

FOCUS

I GIVE
THANKS
TO THE
LORD

HIS
LOVE
ENDURES
FOREVER



Niels-Erik Andreassen
President

Is there employment after graduation?

Finding work after college graduation is so important to both students and their parents that some colleges have attempted to give future employment assurances to incoming students. While that may be difficult to accomplish,

Andrews like all good universities cares deeply about the career paths of its students after graduation. Following are some considerations in the after-college employment discussion in this country and abroad.

1. College is becoming so expensive that we must think about what happens after graduation—it is an important part of the national discussion of higher education, and of the service we provide to our students—what is the return on the four-year college investment going to be?
2. The economies of most countries, including the U.S., are becoming so diverse, competitive and international that only a well-educated (meaning college-educated) workforce will be able to compete in the world marketplace and succeed.
3. The rapid development in information technology that dominates our economy needs highly technical and skilled workers, even some who never quite completed college (think Bill Gates—a Harvard dropout!). However, all need postsecondary education, and a degree is much preferred for lifelong employment in a changing work environment.
4. According to one report, due to the economic downturn the unemployment of recent college graduates stands at 6.8%, whereas the rate for college graduates overall is 4.5%, in both cases a little above half the unemployment rate of the population generally. The recent unemployment rate for high-school graduates stands at 24%. These rates change constantly, of course.
5. Finally, college graduates on average earn twice as much as high-school graduates over a lifetime, or around \$1 million more.

In short, a college education is important. The nation depends upon it, the economy cannot grow without it, employment is far easier with it, and as for Andrews, our church depends upon college-educated members and employees in more ways than we realize.

And now I wish to share a conversation I had with a vice president in a fortune 500 company located in the Midwest. I had called to ask for a donation of some equipment for use in our labs, and then we got to talking about our graduates. “We like to hire your graduates,” she observed. “Yes, we have a pretty good chemistry department,” I replied. “You do,” she retorted, “but that is not the only reason we like your graduates.” “Then what is it?” I asked, more curious now. “Oh,” she replied, “they support their families, go to church and help each other.” “And, why does that matter to your company?” I wanted to know. This is what she said about graduates from a Christian college like Andrews. It made my day!

“We like employees who attend church because they also support their community, have a higher calling and bring stability to the workplace. That is good for our company. We like people who are bright, know their stuff, but are also willing to learn new things and grow professionally once we hire them. That is good for our company. We like family-oriented employees, who are steady and have hope, who stick around and look toward a better future for themselves and their children. That is good for our company. And we like people who are good-natured, sensible and willing to help, for they tend to collaborate, rather than compete in our labs. That makes them far more productive, and that is good for our company.”

Andrews aspires to prepare its graduates for the workplace or for further study when that is the goal. Yet our aspirations reach higher even than that. Competent, committed people and professionals who are faithful to God and to each other are the kind of graduates we aspire to prepare.

FOCUS

The Andrews University Magazine

Editor

Patricia Spangler (BS '04)
focus@andrews.edu | 269-471-3315

Contributing Editors

Tami Condon (BS '91)
Keri Suarez (BA '01)

Designer

Matt Hamel (AT '05)

Photographers

Kristin Badzik
Jim Harris
Darren Heslop (BFA '10)
Austin Ho
Andriy Kharkovyy (BBA '06, MBA '09)
Martin Lee
Sarah Lee (BT '02)
Joshua Martin
Victoria Miller (BFA '12)

Andrews University

President

Niels-Erik Andreassen (MA '65, BD '66)

Provost

Andrea Luxton (MA '78)

Vice President for Enrollment Management

Randy Graves (MA '72)

Vice President for Financial Administration

Lawrence E. Schalk (BS '64, MBA '71)

Vice President for Integrated Marketing & Communication

Stephen Payne

Vice President for Student Life

Frances Faehner (BSW '76, EdD '07)

Vice President for University Advancement

David A. Faehner (MA '72)

FOCUS (ISSN 1077-9345) is published quarterly, free of charge, for alumni and friends of Andrews University, an institution owned and operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The magazine's address is FOCUS, Office of Integrated Marketing & Communication, Andrews University, 8700 W Campus Circle Dr, Berrien Springs MI 49104-1000. Copyright © 2012 by Andrews University. Reproduction in whole or part without permission is prohibited. Printed by The Hamblin Company, Tecumseh MI. Periodicals postage paid at Berrien Springs MI and at additional mailing offices. Please send address changes to FOCUS Magazine, Office of Alumni Services, Andrews University, 8714 E Campus Circle Dr, Berrien Springs MI 49104-0950, e-mail alumni@andrews.edu or call 269-471-3591.



22
Showing national pride



41
Golden Hearts

features

12 Andrews Life

A true Renaissance couple, Kim Fortin and Andrew Fish operate a dairy farm that produces goat cheese in New York State, are actively involved in their local community, and still manage to hold down full-time jobs in their respective fields of social work and business.

16 Alumni Homecoming 2012

Experience the highlights of this year's packed program of events and celebrations...don't miss being here next year!

46 Annual Report

This year's Annual Report includes reports from the president and University Advancement, donor and student profiles, endowment updates, additional financial information and possibly even your name in the list of donors from this past fiscal year. Thank you for your faithful generosity to further the educational mission of Andrews University.

departments

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2 from the President's desk | 28 alumni news |
| 4 letters | 30 alumni calendar |
| 6 campus update | 35 class notes |
| 9 Howard happenings | 42 life stories |
| 13 faculty & staff | |



On the cover: University Vespers, held in Pioneer Memorial Church, is the weekly Friday evening campus-wide welcome to each Sabbath, a new initiative by the Office of Campus Ministries this year. Photo by Joshua Martin, IMC student photographer, Friday, Nov. 2, 2012.