

The J. Vernon McGee Chair

Application

Sponsored by:

John Brown University Office of Academic Affairs
and the Division of Biblical Studies

With Partial Funding from
The J. Vernon McGee Endowment

About the J. Vernon McGee Chair

The J. Vernon McGee Chair of Biblical Studies was established in 1985 to provide perpetual recognition of the lifetime ministry and worldwide radio outreach of Dr. J. Vernon McGee. The fund was established to advance conservative evangelical scholarship in the Division of Biblical Studies at John Brown University.

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of this program is to support quality scholarship that is motivated and informed by a Christian perspective among the faculty in the Division of Biblical Studies at John Brown University. Important scholarly issues should be addressed in ways that have the potential to make a lasting impact on future academic discussion. The goal of the program is to provide additional support for JBU faculty to pursue scholarship in their discipline with the objective of producing publishable work.

Eligibility

All full-time faculty members of the Division of Biblical Studies are eligible to apply. Current McGee Chair holders are eligible to apply for renewal.

The Appointment

The appointment to the McGee Chair is for two academic years. It provides for a one-course release for four consecutive semesters, an annual stipend, and a supplemental budget. The supplemental funds may be used only for business-related expenses such as travel, research materials, etc. Note: faculty appointed as J Vernon McGee Chair may not teach an overload during the fall or spring semesters during the term of appointment.

There will be, at most, two professors appointed as McGee Chairs for any given academic year.

Timeline

September 1 Application forms sent to Biblical Studies Division faculty
(for appointment beginning fall semester of the following
year)

October 15 Applications are due. Please submit all materials
electronically as email attachments to
academicaffairs@jbu.edu

Dr. Ed Ericson III
Vice President for Academic Affairs
John Brown University
2000 W. University
Siloam Springs, AR 72761

December 1 Announcement of awards

Progress reports will be due at the end of each academic year of the appointment, giving a summary of progress on the research program and plans for continued work and dissemination. For instructions on completing the summary report, see page 8 of this document.

J. Vernon McGee Chair Application Materials

1. **J. Vernon McGee Chair Application Cover Sheet (Provided)**
2. **Description of Research Agenda (*maximum four pages, double-spaced, one-inch margins, Times or Times New Roman font*)**. The description should be a summary explaining, in broadly communicative language for those outside of the discipline, the methods and relevance of the proposed research agenda. It should include a cited summary of surrounding scholarly literature and explain how your project qualifies, extends, or otherwise engages the existing knowledge in the field. Questions that should be answered in the summary should include items such as:
 - What are the basic ideas, problems, or issues that the applicant proposes to examine?
 - What is the current state of the agenda? If this is a new area for the applicant, what are the motivations and qualifications for working in this field?
 - What is the proposed time frame for progress on this agenda? What specific progress does the applicant expect to make in this time period?
 - What are the prospects and the time frame for dissemination of the work?
3. **Current curriculum vitae.**
4. **Letter of recommendation:** One letter of recommendation attesting to the worth of the project, prospects for dissemination, and the applicant's ability to complete the project in a timely manner (form provided). This letter must come from a scholar external to the JBU community who is familiar with the applicant's work.

Letters of recommendation should be sent electronically as an email attachment by October 15, 2016, to:

Dr. Ed Ericson III
Vice President for Academic Affairs
John Brown University
2000 W. University
Siloam Springs, AR 72761

Email to: academicaffairs@jbu.edu

Criteria for Evaluation of Applications

1. The nature of the proposal
 - a. Its relevance
 - How does it fit the stated program goals?
 - How does this proposal satisfy the primary goal “to develop and maintain an institutional culture at JBU that is supportive of quality scholarship motivated or informed by Christian perspectives?”
 - b. Its status
 - How well developed is the research agenda?
 - Has some form of invitation been given to work on this?
 - Is there potential for completion in a timely manner?
 - Is there potential for dissemination through appropriate means?
 - c. Its clarity
 - Is the proposal well written with appropriate documentation and organization?

2. The ability of the applicant
 - a. Precedent: What previous evidence of accomplishment indicates that the applicant is able to do what is proposed?
 - b. Promise: If there is no precedent, what signs of potential does the applicant offer to indicate that the project will be able to be completed?

3. The committee

Applicants will be evaluated by a committee consisting of:

 - Vice President for Academic Affairs
 - Dean of Undergraduate Studies
 - Chair of the Division of Biblical Studies
 - One senior faculty member (who has the rank of Professor) from outside of the Division of Biblical Studies
 - One external evaluator, appointed by the President

After evaluating the applications, the committee will make a recommendation to the President who will make the appointment(s).

J. Vernon McGee Chair Application Cover Sheet

Name of Applicant: _____

Specific Academic Discipline: _____

Recommended by: _____

J. Vernon McGee Chair Recommendation Form

_____ has applied for appointment as the J. Vernon McGee Chair of Biblical Studies. Please comment on the following:

- The significance of the research agenda.
- The ability of the applicant: Are there previous accomplishments that indicate potential for significant dissemination of the research? If not, what signs of potential does the applicant offer?

Please return your recommendation no later than October 15, 2016, as an email attachment to:

Dr. Ed Ericson III
Vice President for Academic Affairs
John Brown University
2000 W University
Siloam Springs, AR 72761

E-mail to academicaffairs@jbu.edu

Your Name: _____

Institutional Affiliation/Title: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail address: _____

Signature: _____

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J. Vernon McGee Chair Summary Report Guidelines

Due Dates: May 15, 2017, and May 15, 2018

Instructions: The Summary Report is intended to give the holder of the McGee Chair the opportunity to report and reflect on the progress of the proposed research. A primary purpose of the Summary Report is to help maintain a sense of accountability on the part of all parties and to help evaluate the successes and failures of each proposal. Although individual circumstances may vary, ordinarily the Summary Report should be from two to four pages in length, double spaced, and should include the following:

- A summary of what was proposed in the initial application
- A description of the extent to which the goals of the proposed agenda were or were not met – including a list of any publications and/or presentations
- A discussion of those factors that most helped progress toward the intended goals
- A discussion of those factors that most hindered progress toward the intended goals
- A budget summary of how supplemental funds were used.

These summary reports should be submitted as part of the divisional annual report. Additionally, holders of the J Vernon McGee Chair are expected to make an application for the Balzer Lecture series by the end of the appointment.