

Fall 2016 at Andrews University

The 2016–2017 school year

THE MEASURE OF ANDREWS UNIVERSITY is evaluated in a number of ways each fall, from rankings of the University and its programs compared to other colleges and universities nationwide, to its annual fall census. Andrews University enrolled 3,349 students for the 2016–2017 school year.

In terms of enrollment rates, Andrews University had some positive changes this year. Most significantly, the University's first-time freshman numbers grew from 274 to 305 on census day—an increase of more than 10 percent for that student group.

“Our success in new freshman enrollment this fall is especially exciting,” says Randy Graves, vice president for Enrollment Management. “Andrews University is one of only four Adventist universities and colleges in the North American Division that had increased freshman enrollment. We believe our strong academic offerings, some targeted academic scholarships for our programs, including a significant nursing scholarship, and effective and increased communication with our students and their families all made a difference in this fall's enrollment.”

The overall undergraduate student population decreased by 45, from 1,633 to 1,588 this year, and the graduate population grew from 1,633 to 1,661 this year.

Online education continues to make a difference to the University's enrollment levels in a variety of ways. Nearly 700 students are now enrolled in non-duplicated distance education, an increase of 13 percent over the previous year.

U.S. NEWS BEST COLLEGES

In the 2017 U.S. News Best College's rankings, Andrews University was again the only Adventist university ranked as a national university, coming in as #183 out of 310.

Andrews University was again recognized as the second most ethnically diverse university in the nation, tied with Stanford University, University of Houston and University of Nevada, Las Vegas. It was also ranked



as having the eighth highest percentage of international students, tied with Purdue University and University of Rochester.

The University was included in a number of other U.S. News rankings, including rankings in the A+ Colleges for B Students, High School Counselor and Best Undergraduate Engineering Programs lists.

Online offerings were also recognized, with listings for Best Online MBA Programs and Best Online Graduate Education Programs.

FORBES.COM

Forbes publishes an annual Top Colleges list, which ranks Andrews University as #610 out of 660 top universities and colleges overall. It also includes Andrews in its listings for top research universities, private colleges, universities in the Midwest and for grateful graduates.

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USA TODAY/COLLEGE FACTUAL

A new ranking that began just a year ago is a joint effort between USA Today and College Factual. This Best Nationwide Colleges (BNC) ranking looked at 1,387 colleges overall, and placed Andrews University as #483 on that list.

College Factual also attempts to evaluate an issue that's always been important for students and families: whether a particular institution offers value for the investment. Out of the schools it ranked this year, College Factual named 1,208 of them as “Best Value for the Money,” and placed Andrews University as #151 on that list—or in the top 15 percent of the schools receiving this ranking.

With a low student teacher ratio (9:1), College Factual also named Andrews as “among the best in terms of instructional attention.”

ADDITIONAL RANKINGS

In addition to these overall rankings, the University's STEM program is tied for the second best STEM degree program among a listing of the best 30 small colleges with these programs in the U.S. The Council on Social Work Education has also ranked the University's Social Work program as #11 out of 150 Best Value Christian Colleges.

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nd

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*U.S. News Best
Colleges 2017

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Randy Graves,
vice president,
Enrollment Management

All-female lineup for 2016 HMS Richards Lectureship

Six women representing many ethnicities spoke about the challenges and opportunities of collaboration in ministry

THE 2016 H.M.S. RICHARDS LECTURESHIP on Biblical Preaching took place October 23–24. The event has been running since 1957, when it was established in honor of Harold Marshall Sylvester Richards Sr., evangelist, author and well-known speaker for “Voice of Prophecy.” The lectureship has been sponsored by the Seventh-day Adventist Seminary at Andrews University for the past 22 years, and focuses on evangelism and biblical teaching. This year’s theme was “Women in the Work: A Spirit of Collaboration.”

“Every year there are innovative additions to the discipline of preaching, such as the ever-increasing conversational style,” says Hyveth Williams, professor of Christian ministry and homiletics, and coordinator of the lectureship.

A unique feature to the 2016 lectureship is that all the presenters were females, in direct contrast to last year’s all-male lineup.

“They need to hear the stories of a diverse group of women,” adds Williams. “African-Americans, Caucasians, Latinas,

Koreans; this reflects the diversity of the seminary. Cross-cultural activities can impact their preparations for ministry.”

Presenters were Tara VinCross, Lola R. Moore, Pranitha Fielder, Morgan Medlock, Junie Lee and Jessie A. López, five of whom are graduates of Andrews University.

“It was a rich mix of women,” says Williams, “who talked about the challenges and opportunities in this process of collaboration in the ministry, using testimonies and illustrations to contribute to the discourse on women’s role in church evangelism.”

The focus was not just on the workplace, but on women as an integral part of every aspect of ministry in the Adventist Church. Williams adds that more than ever, people need to be aware of the obstacles faced by women in the church, and what the church is able to do for women seeking to minister from the pulpit.

“I want everyone to see what we mean when we say we support women in ministry,” Williams says. “There is real benefit to the women we’re training to receive practical application of and education in the ministry to which they’ve been called.”

BELOW, LEFT TO RIGHT: Hyveth Williams, Tara VinCross, Junie Lee, Jessie López, Pranitha Fielder, Lola Moore, Morgan Medlock



New Life Fellowship celebrates 25th

A time of praise and inspiration

IN THE EARLY 90S, ANDREWS University students and faculty collaborated to create a vibrant worship experience with what Michael Polite, current associate chaplain, has deemed “expressive worship, inspirational music and transformational preaching.”

October 7–8, 2016, marked the 25th anniversary celebration for New Life Fellowship.

“New Life is not only the name of the church but it is what bonds the members in the body of Christ,” says Polite, “creating disciples who spread the gospel of new love, new integrity, new faith and new experience.”

Polite says that the foundation of New Life Fellowship when it began in 1991 is found in John 10:10. In this passage Jesus declares, “I have come that they might have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.”

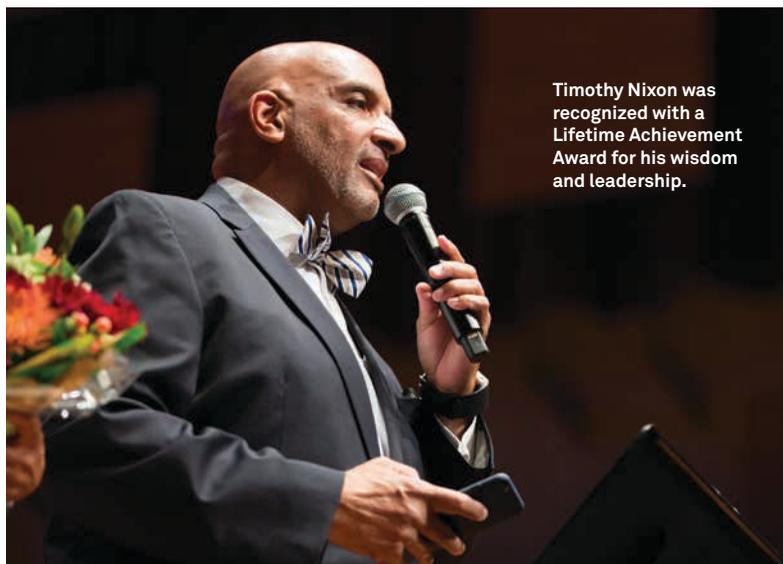
Students and alumni returned to the vibrant fall-colored campus to hear a moving IMPACT vespers from guest speaker and gospel hip hop artist Trey “Andalé” Williams about how God selected the wretched and despised as His cho-

sen people. The Sabbath morning service was filled with praise and worship led by Deliverance Mass Choir preceding the guest speaker, former administrative pastor Damon Hendrickson, who now serves in the Bermuda Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Timothy Nixon, senior pastor for many years, received a lifetime achievement award during the anniversary celebration for his leadership and wisdom during his tenure. Hendrickson inspired attendees to follow God’s call and not concern yourself with the preparation. Much like David, Joseph and Moses, he pointed out, God is only asking you to say “Yes, Lord.”

In the evening, students, alumni and community returned to the Howard Performing Arts Center for a gospel concert hosted by comedian Jonathan Slocumb with Andalé, Sharona Drake and Jonathan McReynolds performing. Attendees enjoyed original lyrics and a continued praise session.

Polite adds, “The whole weekend was a pointed reminder of the peace, love and goodness that Christ brings his followers.”



Timothy Nixon was recognized with a Lifetime Achievement Award for his wisdom and leadership.



Religion and Science Conference

“Beyond the Creation Wars”

THE 11TH ANNUAL ANDREWS AUTUMN CONFERENCE on Religion and Science occurred October 28–29. The event is a function of the Midwest Religion and Science Society. Those organizing the event represent a variety of faith backgrounds.

The featured speakers this year were Darrell Falk (Point Loma University), Todd Wood (Core Academy of Science) and **Michael Gulker** (The Colossian Forum). The theme was “Beyond the Creation Wars.”

“The discussion centered on how Christians understand creation and how we can build bridges instead of walls with people who we believe are wrong about God’s role in creation and God’s method of creation,” says Gary Burdick, dean of research.

Speakers covered topics such as communicating positively in the midst of conflict, unity through Christ and how Christians can demonstrate a different approach to communicating about intractable differences than what the world and media show us.

On Saturday, Gulker facilitated a conversation between Wood and Falk, two scientists who hold opposing views of creation.

“This respectful conversation modeled both the difficulties and the positive benefit of respectful conversation that Michael laid out in his vespers presentation,” says Burdick.

One student who attended the conference from another university shared, “I greatly appreciated bringing faith into the discussion of science. Hearing Jesus openly praised by scientists is something I never see where I go to school, and it was very encouraging.”

Burdick says science and faith is an important topic for the church to wrestle with.

“As a faith community, we would benefit from learning how to deal with conflict constructively,” he says.

The conversation continues in October 2017 at the next annual Andrews Autumn Conference. For more information, visit andrews.edu/research.

Architecture blazes new trails

In local Twin City area and Durban, South Africa

STUDENTS IN THE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE & Interior Design have a unique spin on reaching out and gaining hands-on experience while helping people around the world, including those in their backyard.

Graduate students in the 2015–16 Urban Design Studio course led by Andrew von Maur, professor of architecture, have been recognized with six national awards for excellence in the field of urban design and town planning for their work on “Twin Cities Harbor: A Study of Potential in Benton Harbor & St. Joseph, Michigan.”

The project had several goals: to honor and celebrate the essence of Benton Harbor and St. Joseph both in their distinct and shared identities; to study the existing working harbor and conceptual changes to its location, operation and site design; to study how the harbor area can shape an attractive gateway to the cities of Benton Harbor and St. Joseph; and to study how the harbor can help to support humans and the environment.

The success of the study, which was originally intended to be a private project, lies in the resulting public open houses and meetings where community members who were interested in the work could see what students produced. Additionally, the group did a two-month exhibition at Krasl Art Center in St. Joseph.



ABOVE: Andrew von Maur, professor of architecture, explains the Twin Cities Harbor Project to Congressman Fred Upton

Across the Atlantic and in his own backyard, Wandile Mthiyane, an architecture student from Durban, South Africa, works towards his dream of improving and developing the shantytowns in his home. Mthiyane, along with several other recent architectural graduates, founded UBUNTU Design Group, which attempts to help the locals help themselves, primarily through assisting them in creating innovations in architecture that will lead them to produce

inexpensive, long-lasting and culturally authentic homes for their own communities.

Mthiyane presented his “Half-House Project” in Bangkok, Thailand, at the 2015 One Young World Resolution Project summit, where they awarded him a fellowship and necessary funding to get UBUNTU Design Group off the ground. He also presented about the project at the United Nations in September 2016.

The group’s first goal, aiding a disabled man, necessitates making his home disabled-friendly and including a shopfront for his business. Ultimately, UBUNTU Design Group draws strength from its vision which focuses on co-dependence with the people it hopes to assist.

The most important idea and reason behind the name of the group, comes from the local word “ubuntu,” which conveys the idea, “I am because you are.”

“I am because you are,” quotes Mthiyane. “We can only succeed if you do. We exist because of each other.” He continues, “One of the main reasons for this organization is because of values we’ve learned at Andrews. Our vision aligns with Seek Knowledge, Affirm Faith, Change the World. Jesus spent half his ministry feeding people and the other part preaching. We want to be the hands and feet.”

 To help UBUNTU Design Group in their work, visit ubuntudesigngroup.com to donate or get involved.



ACROFEST

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY HOSTED THE 25TH ANNUAL ACROFEST, an event that brought close to 900 Seventh-day Adventist gymnasts together from 22 Adventist academies and colleges across North America and as far away as Antillean Adventist University in Puerto Rico, from Nov. 10–12, 2016. Each year, a different Seventh-day Adventist college hosts Acrofest, offering gymnasts an opportunity for spiritual renewal and a chance to collaborate with other gymnasts, including a live final performance on Saturday night.

The first Acrofest was held in 1991 at Andrews University. Under the leadership of Coach Robert Kalua, that first Acrofest drew 600 gymnasts and their coaches. By creating a non-competitive atmosphere, Acrofest helps establish opportunities for quality instruction, education and team development within the Adventist educational system. To view final performances, visit “acrofest 2016” on YouTube.

Wellness Week highlights

100-mile run, Health & Fitness Expo, Wellness Transformation documentary

WELLNESS WEEK BEGAN AUSPICIOUSLY with the start of a 100-mile run on Saturday evening, Oct. 22 (see page 26 for feature story).

Events continued on Monday with the Health & Fitness Expo and a Total Body Fitness Class. Other events throughout the week included an H2O fitness class in Beaty Pool, midday walks across campus, visits with Counseling & Testing Center staff about mental and emotional wellness, a wellness chapel to encourage spiritual health, and more.

“We aim to make Andrews University the healthiest university in the world and we need each individual to join this mission,” said Dominique Wakefield, director of University Health & Wellness.

Another highlight of the week was the grand reopening of the Gazebo in the Campus Center on Thursday, Oct. 27, with new, wellness-focused features on display and Dining Services staff on-site to answer questions.

The finale of the week was the world premier screening of the Wellness Transformation documentary on Saturday, Oct. 29, produced by University Health & Wellness, Integrated Marketing & Communication and the Department of Visual Arts, Communication & Design studio.

Two renowned Zumba instructors capped the week with a free Zumba fitness party in Johnson Gym.

The Wellness Lounge, located in the Campus Center, was also open throughout the week, providing services such as massage, full body scans, and wellness consultations.

“We’re asking every student and employee of Andrews University to consider embarking on the mission with us to become FULLY ALIVE,” says Wakefield. “This means living life to the fullest by making positive lifestyle changes and a commitment to positive transformation to improve health and wellbeing.”



ABOVE TOP: The Gazebo reopening featured new displays of healthy food options

ABOVE: A free Zumba fitness party in Johnson Gym was a great way to conclude the week

SciFest 2016

SciFest 2016’s theme, “Space,” drew students from four different states and as far as Minnesota, including six Adventist academies, to participate in hands-on experiments in the areas of agriculture, biology, chemistry, computer science, engineering, mathematics and physics.

Teams of four–six students rotated between the various activities, all relating in some way to the concept of “space.” The weekend culminated with a Quiz Bowl gameshow where the students put their STEM knowledge to the test. The top two teams earned scholarship money. An ArtFest also hosted students during the same weekend of October 21–22.

“SciFest is an awesome hands-on STEM experience that challenges advanced academic achievers and excites them with possibilities for further studies and career opportunities in STEM fields,” says Monica Nudd, STEM enrollment coordinator.

This was the fourth annual SciFest & ArtFest event that Andrews University hosted, with over 70 students in attendance.

