

Remarks on Danny Akin's Retirement Announcement

Danny Akin

President

Senior Professor of Preaching and Theology

Ed Young, Sr. Chair of Preaching

Words are not adequate for me to tell Southern Baptists how much I love and appreciate their love, prayers, trust, and support. It has been the honor of a lifetime to serve such wonderful people and churches. It is amazing to reflect on all that God has done as we partner together to reach North America and the nations. There is still work to be done. If we keep our hearts near to Jesus, stand on his inerrant word, and obey his Great Commission, I believe God will continue to work in us and through us for his great glory until Jesus returns. That is certainly my hope and prayer for the people called Southern Baptists.

Carlos Goodrich

Chairman of the Board of Trustees

I am profoundly grateful for Dr. Akin's faithful, visionary leadership over the past twenty-plus years. Under his guidance, Southeastern has flourished as a Great Commission seminary, training thousands of students to serve Christ and his Church with conviction, courage, and compassion and to carry the gospel of Christ to the nations.

I am excited about the strong foundation the Lord has built at Southeastern under Dr. Akin's leadership and the opportunities that lie ahead. This transition is not just an ending, but the beginning of a new chapter where Southeastern can continue to fulfill its mission to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ by equipping students to serve the church and fulfill the Great Commission.

Ryan Hutchinson

Executive Vice President for Operations

Because of Dr. Akin's leadership, Southeastern is poised to head into the transition with strength of mission, strength in student growth, and strength in finances. This will provide a solid foundation for the next president to build upon.

Scott Pace*Provost**Dean of Graduate Studies**Professor of Preaching and Pastoral Ministry**Jim Shaddix Chair of Expository Preaching*

Dr. Akin's leadership has been instrumental in shaping our institution. While this is typically described in terms of his passion for the Great Commission, it also includes how he operates with integrity, humility, and genuine compassion for others. His steady faithfulness and commitment to honor Christ in all things encourages these same values in our students and staff. There's not an aspect of our institution that isn't a reflection of his kindness and sincerity.

Dr. Akin's commitment to hiring professors who embody our core values, share our doctrinal convictions, and embrace our mission has helped build a world-class faculty at Southeastern. Not only does this provide our students with the opportunity to be trained by renowned scholars, but also it offers them the opportunity to be equipped for their calling by practitioners who love the local church and are committed to its mission. The faculty he has assembled attracts students who value academic excellence and are eager to learn from a faculty who desire to invest their expertise and practical experience into the next generation of ministry leaders.

Jonathan Six*Vice President for Institutional Advancement*

Over the past twenty years, I've had the privilege of being a part of the Southeastern community. I've watched Dr. Akin as a student in his classroom, as a part of his staff, and now as a fellow administrator. Some leaders are easier to follow from a distance than up close, but not Dr. Akin. He is authentically Danny both from afar and near. He has led with integrity, conviction, and a bold passion to see the nations reached for King Jesus. Because of his stellar leadership, Southeastern finds herself in an incredible place of financial health, doctrinal fidelity, and missional zeal. So, we celebrate his retirement, and we look forward to the days ahead thanks to his excellent leadership.