

9-2006

## Heather Knight to Serve as New Andrews University Provost

Pat Spangler  
*Andrews University*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/luh-pubs>



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Spangler, Pat, "Heather Knight to Serve as New Andrews University Provost" (2006). *Lake Union Herald*. 619.  
<https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/luh-pubs/619>

This News is brought to you for free and open access by the Lake Union Herald at Digital Commons @ Andrews University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Lake Union Herald by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Andrews University. For more information, please contact [repository@andrews.edu](mailto:repository@andrews.edu).

## Heather Knight to Serve as New Andrews University Provost

On June 28, Andrews University president Niels-Erik Andreasen announced that Heather Knight, then associate provost for faculty development, diversity, and special programs at University of the Pacific in Calif., had been named the university's new provost. He stated, "I believe that the future of Andrews University and higher education in general is bright, and the

collaboration and possibilities that Dr. Knight will bring to our work here will be significant."

The decision to offer the position to Knight came after the provost search committee completed interviews of its short list of two finalists for the position. The interviews of the candidates by this committee were accompanied by a number of campus presentations by each candidate. The committee also reviewed feedback from several key groups across the campus, including faculty, staff, students, and departmental and academic deans.

Knight joins Andrews University with rich experience in teaching and administration at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, Calif. She began her teaching career there in 1988, becoming a tenured associate professor of English in 1993, teaching a variety of literature and writing courses. She then served as an assistant provost,



Heather Knight, Ph.D., is the new Andrews University provost.

and became associate provost in 1997. Knight graduated with a Ph.D. in English from Stanford University in 1991, specializing in African American Literature; a master's in English from Loma Linda University in 1984; and a bachelor's in English from Oakwood College in 1982. She has presented a multitude of papers at conferences across the country and has articles in several publications. She has served as a panelist for the National Endowment of the Arts, as well as an evaluator on several accreditation teams and many university committees.

According to Adventist News Network (ANN), "One of Knight's major achievements at the University of the Pacific was leading a diversity program to increase minority representation in the school's faculty. The effort, begun in 1997, increased the number of minority faculty from ten percent to 19 percent, well-surpassing the United States' national average of 13 percent." Gerry Karst, chairman of the university's board of trustees and a general vice president of the Adventist world church, stated to ANN, "She [Heather Knight] expresses a strong commitment to Seventh-day Adventist education, its philosophy and mission. It is a pleasure to welcome her to the leadership team."

Pat Spangler, assistant director of University Relations

## Japhet De Oliveira Accepts Chaplain for Missions Position

Japhet De Oliveira will be one of the new faces on the Andrews University campus this fall. De Oliveira will serve in the position of chaplain for missions as well as assistant director for the Center for Youth Evangelism.

De Oliveira comes to Andrews from England where he served as youth

director for the South England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists since 2003. He is an energetic, innovative leader with a passion for young people. During his time as youth

director and as a youth pastor for the Stanborough Park Church in Watford, England, De Oliveria began multiple youth ministry initiatives. Just a sampling of his work includes projects such as London Live, a new 20/30-something church led by young adults in the city of London; HUB, a monthly journal for youth ministry leaders across England; and the new Diploma in Youth Leadership program at Newbold College in Binfield, England.

De Oliveira earned his B.A. in theology and an M.A. in Religion with a certificate in church growth from Andrews University on the Newbold College campus.

"If I can be part of a team that makes a difference to both those connected with and searching for God, I will be a satisfied man," says De Oliveira about his new role at Andrews. "At the end of the day when I look back on my life, I want to know that I served well, played hard, that my boys and wife are proud of me, and that God inspired my leadership. Honestly, what more is there?"

De Oliveria will join the Andrews community with his wife of eleven years, Becky, and their two young boys.



Japhet De Oliveira joins the Andrews community as the new chaplain for missions as well as the assistant director for the Center for Youth Evangelism.

Beverly Stout, University Relations media relations coordinator