



*The Association for*  
**Biblical Higher Education**  
*Commission on Accreditation*

**2020 NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

**COA Nominating Committee:** Stephen Roy (chair), Kevin Hester, Charles Faber

***NOMINEES FOR THE COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION***

**Four Year Term (2020-2024), vote for one: Jena Dunn OR Elaine Philips**

**Jena Dunn, Provost, Stark College and Seminary (TX)**

- EdD (Higher Education Leadership), Texas A&M University – Commerce; MDiv (Cross-Cultural Studies), Hardin-Simmons University; BS, Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi).
- Served with Stark College & Seminary in various roles (Registrar, Faculty, Student Services, Retention, Admissions, Academic Leadership, Executive Cabinet) since 2008; including serving as Accreditation Liaison since 2014
- Focus of EdD dissertation research was Religious Educational Certificates and Diplomas
- Student Services evaluator and Team Chair on ABHE accreditation teams
- Married for 8 years to Tyler, a pilot in the US Navy.



**Elaine W. Phillips, Provost, Family of Faith Christian University (OK)**

- MA (Christian Education), Oral Roberts University; BA (Christian Education), Southwestern University.
- Ministry in higher education since 1995 has included serving in the roles of Registrar, Vice-President of Student Affairs, Director of Accreditation and Assessment, Academic Dean, and Provost.
- Service to ABHE includes service on 10 ABHE Accreditation Teams as Chair, Academic Evaluator and Administrative Evaluator. Also, has presented sessions at ABHE Annual Meetings and Leadership Development Conferences.
- Enjoys teaching courses on discipleship, evangelism, missions, and teaching the Bible, and overseeing student practicum experiences.
- Passionate about interceding for and taking the gospel to the nations of the world with her family which includes her husband of 31 years, John, 3 daughters, 2 international sons-in-law, and her church family. Also loves reading, baking, and walking.



**Four Year Term (2020-2024), vote for one: Joel Badal OR James Estep**

**Joel Badal, Dean of Institutional Effectiveness, Professor of Leadership Studies, The College of Biblical Studies (TX) since 2010.**

- PhD, Lancaster Bible College (Leadership Studies), MDiv., and BA (Pastoral Studies), Moody Bible Institute
- Over 20 years of pastoral experience in shepherding, preaching and leading.
- Prior experience: High School Teacher (2004-2009), Campus Pastor of Village Bible Church, Interim Pastorates for EFCA Churches, Elder
- Ordained by First Baptist Church, Conservative Baptist USA, Licensed by the Evangelical Free Church of America
- Translators for the Assyrian Bible New Testament and currently advising translation work on the Old Testament.
- Other roles include: Undergraduate and graduate teaching in traditional, accelerated and online formats; Subject Matter Experts for Online courses; and Doctor of Ministry and Doctor of Philosophy Research Mentor.
- Current Role: Lead the institution institutional planning and reporting for regulatory agencies.
- ABHE: Served on self-study teams, Chaired Self-Study Teams, Chaired Grievance Committee
- Joel and his wife Lisa live in the Chicago area and have 5 children. He helps coach his kids sports and both are involved in leadership roles at River Valley Evangelical Free Church. Joel is preaching regularly, and Lisa organizes the worship services.



**James Riley Estep, Jr. Vice-President of Academics, Central Christian College of the Bible (MO)**

- BA, MA, MA, and M.Div. from Cincinnati Christian University, D.Min. from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (KY) and Ph.D. in Educational Studies from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (IL)
- Served in the academic administration of Lincoln Christian University (IL), Kentucky Christian University (KY) and Great Lakes Christian College (MI)
- Active part of ABHE since 1996 and served on numerous committees with ABHE, including the Professional Development Committee and the editorial board of Biblical Higher Education Journal, as well as participated in numerous site team visits.
- Co-authored 13 books, and numerous essays and articles; as well as routinely presents at several learned societies.



**Four Year Term (2020-2024), vote for one: Charles Faber \***

**Charles Faber, Academic Dean, Boise Bible College (ID)**

- MDiv, Cincinnati Bible Seminary (now Cincinnati Christian University), BA (Christian Ministries), Cincinnati Bible Seminary (now Cincinnati Christian University)
- Professor of Bible and Theology for 14 years before appointment as Academic Dean
- Academic and Administrative Evaluator on 11 ABHE Teams, chaired for 7 of those teams
- ABHE Commissioner from 1999-2003 and since 2019.



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**Four Year Term (2020-2024), vote for one: Janet Hicks \***

**Janet K. Hicks, Professor and Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, Clarks Summit University (PA)**

- Ed.D. Binghamton University, M.Ed. Clarks Summit University, M.A. Buffalo State University (literature and history)
- Over twenty years in higher education serving as department chair, curriculum coordinator; twenty years in high school education.
- Faculty member at Clarks Summit University since 2000.
- ABHE Commissioner since 2016.



*\*incumbent Commissioner, eligible for re-election, running unopposed*