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Seek. Affirm. Change. Andrews Tours of the World

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Seek. Affirm. Change.

ANDREWS TOURS THE WORLD

BY BEVERLY STOUT



Christie Joy

Participants were busy during the Summer 2005 dig in Tell Jalul, Jordan.

May is that nebulous month caught in between spring and summer, when college students pack up their belongings and head home to work their summer jobs, spend time with family and friends they haven't seen during the school year, or take a break before they pick up the books once again for summer classes. But May at Andrews is much more than just a transitional month. Hundreds of students from departments all over campus pack their suitcases, put on their adventure shoes, and hop on planes to destinations all over the world. Because at Andrews, May is study-tour season.

Study tours are an Andrews tradition and in many ways give students the opportunity to “Seek Knowledge; Affirm Faith; and Change the World.”

“We’re an international campus; it only makes sense,” says assistant professor of digital media and photography Sharon Prest, about the reasoning behind study tours. Sharon is coordinating the photography and design tour to India this May. From May 10–30, students will learn about culture, design, and photography while traveling across northern India. Students can earn up to six credits while taking classes such as *Travel Photography*, *Color Photography II*, *Topics in Documentary Photography*, *Visual Advocacy*, and *Book Design*.

While the photography department has gone on tours the past several years to places such as New Zealand, Tanzania, Kenya, and Ecuador, this will be the first time design students will have the opportunity to accompany them. Led

by assistant professor of art Robert Mason, students will not only snap pictures, but study Indian culture and society, and look at core social issues and ways to use design for social change. Upon return from the trip, design students will take the photographs they’ve shot on the tour and create their own book.



Justin Woods

Kristy Witzel photographed a dig site at Tell Jalul, Jordan.

“The students’ skills jump immensely on tours,” Sharon explains. “Every waking moment is dedicated to work.” But the students do more than just hone their photography skills. The influence of travel has a much deeper effect on their lives. “Their cultural awareness and world view expands. Many have gone on to devote a year or two to mission work, wanting to give back.”

SEEK KNOWLEDGE

BY TRISTAN BRAMBLE



Pedro Navia led a group of students from the International Language Studies department on the 2004 study tour to Iguazu Falls in Brazil.

But the students traveling in May won't have to wait to give back. Working with Maranatha, the group will dedicate a day to paint the Fendell Seventh-day Adventist Church in Shimla, India. Before going on the trip, they will raise funds to help buy supplies.

The photo and design students won't be the only ones traveling this May, or the only ones planning to give back. From May 8–25, students will visit ancient China and Tibet, studying their rich culture and history.

Led by Jane Sabes, associate professor of political science, students will have the opportunity to walk along the Great Wall, float down the Three Rivers Gorge, and stand in Tiananmen Square, learning about history, religion, and politics, as well as experience and discuss contemporary culture and life, education, and the environment.

"Consider the world a global classroom," Jane explains. "If students learn from surrounding themselves with a new culture by walking the streets, observing the architecture, speaking with local businessmen, tasting native foods, etc., ... then I'm hoping that this practice of observation while 'walking the streets' will become a life habit for learning, not just when enrolled in classes or on a university campus. New sights and sounds and shared experiences with locals will create warm hearts toward citizens in our world-community."

Again, students will not just be soaking in knowledge and experience. The group will be delivering quilts, handmade by women in the St. Joseph (Michigan) Seventh-day Adventist Church, to children in Chinese orphanages. A service component is worked into each tour that Jane participates in. On trips to Cuba in 2002 and 2003, students delivered Bibles to rural Adventist churches and clothing and medicine to Seminary students. On their 2004 trip to Fiji and Australia, students helped rebuild the Vatuvonu

In three years at Andrews University, I have gained a foundational, well-rounded education from which I will always benefit. As an English major and political science minor, I have taken classes that range from *Literature of the English Renaissance* to *Constitutional and Public Policymaking*. Each class and seminar has offered me the chance to read challenging material, write analytical and argumentative papers, and engage in related discussions.

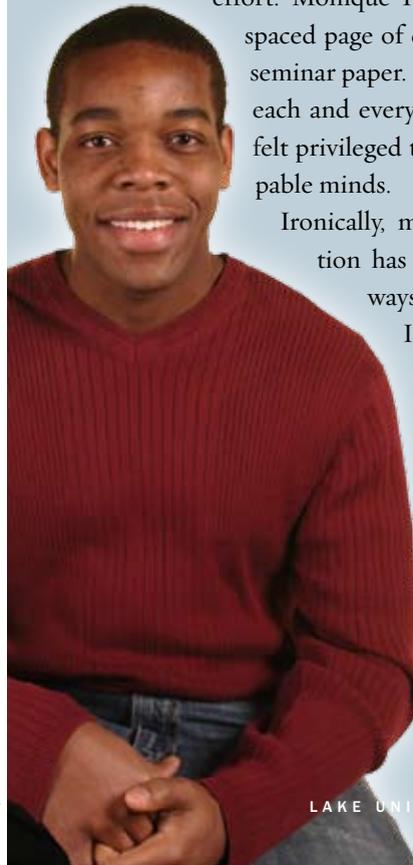
The wonderful thing about Andrews University is that its small size and diverse faculty provide incredible opportunities. The study and service-oriented tours are amazing; I have traveled to Australia, Fiji, and Peru. Professors become your friends; I often socialize with my English teachers at the *Yankee Book Swap* and poetry nights.

More importantly, I have been encouraged by professors who are committed to student growth and achievement. Jane Sabes used the flagging system to thank me for good work and effort. Monique Pittman typed a full, single-spaced page of constructive criticism on my seminar paper. Last week, Brent Geraty told each and every student in his class that he felt privileged to be teaching bright and capable minds.

Ironically, my pursuit of higher education has taught me that there is always much more to be learned.

I cannot study everything, so instead I seek the knowledge that is of interest and importance to me. The combination of supportive teachers and solid academic programs at Andrews make it all possible.

Tristan Bramble is a senior English major and political science minor at Andrews University.





The Andrews University Symphony Orchestra, pictured here performing at Pioneer Memorial Church, will take their first study tour to Europe in May.

Seventh-day Adventist Church School which had been damaged in a severe hurricane. “Mission is the undergirding, the very heartbeat of all we teach at Andrews University,” states Jane.

This idea of service-learning is evidenced each year in the Division of Architecture’s annual trip to Bolivia. Since 1998, the Division has held the annual *Birdhouse Competition and Benefit Auction* to raise money for the Center for the Recuperation of Children at Risk of Drug Addiction (CERENID) in Bolivia. CERENID was started in 1994 in conjunction with the Division of Architecture and the Adventist Development & Relief Agency International and currently is home to over 40 street children. Each year, Andrews architecture students travel to Bolivia to continue their work on the facilities.

Tours have been a long-standing tradition for archaeology students at Andrews. Each summer, the Horn Archae-

ological Museum sponsors digs in Jordan, giving students the opportunity to earn up to 12 credits while spending six weeks digging up ancient history. “It’s how I started my career; the inspiration of that has been transforming for me,” states Øystein LaBianca, associate director of the Institute of Archaeology and professor of anthropology, as he recounts the first tour he took as a student with the late archaeologist and Seminary professor Siegfried Horn back in 1969. Øystein has led students on tours himself since 1984; this summer marks his 12th trip to Jordan.

“I see the focus of the tours as bridge-building,” explains Øystein. “We’re bridging understanding and helping to build appreciation for other cultures and other ways of being human. It’s important for us as Adventists who have a global mission. We need to have a deep appreciation for other cultures and communities, and tours have been a powerful teaching tool for that. On tours, students have some of their most meaningful and impacting experiences.”

Kristy Witzel, a research assistant at the Horn Institute of Archaeology and a 2005 anthropology graduate, has traveled on two of the Jordan digs: to Tell Hesban in 2004 and Tell Jalul in 2005. “These trips have offered me an irreplaceable education,” says Kristy. “I have learned so much about Middle Eastern culture and about its history, values, and religion. They have also provided me with excellent professional experience, both in archaeology and research.”

Beyond just the rich, hands-on educational experience, students interact with and build relationships with locals. “The highlight of the digs for me is always the Arabic hospitality and the friendships that develop both with the Andrews group and with the local people,” comments Kristy. “Andrews has been working in the Madaba Plains region of Jordan since 1968, and has developed a very special relationship with the villages surrounding Tell Hesban and [Tell] Jalul. Every dig season, about half of the team is made up of students and volunteers, and the other half is made up of local paid workers from the village. Often there are men and boys working at the site that are the sons and grandsons of workers from past seasons.”

“Knowledge has to be your own experience,” says Pedro Navia, chair of the International Language Studies department, a department that conducts at least one tour each summer. This May, Pedro will lead a group of 40 students on a 24-day tour through South America, focusing mainly on Brazil. Designed for Spanish majors or speakers, the tour gives students the opportunity to experience Latin American culture first-hand, while strengthening their language skills.

SUMMER 2006 TOUR SCHEDULE

Symphony Orchestra Study Tour

Italy, Germany, Austria, and France, May 8–21

History and Political Science Study Tour

China and Tibet, May 8–25

International Language Studies Study Tour

Brazil, Argentina, and Paraguay, May 8–31

Digital Media and Photography Study Tour

India, May 10–30

Architecture Study Tour

Italy and Switzerland, June 8–16

Archaeology Study Tour

Tall al’Umayri, Jordan, June 28–August 9

Art & Design and Behavioral Sciences Study Tour

Egypt, August 10–24

AFFIRM FAITH

BY ROBERT W. PETERS III

Six years ago, during summer 2000, I arrived at Andrews University with my wife, Dollis. She, a counselor, and I, a pilot in the United States Marine Corps, left a six-figure household income to obey the Lord's call on our lives for chaplaincy ministry in the United States Navy. I had no idea where we would find employment or where we would live, but I knew what the Lord had instructed, and all roads pointed to the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University as our first stop.

The Lord did not replace our finances with like income. Better than that, He gave us an abundance of wealth through personal and shared experiences, as well as relationships developed here at Andrews University, allowing us to "Affirm Faith" in Him.

The Lord used these six years to disciple my wife and me, and to teach us how to make disciples for Him. The people, both young and old, who are now disciples of the Lord, are in places as far away as the Marshall Islands and Australia, and as close as Florida, Alabama, Texas, Washington, D.C., and Berrien Springs, Michigan. Through "family groups," which are basically spiritual family units (see Matthew 12:48-50), people become disciples of Christ by hearing, watching, and being mentored by other disciples. The power to make disciples as Christians actually comes from Christ when we put into practice what we "say" we believe.

Now, at the end of six years, the Lord has determined it is time for us to return to active duty military service in the United States

Navy Chaplain Corps. We leave our brothers and sisters through Christ here in Berrien Springs at Andrews University and at the All Nations Church, in order to obey our Lord.

The Lord has commanded us all to "Affirm Faith" to a world in need, and He commands in Matthew 28:19, "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations..." and those who love the Lord will obey His commands.

Robert W. Peters III, LT CHC USN, is an assistant dean of men and a recent Masters of Divinity graduate of the Seminary at Andrews University.

"Tours are highly important for academic experience and for one's own knowledge," Pedro explains. "For example, one can read lots of books on the United States, but you get a more complete picture by being here. Books are important, but so is life experience."

One aspect of the learning experience for almost all the tours is interacting with other Adventists all over the world. Often incorporated into the trips are visits to sister schools and colleges, performances at churches, or service work. "It's important that students can see that we belong to a huge church, not just here in the States, but almost everywhere. It may be a different culture, or a different language, but the beliefs are the same," says Pedro.



Marc Ullom

Photography students experienced a safari in Kenya, Africa.

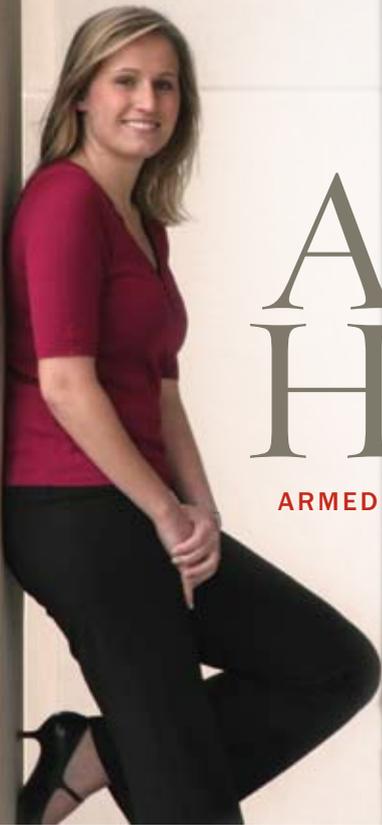
"It's important that our students be able to make connections with other Adventists," echoes Claudio Gonzales, director of the Andrews University Symphony Orchestra. The orchestra will be taking its first-ever study tour this May, traveling to Austria, Germany, Italy, and France, stopping to perform at many Adventist churches and schools. But beyond the opportunity to perform, the students will experience music history in the streets of Salzburg—the birthplace of Mozart—and see and hear some of the greatest instruments ever made in Cremona, the cradle of violin-making since the 16th century. This trip will be the first music tour that will enable students to earn academic credit.

Seek Knowledge. Affirm Faith. Change the World. At Andrews, it's something we take literally: our call to purpose, the reason for our existence. Study tours are just one way we put those words into action.

Beverly Stout is the University Relations media relations coordinator.



Daniel Bebell



ALLISON HURLLOW

ARMED WITH FAITH, SKILLS, AND EXPERIENCE
TO CHANGE THE WORLD

BY BEVERLY STOUT

Last summer, 22-year-old senior marketing major Allison Hurlow experienced the opportunity of a lifetime. A change from her usual stint working at Michigan summer camps, Allison hopped on a plane to California and spent ten weeks as an intern for Lexus, gaining first-hand marketing experience in their national advertising department. She helped edit brochures, went on photo shoots, and participated in the step-by-step process of ad campaigns. She had such a good experience that she's going back again this summer.

During Allison's internship at Lexus, she not only gained invaluable job experience and made connections that will springboard her future career, but she also had the chance to put her faith into action.

"Working at Lexus was a great experience for me," Allison explains. "I've worked at Camp Au Sable and F.L.A.G. Camp, but this was different. I was put on the other side of the country without my friends. I had roommates who were non-Adventists. I was the only one who went to church. I had to use my faith practically. When my friends would go out and ask me, 'Why aren't you coming to the club with us?' or 'Why don't you drink?' I had the opportunity to explain my faith."



As program coordinator for Higher Ground, a collegiate Sabbath school class, Allison prepares the projector for a PowerPoint presentation.

Having lived in Berrien Springs since she was four years old, Allison's California adventure was definitely a step outside her comfort zone. But she did not leave unprepared or unwilling to face the challenges that lay in front of her. An honors student, Allison does well in school and has learned strong work ethics from professors who encourage her to do her very best—from marketing classes that challenged her study skills and creativity, to religion classes that encouraged her to know the "Why?" behind her beliefs.

Allison's strong work ethic has extended outside the classroom, as demonstrated by her dedication to help enrich Andrews, both socially and spiritually. Her long list of

CHANGE THE WORLD

BY MARIA KIM

As a “good” Adventist, I grew up involved in missions. I went on mission trips to Korea, the Philippines, and Thailand. However, the trip that impacted my life the most was one I had here in the United States. This is when I realized we look at missions as a trip to a foreign country or a specific time period in our lives, but we don’t see life as a mission experience.

I worked for one year with Public Campus Ministries in Ann Arbor, Michigan, sponsored by the Michigan Conference. While there, I realized that my ministry was up against many enticing things of the world—entertainment, football, sex, parties, drugs, etc. The only way I could get people interested was by my life. The words coming out of my mouth wouldn’t make much difference—there are many Christians who preach on street corners. It was my life that could spark an interest and a desire for something better than this world has to offer.

After I left Ann Arbor, I realized God has called me to change the world. That world isn’t far away in a jungle—it is wherever I am. If I can prove myself here at home, then God could send me anywhere in the world and know I would be a missionary just as I am here. I realized that once I became a missionary, I would always be one.

Maria Kim is an integrated science for secondary education major.



Daniel Bechtel

student leadership positions include titles such as Andrews University Student Association (AUSA) senator, AUSA Public Relations and Social Recreation director, program coordinator for *Higher Ground* collegiate Sabbath school, and events coordinator for the Social Recreation office.

Allison remembers her junior year as a particularly busy one, juggling a heavy class load while working with both *Higher Ground* and AUSA. “My friends didn’t really see me much that year,” she comments. The experiences she had that year taught invaluable lessons and skills she was able to apply at Lexus and in the classroom. “Working for AUSA as Social Recreation director really taught me a lot about working hard, and getting your work done ahead of time. I’ve learned a lot about time management and learning to say ‘No.’ I used to be a ‘Yes’ person. I had to set boundaries and prioritize, and learn that things will turn out OK when other people are working, too.”

This year, Allison is keeping busy working for the Social Recreation office as an events coordinator, organizing popular events such as the annual beginning-of-the-school-year icebreaker *Almost Anything Goes*, a concert by contemporary Christian artists, *Selah*, and the spring break diving trip to Cozumel.

These leadership experiences also brought her closer to God. An independent person, she often stepped out on her own, saying, “I can do this, God,” but only to realize she really couldn’t do it on her own. “It was a good lesson in humility,” Allison notes.

As a senior, Allison will soon leave Andrews, stepping out once again beyond the borders of her comfort zone. But armed with her faith, skills, and experiences she had as a student, she’s more than ready to get out there and change the world.

“My way of changing the world is one step at a time. I want to live my life and have people look at me and wonder what’s different. ‘How can she handle these situations and be OK when these things are going on?’ I want others to see Christ living in me everyday: at work, volunteering in the community, [and] through personal relationships.”

Seek Knowledge. Affirm Faith. Change the World. That is Andrews’ goal for each student who walks on campus. Upon graduation, it is our goal students will not be the same as when they entered: their knowledge will have increased, their faith affirmed and strengthened, and their hearts filled with a passion to make a difference in the world around them.

Beverly Stout is the University Relations media relations coordinator.