



## **WCU dedicates statue of namesake to celebrate 250th birthday**

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Submitted by Mercer Morrison, Web Producer

<http://lamarcounty.wdam.com/news/schools/46674-wcu-dedicates-statue-namesake-celebrate-250th-birthday>

Thursday, November 17th, 2011, 4:18pm

*The following is a press release from William Carey University:*

On Nov. 17, William Carey University held a dedication ceremony for its newest addition to campus – a 600-pound bronze statue of the “Father of Modern Missions” and the institution’s namesake, William Carey. The seven foot statue, created by sculptor Ben Watts of Columbia, is titled “Carey Turns to the World.”

The dedication ceremony began with a welcome and recognitions by Dr. Tommy King, president of WCU, followed by a scripture reading by Dr. Scott Hummel, vice president for advancement and church relations at WCU. Dr. Myron Noonkester, dean of the dean of the Noonkester School of Arts and Letters, chair for department of history, and co-director for the Carey Center, updated guests on the different events WCU is holding as part of the yearlong celebration of William Carey’s 250th birthday.

The guest of honor, Dr. Thomas Elliff, president of the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, presented remarks on the significance of William Carey’s vision and dedication to missions. The ceremony ended with a prayer of dedication by Dr. Bennie Crockett, vice president for institutional effectiveness and long range planning and co-director for the Carey Center. Following the ceremony, Dr. Elliff delivered a call to missions at WCU’s chapel service.

The dedication of the statue and Dr. Elliff’s visit were both part of the celebration of William Carey’s 250th birthday. WCU has also held a 250th birthday party event, a Carey 250 art exhibition, and hosted an IMB missionary appointment service led by Dr. Elliff, in collaboration with Temple Baptist Church.



(left to right) Dr. Thomas Elliff, president of the International Mission Board (IMB) of the Southern Baptist Convention, posed for a photo with Dr. Tommy King, president of William Carey University