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Teacher in the Spotlight

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Mission Institute Held on Andrews Campus

On June 5–25, the Institute of World Mission (IWM), located in the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary on the campus of Andrews University, held one of its five annual mission institutes for outgoing and current missionaries on the Andrews campus.

For three weeks 45 missionaries, most of whom are heading out on six-year-long assignments, participated in workshops, learning important cross-cultural skills in preparation for their work in the mission field.

Twenty missionary children also participated in a simultaneously-run orientation program, first started in 2001, designed to help them make the difficult cultural adjustments they'll face.

The Mission Institute sets five basic goals for its participants, around which all the workshops are designed. Their goal is for the missionaries, in a cultural setting, to: 1) grow spiritually; 2) learn to think biblically; 3) reason missiologically; 4) live holistically; and, 5) learn how to serve internationally.

"I've really appreciated the shared goal and [the IWM's] approach to being a missionary and what our goal and function is as a missionary," said Debbie Bullock, one of the Institute's participants. "The biggest thing I've



Forty-five missionaries and 20 children participated in the June 2005 Mission Institute held on the Andrews University campus.

experienced is that I've really felt affirmed in our call, that we're doing the right thing." Debbie and her husband, John, will be training ministers in Sudan.

The IWM first started in 1966, per an action by the General Conference, holding a yearly training institute on the Andrews campus. In 1981, the IWM became its own freestanding department, and has expanded to hold five annual Mission Institutes—two on the Andrews campus, one in Europe, one in Australia, and one in Africa or Asia. The IWM also assists missionaries with a variety of other programs, including re-entry retreats for returning career and student missionaries, short-term mission training, tentmaker training, and leadership across cultures seminars.

IWM staff, who are also recognized as faculty members of the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, include director Lester Mecklin, who recently replaced retired director, Pat Gustin, associate director Cheryl Doss, and associate director Wagner Kuhn.

Beverly Stout, University Relations
Lake Union Herald correspondent

Teacher in the Spotlight

L. Monique Pittman

Anyone who has taken a class from Andrews University English professor L. Monique Pittman, or "Dr. Mo," as students often call her, can't help but catch her contagious affinity for all things literary. She is without a doubt the English department's resident powerhouse of enthusiasm. Pittman enjoys nothing more than sharing her love of language with eager students.

Before accepting her current assistant professorship at Andrews University in 1999, Pittman served in a similar position at Pacific Union



L. Monique Pittman

College ('96–'99), where students first acknowledged her academic excellence and gracious spirit. By electing her *Advisor of the Year* and *Honors Teacher of the Year*, Andrews University students continue the tradition of awarding outstanding professors.

Pittman attributes her passion for learning and language to several early influences, beginning with her parents, who exposed her to literary, cultural, and artistic influences early in life. Thanks to a "fabulous, but crazy-mad" high school English teacher, Pittman became enthralled with language and what one could accomplish with the deft turn of phrase. During an undergrad women's literature class she took at Andrews University, Pittman decided to pursue a career in teaching. After completing her B.A. at Andrews University, Pittman returned home to Virginia and attended the College of William and Mary for her M.A., subsequently pursuing her Ph.D. at Purdue University, where she focused on 16th century (Renaissance) literature and 18th century British literature.

A lifelong student, Pittman continues to engage in regular research, periodically contributing articles to scholarly journals such as the *Literature Film Quarterly*, where she critiques the tendency of modern film adaptations of Shakespeare to subscribe to stereotypes and portray destructive gender constructs under the disturbing pretext of following Shakespearean precedence.

Pittman thanks Andrews University for creating a faith-based community that facilitates the exploration of difficult questions and champions intellectual pursuits while remaining ever anchored in the "bedrock of belief." Pittman also posits that Andrews has long underscored her subscription to the credence that one should continually strive to do everything to the best of one's abilities and ultimately to the glory of God.

Elizabeth Lechleitner, University
Relations student news writer