

UPDATES FROM THE HILL **TIGER PRIDE** EAST TEXAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY



ETBU Celebrates Highest Recorded Spring Enrollment

The start of the Spring 2020 semester at East Texas Baptist commenced with two exciting milestones for the University community. In addition to the opening of Chick-fil-A on the University campus, ETBU celebrated an official spring enrollment of 1,405 students—the highest recorded spring enrollment in the University’s 108-year history.

“We are thankful to God for the blessings of new and returning students for the Spring 2020 semester,” ETBU President J. Blair Blackburn said. “I am grateful for our entire University staff and faculty for their outstanding work to humbly serve our students. We can boast that our campus community recognizes that positive, encouraging relationships developed with students have significant, transformative impacts on student satisfaction, development, and success. We celebrate the commitment and connectivity with our Christ-centered calling to educate, equip, and empower students.”

Along with increased enrollment, East Texas Baptist has seen an 89% retention rate of fall-to-spring students for three consecutive years. The spring semester also displays an all-

time high enrollment for students beginning graduate programs. [Read more.](#)



Tiger Athletes Enjoying Success on the Court, Ice, and the Lakes

ETBU Athletics is seeing success across the board this semester. Tiger Men's and Women's Basketball teams are both tied for 1st place in the American Southwest Conference. ETBU Hockey enjoys a 21-3-1 record and recently captured the Texas Collegiate Hockey Conference North Division Championship. Tiger Hockey plays in the semifinals of the TCHC tournament Friday at 4:00 p.m. at the Children's Health StarCenter in Mansfield, TX. against the winner of the University of Texas vs. Texas A&M. The ETBU Tiger Bass Fishing team closed out the 2019 season as the Southern Conference Champions and finished the season ranked eighth in the country. The Tigers have four anglers who qualified for the FLW National Championship, which will take place February 26-28 in Leesburg, Florida. To learn more, and to keep up with all of Tiger Athletics, go to www.goetbutigers.com.

EXPERIENCE LIFE ON THE HILL



HILLTOP UNIVERSITY

A SPIRITUAL RETREAT FOR BOOMERS AND SENIOR ADULTS
EAST TEXAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY ★ MARSHALL, TEXAS

WORSHIP AND MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT FEATURING:



Dr. Don Newbury



Foto Sisters



Mark Lowry

Join Us May 19-21 for Hilltop University

Hilltop University is a spiritual retreat for Boomers and Senior Adults hosted every May at East Texas Baptist University. Conference events include corporate worship, preaching, Bible studies, concerts, breakout sessions, and dessert fellowships. During your stay, enjoy our on-campus housing in a spectacular residence facility and delicious meals in ETBU's Dining Hall!

[**Register Now**](#)

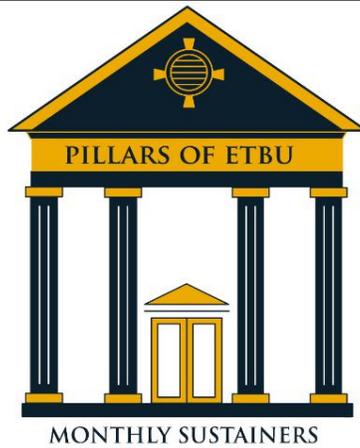


ETBU Cross Country and Track Teams Serve in Greece

Following the Great Commission to make disciples of all nations, the East Texas Baptist University Cross Country and Track traveled to Athens, Greece on a Tiger Athletic Mission Experience (TAME) trip from January 2 through 10. While tensions mount in other parts of the world, the group of 34 ETBU athletes, coaches, and staff traveled for more than 30 hours to partner with International Sports Federation (ISF) and Streetlights, a community discipleship ministry that focuses on working with refugees from Europe and the Middle East.

“TAME was created in order to give ETBU Tiger student-athletes the opportunity to use their God-given talents and abilities to share their faith with people across the globe as they strive to transform the world for Christ,” Vice President for Athletics Ryan Erwin said. “Our student-athletes were nothing short of amazing as they fought through exhaustion. They did an amazing job interacting with and showing love toward the local children in Greece.”

The teams hit the ground running with outreach to refugees of all ages during a community festival facilitated by Streetlights, where the student-athletes served by assisting with various activities such as face painting, dance competitions, and games. [Read More.](#)



Pillars of ETBU

Pillars provide consistent and faithful strength to the structures they support. Across the ETBU campus, pillars can be found on numerous buildings including Marshall Hall, Craig Hall, H.D. Bruce Hall, Feagin Hall, Centennial Hall, Murphy Science, Jarrett Library, and the Bennett Student Commons. In the same way that the pillars provide strength and support to the various buildings on campus, members of the Pillars of ETBU bolster and fortify the on-going work of the University through their monthly giving.

When you decide to give monthly to support ETBU, you become a Pillar of ETBU. You, as a monthly donor, provide strength and vital underpinning to advance the Christ-centered mission of the University. Contributing monthly is made simple through an automatic bank draft, as a recurring gift on your credit card, or you can mail in your gift each month. Members of the Pillars of ETBU will receive a Christmas gift from the University each year. Prayerfully consider if you are called to become a Pillar of ETBU!

[Become a Pillar of ETBU](#)

ETBU in the News



Chick-fil-A opens on ETBU Campus

The new Chick-fil-A on East Texas Baptist University's campus served its first customers on Monday, January 13. The popular food chain, now located inside the Ornelas Student Center on ETBU's campus, is officially open to the public and campus community. [Read more.](#)

Wiley and ETBU Choirs join Symphony for Beethoven's 9th

The combined choirs of The Wiley College A Cappella Choir, under the direction of Dr.



Gregory McPherson, and the ETBU choir, under the direction of Dr. Justin Hodges, will join with The Marshall Symphony Orchestra for a rare performance of Beethoven's 9th Symphony. [Read more.](#)



Refer a Tiger | Preview Day Feb. 17

ETBU is hosting prospective students and their families on Monday, February 17 for ETBU Preview. This is an event designed specifically for prospective freshmen and transfer students. If you know a student who might be interested in joining the Tiger Family, please refer them to our admissions staff by visiting [ETBU.edu/referatiger](https://www.etbu.edu/referatiger).

For more information please call:

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Stay in touch and share your news with your ETBU Family. Send your career accomplishments and family updates to alumni@etbu.edu or click [here](#) to update your information.

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