



**M.J. Murdock**  
Charitable Trust

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## **Dr. Steven Gary Wade Moore**

### **Biographical Overview**



Dr. Moore received his Bachelor of Science degree in history and political science from McMurry University (Abilene, Texas). A short time later he was awarded an Ambassador Fellowship and traveled to St. Andrew's University in Scotland, to study law and ethics. Upon his return to the U.S., he enrolled at Asbury Theological Seminary, where he completed his Master of Divinity degree (Church History and Education) with honors. Upon graduation from seminary, Dr. Moore was ordained to service in higher education in the United Methodist church. In 1992 he was awarded his Ph.D. in Philosophy of Higher Education from the University of Michigan. In 1993 he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity by Asbury Theological Seminary. In addition, he is an alumnus of Harvard University's Institute for Educational Leadership, was a Research Fellow at St. Andrew's University, Scotland, and was a visiting scholar at Oxford University, England, in 1995. Dr. Moore has twice been recognized with one of the United Methodist Church's Francis Asbury Awards for Outstanding Service in Higher Education.

Early in his career, Steve was actively involved in youth ministry in the United Methodist church where he developed a passion for backpacking trips, ski trips, and little sleep. Upon completion of Seminary, Steve was named the director of the Texas Tech University Wesley Foundation in Lubbock, Texas, and began a nine-year tenure as Director of Campus Ministry and joined the university faculty teaching Ethics and World Religions. It was during this time that he met and married his wife, Thanne. Together they began a work in campus ministry which went from a program involving a handful of students to one which involved hundreds of faculty, staff, and students. The Texas Tech Wesley Foundation received several campus organization awards for its service to the university and community and became a model and training ground for campus ministry, missions, and ministry in higher education and the church.

In 1989 the Moores journeyed cross country to Seattle, Washington, where Steve accepted a position as Vice President for Campus Life at Seattle Pacific University. In this capacity he oversaw athletics, campus ministry, academic support services, learning development, counseling, student activities, and many other programs. During his tenure, the university campus life program received several national awards including recognition from the White House for the innovative "City-Quest" orientation program which became a model for community involvement and service learning now in use at numerous universities around the

country. He also helped shape the university to think and work toward cultural engagement and educational formation in its curricular and co-curricular programs.

After nine years in the Pacific Northwest, the Moores journeyed back to Texas where Steve became Vice President of Baylor University. In addition to twice being named by students as the university's outstanding educator, Dr. Moore was one of the key developers of the University's "2012" strategic plan.

In 2001 he was invited by President Maxie Dunnam to return to one of his alma maters, Asbury Seminary, as the Senior Vice President and President of the Asbury Foundation. During this time, the institution experienced record growth in student enrollment, graduate program expansion, and donor support and involvement.

Dr. Moore joined the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust as the executive director in 2006.

In addition to writing dozens of periodical and journal articles, Steve has authored and edited several books including *The University Through the Eyes of Faith*, *Living Life on Purpose*, and *Cultivating a Thoughtful Faith*. He continues to speak, consult, and provide leadership on college and university campuses, and with churches and other non-profit organizations. He also serves as Senior Program Scholar for A Foundation for Theological Education and as a board member of Philanthropy Northwest.

In spite of a full professional schedule, he still maintains that his best times and most significant involvements are with his family. Steve and his wife Thanne, a professional speech pathologist, have three children: Madison, a recent graduate of Wake Forest University, and daughters Maegan and Mollie, both students at Baylor University. They share the house with Colonel Maxwell and Toblerone Latte, two fun-loving dogs.

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