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Associate Deans, Principal of Griggs University Appointed

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Associate deans, principal of Griggs University appointed

On Nov. 1, 2010, ownership of Griggs University & International Academy was transferred to Andrews University. Griggs is an accredited, values-based distance education and home school provider that offers individual courses and complete programs to students preschool through university. In July, the physical relocation of Griggs will take place. At that time, La Ronda Curtis Forsey, associate dean for Griggs University and principal of Griggs International Academy, and Janine Lim, associate dean for higher education for Griggs, will join the Griggs team.

“As we build Griggs University on the campus of Andrews University, we have looked for three characteristics in all candidates—first, a dedication to God and a commitment to Adventist education; second, the skills and experience necessary to build excellent distance education programs on a number of platforms; and third, the vision to see how distance education can serve the world Church by using technology to promote collaboration,” says Alayne Thorpe, interim president of Griggs.

Forsey brings 26 years of teaching and educational administration to her role at Griggs. She previously served as the principal at Atlanta Adventist Academy (AAA) in Atlanta, Ga.

“The thing that intrigues me about joining Andrews University is the opportunity to be innovative in a global setting—using my background experiences to reach out to a wide range of students,” says Forsey. “I look forward to building new programs with a team of people who are dedicated to Adventist education and God’s service.”

Forsey has worked as a teacher at the alternative Horizon Preparatory School in Chattanooga, Tenn.; Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tenn.; and at Forest Lake Academy in Apopka,



La Ronda Forsey

Fla. Her years of experience in administration began in 1996 when she began a six-year stint as vice principal, as well as English and ESL teacher, at Maxwell Adventist Academy in Nairobi, Kenya. In 2002, she moved back to the United States where she served for three years as vice principal of marketing and recruiting for Campion Academy in Loveland, Colo., before spending six years at AAA. During her time at AAA, enrollment doubled and it became an innovative multi-campus school. Three metro Atlanta sites and five partner schools now use interactive simultaneous videoconferencing technology.

Forsey holds a Bachelor of Arts in English from Southern Adventist University and a Master of Science in Educational Administration from Scranton University.

Lim says, “I look forward to serving Adventist education worldwide through the use of a variety of innovative technologies. I hope to bring enthusiasm for Adventist education and a passion for using technology to bring learning opportunities to students wherever they may be.”

Lim has served as the Instructional Technology Consultant for the Berrien Regional Education Service Agency (RESA) since 1998. As technology consultant, she coordinates distance learning for 20 school districts, teaches



Janine Lim

online graduate-level technology classes and helps train teachers for technology integration.

Lim began her career as a language arts and Bible teacher at Griswold Christian Academy in Ohio. After one year there, she was appointed in 1997 as an instructional technologist for the Berrien County Intermediate School District (now Berrien RESA). Lim has also served as adjunct faculty in distance education courses for the Berrien RESA; the Adventist Virtual Learning Network serving La Sierra University and Andrews University; and classes offered through Central Michigan University and Western Michigan University. She has taught classes on videoconferencing in the classroom, interactive curriculums, and integration of technology and the Internet into curricula. Lim received an Educator of the Year award in 2010 from the Michigan Association of Computer Users in Learning, an Outstanding Leadership Award in 2008 from the United States Distance Learning Association, and a number of other professional awards.

Lim is a triple alumnus of Andrews University, holding a Bachelor of Arts in Communication (1995), a Master of Arts in Teaching (1996) and a Ph.D. in Leadership (2010).

Keri Suarez, media relations specialist, Office of Integrated Marketing & Communication