

# THE UNIVERSITY:

*A Christian Liberal Arts Institution*



## MISSION STATEMENT

Southwestern Christian University is a Christ-centered liberal arts institution equipping students for a life of learning, leadership, and service; integrating faith, learning, and living; and empowering graduates to excel and to positively impact their world for Jesus Christ.

### Motto

Scholarship • Spirit • Service

### Profile

Southwestern Christian University is a private, four-year Christian university located on a beautifully wooded campus in the Bethany area of metropolitan Oklahoma City. SCU was founded in 1946 by the International Pentecostal Holiness Church and embraces the Holiness, Pentecostal, and Charismatic traditions. A growing Christian liberal arts university, Southwestern currently offers an Associate of Arts degree, eighteen Bachelors degree options, and a Master of Ministry degree with five areas of concentration.

## OBJECTIVES

SCU seeks to integrate Biblical truth into all of its curricular and co-curricular activities, preparing students for a life of learning, leadership and service in their selected vocations that will impact the world for Jesus Christ. We seek to produce a student who fulfills the following objectives:

1. **The student will be able through vocation, church and community to make distinctive contributions to humanity and to enhance the spiritual well-being of those whom they serve and work:**
  - A) A developed and maintained high moral standard for their own benefit so they serve as a wholesome example and leader.
  - B) Expression, through their life, of a clear commitment to Christ. Able to share openly and wisely with others knowledge of the Bible and dedication to Christ, model Christian love toward others, and to demonstrate a teachable spirit.
  - C) Preparation to fulfill Christ's commission to make disciples of all nations.
  - D) Sensitivity to the total needs of people and a willingness to contribute to the meeting of those needs.
  - E) Holding the conviction that the Christian is to be a good citizen of the state who respects authority, submits to the laws of the land, and seeks constructive change through appropriate channels.
  - F) Seeking an atmosphere that encourages growth in a personal relationship with God, including understanding the role of repentance and forgiveness.
  - G) Acceptance of all races with an understanding, and appreciation, of ethnic and cultural distinctives.
  - H) A practice of lifelong learning

- l) Understanding individual value because of the redemptive act of Jesus Christ and seeking to utilize and develop gifts and abilities in pursuance of God's will (destiny) for their life.
2. **The student educated in the Arts and Sciences will have a Biblically integrated perspective as the foundation to education. That foundation will consist of the following:**
- A) A broad exposure to the ideas that have shaped human thinking.
  - B) Knowledge of how to use cognitive processes which include the processes of investigation, logical reasoning, and the recognition that humanity cannot rely on reason and experience alone, but that humans must also exercise faith.
  - C) The ability to communicate, defend ideas, and to express their views clearly and effectively.
  - D) A well-conceived system of values and beliefs which are Biblically based and which mediate behavior.
  - E) An understanding and appreciation of the various creative expressions of humanity's search for meaning in art, drama, music, and literature.
3. The student should be knowledgeable in principles of Biblical truth, application of theology, and defense of the Christian faith as evidenced by the following:
- A) A clear understanding of the content of the Bible.
  - B) Integration of Biblical thoughts into his/her life and actions, as well as into their chosen field of study.
  - C) The awareness of truth in the study of Scripture, of nature, and of humanity; appreciation of beauty and order in God's creation, and human creativity in the arts and sciences; application of those insights to the pursuit of righteousness in the life of both the individual and society.
4. **The student should attain a high degree of competence in their field of study as demonstrated by the following:**
- A) Preparation in those programs that lead directly to a vocation or profession reflects standards within their chosen discipline.
  - B) Preparation for future graduate study reflects professional and academic standards within their chosen discipline.
  - C) Students work reflects a high degree of subject competency, integration of a servant mentality, and a strong Christian ethic.

## **LIFELONG LEARNING STATEMENT**

**SCU students will exhibit behaviors that reflect they value their education and seek to regularly enhance their personal and professional lives.** We seek to produce students who reflect the influence of their educational experience as evidenced by several life behaviors including, but not limited to, building on the quality educational experience at SCU by additional college work, actively participating in a plan of ongoing professional and personal improvement, actively utilizing their local community, church, or school libraries, and in building a private library of resources for personal and professional enhancement (adopted 3/2010).

## HISTORY

Southwestern Christian University was birthed in the fall of 1946 through the vision of the late Dr. R. O. Corvin, C.H. Williams, and others, including Rev. Oral Roberts. Established as Southwestern Bible College, its goals were to first establish an educational facility and to also train men and women for leadership in the ministry. Located on the outskirts of Oklahoma City in the “Abe Hale” nightclub, fulfilling its original purpose, the University grew to a bustling junior college campus during the 1960’s and 1970’s.



In the 1960’s, the student body and studies expanded as various junior college programs were developed. The junior college was accredited in 1964 by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. In 1973, the junior college received accreditation by North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. SCU was approved in 1979 by North Central as a four-year baccalaureate level degree-granting college in the field of religion. In 1981, the University moved to its current location in Bethany, Oklahoma and the name was changed to Southwestern College of Christian Ministries. On October 26, 2001 the name changed again. The new name, Southwestern Christian University, more adequately defines our vision. *Southwestern* relates to our heritage and past; *Christian* reflects our heart, purpose and principle; and *University* focuses on our heading and progress. In 2004, the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools granted Southwestern its longest period of accreditation to date. The recommendation of NCA also included the approval of the Business Administration degree as well as the ability to broaden degree programs. After more than 60 years, Southwestern Christian University remains dedicated to educating, equipping and empowering people to be leaders in their chosen fields who, through the power of the Holy Spirit, impact their generation with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

## WHAT WE BELIEVE ([IPHC ARTICLES OF FAITH](#))

Throughout its history, SCU has sought to serve the kingdom of God by offering educational programs to Christians of various denominational backgrounds. The University has urged Christian ecumenicity in a commitment to the basic doctrines of historic Christianity. At the same time, SCU feels it has a theological contribution and education ministry that is unique to the heritage of its sponsoring denomination, the International Pentecostal Holiness Church.

### SCU holds to the following creed:

1. We believe there is but one living and true God, everlasting, of infinite power, wisdom and goodness: Maker and Preserver of all things, both visible and invisible. And in unity of this Godhead, there are three Persons of one substance, of eternal being, and equal in holiness, justice, wisdom, power and dignity: the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost.
2. We believe that the Son, who is the Word of the Father, the very and eternal God, of one substance with the Father, took man’s nature in the womb of the blessed Virgin: so that two whole and perfect natures, that is to say, the Godhead and manhood, were joined together in one person never to be divided, whereof is one Christ, very God and perfect man who actually suffered, was crucified, died and buried, to reconcile the Father to us and to make atonement, not only for our actual guilt but also for original sin.
3. We believe that Christ did truly rise again from the dead, took again His body, with all things appertaining to the perfection of man’s nature, and ascended into heaven and there sits until He shall return to judge all men at the last day.

4. We believe the Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son, is of one substance, majesty and glory with the Father and the Son, very and eternal God.
5. We believe in the verbal and plenary inspiration of the Holy Scriptures known as the Bible, composed of sixty-six books and divided into two compartments, Old and New Testaments. We believe the Bible is the Word of God, the full and complete revelation of the plan and history of redemption.
6. We believe that eternal life with God in heaven is a portion of the reward of the finally righteous; and that everlasting banishment from the presence of the Lord, and unending torture in hell, the wages of the persistently wicked (Matthew 25:46; Psalms 9:17; Revelation 21:7-8).
7. We believe that Jesus Christ shed His blood for the remission of sins that are past; and for the regeneration of penitent sinners, and for salvation from sin and from sinning (Romans 3:25; I John 3:5-10; Ephesians 2:1-10).
8. We believe, teach, and firmly maintain the Scriptural doctrine of justification by faith alone (Romans 5:1).
9. We believe that Jesus Christ shed His blood for the complete cleansing of the justified believer from all indwelling sin and from its pollution, subsequent to regeneration (I John 1:7-9).
10. We believe in sanctification. While sanctification is initiated in regeneration and consummated in glorification, we believe that it includes a definite, instantaneous work of grace achieved by lifelong growth in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (II Corinthians 4:16; II Peter 3:18).
11. We believe that the Pentecostal baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire is obtainable by a definite act of appropriating faith on the part of the fully cleansed believer and the initial evidence of the reception of this experience is speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance (Luke 11:13; Acts 1:5; 2:1-4; 8:17; 10:44-46; 19:6).
12. We believe in divine healing as in the atonement (Isaiah 53:4-5; Matthew 8:16-17; Mark 16:14-18; James 5:13-16; Exodus 15:26).
13. We believe in the imminent, personal, pre-millennial second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ (I Thessalonians 4:15-18; Titus 2:13; II Peter 3:1-4; Matthew 24:29-44), and we look and wait for His appearing (II Timothy 4:8).
14. We believe the responsibility is incumbent on every believer, in his chosen field of Christian service, to dedicate his life to carrying out the work of the Great Commission.

## **ACCREDITATION**

Southwestern Christian University is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission, a Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, and the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. It enjoys the full endorsement of the General Department of Church Education Ministries of the International Pentecostal Holiness Church as an approved educational entity for training ministers, missionaries and Christian workers to serve the church around the world. SCU is approved by the U.S. Department of Justice for the admission of international students and is approved by the State Accrediting Agency of Oklahoma for the admission of eligible veterans.

## **ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Active membership in the Southwestern University Alumni Association consists of all former students since the University was established in 1946.

It is the aim of the association to conserve the spirit of fellowship between graduates and former students, to maintain a spirit of cooperation in the promotion of the kingdom of God, and to serve the University in every way possible.

Alumni of SCU include people impacting their world for Jesus Christ as missionaries, business people, lawyers, state senators, doctors, pastors, conference superintendents, general church officials, secretaries, artists, college and school teachers, writers, ministers of education, sacred music, musicians, and many other vital fields.

## LOCATION OF CAMPUS

Southwestern Christian University is located on a beautiful wooded campus in Bethany, Oklahoma, a suburb of Oklahoma City, one of the major cities in the Southwest. With a metropolitan area population of about one million, the greater Oklahoma City area provides a large number and variety of churches, jobs, museums, sporting events and recreational activities.

The campus of SCU adjoins the Resource Development Center of the International Pentecostal Holiness Church, the University's parent body. This proximity allows for interchange with the denominational leadership on academic, professional, and social levels.

### **The campus facilities include:**

#### **L. D. Patrick Building**

This 10,000 square foot facility includes the Ollie Bell dining hall. Included in the facility is a modern commercial kitchen, a student dining area, and the Rena Patrick Dining Room, which seats about 30. This dining room is used to entertain special guests of the University. The Patrick Building also includes three classrooms.

#### **Irvin Hall, Light Hall & Bell Student Center**

This newly renovated facility provides student housing for both men and women. The Bell Student Center serves as a hub for a variety of student activities and relaxation.

#### **East Hall**

Opened for occupancy in January, 2004, the 56-bed, two-story student residential facility features a two-bedroom Residential Director's apartment, a laundry/vending area and a "commons" student social area, the *Jane Hayes Memorial Glass House* (2006). The new unit contains two-bedroom suites with connecting baths. The Hall also features the *Rita Tate Residence Hall* (2008) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor.

#### **E. Terry Tripp Student Center**

The Tripp Student Center provides facilities for student activities and is adjacent to the Pickens/Springer Gymnasium.

#### **The Pickens/Springer Gymnasium**

The Pickens/Springer Gymnasium was dedicated in Spring 2000. It seats up to 400 for athletic events and up to 700 for other college convocations. The facility houses locker rooms for visiting teams, a student/staff training room, a collegiate size basketball, and volleyball court. In 2006, the Mash / Lofflin Hall of Fame room was completed, along with three offices for the coaching staff, men's and women's home locker rooms, laundry facilities, and a shower room for referees.

#### **C. H. Springer Building**

The ground floor of this facility serves as the **Administrative Center** of the campus. It houses the offices of the President, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Vice President of Student Development, Vice President of Institutional Development, Vice-President for Fiscal Affairs/Director & Human Resources, the Registrar, Admissions, the IT Director, and the Business Office.

**The University Library**, located in the C.H. Springer building's lower level, provides students and faculty a common ground for interaction, reading and access to nearly 30,000 resources in a variety of formats to support the curriculum. Specializations include a wide religious collection of a size normally only found in much larger institutions. Internet access is available to students via a computer lab and wireless access. Students, faculty, staff and guests are issued a SCU Library card. Through a partnership with the Oklahoma Department of Libraries and Oklahoma Regents for High Education (OSRHE), the SCU Library issues and recognizes the OK Share Card program, further expanding research capabilities. The Pentecostal Research Collection (PRC), the Noel Brooks Collection (NBC) and historic displays of the University are also featured in the University Library.

**The Roberson Building**

The Roberson Building houses the Graduate School offices, classrooms, conference rooms, faculty offices, and the Auditorium.