Cooperative Program

1. Please give a description of your entity’s efforts to promote the Cooperative Program and the expected outcome of these efforts.

The Council of Seminary Presidents exists in order to maintain and provide oversight for the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives and the Seminary Extension program. Both of these are Cooperative Program ministries, and both support the Cooperative Program by every available means. In particular, the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives serves as a repository for the documentary history of the Cooperative Program. It is also available at all times to other SBC entities in order to promote the Cooperative Program by means of historical materials, denominational memory, and documentation. From time to time, the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives presents historical displays and publications that highlight the work of the Cooperative Program, in terms of both its history and its present dimensions. Seminary Extension, in cooperation with the six seminaries, regularly reminds participating students of the Cooperative Program and its function in Southern Baptist life. Given the fact that, by definition, its students are neither full-time nor residential, Seminary Extension relies upon printed materials and the influence of teachers in order to promote the Cooperative Program and its work.

Ethnic Participation

2. Please give a descriptive report of participation of ethnic leaders, ethnic churches and other ethnic church leaders in the life and ministry of your entity.

The Council of Seminary Presidents is fully supportive of the aims of the Southern Baptist Convention to enhance and enlarge the participation of ethnic involvement at every level. Accordingly, each of the six seminaries reports in terms of its own programs, approach, and progress. Taken as a whole, the Council of Seminary Presidents functions in order to provide coordination and communication between the six seminaries. Accordingly, the six seminary presidents regularly discuss and review this question in light of the work of our individual institutions and of the Council of Seminary Presidents, and thus the totality of our work together. Beyond this, the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives regularly features displays, historical analysis, and documentation related to the inclusion of minorities within the life and work of the denomination and its churches. The SBLHA also provides generous support for scholars involved in this work, including minority scholars with a particular focus on ethnic involvement.