



**From the office of John O. Yarbrough, Acting President**

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## **PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Cleveland, GA** - Truett McConnell University is moving forward while an independent investigation is being conducted concerning recent allegations of abuse and cover-up. The independent investigator, who was employed by the University's Board of Trustees, will report his findings directly to them. Upon receiving the final report from the independent investigation, the Trustees will take any appropriate action necessary.

The accused abusers are no longer associated with Truett McConnell University, and any civil or criminal action that may become necessary will be dealt with by the appropriate external legal agencies. The President of the University is on a leave of absence while the investigation is completed.

While the investigation is being conducted, Truett McConnell University continues to make progress to prepare for students this fall semester to experience a quality education from a Biblical worldview perspective, in a safe environment. The policies that have been in place to protect students have been strengthened. The position of Director for Title IX and Student Advocacy has been elevated to full-time status. This position gives students the opportunity to report any concerns in a confidential setting. The University has made assistance available for any faculty or staff having difficulty coping with issues caused by these sinful acts.

At Truett McConnell University, we believe education is more than a degree — it's a calling. That's why every student graduates with a minor in the Great Commission, no matter their field: public service, business, education, or one of our over 80 programs of study. Ranked in 2024 and 2025 the #1 Christian College in Georgia by Best Value Schools, we offer undergraduate, master's, and doctoral degrees designed to fit your life — on campus or online. We prepare students to serve, lead, and make a Kingdom impact wherever God calls them.

Truett McConnell College was founded in 1946 by the Georgia Baptist Convention as a junior college, and God has abundantly blessed this institution. In 79 years of providing a quality Christian education for thousands of students, we have been held to the highest standards of faith, integrity, and excellence. Thousands of Truett McConnell alumni are serving around the world in ministry, business, healthcare, government, and many other professions. These graduates are making a positive impact for God and good.

The unrighteous acts of a few do not define Truett McConnell University. Once the facts are known and necessary actions taken, the University will emerge stronger and even more focused than ever before on fulfilling our mission statement, "to equip students with the Truth, through a Biblically-centered education to fulfill the Great Commission".

### **About TMU**

*Truett McConnell University is a private Christian liberal arts and sciences university located in Cleveland, Georgia, and has been ranked by Best Value Schools as the #1 Christian College in Georgia for 2024 and 2025. TMU offers 80+ different programs of study including baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral degrees. The University boasts a 15:1 student-to-faculty ratio while 100% of incoming students receive financial aid. For more information about Truett McConnell University, visit [www.tmu.edu](http://www.tmu.edu).*