The Baylor University Graduate School, in cooperation with the International Association of Baptist Colleges & Universities (IABCU), welcomed five new doctoral students to its Baptist College & University Scholar program. The program is designed to recruit top graduate student applicants from Baptist Universities for Baylor’s Ph.D. programs. This fall, students participated in several events to develop their interests in faith and scholarship as they prepare for their roles as future faculty:

- **BCU Scholars Luncheon with the Dean of the Graduate School**, September 13, 2011
- **Christianity, Politics, and Power** – Dr. James Davison Hunter, University of Virginia, sponsored by Baylor’s Institute for Faith & Learning, September 22, 2011
- **A Contemplative Approach to My Academic Life** – Dr. Burt Burleson, co-sponsored by the Office of Spiritual Life & the Graduate School, October 20, 2011
- **Educating for Wisdom in the 21st Century University: Baylor Symposium on Faith and Culture** – sponsored by Institute for Faith & Learning, October 27-29, 2011
- **Slow Wisdom as a Sub-Version of Reality** – Drs. Walter Brueggemann and William Marcellus McPheeters, Columbia Theological Seminary, October 28, 2011
- **Teaching as an Act of Charity** – Dr. Darin Davis, co-sponsored by the Office of Spiritual Life and the Graduate School, November 17, 2011
The new scholars include Michelle Del'Homme (University of Mary Hardin-Baylor), Katie Halbesleben (Oklahoma Baptist University), Chris Moore (Campbell University), Nicholas Pruitt (Wayland Baptist University), and Scott Ryan (Gardner-Webb University). They are joining the entering class of 2010: Kim Bodenhamer (Hardin-Simmons University), Jessi Hampton (East Texas Baptist University), and Chelsea Ruiz (University of Mary Hardin-Baylor).

Drs. Larry Lyon and Laine Scales, who were instrumental in launching the program in the fall of 2010, have begun preparing the BCU Scholars for their presentations at the 2012 Annual IABCU Meeting to be held in Little Rock, Arkansas June 3-5. “These students play an important role in connecting Baylor with its Baptist University partners, and all Baptists - faculty, students, and administrators - will benefit from this well prepared, highly credentialed group of faculty serving in our universities and colleges,” said Lyon.

If you would like further information about this press release please visit our website at http://www.baylor.edu/graduate/index.php?id=78132.