# SOUTHERN WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY FACULTY EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION

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## ACADEMIC BACKGROUND Attach a vita to include no less than the following: (Transcripts will be required for application to be considered) □ Colleges/Universities attended; degrees and dates (Please note majors and concentrations) ☐ Employment history ☐ Professional organizations/activity involvement ☐ Professional publications which have included your work ☐ Academic or professional honors you have been awarded ☐ Experiences with Learning Management Systems ☐ Experiences with teaching in distance learning environments ☐ References; include three contacts for information (pastor, employer, and co-worker) WRITTEN RESPONSES Attach written responses in a separate document. Describe the circumstances that led you to accept Christ as Savior; then tell about your relationship with Him since. List any personal ministry, church involvement or spiritual growth that has been important to you during the past year. Describe your approach to teaching. How will your students be able to tell that you are integrating your Christian faith into your academic discipline? CRIMINAL OFFENSES Conviction of a criminal offense is not a bar to employment in all cases; each case is considered on its own merits. Have you ever been convicted of a criminal offense? (Omit minor vehicle violations and charges made □ Yes before your 17th birthday which were adjudicated in juvenile court or other youthful offender law.) Charges, Locations, Dates, and Disposition/Status of Criminal Offenses (felonies, misdemeanors, summary offenses) If an offer of employment is made, a pre-employment screening will be conducted. STATEMENTS OF AGREEMENT The Wesleyan Church requires a belief in basic Biblical doctrines as listed in the Statement of Faith. Respect for and support of these beliefs and practices is expected of all university employees. (See pages 3-5) Check those boxes below that you can unquestionably affirm: ☐ I have read, understood, and am in agreement with Southern Wesleyan University's "Statement of Purpose." ☐ I have read and understand Southern Wesleyan University's "Doctrinal Statement." ☐ I have read and understand Southern Weslevan University's statement of "Community Expectations." During the times I am employed by Southern Wesleyan University, I agree to support the principles described in the "Statement of Purpose" and "Doctrinal Statement" and to comply with the "Community Expectations." Signature of Applicant **Printed Name of Applicant** Date

#### **IMPORTANT**

Carefully read the following foundational statements about Southern Wesleyan University.

#### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Southern Wesleyan University is a Christ-centered, student-focused learning community devoted to transforming lives by challenging students to be dedicated scholars and servant-leaders who impact the world for Christ.

Since its founding by The Wesleyan Church in 1906, Southern Wesleyan University has been a Christian community of learners that recognizes God as the source of all truth and wisdom. The university seeks to create an atmosphere in which members of the community work together toward wholeness by seeking to integrate faith, learning, and daily life.

Located in Central, South Carolina, the University is a half-way point between Charlotte, North Carolina, and Atlanta, Georgia. It is thirty minutes from the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains and ten minutes from Clemson University, with whom it shares some cooperative programs. Southern Wesleyan welcomes persons with a wide variety of backgrounds and abilities. Younger and older, undergraduate and graduate, residential and commuting, and traditional and non-traditional students work and interact with a faculty guided by a Christian understanding of the liberal arts.

The university evolved from a small Bible institute and its first charter as Wesleyan Methodist College in 1909 into a four-year, private, liberal arts college, regionally accredited in 1973. Historically, the founders of the college understood linguistic, quantitative, and analytical skills to be the foundation of a liberal arts education. Further, they believed that the cultivation of this curriculum within the context of faith, worship, studies in religion, and service to others created a fertile soil for intellectual and spiritual growth. Thus, the college ensured that every student would be well grounded in these areas by developing a general education curriculum of liberal arts studies. That tradition is alive today. All undergraduate programs—traditional and non-traditional—contain a core curriculum in the liberal arts.

As a ministry of The Wesleyan Church and in service to the global Church, Southern Wesleyan prepares students for graduate study and leadership in such fields as religion, education, music, business, medicine, law, and a variety of civic and social service professions. Graduate programs are offered in fields in which the university has demonstrated particular strengths—religion, education and business. Although the university serves the Southeast, the student population is a wholesome blending of cultural, ethnic and regional diversity drawn from the entire United States and the international community encouraging broader understanding and development of Christian values.

Ideal graduates of Southern Wesleyan have a healthy respect for themselves and others as bearers of God's image. Their respect encourages care for personal and social health—mentally, physically, and spiritually. They seek a biblical social awareness that cares for people and their environment. Through the completion of courses in world history, culture, and the arts (in traditional and non-traditional classes and in international settings), they are prepared to serve society with respect for the past and a vision for the future. Southern Wesleyan graduates are prepared to confront a rapidly changing world with skills in communication, information processing, analysis, synthesis, and problem-solving.

#### **DOCTRINAL STATEMENT**

#### We believe:

\*The Holy Scriptures contain all things necessary to salvation; so that whatsoever is not read therein, nor may be proved thereby, is not to be required of any man, that it should be believed as an article of faith, or be thought requisite or necessary to salvation. We do understand the books of the Old and New Testaments to constitute the Holy Scriptures. These Scriptures we hold to be the inspired and infallibly written Word of God, fully inerrant in their original manuscripts and superior to all human authority.

\*There is one God, eternally self-existent, and in the Unity of this Godhead there are three Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

\*Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, very God and very man; and the only and sufficient mediator between God and man, who by the sacrifice of Himself provides atonement for the whole human race, and that whosoever believeth in Him shall be saved.

#### **DOCTRINAL STATEMENT** (continued)

\*Man was created in the image of God, but through transgression fell from that holy state, incurred spiritual death, became depraved, and is inclined to do evil and that continually. But by the grace of God working in man and with man, he may by faith in the merit of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ be justified and regenerated in nature, so that he is delivered from the power of sin and thus through the grace of God enabled to love and serve Him with the will and affections of the heart. All who reject the grace of God are lost.

\*The Holy Spirit is a Divine Person, the Executive of the Godhead, whose mission is to reveal Christ to man and to administer the Estate of Grace to all who truly believe; and that His special mission to the believer is to cleanse the heart from all sin, whether inherited or acquired, thus enabling him to love God with all his heart and his neighbor as himself.

\*Jesus Christ rose from the dead, appeared on earth in a glorified bodily form; that He ascended to the right hand of God, and He will return to earth at God's appointed time; and that the blessed hope of His return is a powerful incentive to holy living and to world evangelism.

\*There is a conscious existence after death, everlasting happiness for the saved and everlasting woe for the lost.

#### **COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS**

Southern Wesleyan University is committed to community. We believe learning best takes place in the context of community. Our mission involves members in community working "together toward wholeness through the integration of faith, learning, and living." We believe people become "whole" only as they interrelate to others. For this reason we seek to foster community at multiple levels.

#### The Ideal

The gold standard for community as set forth in the New Testament is "love." You cannot get around it. It is everywhere as you turn the pages of scripture. We believe God stamped His own image in people. They are deeply loved by God, and as a consequence, are of inestimable value. This value does not originate with the individual or relate to race, gender, age, personality, talent, beauty or wealth. Rather, worth arises solely from God and is extended equally to all. We are called to a fellowship of love because God loves and esteems each member. Jesus said it well in John 13:34. "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you..."

The kind of love that truly drives community willingly abandons self-interest for the sake of another. True community is not built by sticking to rules, but by heart attitudes characterized by love. Of course the ultimate example of this love was Jesus as seen in His death on our behalf (c.f. Romans. 5:8; John. 15:13; 1 John. 4:9-10). Paul describes the centrality of love in community life in 1 Corinthians. 13. There he lays out the ideal toward which all members of the University community should aspire. Each member would do well to reflect continuously on his descriptive statements in 1 Corinthians. 13:4-8a in seeking to be a positive part of University.

#### The Minimum

While a fellowship in which all actions are motivated by love is the ideal toward which we strive, the University recognizes that in a fallen world such attitudes will not always characterize all those within our community. For this reason we have identified certain minimal behavioral standards that must be adhered to when we interact with others at the University. Violations of these baseline expectations result in a response by the University to protect the learning community. When internal motivation is right, these behaviors will invariably be present. However, we expect those who choose to be part of the University community to exemplify these traits at all times irrespective of internal issues. In this way, the community can function with minimal friction.

#### Respect

Members of the community act respectfully toward one another. They do not take actions with the intent to harm another nor treat another rudely. Nor do they use abusive, foul, or profane language or gestures. They listen quietly when another is speaking and avoid personal attacks when debating ideas. Honesty in words and actions is also expected as a means of showing respect.

#### **COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS (CONTINUED)**

They do not threaten, harass or demean any member of the community. This includes harassment on the basis of sex, race, disability, nationality, age or political persuasion. Activity or entertainment that promotes violence, exploitation, discrimination or sexually immoral and degrading practices is to be avoided by community members. Everyone is to feel safe physically and psychologically at the university. Also for this reason, weapons and explosives of any kind, simulated or real are not permitted at university functions without prior authorization.

The use of language that diminishes or profanes the name of God or otherwise maligns Him is not permitted. The gratuitous denigration of other religious viewpoints is also inappropriate.

While there is room for disagreement in community, such disagreements are handled in a mature fashion without attempts to tear down or embarrass the other party. At all times the dignity of the institution, its policies, and its representatives are to be upheld. Disruptive conduct that interferes with the normal activity of the university is not allowed.

Respect for one's own person and God's intended use of the body is important. Individuals should dress inoffensively and professionally with sensitivity to standards of modesty.

Sexual activity is only expressed privately between a man and a woman in the context of marriage. Because sexual expression is not merely physical, but deeply involves the mind, spirit and emotions, there is a need for sensitivity and caution at every level of intimacy.

Intimate personal relationships between employees may be disruptive to the work environment and may be considered inappropriate behavior. Intimate relationships or sexual expression between employees and students is strongly discouraged and is considered inappropriate.

In recognition of the holiness of the body and the injunction that it should only be under the control of the Holy Spirit (cf. Eph. 5:18), members shall abstain at all times and places from the use of alcohol, illegal drugs, and tobacco products while participating in the community.

#### **Privacy**

Members of the community take seriously the need for confidentiality of personal information gleaned while participating in the university. Individuals never share items learned in confidence unless given permission. Gossip is wholly inappropriate as it tends to tear others down. Disparaging others in the community either within or outside the university is unacceptable.

If a member of the community feels they or the larger community have been wronged by another, the first action taken is to go privately to the other one they perceive to be at fault and seek to make things right.

#### **Property**

The property of others will be respected within the University fellowship. Destruction, defacement or theft of the physical property of the university or personal property of individuals will not be tolerated.

Protection of property extends to intellectual property as well. Individuals will refrain from "stealing" the words, ideas, or creative work of another. Examples of this include such things as cheating and plagiarism, acting as if the intellectual output of another was actually your own work. It may also involve the inappropriate acquisition and use of copyrighted material without proper permission.

#### **COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS (CONTINUED)**

### A Final Word about Rights & Responsibilities

The goals of the community at Southern Wesleyan University are to:

- 1. Foster learning, scholarship and research through the free exchange of ideas.
- 2. Provide encouragement and support to members of the community as they seek to grow toward wholeness amidst difficult and stressful life circumstances.
- 3. Hold members of the community to high standards of academic honesty, intellectual rigor, and realistic humility in the pursuit of truth.

By joining the community, members are agreeing to pursue these goals. They are also agreeing to work to maintain an environment within the community where certain rights are protected.

- 1. The right to free expression within the bounds of decency and order.
- 2. The right to be respected and treated with dignity.
- 3. The right to independent thought and reasoned dissent.
- 4. The right to feel safe and free from threat, force or violence.
- 5. The right to personal, constructive change.

While the University's officers of administration and instruction have authority to give structure to the community, to foster its ongoing health, and to intervene if there are serious problems, the weight of responsibility for the health of the community rests with the community as a whole and with each individual member. To enter into the University community is to enter into a commitment to support that community and seek its goals.

EMPLOYMENT STATEMENT		
In compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Ac 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Southern W sex, or physical handicap in any of its policies, church-related institution and to develop policie Wesleyan Church.	Vesleyan University does not discriminate on the practices, or procedures. The University research	e basis of race, national origin, erves its right to operate as a
I understand that any false information given employment or may be grounds for dismissa information provided on this application and su	l from employment. I certify that, to the	best of my knowledge, the
Signature of Applicant	Printed Name of Applicant	Date