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The Oneida Baptist Institute Board of Trustees announced on July 9 that Larry Allen Gritton, Jr. had accepted their offer of the position of President of the school.

Gritton is an OBI alumnus from the class of 1993. His wife, Angela, graduated from Oneida in 1991. Gritton completed his undergraduate studies at Montreat College in North Carolina in 1997. He earned a Master's in Education Leadership from Eastern Kentucky University in 2003.

The Grittons returned to OBI to serve from 1997-2004. He taught U.S. History and was our Athletic Director. Mrs. Gritton taught health and physical education, and they each coached several sports.

The family has lived in Ft. Myers, Florida since 2004. The first four years, Gritton served as Athletic Director at Southwest Florida Christian Academy, and two of those years he was also Dean of Boys. Since 2008, he has been Athletic Director at Evangelical Christian School. He has also coached basketball most of the time he has served at these two schools.

For the past two years, Gritton has additionally pastored New Hope Baptist Church of Ft. Myers. The Grittons have three children--Larry A. Gritton III ("Trey"), age 11; Madison, age nine; and Alexander ("Alex"), age seven.

In an e-mail to OBI faculty and staff, **Marvin Cress**, Trustee Chairman, stated, "Rest assured that much prayer and discussion has taken place before making this decision...The Board joins the faculty and staff in wishing the Grittons Godspeed as they prepare for the leadership responsibilities facing them."