

Thomas F. Baldwin was born on April 25, 1933. He received his bachelor's degree in business from the University of Cincinnati in 1956, his master's degree in journalism from the University of Iowa in 1962, and his doctorate in communication from Michigan State University in 1966. Early in his career Baldwin was an honored member of the U.S. Coast guard and held positions as a radio and television journalist. After completing his doctorate, he went on to serve on the MSU faculty for almost 38 years, retiring in 2003. Baldwin was a specialist in broadcast and telecommunication policy research and scholarship and taught many courses focused on multichannel television. He also served as director of the mass media doctorate program. Baldwin is considered to be the "father of cable television education." In retirement, Baldwin remained active, serving on the college's alumni board from 2003 to 2010 and continued to collaborate on funded research projects, including projects sponsored by the National Science Foundation. Baldwin passed away on April 25, 2011.