent addition to the DBU athletic department has been the DBU Basketball Program. In both years of its existence as an NCAA program, the Patriots have earned invitations to the Heartland Conference tournament as well as the National Christian College Athletic Association National Tournament.

The DBU Baseball program is a Division I member of the NCAA, maintaining an independent affiliation from conferences. This Division I status allows DBU to compete on the same playing field as other nationally ranked schools. Over the past several years, DBU has notched wins over such top-tier programs as Rice University, Texas A&M University, Texas Tech University, Baylor University, Fresno State University, Texas Christian University, and the University of Oklahoma. In 2008, the DBU Patriot Baseball Team became the first DBU program to earn an invitation to an NCAA National Tournament.