

Mike Wilkinson:(silence) ... Looking over the degree, there's still some work to do. For example, you've got the major at 26 hours, but it has to be 30 they'll be a -

Robert Lopez: Oh, well, the answer to that's pretty simple. I had made the studio and practicum only one credit hour.

Mike Wilkinson:That was the next thing -

Robert Lopez: I could just make those three. That's pretty easy.

Mike Wilkinson:[crosstalk 00:02:22] Looking at the course descriptions, I think that's too much work for one hour, especially the practicum. They need to get more hours for that.

Robert Lopez: In terms of the teacher though, I think it would not be like teaching a three hour ...

Mike Wilkinson:No, it's wouldn't -

Robert Lopez: Course.

Mike Wilkinson:It wouldn't be, and so as far as the teacher hour goes, that may be adjusted on the load, but for what the student is doing, I think the practicum especially needs to get more hours than that because that's a lot of work to do for that. For the faculty part of it, how much are Leo and Mark available to teach?

Robert Lopez: Well, from what I had spoken to them, they could cover definitely the [world masterpieces one and two 00:03:16]. I mean, my idea would be that you would only offer world masterpieces one in the fall, and you would only offer one section of world masterpieces two in the spring. You would need small class sizes for those, so I think among the three of us and then with the help of [Zach McCoy 00:03:31] -

Mike Wilkinson:How about Sarah?

Robert Lopez: Yeah. I just haven't talked to her.

Mike Wilkinson:How about this? And I was looking at the others that you had listed for some of these other things, and there's several of them I'm not sure qualify. Daniel is not qualified to do any of these courses. Neither is Justin.

Robert Lopez: Oh, I thought [inaudible 00:04:03] the cultural -

Mike Wilkinson:Well, [inaudible 00:04:06] cultural thing is -

Robert Lopez: It's more just a [inaudible 00:04:10] missions?

Mike Wilkinson:Yeah. It's almost like an interdisciplinary thing that is going to focus more on communication in different cultures. The real focus of it is really the missions, and [Brad Heller 00:00:04:35], he's in charge of the [inaudible 00:04:37] thing. I

don't think he'd be [crosstalk 00:04:39]. And I don't know who [Bruno Malina 00:04:42] is.

Robert Lopez: Oh, Bruno Molina, he got his PhD here in missions and evangelism, but he has a degree in Spanish literature. He's the one that I got to El Salvador with. He has a doctorate.

Mike Wilkinson: That may be possible. I think in order to pull this off, we would probably need probably either some other adjuncts to be involved or something, but we'll figure that out.

Robert Lopez: The main thing I thought that we would definitely need an adjunct for is someone who could do film. I mean, I can do film in terms of just teaching about scripts and everything like that, and if we could just find one Christian who could do that, that would be really great. [Mark Leeds 00:05:38] does a lot with visual arts because he does gaming on top of he knows the fine arts side of it, so I think that would be a really dynamic part, especially with me, Leo, and Mark.

Robert Lopez: You have the literary, the musical, and the gaming. But definitely if we could get an adjunct for that, I think that could work. I mean, some of the guys who are in humanities also ... I didn't put them on there, but I mean, I just assumed that they would be busy with humanities.

Mike Wilkinson: They would. I don't know that any of them would feel [inaudible 00:06:11] most of these.

Robert Lopez: Is that your phone or my phone?

Mike Wilkinson: [inaudible 00:06:26] yours. Mine would be going off. On some of the assessments, we might have to rethink some of those, too. I don't know how to measure mastering time management and persistence, but those are -

Robert Lopez: I was thinking the main thing would be that they're able to execute. Do you what I mean? Because so much of media arts and culture that I know from my own work experience is you have to be able to execute. That's why I want to have the studio and the practicum. You know what I mean?

Mike Wilkinson: There's no problem with that. That [crosstalk 00:07:06] makes sense, but the thing that was most curious to me, the two minors, media arts and culture, to some extent, most of that makes sense to me. I was curious if there was neither a studio nor a practicum in that one at all.

Robert Lopez: Well, I just figured because media arts and culture is kind of broad. Do you know what I'm saying? I would want them to have the fourth class in some kind of arts thing, and if you require the studio practicum, you're basically on your way to the major. That was just my thinking. I mean, I could totally rework that.

Mike Wilkinson:And this is an area that's not [inaudible 00:08:09]. The one on English though is so indistinguishable from the media arts and culture that I think that one would be a non-go.

Robert Lopez: Maybe we could just have that same structure where you do the studio or the practicum.

Mike Wilkinson:Possibly, but I'm not saying that the minor in media arts and culture should or should not have the studio and practicum. That was just a question I raised because this one had it, but this one didn't, and I think that was my question. Why this one but not this one, this one being English? I think for English, there would need to be some alternative, either with literature or with rhetoric and composition.

Mike Wilkinson:And I know they're writing in these things, but rhetoric and composition, technical writing [crosstalk 00:09:16] needs to be somewhere in there for an English minor, and that's not dependent on the media arts and culture. That would be more dependent on what we do with ...

Robert Lopez: English classes?

Mike Wilkinson:English classes, yeah. And if we want to develop that further, we have to ... I've always wanted an English minor especially for the rhetoric, the composition, the technical writing because some of our students, they're going to end up in places where they have to write, and they have to know what the context is to know how to write.

Mike Wilkinson:And obviously, they've got to have literature as well, but that's that. I think we probably need to clarify some things. If we were to have this degree, what would a load look like for a full-time professor?

Robert Lopez: Who are teaching it?

Mike Wilkinson:Yeah.

Robert Lopez: I would probably do world masterpieces one or two once a year, and then I could probably do Latin, an English course in the fall, and then a course that's kind of one of these upper level masters. And then in the spring, kind of the same type of thing.

Mike Wilkinson:I know they're not going to be offered all every semester.

Robert Lopez: Obviously.

Mike Wilkinson:They're going to be put on a rotation of some sort?

Robert Lopez: Yeah, my goal was to have, of these three [inaudible 00:11:16], so that would be across all of those [inaudible 00:11:19]. If there was a way to get Sarah or Katie ... I know that Zach McCoy is going to be [inaudible 00:11:29] by a year from now,

and then we have people like [Katherine 00:11:36] and [Burgraff 00:11:35], and Chuck could probably offer ... And a lot of those could probably be cross-listed with the humanities advanced topics because I know that one of the humanities advance topics that Keith emailed us about was a comedy course, and that would seem like it would be natural to cross-list with that.

Mike Wilkinson: That would be a possibility. One, two, three ... five. I'd be offering five courses a semester, and all this together [inaudible 00:12:18] ... I'm sorry, four. [crosstalk 00:12:20] spring, three of these every semester. I'm offering four -

Robert Lopez: And then the studio and practicum. I mean, I think we could get it with [inaudible 00:12:28] two. [inaudible 00:12:31]. We could get away with only two, I mean, I think, but this much was kind of what I was thinking, and especially if we're not going to count [inaudible 00:00:12:43], and we were.

Mike Wilkinson: And Katie, I'm questionable [inaudible 00:12:49] because she has both [inaudible 00:12:54] and PhD in systematic theology, so I know she's working on a master's degree in something from Southern Evangelical, but it's going to be in the area of politics and economics. She's not even teaching a course for me this semester because of all that she's doing for the women's center. She might be listed for us, but I don't know how I'm going to get more than one course out of her, so I think realistically, she's probably not going to be available for much of anything.

Mike Wilkinson: I think there's just some adjustments we need to make for realistically who would be available, how much they would be able to teach because as you heard the other the other day, I'm probably going to have to work with fewer classes that have larger attendance. We'll see how things go. [inaudible 00:14:13]. I think the hours adjustment is going to be -

Robert Lopez: Important.

Mike Wilkinson: [inaudible 00:14:28] Also, the mission trip, just FYI, is fixing to change in its orientation from a one hour trip that our faculty comes up with. It's going to become a three hour missions practicum. Every student will have to do it. It can either be with the North American Mission Board or the National Mission Board, so it will be lined up with a project that they've got going on. It will -

Robert Lopez: And when does [inaudible 00:14:59]?

Mike Wilkinson: Next fall.

Robert Lopez: Next fall.

Mike Wilkinson: It doesn't mean the professors don't go anymore. It just means that from our end, we're not planning it because they're wanting to increase the relationship between the two boards and the seminary, and the two boards have got projects ... They've got more projects lined up than [inaudible 00:15:24].

Mike Wilkinson: That will change over, so that will change from a one hour to a three hour. Then I think that would make, what, 30 hours? That would leave I think still ... It was either 18 or 21 hours for electives.

Robert Lopez: For electives.

Mike Wilkinson: All of the assessment stuff, I'll let you meet with Keith on about that because he's the one who's going to oversee it, so [crosstalk 00:16:06]. And then I may talk to Sarah also about ... I've talked to her a little bit about a communications degree that was a bit more heavy on the writing aspect of it, but students [inaudible 00:16:26], so we did that.

Robert Lopez: And a lot of that stuff will cost less, I assume.

Mike Wilkinson: Some of it will because I looked at the old recommendation for a literature minor, and it was by and large the same as that with I think it added three new courses into it, film, music, and visual arts and then the studio and practicum.

Robert Lopez: And the difference is the way we have it is it's less rigid because the old literature minor was they had to take poetry. They had to take drama, so you can probably imagine the nightmare of trying to schedule that [inaudible 00:17:07] to graduate.

Mike Wilkinson: And I think if I'm understanding right, what you're doing with world masterpiece is not limited just to literature.

Robert Lopez: Right, right, right, right, right.

Mike Wilkinson: If that's the case, then if we wanted to do a literature or English degree or minor of some sort, it would be a bit more traditionally literature but also the writing aspect as well. [crosstalk 00:17:44], but I think the crucial ones that we're probably working on the hardest are going to be the education thing, the business thing. Those are probably going to be some of the first things that we do, so how they do the [PPE 00:18:05] that they're working on is probably going to take a back seat to that.

Mike Wilkinson: We'll see how all this plays out. I've gotten some yeses for several other things that if we need something new that we can do without bringing on new faculty, but that would be in the biblical theological studies area, but it would also depend on how we utilize the seminary faculty for that. But anyway, so we've got a little work to do on this. And I know when I get the thing for the cultural studies [inaudible 00:18:46] they'll likely do that as well, so [inaudible 00:00:18:52].

Robert Lopez: I'm just going to take what you just brought up and work on it. [inaudible 00:19:00].

Mike Wilkinson: The other thing is the article you wrote. Here's the expectation of the administration. I think they were [inaudible 00:19:17] that you getting off social media was a good thing, that from that point, you were going to focus on the drama club and

your courses, your academic work, and not be involved in other areas.  
[inaudible 00:19:37] I know that they don't want that attention coming here.

Robert Lopez: I can't give it up.

Mike Wilkinson: And I understand that. It's probably going to come down to if that's an area where you really feel like you need to fight, understand what I'm saying here because I'm not giving you an ultimatum, but it may come down to if that's an area you want to fight, they're not going to want to have that fight take place from here.

Mike Wilkinson: And again, I'll affirm there's reason to do that, but it's something that probably they're not going to want that kind of attention, that kind of involvement from you while you're here. It may be that if that's something that you feel passionate about, that you need to do and want to do, you'll likely have to find another means to do that, another place from which to do that.

Robert Lopez: They would have to fire me, essentially?

Mike Wilkinson: Possibly. And again, they're not telling me this, and I'm not relating their words to you or anything like that. I can see the handwriting on the wall. If that's something that you really feel like that's what you want to focus attention on and do, it's probably going to have to take place, again, for you from another venue.

Robert Lopez: See, right now, the article that I wrote this time, I didn't mention the workplace. It wasn't part of my job here. I think that their argument that everything that I do reflects on the institution, that crosses a line. It's just not ethical to basically control a professor to that extent, especially on an issue that is this much in the public theater and where the [ERLC 00:22:09] is having a whole conference on sexual abuse. I mean, that's where I stand on it, and you guys have to decide what you want to do with me then.

Mike Wilkinson: Well, I think you need to decide as well.

Robert Lopez: I've already decided. I mean, I met with you guys in June, and I put everything in writing in terms of what my expectations were or my understanding of the situation was. I have worked on the drama club. I have worked on the academic work here, but I said I can't stand down on that issue. It's too urgent right now. And so, I mean, that's my decision. I'm not going to resign, so you guys would have to make the decision as to what you want to ... and I would like to get something in writing. I think that's important.

Mike Wilkinson: Again, their understanding is that you would not be engaged in this, and I think anytime you do something and then let them know, that's going to end up causing a problem. If you let them know first and then say, "I'm doing this, period," at least they're forewarned. But what I'm going to recommend that you do is that you sit down with doctor [Stinson 00:23:55] and probably [Colby 00:23:56] and just make this very clear because I don't think they're going to want you to do that.

Robert Lopez: Well, I mean, I don't know where they got the idea that I would not comment on this at all because I put it in writing, and I've stated it several times that there was a continued call for me to be involved in that discussion. And I'm not replaceable in the discussion in terms of the people that the ERLC has put out there are very weak on this issue. The ERLC has gotten itself into a lot of trouble on this issue, so I don't know where they got that viewpoint.

Robert Lopez: I have tried very hard to show due diligence in terms of informing people and giving people a heads up. I spent a lot of the summer giving you a heads up about every single thing that came up, and I notified Colby, and then it became an issue where he did not want to be copied at the stage where I'm speaking to the outside people. I tried to adapt that, and in this case with this article, I gave you and Colby two days before the publication date.

Mike Wilkinson: Did you get any communication from him?

Robert Lopez: He's asked for a copy of the essay, so I gave that to him. He had that, and I didn't hear anything from him as in retract it or anything like that. And it's just not ethical that I would have him telling me who to speak to and what to work on.

Mike Wilkinson: Well, again, what I am relating though is their concern with all of this that anything we say or do reflects on the institution, and after all that we've been through, [crosstalk 00:26:02].

Robert Lopez: There's external references that I am going to look to. Do you know what I mean? Which is there's the Bible. There's the basic principles of the Southern Baptist Convention. There are accreditation standards, things like that about what is appropriate for an administration, how far they can pull that of saying, "Because you're a reflection on the institution, we can basically put a cone of silence over you." I mean, I think that that's really unethical. I mean, it's so far beyond the line. You know what I mean?

Mike Wilkinson: They also know everything we've been through [crosstalk 00:26:42]. There's attention that none of us want, myself included, so overall, I think that's going to continue to cause some conflict. I'll tell you that now.

Robert Lopez: Right. Well, I mean, I've tried to abide by their instructions, but it sounds like ... See, this is what I expected from the very beginning. Ever since Stinson took me out to lunch to get to know me, everything has constantly been he or you speak to me about some issue, and it's not really that issue. You just don't want me to talk about this topic. I thank you for the clarity and the candor on that, that basically you don't want me to speak on this topic because that saves me the trouble of, "Oh, it's my Facebook post. Well, I'll get off social media. Oh, it's the process. Oh, I'll fix the process."

Robert Lopez: And obviously, they just don't want me to speak on this issue. And so I mean, that's where I am on it. There are a lot of people who are being abused in the

Southern Baptist Convention, and right now, that issue is very hot for the whole Convention.

Mike Wilkinson: Well, this is something that I think probably you're going to have to have a sit down with them and work all that out because this is kind of beyond simply Scarborough College. This involves the overall institution, especially when you're talking about [inaudible 00:28:27]. That one's above my pay grade.

Robert Lopez: And I didn't ask to be dragged into it. But I mean, the ERLC changed this whole conference topic to deal with sex abuse this year. You're bringing in a speaker to talk about pornography, right? Wasn't that the thing yesterday? I mean, it is troubling that then at the same time that the seminary and the Convention are saying they want to address these issues, they're also saying they don't want people to talk about them ultimately, I mean, because when you say they don't want attention, it sounds like they don't want that discussion to take place at all. It doesn't matter -

Mike Wilkinson: I can't answer that question. I don't know. I mean, they're brand new to coming into this [crosstalk 00:29:21] with a hotbed issues [crosstalk 00:29:26]. I'll be careful that I don't speak for them because we haven't really discussed this. I don't know if there's a perception that this is a part of all of that or what, but I do not know.

Mike Wilkinson: I would not want to see a situation where you force them to fire you. I would rather see a situation where if their clear and say, "We really don't want you to do this," and you feel like you need to do this that you find another place and go to it and there be an amicable parting of ways and not the disciplinary ways.

Robert Lopez: I have to be obedient to God, and -

Mike Wilkinson: Well, but they're going to say the same thing.

Robert Lopez: Right. But I'm in the right -

Mike Wilkinson: Well, they're going to say the same thing.

Robert Lopez: No, no. I'm in the right. I'm in the right because -

Mike Wilkinson: They're going to say the same thing.

Robert Lopez: No, no, no. The Lord says, "Partake not in the acts of darkness, but expose them." And so it's not that they don't want someone exposing that from here. They don't want anyone exposing it.

Mike Wilkinson: No, I don't believe that's true. I don't think that's true at all. I think they want to expose, but just within the confines of the institution, they're going to be more probably careful about how the institution is involved in doing this. And so I think to set them up as they don't care, and they're okay with boys being abused, that's totally false. They're not okay with that. That would be totally unfair [crosstalk 00:31:20].



Robert Lopez: Well, you could say that you're not okay with it, but then you're blocking off all of the discussion and all of the efforts to try to correct it. I mean, I come from a lifetime of it and a great deal of research on it. This is not just a personal flare of mine. I mean, I have massive publications in this area, peer-reviewed.

Robert Lopez: And it would be different if I was violating the Baptist faith and message, or if I was going against principles, then this would make sense. But I work for God. You know what I mean? God did not bring me from California to Texas, after that whole fight that I had with a lesbian dean and academic freedom there, He did not bring me to Texas to stand down and to give up the fight because certain people in the Southern Baptist Convention just don't ... Whatever. They don't want to fight it.

Mike Wilkinson: Well, again, I don't think it's necessarily accurate to say they don't want to fight it. The institution doesn't want to be the agency that does the fighting -

Robert Lopez: But I'm not involving the institution. I didn't write that on school computers.

Mike Wilkinson: I understand.

Robert Lopez: I didn't bring in the institution's name. I mean, we live in a context that's much bigger than just this institution, so there's an association of university professors. There are accreditation agencies. There are laws. There's a limit to how much you can say that because you're working here, you have to do everything that we tell you to night and day, and you can't draw attention to matters of serious public interest. I mean, they can't just sort of form a little fiefdom of their own and make the -

Mike Wilkinson: Well, I don't think they're doing that, but they're coming into a situation ... And like I said, there are so many things they're having to deal with that I think the only thing that's going to need to happen is you're going to have to meet with them and discuss what parameters are and what they're comfortable with, what they're not comfortable with. And if either you or they cannot abide, if you can't abide by what they say, then like I said, I'm just reading the tea leaves. You're likely going to have to find another place to do that.

Robert Lopez: Well, I mean -

Mike Wilkinson: They're not telling me. They're not giving me ultimatums. They're not telling me anything like that.

Robert Lopez: You know what, Mike? I came here, I like working under you. You know what I mean? You're a good man. I think that your heart is good. I think that this situation is evil, and I'm going to fight evil, and so I'm ready for whatever comes my way. I feel that I've given you my best. I have really, really worked hard on everything that I can for the academics and for everything.

Robert Lopez: But I am not going to be quiet when I see evil, and the LGBT ideology, it causes massive abuse, and they have made their way into the Southern Baptist Convention. And there are so few people ... In fact, I may be the only one who can speak to it in the way that I do. And there are a lot of people who look to me for guidance. That's where I'm at, and so I'm ready for it all. You -

Mike Wilkinson:[crosstalk 00:35:13] take that to them. I think you need to have that discussion with them and see where it goes.

Robert Lopez: All right. Well, should I wait for them to contact me? I will just -

Mike Wilkinson:I will email or text them and let them know that we've discussed it and that I think it's best that you meet with [inaudible 00:35:32] doctor Stinson [crosstalk 00:35:35] and let you express your concerns, let him express his concerns, and -

Robert Lopez: You know what? I really, really regret having pulled out of that conference in February. I really do, because I did that to protect my job, and the people involved in that conference said that this is what would happen. And that really saddens me, but that's where we are. I'm going to go, and if it's okay, if there's nothing else to talk about, I'm just going to go and enjoy my weekend. I'm not going to be checking my email all weekend -

Mike Wilkinson:I'm sorry that ... I've had five very unpleasant conversations between yesterday and today, and I've got one more to have, so these are not [inaudible 00:00:36:24].

Robert Lopez: You know what the great thing is though is that Jesus Christ is on the throne, and if you are obedient to him, and if that's your guide, then what have I to fear? God did not create me [inaudible 00:36:46] fear, so God bless. [inaudible 00:36:55].