

# North Jr. and Kijai given top recognition

*Presented with the J.N. Andrews Medallion during summer 2019 Commencements*

**TWO FACULTY MEMBERS WERE RECOGNIZED** with the prestigious J.N. Andrews Medallion at the first Commencement service on Sunday, August 4.

The first recipient was Professor Emeritus **James J. North Jr.** who was recognized for his dedicated service and commitment to chaplaincy and teaching.

North graduated with an AB in theology from Atlantic Union College in 1960 and an MDiv and DMin from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University in 1963 and 1989 respectively. North also received chaplaincy training from the U.S. Air Force Chaplain School at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama.

In 1966, North became a chaplain for the U.S. Air Force. He retired 20 years later with the rank of lieutenant colonel.

North began his career at Andrews University in 1986 as a chaplain for Adventist Information Ministries (AIM). He soon became an assistant professor of religion for the Department of Religion & Biblical Languages and an associate professor of pastoral care and chaplaincy for the Department of Christian Ministry at the Seminary. When not teaching, North held several other positions including those of advisor for various clubs and forums, chair and member of numerous committees, director for the Seminary Chorus and the Seminary Chaplaincy Program, University ombudsperson and a Seminary Student Life representative. He has been a faculty for over 25 years and has lived in the

Andrews community for the past 33 years.

Since his retirement, North has taught several courses for the Seminary as a contract professor. He also served as a mentor to professors of chaplaincy and still periodically assists during Tuesday chapels by playing the organ.

In his spare time, North composes musical pieces. He loves to spend time in nature, engaged in photography. North is married to Audrey and has three daughters and one son.

North says, “I was tremendously surprised, deeply moved and honored, and greatly appreciative. I also appreciate the assent of all who were involved.”

**Jimmy Kijai**, professor of research and statistical methodology in the Department of Graduate Psychology & Counseling, was also presented with the medallion at the 8:30 a.m. service. He was recognized for his dedication to research and education.

Kijai earned his BA in physics from Spicer College in 1976. He went on to receive a Master of Education in educational research in 1983 and a PhD in educational research in 1987 from the University of South Carolina.

Early in his career, Kijai served as a coordinator of Research & Evaluation at the University of South Carolina. He then worked as a consultant for New Buffalo Schools and the Berrien County Intermediate School District. Kijai began his career at Andrews University in 1991, first as an associate professor and then a professor of

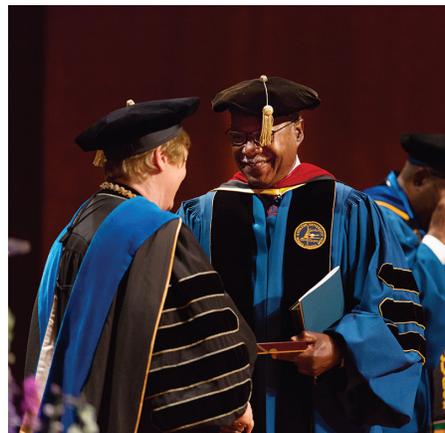
research and statistical methodology. From 1995–2005, he was also an instructor in the joint Andrews University–Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Master of Science in Administration (International Development) program.

Kijai has published articles in journals, contributed chapters to books and presented research at numerous places in the U.S. and Asia. Additionally, he has served as a methodologist on over 30 dissertation committees and holds several professional memberships.

For the past 25 years, Kijai has been a life-changing mentor to Andrews University students, faculty and colleagues, particularly those serving at Southeast Asia Adventist colleges/universities. He was instrumental in the birth of the Southeast Asia Adventist Research Conference, where he supported the research endeavours of faculty and students from Adventist universities, including those in the Philippines, Thailand and Indonesia.

“I was pleasantly surprised to be honored with the J.N. Andrews Medallion,” commented Kijai. “Thank you, Andrews University family, for the recognition. I am truly blessed working with a community of scholars.”

Kijai is married to Lucia and they have three grown sons—John, Jason and Jay. Kijai loves the outdoors and is an avid golfer. He is also known to try his hand at badminton and tennis. In his spare time he loves traveling and photography.



**FAR LEFT:** Jimmy Kijai, professor of research and statistical methodology, receives the J.N. Andrews Medallion for his dedication to research and education.

**LEFT:** James J. North Jr., emeritus professor of pastoral care and chaplaincy, receives the J.N. Andrews Medallion for his dedicated service and commitment to chaplaincy and teaching.