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Andrews awards honorary doctorates to Rasi and Doblmeier

Andrews University awarded two honorary doctoral degrees, Doctor of Humane Letters, to Humberto M. Rasi and Martin Joseph Doblmeier, during its May commencement ceremonies on May 3.

Rasi, Special Projects, Department of Education, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, was the keynote speaker for the 8:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. commencement services with an address titled “On the Road to Success.” Niels-Erik Andreasen, University president, presented Rasi with an honorary doctorate for his contribution to Adventist education during the 8:30 a.m. service.

Rasi has worked as a teacher, author, editor and educational administrator for the church for almost 60 years. He has served as a teacher, department chair and



President Niels-Erik Andreasen presents the honorary doctorate degree to Martin Joseph Doblmeier who stated, “I feel a sense of pride on behalf of every serious documentary filmmaker and hope they have some sense of sharing in this.”

eventually, dean of graduate studies for Andrews University, as well as director of the Education Department of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. He has published, contributed to or co-edited numerous books and articles, as well as co-founded the Institute for Christian Teaching and established the Adventus Editorial Consortium. “It was a high honor to receive an award from the oldest institution of Adventist education,” says Rasi.

Martin Joseph Doblmeier, founder and president of Journey Films, spoke at

the 11:00 a.m. commencement service. His address was titled “Through the Lens of Faith.” Doblmeier has produced and directed award-winning documentaries about religion for three decades, including a trilogy of films about Seventh-day Adventists: “The ADVENTISTS” (2010), “The ADVENTISTS 2” (2013), and “The BLUEPRINT: The Story of Adventist Education” (2014). “I am delighted to receive a degree from Andrews,” Doblmeier says. “I feel a sense of pride on behalf of every serious documentary filmmaker and hope they have some sense of sharing in this.”

Both Doblmeier and Rasi noted that they experienced a warm welcome at Andrews University and appreciated the enthusiasm of the students, the hospitality of faculty, and the beauty of the campus. “There is something special happening at Andrews,” Doblmeier says, “and I am delighted to play a small part in it.”

Melodie Roschman, acting media communications manager, Division of Integrated Marketing & Communication

Architecture students build house on 18-foot trailer

The size of an average dorm room is 148 square feet, but for School of Architecture, Art & Design dean Carey Carscallen and his students, it is enough space for a full house. Carscallen teaches a design/build class for Architecture graduate students. For their final project, they usually take a mission trip to Bolivia. This year, though, Carscallen wanted a project the entire class could work on the whole year, regardless of weather or space restrictions, and so the tiny house project was born. With the help of a grant from Physics Enterprises, the class would build two tiny, completely livable houses on 18-foot trailers.

The four graduate students in the class were integral to every aspect



School of Architecture, Art & Design students at Andrews University built two tiny, completely livable houses on 18-foot trailers.

of the process — from drawing up blueprints and constructing walls to installing wiring and plumbing and furnishing the finished house, always strategizing how they could use every square foot of space efficiently.

While one of the houses remained unfinished at graduation, the other, “Bay View,” was completed and put up for sale for \$30,000. Though tiny, it manages to feel spacious instead of claustrophobic, with a full bathroom, well-equipped kitchen, table for two, ample

storage space, and two sleeping lofts. At 8,000 lbs., it is more unwieldy than an RV, but can be moved via truck and attached to sewer and electric hookups.

Overall, Carscallen says, the tiny house project was an incredible success that they look forward to repeating in the future. “We launched it not really knowing how it was going to turn out, but the students really liked it ... and it was eye-opening for them.”

For a longer version of this story, visit: <http://www.andrews.edu/agenda/2015/05/22/tiny-house-big-ideas>. To learn more about the tiny house project, you can visit the website: <http://www.theshedtinyhouse.com>, or view a time-lapse video of the construction at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WqyUmLUT9ig&feature=youtu.be>.

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