

BAYLOR STUDENT LIFE SPOTLIGHT

Dear Division Colleagues,

Its official spring has sprung and we are entering into the final six weeks of the semester. Two-thirds of the semester are complete, one-third is still ahead of us. Lots of excitement to come!

IMPACT

Last week from Sunday through Wednesday, we as a Baylor community engaged in 72 hours of intentional prayer and worship. This is our fifth consecutive year of this beautiful expression of our shared faith that we call [FM72](#). Each night was punctuated by a worship service at 8pm, and continuously throughout the 72 hours there was a prayer tent on Fountain Mall. If you didn't get to participate or want to see some of the highlights, you can check out their [Instagram page](#). **It is estimated that across the 72 hours over 4000 students participated, and we had an even larger number of people that participated via online streaming.** Although hosted by Baylor, FM72 is joint effort between Baylor, campus ministries, and many local churches. Close to 20 local churches participated in some way, and one outpouring of that was there were 22 baptisms that occurred. Notably, these were not spur of the moment baptisms, but students who met with their local church pastor in advance and decided to pursue baptism as part of larger and lasting profession of faith. Another highlight was the guided prayer in the prayer tent led by local churches and ministries across a variety of Christian faith expressions including Anglican, Baptist, Catholic, Evangelical, and more. It is truly a joy to see God at work!

This past weekend Student Foundation hosted “the toughest half in Texas,” the [Bearathon](#). Featuring both the Bearathon half-marathon and the Sic ‘Em 6K, **we had nearly 1400 runners participate, representing 37 different states, including over 600 students.** In addition to fun and fitness, Student Foundation puts on these races to raise money for the Student Foundation Scholarship Fund, which provides *scholarships for Baylor students from Baylor students*. Totals are still being tallied, but early estimates suggest that **at least 20-25 thousand dollars were raised to fund scholarships.** Sic ‘Em Student Foundation!

Last weekend also featured Gateway to India, the “Premier Bollywood Fusion Dance Competition at Baylor University.” Gateway to India was hosted in Waco Hall and is a beautiful showcase of South Asian culture. If you missed the action you can see some highlights on their [Instagram page](#). Or you can catch the whole show on [Youtube](#).

Last, and certainly not least, this past Tuesday was the one and only [Diadeloso!](#) We went big for our unique campus holiday this year, and all told **we had over 10,000 students, faculty, and staff participate over the course of the day.** Headlined by an all-campus meal on Fountain Mall, a main stage featuring 12 student and/or local performers and bands, the Dia Cup, and so many individual [attractions and activities](#) that it's a wonder we had enough space. If you missed the action check out this [walkthrough of Fountain Mall](#) for a taste of what Dia offered. A recent national survey of selfies dubbed Baylor one of the [“happiest colleges in the U.S.”](#), and if you were at Dia you could see exactly why. Where else can you go roller skating, jump around in a silent disco, play pinball, pet an alligator, go axe throwing, slide down a slip n' slide, stumble upon a secret “Dia lounge” through a portopotty, and listen to live music all in a single day?! Sic ‘Em Bears!

UPDATES

Excellence in Student Leadership Awards Celebration – Call for Nominations

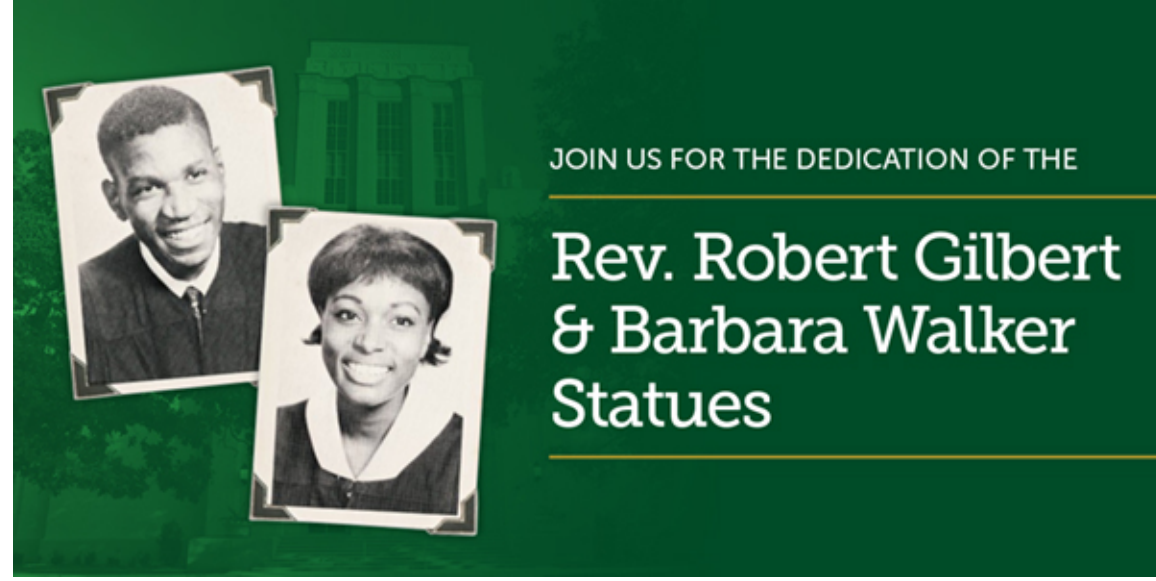
As we head towards the end of the semester, now is this perfect time to consider nominating an outstanding student and/or advisor who has made a difference within their respective organization, across campus, or beyond through their leadership and service. Nominated individuals will be recognized at the annual Excellence in Student Leadership Awards Celebration in May that seeks to honor outstanding contributions. **This is for all student leaders, in all areas, in any position. So please think about putting forward a deserving student leader.**

For more information on various organization, individual, and advisor awards, please check out the website [here](#). Applications can be submitted [here](#) and **will close on Sunday, April 20, 2023, at 12 MIDNIGHT.**

All awards will be presented on May 4th at McLane Stadium. Information should pertain to the 2022– 2023 academic year and/or events and activities that have occurred since the 2022 Student Leadership Award Celebration.

COMING UP

The Rev. Robert Gilbert, BA '67, and Barbara Walker, BA '67, are two remarkable Baylor alumni who broke the barriers of segregation on the Baylor campus and became the first Black students to earn undergraduate degrees from Baylor. You can learn more about them on a website Baylor has set up [here](#). In their honor Baylor has commissioned two statues which will stand outside of Tidwell Bible Building. We hope you will join President Livingstone and others on Tuesday April 4th at 1:30pm in front of Tidwell Bible for the Dedication of the Statues



Easter Break is just around the corner, April 7th through 10th. Our Lord is risen, and He has conquered the grave! In observation of Good Friday and Easter Monday, the University will be closed. Be on the lookout for an Easter edition of WhatsNewBU that will include information for students about what will remain open over the break.

BAYLOR STUDENT LIFE Staff Development

Our fifth and final *Student Life Professional Development Event* for the semester is coming up. In case you missed any of our previous sessions, they are available on our [Student Life Staff Development webpage](#).

Fifth Student Life Professional Development Event

Seeing the World Through the Eyes of The Other:
Intercultural Engagement and Human Flourishing

April 13, 10:30 a.m.–12 p.m., Cashion 5th Floor

MOMENTS



There is no better dia in the Baylor año. Thank you to all of our staff and student leaders who made this such a memorable day of time out of the classroom for our students.

Stay connected with Student Life

