



2025 FLAGSHIP PRESIDENTS Gathering

MAY 27-29, 2025
DALLAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY | DALLAS, TX

TUESDAY, MAY 27

6:00 — 8:00 **OPENING DINNER** — Institutional Updates

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28

6:00 — 7:45 **BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN** — Hilton Garden Inn — 800 N. Main St., Duncanville, TX

8:00 — 8:15 **MORNING WELCOME**

8:15 — 9:15 **SESSION 1 | THE PRESIDENT'S ROLE IN SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP**
ADAM WRIGHT, PRESIDENT | DALLAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

9:15 — 9:45 **BEVERAGE BREAK**

9:45 — 10:45 **SESSION 2 | BIBLICAL & THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION: WHAT IS CORE AND WHAT MUST CHANGE**
DAVID DOCKERY, PRESIDENT | SOUTHWESTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

10:45 — 11:00 **BEVERAGE BREAK**

11:00 — 12:00 **SESSION 3 | ADVANCING INSTITUTIONAL SUCCESS THROUGH STRATEGIC THINKING**
RYAN DOUGHERTY, PRINCIPAL PARTNER | TG THREE

12:00 — 1:00 **LUNCH** — CATERED AT DBU

1:00 — 2:00 **SESSION 4 | WHAT EVERY PRESIDENT NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT AI**
BART CAYLOR, PRESIDENT | CAYLOR SOLUTIONS

2:00 — 2:30 **BEVERAGE BREAK**

2:30 — 4:30 **SESSION 5 | THE DBU WAY — AN INTERVIEW WITH THE LEADERSHIP OF DBU**

6:00 — 8:00 **DINNER/EXCURSION** — OFF-SITE

THURSDAY, MAY 29

6:00 — 7:45 **BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN** — Hilton Garden Inn - 800 N. Main St., Duncanville, TX

8:00 — 8:15 **MORNING WELCOME**

8:15 — 9:15 **SESSION 6 | KNOW THE SIGNS BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!**
TODD WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT | CAIRN UNIVERSITY

9:15 — 9:45 **BEVERAGE BREAK**

9:45 — 10:45 **SESSION 7 | RESILIENT LEADERSHIP: TIMELESS WISDOM FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT**
GORDON JOHNSTON, PROFESSOR OF BIBLICAL HEBREW | DALLAS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

10:45 — 11:00 **BEVERAGE BREAK**

11:00 — 12:00 **SESSION 8 | DEBRIEF SESSION — PHILIP DEARBORN | ABHE**

12:00 **LUNCH & DEPARTURE** — OFF SITE

WEDNESDAY — MAY 28

SESSION 1

THE PRESIDENT'S ROLE IN SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

ADAM WRIGHT, PRESIDENT — DALLAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

Explore the critical role presidents play in cultivating a Christ-centered institutional culture, providing spiritual guidance, and leading with biblical wisdom. Learn practical insights on integrating faith into leadership to strengthen your institution's ethos.

SESSION 2

BIBLICAL & THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION: WHAT IS CORE AND WHAT MUST

DAVID DOCKERY, PRESIDENT — SOUTHWESTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Review the essential foundations that must remain steadfast while identifying key challenges that require responses for biblical and theological education to thrive in a shifting cultural and academic landscape. Gain valuable insights on maintaining theological integrity while adapting to new educational challenges and opportunities.

SESSION 3

ADVANCING INSTITUTIONAL SUCCESS THROUGH STRATEGIC THINKING

RYAN DOUGHERTY, PRINCIPAL PARTNER — TG THREE

Consider how presidents can navigate challenges, seize opportunities, and drive sustainable growth by aligning vision with actionable strategy. Discover practical tools you can use to enhance decision-making, foster innovation, and lead your institution with clarity and purpose.

SESSION 4

WHAT EVERY PRESIDENT NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT AI

BART CAYLOR, PRESIDENT — CAYLOR SOLUTIONS

Engage with the opportunities and challenges AI presents for biblical and theological higher education, from enhancing student recruitment and engagement to optimizing institutional operations. Learn how to navigate AI's impact while maintaining mission-driven leadership.

SESSION 5

THE DBU WAY — AN INTERVIEW WITH THE LEADERSHIP OF DBU

Join this interview with leaders from DBU to discover how they approach delivering Christian higher education. From the moment you step on campus, the DBU team has created an environment that maximizes student success. We close the day with a tour of the DBU campus.

THURSDAY MORNING — MAY 29

SESSION 6

KNOW THE SIGNS BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

TODD WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT — CAIRN UNIVERSITY

Identify the red flags that a college may be at risk of closing — from declining enrollment and financial instability to staffing challenges and accreditation issues. Explore key warning signs through real-world examples and what presidents need to do now to reverse course.

SESSION 7

RESILIENT LEADERSHIP: TIMELESS WISDOM FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

GORDON JOHNSTON, PROFESSOR OF BIBLICAL HEBREW — DALLAS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Think through enduring leadership principles from the Old Testament, including perseverance, wisdom, and faithfulness. Discover how these insights can fortify your leadership and provide guidance in times of challenge. Gain practical applications to help you lead with resilience and purpose in presidential leadership.

SESSION 8

ROUNDTABLE CONVERSATION

PHILIP DEARBORN, PRESIDENT — ABHE

A wrap-up session to debrief takeaways from the gathering and to dialogue about the future of biblical and theological education. What services should ABHE provide to maximize institutional flourishing?