

Alabama Centers The Gatekeeper



New Orleans Baptist
Theological Seminary
www.nobts.edu
May 2014

Special Points of Interest:

- **Graduating Seniors**—If you are graduating in May please be sure to inform your professor so that they can grade your papers and final exams first.
- **Library Books**—ALL Birmingham Library books are due TODAY by 7pm.
- **Fall 2014 Schedules**—Planning ahead for the Fall? The schedules for all five Alabama Extension Centers are on each center's webpage. Fall semester starts August 18.
- **Ecuador Mission Trip**— August 1-9, 2014. If you are taking classes as credit for the trip, the registration will be open soon. Please stay in contact with Stephen Hall for more mission trip information. Students can pay online at northparkbc.org

TRUSTEES VOTE TO ERADICATE "ON CAMPUS" REQUIREMENTS FOR EXTENSION STUDENTS



Courtesy Photo

By Gary D. Myers

NEW ORLEANS—During their spring meeting April 16, the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Board of Trustees approved a new master of divinity specialization, removed the "on-campus" requirements for distance learning degrees. The new master of divinity specialization approved by trustees creates a more flexible degree plan with more options and electives. Called the M.Div. flexibility track, the specialization will provide more options for extension

center students and transfer students seeking to complete their degrees. The flexibility track will also help those who earned a master of arts in Christian education or similar degree transfer their credits into an M.Div. program, which is required to qualify for advanced degree programs such as the doctor of ministry. After the meeting, President Kelley reiterated the seminary's commitment to accessible education. He said that new initiatives like the M.Div. flexibility track, the removal of the "on-campus" requirements and the

teaching sites are all designed to give students more options. "We are trying to make it possible for any student to fit theological education into their place in life and their calling from God," Kelley said. "They will be able to flow from one form of theological education to another without penalty or extra barriers." "So if they want to do online, classroom, residential, non-residential — anything from a certificate to a Ph.D. — we are designing our curriculum to allow the students to tailor their study to their calling and their circumstances."

DIRECTORY

Birmingham Center

Dr. Ron Pate, Director
The Church at Brook Hills
3145 Brook Highland Pkwy.
Birmingham, AL 35242
Phone: (205) 313-7800
Cell: (205) 516-4535
E-mail: rpate@nobts.edu

Huntsville Center

Rev. David Cofield, Director
Legacy Christian University
Whitesburg Baptist Church
6806 Whitesburg Dr S,
Huntsville, AL 35802
Phone: (256) 810-7640
Email: huntsvillecenter@nobts.edu

Montgomery Center

Dr. Teman Knight, Director
Heritage Baptist Church
1849 Perry Hill Road
Montgomery, Alabama 36106
Phone: (334) 279-9976
E-mail: Teman@HBCM.net

Rainsville Center

Rev. Zach Richards, Director
First Baptist Church, Rainsville
223 Church Avenue
Rainsville, AL 35986
Phone: (256) 706-2478
Email: rainsvillecenter@nobts.edu

Tuscaloosa Center

Rev. Billy Austin, Director
Forest Lake Baptist Church
107 18th Street
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401
Phone: (205) 339-2273
Email: tuscaloosacenter@nobts.edu

The Alabama Centers Gatekeeper is a publication of the NOBTS Birmingham Center. Any ideas for articles, interviews, or news can be sent to: bhamasst.nobts@gmail.com

BIRMINGHAM CENTER

Seniors: If you are graduating please be sure to inform your professor so that they can grade your papers and finals first.

Fall 2014: Schedules are online for the Fall.

Snack Table: Please remember that all snacks and drinks are 50 cents. Coffee is free, but we are taking donations to offset the cost of supplies.

MONTGOMERY CENTER

Fall 2014: Schedules are online for the Fall visit nobts.edu/Extensions/CentralAlabama

HUNTSVILLE CENTER

Launch: The new Huntsville Center will be opening in August hosted by Whitesburg Baptist Church. At first they will have Monday only classes offering the four CIV classes listed on the Birmingham Schedule.

Certificate: The Huntsville Center will be offering a Bible Teaching Certificate at University Baptist Church starting in August.

Alumni/Prospective Students: May 19 at Whitesburg Baptist Church (South Campus) 4:30pm, a meet and greet with Dr. Kelley.

Fall 2014: Schedules are online for the Fall visit nobts.edu/Extensions/NorthAlabama

ECUADOR TRIP UPDATE

The Ecuador mission trip (August 1-9) is less than three months away! For those going on the mission trip, a \$500 grant will be applied to curb the cost of the trip. This grant is given by a missions fund from main campus. This makes the trip only \$1,500. If you are taking the class in conjunction with the trip, this grant pays for most of your tuition. Two classes will be offered for 3 credit hours in conjunction with the trip. The Graduate level course is DISC6390 "Clinical Field Project in Discipleship" and the Under-graduate course is PMCM 3380 "The Mission Experience." Students can register for these classes on Self-serve. There is still room for anyone that would like to go on the trip. All checks, for the trip should be paid to Northpark Baptist Church. Tuition payments will be handled through the NOBTS Business Office. For any questions regarding the trip please stay in contact with Stephen Hall, StephenRHall5@gmail.com or call him at 205-540-6491.

TUSCALOOSA CENTER

Launch: The Tuscaloosa Center launches Monday, August 18, 2014, and classes are to be held at the Forest Lake Baptist Church. The semester will meet weekly for fifteen weeks and recess until we start a new semester in January. All credits earned can either stand alone or apply toward either a Bachelor's Degree from Leavell College or Master's degree from NOBTS.

Prospective Students: Interested potential students or professors can contact Billy Austin at 334.312.0843 or bibbybama@gmail.com.

Fall 2014: Schedules are online for the Fall visit nobts.edu/Extensions/WestAlabama

RAINSVILLE CENTER

Fall 2014: Schedules are online for the Fall visit nobts.edu/Extensions/NortheastAlabama

IMPORTANT DATES

May 9-15—Grad/Undergrad Final Exams

May 17—Graduation (Main Campus)

May 26-30—Red Carpet Week (Main Campus)

August 1-9—Ecuador Mission Trip

August 15—Deadline to Register for Fall 2014

August 18—First Day of Fall Semester

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for one another as we close another semester.

Pray for mission opportunities this summer.

Pray for the mission team going to Ecuador in August led by Stephen Hall.

If you have a prayer request please send it to bbamasst.nobts@gmail.com



NEW ORLEANS
BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Opening a New
GRADUATE CENTER
August 2014

Legacy Christian University
at
Whitesburg Baptist Church, Huntsville

JOIN US ON MONDAY, MAY 19 @ 4:30

PREVIEW DAY
South campus,
Whitesburg Baptist Church

*Learn about our graduate classes

*Meet and hear Dr. Kelley and other NOBTS personnel

contact:
David Cofield
256-810-7640
www.nobts.edu/extensions

RSVP by May 14 at
huntsvillecenter@nobts.edu
or

Click Here to RSVP ➤