

For Immediate Release

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FWBBC Team Attends New Orleans Forum

NASHVILLE, TN—President Matt Pinson spearheaded a team of 12 Free Will Baptist Bible College faculty, staff, and students who traveled to New Orleans, Louisiana, April 3-5 for the Greer-Heard Point-Counterpoint Forum at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary (NOBTS), according to Provost Greg Ketteyman. The FWBBC contingency was among 700 people present for the three-day conference.

Dr. Ketteyman said, “The Forum was very productive and stimulated thought among the faculty and students who attended. It confirmed how reasonable our faith is. I was especially pleased with President Pinson’s substantive remarks during Friday afternoon’s roundtable discussion.”

The 2008 Forum featured 11 events, including the Baptist Center for Theology and Ministry’s conference with a guest presentation by Dr. Ed Stetzer, director of research at LifeWay Christian Resources, titled “The Emergent Church, the Emerging Church, and the Faith Once Delivered to the Saints.”

President Pinson and two other educators were invited to interact with Dr. Stetzer after his presentation during a 90-minute roundtable panel discussion. The other panelists included NOBTS faculty members Jack Allen (associate professor of church planting and director of the Cecil B. Day Center for Church Planting) and Paige Brooks (instructor in theology and Islamic studies).

Pinson said, “We were delighted with the invitation to attend the Greer-Heard Point-Counterpoint Forum. This was an excellent opportunity for professional development for our faculty members and intellectual growth for our students. There’s a lot going on in the theological world, and we as Free Will Baptists need to stay current with trends and issues.”

Two other major Forum attractions spotlighted a lively dialogue between Bart Ehrman (UNC Chapel Hill) and Daniel Wallace (Dallas Theological Seminary) on “The Textual Reliability of the New Testament,” and presentations by the Evangelical Philosophical Society.

The invitation for FWBBC faculty and students to attend the Forum came from Dr. Steve Lemke, provost at NOBTS, who spoke in chapel at FWBBC this spring. During the team members’ visit to New Orleans, Dr. Lemke gave them a personal tour of NOBTS’ collection of historical biblical documents.