

Dr. Adam Wright (right) and Dr. Blair Blackburn, DBU executive vice president, looking over plans for the new Jeannette and Cletys Sadler Global Missions Center.

A Homegrown Servant

Oak Cliff Native Dr. Adam Wright serves as Vice President for Advancement

A native of Oak Cliff, Dr. Adam Wright grew up just minutes away from Dallas Baptist University, and with parents, Wendell and Kimm Wright, who met as DBC students in the 1970s, he has been connected to the University since day one. Although unsure of it as a young man, the Lord was always leading Adam to DBU and preparing him for the role he has today, vice president for advancement.

“I attribute coming to DBU as an act of obedience to the Lord,” explains Adam. When he met Dr. Gary Cook, DBU president, as a 15-year-old attending Grace Temple Baptist Church, Adam even informed him that he would be studying at SMU one day.

With his parents’ encouragement, however, Adam decided to visit the campus as a prospective student. When he arrived on campus, he knew DBU was where the Lord was leading him.

During the first week of freshman classes, Adam met his future wife, Candice, and accepted his first job at DBU as a student worker for Dr. Blair Blackburn, DBU executive vice president. He decided to take the position, even though he had been working for Master Construction and Engineering for several years.

“I remember Bob Daniels, who I apprenticed with, saying to me one day, ‘Don’t let this be your career. Go to school; get an education.’” Adam recalls, “I joke with him now that I never stopped. There was already a maturing that took place which I attribute to my work with Don and Jan Weempe, owners of Master Construction.”

Adam started in Dr. Blackburn’s office working a few hours a week, eventually accepting a full-time position as assistant to the executive vice president before his senior year. “Working

for Blair taught me that there is no such thing as a problem without a solution,” says Adam. “You don’t have to be an expert in everything, but you just have to know how to get the job done and which experts to talk to. He has proved to be an expert in getting things done.”

In 2003, Adam graduated with his bachelor’s degree and soon married his college sweetheart and best friend, Candice. From the first day they met, Adam knew there was something special about her, which he has found to be true through nine years of marriage. Candice is also by Adam’s side at many DBU functions as she serves as executive director of the Women’s Auxiliary Board. The Wrights have one daughter, one-year-old Abigail Grace, who lights up their lives and makes every day exciting.

Following his time in the Office of the Executive Vice President, Adam became a director of freshman recruiting, director of enrollment, assistant to the president for advancement, and eventually was promoted to his current position as vice president for advancement.

During this time, he also earned a Master of Education in higher education from DBU in 2005. Most recently, he completed his Doctor of Philosophy in leadership studies from DBU in the spring of 2012.

One of the greatest blessings Adam says he has received has been working under DBU President Gary Cook’s leadership. “I have learned so much from Dr. Cook about his walk

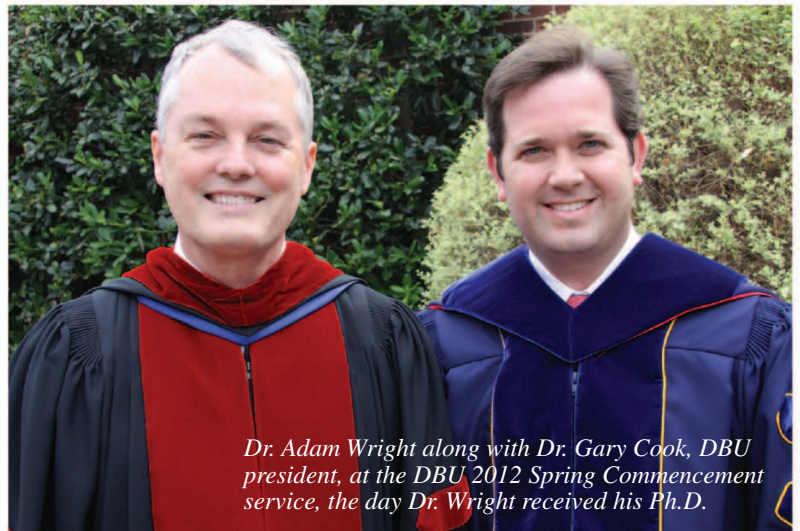
with the Lord and how important that is,” Adam explains. “He has taught me that God’s way is better than the known way.”

In his current role, Adam has worked to help secure funding for building projects including the Patty and Bo Pilgrim Chapel, Henry Blackaby Hall, Joan and Andy Horner Hall, the David and In Sun Moon International Center, and the Jeannette and Cletys Sadler Global Missions Center.

He also works closely with the DBU board of trustees, alumni, and donors, as well as denominational leaders and elected officials. In addition to fundraising and public relations work, Adam provides leadership and support in the DBU enrollment division.

Since deciding to follow God’s leading to DBU as a student years ago, Dr. Wright has continued to see the benefit of waiting on the Lord’s plans and not relying on his own. Above Adam’s office door hangs the verse “We walk by faith, not by sight” (2 Corinthians 5:7).

“We know that when we trust our vision, we fall,” Adam reflects. “God’s plans are always greater.”



Dr. Adam Wright along with Dr. Gary Cook, DBU president, at the DBU 2012 Spring Commencement service, the day Dr. Wright received his Ph.D.