Dallas Baptist University is pleased to announce the creation of the Piper Endowed Chair of Missions. This chair has been made possible by a $500,000 challenge grant from Paul and Shirley Piper through the Piper family’s Christ Is Our Salvation Foundation (CIOS).

Paul and Shirley Piper issued a challenge to friends of DBU to fund this chair as CIOS pledged $500,000. DBU raised the additional $500,000 through the support of friends, alumni, and trustees.

CIOS, founded in 1952 by Paul Piper, Sr., and his wife, Katy, has supported numerous ministry and missionary efforts, student scholarships, low-income family housing, day care centers, and medical facilities over the years.

“We are just thrilled with this gift from the Piper family and the Christ Is Our Salvation Foundation,” said Dr. Gary Cook, DBU president. “This program will be the first endowed chair at DBU and is quite a milestone for our University.”

With its creation, DBU has appointed Dr. Bob Garrett as the first Piper Professor of Missions. Dr. Garrett, or “Dr. Bob” as he is known by his students, came to DBU in 2004 as professor of missions, having previously served with his wife, Janie, as Southern Baptist missionaries to Argentina for 15 years. In 2006 when DBU began the Master of Arts in Global Leadership program, Dr. Garrett helped to shape this degree, and still serves as its director.

“I am so grateful the Piper family has chosen to partner with DBU in preparing our students to become global servant leaders who will share the good news of Jesus Christ with all people everywhere,” explained Dr. Garrett.