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Explore Andrews: New Program Helps Freshmen Solidify Their Path

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Donald May

Aaron Moushon, director of the Explore Andrews program, meets with a student in Don May's office, located in Nethery Hall. May is assistant provost for Undergraduate Initiatives and Andrews Core Experience. He and Moushon co-developed and instituted the Explore Andrews program.

Explore Andrews: New program helps freshmen solidify their path

National research from *Forbes* magazine now indicates that a person can expect to have 15–20 different jobs during his or her working years. So how realistic is it to ask a first-year student to immediately decide on a career choice when registering for classes during their freshmen year of college?

This research suggests the importance of students not narrowing their decisions about majors and career options too early in the process of getting an education. Changing out of those options could be costly in time and tuition dollars. Also, in many instances, a student is apprehensive that lack of a clear plan to a career goal is perceived as fickle, indecisive, non goal-oriented.

“The new Explore Andrews program takes into consideration that freshmen students are bound to grow in their understanding of life’s path, as they enjoy the first years of

college,” says Donald May, assistant provost for Undergraduate Initiatives and Andrews Core Experience. This new program has been developed and instituted by May and Aaron Moushon, director of Personal and Career Development, Explore program director.

The Explore Andrews program embraces the opportunity that Andrews University has to strengthen and create essential tools to help inspire students to better define and achieve their life goals. God has a specific calling for each student’s life, and this process of helping each student understand that calling in every life dimension is one of the most important opportunities available as a Seventh-day Adventist Christian university.

“The goal of Explore Andrews is to better understand each of our students and their aspirations, and to use that knowledge to find an appropriate academic plan,” says Moushon. “We’re fully committed to the process of helping students make the connections between God’s calling and the right major choice so they can better envision their future.”

Primarily, the Explore Andrews program will provide focused support for students during their first year of study at Andrews University. In that year, each student will participate in one-on-one counseling, academic coursework and co-curricular activities designed to help them better understand their strengths and abilities, and recognize God’s calling in their life.

The term “Explore Andrews” is designed to serve the specific purpose of defining a journey with each student — perhaps beginning while students are still in high school and are starting to explore college, major and career choices, and then working alongside these students as they apply and then enroll at Andrews University.

“The new Explore Andrews program will bring together various components of the academic experience, creating an exciting, dynamic, exploratory environment for a student to explore the difference between majors, career, job and calling. We’re anxious to bring the student’s family into the exploration process also, as a partner in this journey,” says May.

To find out more about the Explore Andrews program visit <http://andrews.edu/exploreandrews>.

Stephen Payne, vice president, Division of Integrated Marketing & Communication



Aaron Moushon is the director of the Explore Andrews program and Personal and Career Development.