Dr. Mike Williams Named Faculty Member of the Year

Dr. Mike Williams, professor of history, has been named the 2012 DBU Outstanding Faculty Member of the Year. Dr. Williams (pictured right) recently returned to the classroom full time, after 15 years of serving as the dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. A student favorite for his American History survey classes, Dr. Williams teaches a variety of history courses, including Baptist History, American Church History, Civil War and Reconstruction History, and a seminar course for those students who are seeking to become history educators at the middle and high school level.

He began his time at DBU as an adjunct professor, eventually joining the faculty full time in 1995 and being named dean the following year. During his tenure, Dr. Williams helped guide the College as it expanded its programs and faculty, in addition to helping begin the University’s Honors Program and serving as a member of the DBU self-study committee for the 1998 reaccreditation process.

Dr. Williams is a member of many historical societies, including the Baptist History and Heritage Society where he has been a past president. Having written and published several articles, Dr. Williams also authored the centennial history of DBU, as well as a biography of Baptist stalwart I. T. Tichenor. In addition, he co-authored the work Presidential Praise with former DBU dean of the College of Fine Arts, Dr. Ed Spann.

Women’s Auxiliary Board Hosts Yellow Ribbon Luncheon

The DBU Women’s Auxiliary Board hosted the annual Yellow Ribbon Luncheon on Wednesday, September 5. Sheila Cook, wife of DBU President Dr. Gary Cook; Kathy Knight, this year’s WAB president; and Mandy Arnold, chair of the luncheon committee, helped host this year’s luncheon in the Great Hall of the Mahler Student Center. During the luncheon, Joyce Andres ’12 and Armie Lewis ’12 shared testimonies of their time at DBU. Dr. Wes Moore, associate dean of the College of Fine Arts and assistant professor of voice, also shared special music to close the program.

Pictured above: (left) Mandy Arnold, Kathy Knight, and Sheila Cook; (right) Kathleen Hardage, wife of BGCT Executive Director Dr. David Hardage; Bobbie Pinson, DBU Trustee and wife of BGCT Executive Director Emeritus Dr. Bill Pinson, and Janet Denison, president-elect of the DBU Women’s Auxiliary Board and wife of Dr. Jim Denison.
BWA Women’s Department President Speaks in Chapel

Raquele Contreras, who currently serves as president of the Baptist World Alliance’s Women’s Department, visited the Dallas Baptist University campus on September 26, and shared her testimony with students, faculty, and staff. Contreras (pictured above with DBU graduate student and Chilean native, Daniela Santana) spoke during chapel in front of more than 1,400 students.

A native of Chile, Contreras explained to students how she met and soon married a young man who was studying to be a pastor, Guillermo Catalan, and left her growing legal career in Chile and moved to Dallas so he could attend then Dallas Baptist College.

When the couple returned to Chile, Guillermo was eventually named president of the Chilean Baptist Theological Seminary. He served in this role as a leader among Chilean Baptists until his unexpected death in the early 2000s.

Widowed with two teenage children, Contreras continued to serve in their local church, before being unexpectedly and unanimously elected the president of the Chilean Baptist Convention.

After her term as president, she was invited to various councils within the Baptist World Alliance, and eventually, the Union of Baptists of Latin America elected her to serve as their president. Her term as president of UBLA expired in 2010, and the following year, the Women’s Department of the BWA asked her to serve a five-year term as president. For the past two years, she has traveled the world serving Baptist women. Recently, the Spanish Baptist Publishing House in El Paso, Texas, asked her to join them as their editorial director. Since that time, she has spearheaded a project to complete work on the first-ever Spanish Study Bible written by native Spanish speakers from a Latin American perspective.

“We don’t see what is going to happen, and many times we feel frustrated,” Contreras shared with the students. “But then when we live one day at a time, we are able look back and see how the Lord works in our lives.”

During a special luncheon with the faculty and staff, Contreras shared her story as a way to show how the Lord is working all over the world. She also shared stories from women she has met around the world in her BWA travels.

Dr. Beverly Giltner Retires as Dean

Dr. Beverly Giltner, after 18 years serving as dean of the DBU College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, has retired as dean but will continue to serve as a full-time professor of physics and computer science.

Dr. Giltner, who began teaching physics and computer science at then Dallas Baptist College in 1969, was named dean of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics in 1994. Over the course of her career at DBU, she has faithfully taught in the classroom while also serving in a variety of roles, including director of institutional research, president of the Faculty Council, faculty sponsor for the Texas Alpha Nu Chapter of Alpha Chi and the Society of Physics Students, and director of the DBU Academic Computer Lab.

In recognition of her many years of faithful service, the University began an endowed scholarship in her honor in 1994, and in 2001, she was named a DBU Honorary Alumna. Dr. Giltner and her husband, Wil, live in Arlington and are longtime active members of Fairview Baptist Church, serving on various committees and teaching Sunday School.

Dr. Byron Stuckey Retires

DBU recently held a retirement reception in honor of Dr. Byron Stuckey, DBU assistant professor of business and non-profit MBA specialist. Dr. Stuckey began teaching at DBU in 2008 after serving for seven years as an adjunct professor. While he was an adjunct professor, he also served full time with Bill Glass’ Champions for Life Ministries as the Chief Financial Officer and later Chief Executive Officer. Prior to his work as a professor and minister, Dr. Stuckey served in the business world for a number of organizations and was also a management consultant for several companies. Active members of Cliff Temple Baptist Church, Dr. Stuckey and his wife, Dee (pictured above), have two adult sons, Keith and Dave, and many grandchildren.