

Morgan resigns

OT professor faces state charges in nearby Catoosa County, Ga.

By Alex Green
Editor-in-chief

Dr. David Morgan, assistant professor of Biblical studies and director of the Bryan Institute for Critical Thought and Practice, resigned from Bryan College in early July, effective July 31.

According to an FBI press release and arrest reports provided by the Catoosa County Sheriff's Department in nearby Catoosa County, Ga., Morgan was arrested on June 24, 2012, after allegedly attempting to meet with a "minor child" at a RaceTrac gas station on Battlefield Parkway in Catoosa County.

In the FBI press release, Morgan, along with two others, is listed as having been arrested in late June as part of an FBI Northwest Georgia Safe Child Task Force operation after "coming to the attention of undercover officers on the internet."

The release adds that, "Morgan is currently facing State charges related to attempted aggravated child molestation and child sexual exploitation after having attempted to meet with a minor child ..."

Catoosa County sheriff's office documents show that Morgan was transported by two Catoosa County deputies to the Catoosa County jail and booked after the arrest.

Morgan is currently free on \$30,000 cash bond, which he posted on June 30, according to the Catoosa County court clerk's office.

According to Bryan College officials, Morgan formally submitted his resignation shortly after the incident.

Academic Vice President Bradford Sample said he met with

Morgan around July 3 to address the matter.

In an early July statement from the office of the president, Morgan's resignation would be "effective July 31 ... to pursue other opportunities."

That email cites Morgan as sharing these parting thoughts with the school:

"My time at Bryan has been a dream. I have thoroughly enjoyed conversation and interaction with all who make up the administration, staff, faculty, and students of Bryan. I have been treated with graciousness, and I have had the privilege of working alongside some incredible Christian people," states the release, on behalf of Morgan.

Also in an email to Triangle on July 24, Morgan confirmed his resignation from Bryan and said, "Everyone with whom I have spoken has been warm and supportive."

Morgan's classes were picked up primarily by Mr. Samuel J. Youngs, an adjunct professor of Christian Thought.

Editor's Note: This story was scheduled to run in the Sept. 21 print edition of Triangle.

The president told Triangle that it was not permitted. This is the story as it would have been published.

Why it's important

By Alex Green

My decision to publish a story about the incident involving Dr. David Morgan and his departure from Bryan College was not easy.

I am very aware of the potential repercussions from it – my decision. Mine.

I know that the first reactions from students, faculty, staff and alumni will be varied.

Some will applaud me. Some will be livid. Some will feel that I am defaming and throwing salt into a very fresh and a very sore wound. Some will believe I have stars in my eyes.

And that's okay.

I will only speak to the decision left to me in late July when I was alerted that Morgan was leaving Bryan College.

It was my presumption that he was taking another position elsewhere, a conclusion I leapt to because I had already expected a man of his knowledge and ability to be snatched up by a better-paying institution at any time.

When I received the school's statement addressing his departure, my assumptions were solidified. When I was informed of the June 24 incident involving Dr. Morgan and the FBI, I began to question what I knew.

I am aware that on the heels of the Penn State football tragedy, the minds of many people will jump without much thought to draw similarities between us and them.

Bryan College is not Penn State.

Had one individual in the Penn State program stepped up and revealed the truth about the actions of Jerry Sandusky, there would have been no fallout 14 years later.

Joe Paterno could have died a hero. Instead, he died a goat. Penn State could have been praised. Instead, they are broken.

Bryan College is not Penn State because there are people here that will not attempt to save face by dusting over the arrest of Dr. David Morgan.

Printing this story will not cause a Penn State situation for Bryan. I believe it will prevent one.

That's why I'm dispensing it.

"We are Penn State" was their approach. "Christ above all" is ours.