Annetta Gibson Receives Bashir Hasso Endowed Chair

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Andrews University
Hosts ‘2,000 Years of Christianity in Africa’

On February 7 to 9, scholars from various disciplines, universities and religions converged at Andrews University to discuss “2,000 Years of Christianity in Africa and the Diaspora,” part of the university’s Black History Month celebration.

The seminar’s two keynote speakers were Charles Bradford, former North American Division president and author of Sabbath Roots: The African Connection, and Craig Keener, author of 14 books and professor at Palmer Theological Seminary. The seminar also featured lectures by a number of religious and historical scholars.

On Friday evening, Keener lectured on “Defending Black Faith,” devoting most of his presentation to Paul’s treatment of race relations. Keener pointed out repeated calls in the Book of Romans for unity in Christ between Jews and Gentiles, saying “Christianity is not an exclusively white religion, but is for all people.”

On Sabbath morning, Pioneer Memorial Church was packed for the main service. In his sermon, entitled “No Child Left Behind,” Bradford called attention to the explosive growth of Christianity in Africa during the last two centuries, and particularly the prevalence of Sabbath-keeping in Ethiopia. “There will be an abundant entrance into the Kingdom,” said Bradford.

“It is refreshing to see the Seventh-day Adventist Church begin the process of corrective historiography to counter the centuries of errors, distortions, omissions and falsehoods attributed to the continent of Africa and its inhabitants,” said Andrews University chaplain Timothy Nixon. “The Africans, the first people of the earth, are the primary characters of Scripture. May we never again believe or teach the notion of a heathen or Godless Africa.”

Annetta Gibson Receives Bashir Hasso Endowed Chair

At a special luncheon on Mon., Feb. 5, Allen Stembridge, dean of the School of Business Administration (SBA) at Andrews University, announced that Annetta Gibson, professor of accounting and former SBA dean, will receive the Bashir Hasso Endowed Chair of Teaching Excellence in Business Ethics.

This endowed chair was established by Bashir Hasso, whose philanthropy has helped various establishments in the Middle East and educational institutions throughout the United States. An endowed professorial chair assists the designated department by supporting the recipient’s salary, research opportunities, administrative services and other projects as determined in the endowment agreement. This funding comes from the annual income generated by the principal gift.

“The School of Business Administration is profoundly grateful for such generosity,” stated Stembridge. “This endowed chair enables us to attract and maintain the highly qualified faculty essential for future growth.”

Gibson has been a member of the SBA faculty since 1992, when she returned to her alma mater to teach in the Department of Accounting and Ethics. Gibson received her MBA from Andrews before completing her Ph.D. at Washington State University. She has since served the SBA in many capacities: as a professor, department chair, SBA dean, director of SBA Off-Campus Programs and director of its internship program. Gibson began her work in business ethics with beloved Andrews business professor Daniel Augsburger. She is currently completing a textbook on business ethics that they had initially begun together.

“I will work hard to keep the Hasso name in high regard through the business ethics we teach our students,” commented Gibson. “The Hasso family has been generous with Andrews University, and we are grateful for their support.”

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