

MINUTES

From May 19, 2025

Institutional Relations Committee

Executive Board at the University of Hardin-Simmons, Abilene

IRC Members Present

Dustin Slaton
Luis Amario
Flor Soto
Gary Singleton
Daniel Tanguma
Kenneth Martin
Glen Hambrick

IRC Members Not Present

Bobby Contreras, Chair

TXB Staff Present

Julio Guarneri, TXB Ex Dir
Craig Christina, TXB Assoc.
Ex Dir
Ward Hayes, TXB CFO
Stephen Stookey
John Litzler
Joshua Minatrea

Sergio Ramos
Gabriel Cortez
Heather Penna
Maribel Paz

Guests

Heath Kirkwood, ExB Chair
Suzie Liner, ExB Vice Chair
Abe Jaquez, BUA
Eron Green, STCH Ministries
Brad Holland, Hendrick
Brian Bessent, Hendrick
Wes Erickson, Hendrick
Cory Hines, HPU
Albert Reyes, Buckner
Adam Wright, DBU
Christa Van Der Merwe, DBU
Scott Bryant, ETBU
Eric Bruntmyer, HSU
Linda Livingstone, BU

Calli Keener, TBS

Ken Camp, TBS

Eric Black, TBS

Call to Order:

Dustin Slaton, member of the Institutional Relations Committee, called the meeting to order. Slaton chaired the meeting in place of Bobby Contreras who could not attend.

Devotional and Prayer:

Slaton shared a devotional based out of 2 Samuel 18:6-8; As believers we have resources at our disposal that the enemy does not have. We are tools in the hands of God. Fight your spiritual battles by the Spirit of the Lord.

Minutes:

Slaton acknowledged the February 17, 2025, Minutes which were posted on the board website. No corrections were made; minutes were approved.

Institutional Reports:

President & CEO, Brad Holland of Hendrick Hospital shared a brief report and presented Dr. Julio Guarneri with a book highlighting Hendrick's 100-year journey as a thank you for the partnership with Texas Baptists. Afterward, Brian Bessent shared the history of the establishment of the hospital and its connection with Hardin-Simmons University. He stated the history and vision of Hendrick has not changed; "the heritage of Baptists hospitals is to make Christ's name central to the life of the entire institution". And Wes Erikson, shared about the essence of the hospital's mission statement. He shared Acts 26:19 and said Hendrick maintains a strong ministry spirit with the healthcare they provide to patients.

Afterward, Stookey allowed time for everyone in the room to give a quick introduction. He requested institutional leaders share a brief report in their time of introduction. Institutional leaders in the room were: Eron Green, STCH Ministries; Cory Hines, HPU; Albert Reyes, Buckner Int.; Adam Wright, DBU; Scott Bryant, ETBU; Eric Bruntmyer, HSU; Linda Livingstone, BU.

Following introductions and reports each IRC member prayed for the institution leaders represented.

Dustin Slaton informed IRC members they could provide their institution preferences for site visits at the end of the meeting.

Theological Education Council:

Stephen Stookey briefly shared the qualifications for students who receive MFA funds from Texas Baptists. Afterward, he presented a Recommendation for Re-endorsement of Dallas Baptist University's (DBU) graduate ministry degrees for Ministerial Financial Assistance (MFA). IRC voted affirmatively; the motion passed.

Closing Prayer/Adjournment:

Slaton adjourned the meeting thanking everyone and dismissed the guests. IRC stayed for an executive session that followed.

Respectfully submitted,
Maribel Paz
Committee Specialist