

DBU REPORT

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2009 VOL. XXII NO. 1



DBU DEDICATES NEW HENRY BLACKABY HALL

The doors of DBU's newest building have been officially opened with the dedication of Henry Blackaby Hall. The new building houses the University's bookstore, The Patriot Store, formerly located in the John G. Mahler Student Center, as well as the DBU Online Education Department and several music faculty offices and practice rooms. Dr. Henry Blackaby is pictured above (right) with his wife, Marilyn, and Dr. Gary Cook, DBU president.



The *DBU Report* is a bi-monthly publication of Dallas Baptist University. *DBU Report*, 3000 Mountain Creek Parkway, Dallas, Texas 75211-9299. President-Dr. Gary Cook; Director of Development-John Clem; Editor-Blake Killingsworth. Co-Editor-John Turnage. Photos-Julie Gorski and Blake Killingsworth. Phone: 214-333-5168; E-mail: johnc@dbu.edu.

HENRY BLACKABY HALL

New Building Honors Christian Leader and Baptist Statesman

Dallas Baptist University recently opened the doors to a new building named in honor of famed Christian author and Baptist leader, Dr. Henry Blackaby. Perched atop University Hill, just south of the John G. Mahler Student Center and the Patty and Bo Pilgrim Chapel, Henry Blackaby Hall is a 20,000 square-foot, three story facility housing the University Bookstore, Music Department classrooms and practice rooms, music faculty instructional studios, and DBU's Online Education Department.

Reflecting DBU's colonial-style architecture, the building is modeled after the north elevation of Independence Hall in Philadelphia with its signature red brick walls, balustrades that stretch between end wall chimneys, and parapets. Like Independence Hall, the front face is embellished with marble panels and belt courses, soapstone quoins, and cast stone modillion cornice, making it distinct from other DBU buildings.

Dr. Blair Blackburn, DBU executive vice president, explained, "In addition to continuing DBU's tradition of simulating America's most treasured historic buildings, Blackaby Hall adds to the University a multifunctional facility of the highest quality to meet the expansive needs of our student population."

Occupying the first floor of Henry Blackaby Hall is the Patriot Store. This new campus bookstore is three times the size of its previous location and features a curriculum resource center where students can purchase textbooks and educational support materials, as well as a varsity collegiate retail section, providing students with the latest DBU apparel and gift items. The Patriot Store is equipped with increased shipping and receiving capabilities, to serve DBU's growing online student population, and added point-of-service registers to increase service to students and Patriot Store patrons.

On the lower level, practice rooms and piano faculty offices line the hallways as music students refine their talents. On the top floor, music classrooms are available for larger composition and theory courses. In addition, the top floor houses the DBU Online Education department, which provides assistance

and training for over 250 faculty members and over 1,800 students. This spring, the University is offering 262 online and hybrid courses. DBU online education provides students an opportunity to complete their undergraduate education in one of 18 programs or their graduate degree in one of 16 programs.

The new building's namesake, Dr. Henry Blackaby, has spent his life in ministry. He has served as a music director, Christian education director, and senior pastor in churches in California and Canada, president of Canadian Baptist Theological College, president of the Canadian Southern Baptist Conference, and an executive at the North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. He has published an array of spiritually influential messages, most notably *Experiencing God: Knowing*

and Doing the Will of God. Dr. Blackaby has provided leadership to thousands of pastors and laypersons across North America and has spoken to missionaries and other groups in over 90 countries all over the world. Although he is officially retired, he remains a servant in the role of founder and president emeritus of Blackaby Ministries International. In 2002, DBU recognized Dr. Blackaby's work by presenting him with an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree.

The call to serve the Lord, which Dr. Henry Blackaby has spent his life echoing, has changed

the lives of not only countless individuals who have read his works or heard him speak, but also those closest to him. He and his wife, Marilyn, are the proud parents of five children who have all found various ministries in which to serve. Their oldest son, Dr. Richard Blackaby, currently serves as President of Blackaby Ministries International. Dr. Thomas Blackaby is a former senior pastor and now serves as Director of International Ministries for Blackaby Ministries International. Dr. Melvin Blackaby is the senior pastor of First Baptist Church, Jonesboro, Georgia, where his parents currently attend. Dr. Norman Blackaby is a professor in the Gary Cook Graduate School of Leadership at DBU. Their daughter, Carrie Webb, is a career missionary serving in Winterberg, Germany.



Dr. Henry Blackaby with his wife, Marilyn, (center) and their sons, (from left to right) Dr. Norman Blackaby, Dr. Melvin Blackaby, Dr. Richard Blackaby, and Dr. Thomas Blackaby. Their daughter, Carrie Webb, serves as a missionary in Germany and was unable to attend the dedication.