

# Centers of the University

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## Special Programs

The Centers of the University were established to promote the ideals of different academic departments to deal Christianly with issues. Each Center is headed by a Director, who also serves the University as a faculty member or in other capacities.

Below is a list of the Centers along with their purpose statements and directors.

### **R. C. Ryan Center for Biblical Studies**

**Director: Ray F. Van Neste**

The Center exists to promote the skills of effective Bible study and the art of biblical interpretation among students at Union University as well as members of the broader Body of Christ. The Center houses a model library for inductive study of the Scriptures, hosts an annual conference on interpretation and provides resources for local churches in pursuit of ongoing training in Bible study.

### **Center for Business & Economic Development**

**Director: M. Kenneth Holt**

The purpose of this Center is to be the premier provider of economic and business information to Jackson and West Tennessee and to promote avenues that enhance the study and practice of Christian business principles. The Center publishes "Economic Updates" for area Chambers of Commerce, sponsors conferences and provides other services to area businesses such as seminars and employee training.

### **Carl F. Henry Center for Christian Leadership**

**Director: Gregory A. Thornbury**

The Center for Christian Leadership is designed to equip Christians serving in various vocations with the worldview and skills necessary to be high impact servant leaders and change agents in the 21st century.

### **Center for Educational Practice**

**Director: Ralph G. Leverett**

The purpose of the Center for Educational Practice is to:

- (a) Encourage and edify contemporary practice in education;
- (b) Foster scholarship in education among faculty at Union University;
- (c) Publish a CEP Research journal as a forum for students, faculty and the community;
- (d) Bring scholars and events in education to the Union University campus.

With national recognition and accreditation of the University's teacher education programs and burgeoning graduate programs for teachers, the Center exists to assist and coordinate efforts internally and externally to promote the excellence of new ideas in education.

### **Edward P. Hammons Center for Scientific Studies**

**Director: Wayne Wofford**

The Edward P. Hammons Center for Scientific Studies was formed to show, by example, how science and Christianity are not only compatible, but also synergistic. Science at Union University is seen from a Christian vantage point. The Center operates with the presupposition that science as observed truth need not conflict with revealed truth and that science is impossible apart from the recognition that God has created an orderly universe. Accordingly, the Center strives to provide a fertile environment for the explo-

