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Explore Intentionally: Discover Your Future

Niels-Erik Andreasen
President

We are using four new initiatives at Andrews to more fully articulate how this University provides a significant advantage to each of its students.

One of those, Explore Intentionally: Discover Your Future, reminds students that Andrews is committed to helping them find their way through their university studies in a timely way, prepared for a rewarding life of service and purpose.

This is an especially significant need and challenging goal for our new undergraduate students, where nearly 40 percent are undecided on their career and life choices when they first enroll. We have appointed a support person to help our undergraduate students successfully navigate those choices [see FOCUS Winter 2015].

Some students no longer enter their college of choice as freshmen and graduate four years later from the same institution. Instead, they swirl through college. They take a few courses in a community college, transfer to a four-year institution, earn some credits from experience, take an online course each semester, participate in a study tour, and finally try to fit it all together into a useful degree (see J. Selingo, “College Unbound,” New York, 2013, chapter 7).

This new trend turns college into a marketplace of educational services from which students pick up bits and pieces of education and put them into their shopping carts on their way to the cash register. It also makes it much harder for a college to serve students well—now they’re here, now they’re gone, making it challenging to provide the developmental (wholistic) education which we believe in so much.

Some colleges find it so difficult to adapt to this way of providing education that they give up and close. Recently the closure of Sweet Briar College, a traditional liberal arts women’s college with an $85 million endowment, sent shockwaves through private colleges asking, are we next? National organizations like CIC (Council of Independent Colleges) went public to assure students and their families that traditional colleges still have vitality and educational purpose left in them.

Non-traditional colleges can also get into trouble in such a changing environment. This past spring for-profit Corinthian Colleges, Inc. closed four of its colleges: Everest College, Everest Institute, Heald College and WyoTech, leaving 16,000 students stranded with no place to go (“Chronicle of Higher Education,” May 8, 2015, page A6). Corinthian had been fined nearly $30 million by the Department of Education for misrepresenting its educational services and closed the four schools, hoping to sell them. But the real victims were thousands of students stuck, in debt, with scattered credits and nowhere near graduation.

Where does that leave Andrews? First of all, online courses are with us to stay, and students will do some “swirling” in their college years. That is an irreversible development in our time. In the same way people seeking healthcare will swirl through doctors’ offices, emergency rooms, hospitals, natural remedies, and the latest—Skype a doctor, pay $45 and get your near-instant diagnosis over your smart phone. Nevertheless, in times of real need, we still see our trusted family doctor, consult a specialist, and enter a healthcare program to receive the best whole person care available. And so it is with college education. When we really need to produce a college man and woman we will seek out wise and knowledgeable educators who transform a just-out-of-high school college freshman into a well-informed, talented, smart senior, ready to face life with maturity, responsibility, clear values and a faith to live by—all in a timely way.

There will always be need of a good college where teachers and students meet together for wholistic education designed to last a lifetime—actually an eternity. Our new strategy: “Explore Intentionally—Discover Your Future” is designed to achieve that goal.

P.S. Nevertheless, be aware, 21st-century students will continue to bring their smart phones to class, so the faculty better do the same and stay engaged!
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On the cover: A large group of young millennials posed for a photo divided into three images used in the Center for Youth Evangelism lobby. Our cover is one of those images. Used by permission of the CYE. Photo by David Sherwin, assistant professor of photography
Guided to service
Thank you very much for sending me the “FOCUS” magazine all these years. I am very proud of all the Andrews University students and faculty. Some have been in service to the University for 25 to 30 years and show a history of goodness, Christianity and the Faith reveals itself. God determined my life journey and guided me to attend Andrews University for his purposes in my life. I am proud to be a member of the Andrews graduates.

Masayo Hanyuda (BS ’97)

Don’t forget to write
Letters are always welcome.
To ensure a range of viewpoints, we encourage letters of fewer than 300 words. Letters may be edited for content, style and space.

By mail:
FOCUS Editor
8700 W Campus Circle Dr
Andrews University
Berrien Springs MI 49104

By email:
focus@andrews.edu

Tell us how we’re doing.
Do you want to see a fresh, new look for FOCUS? Would you like to read more personal interest stories about people? What are we doing well? What should we change? Take the online FOCUS survey and we’ll take your feedback seriously. Thank you in advance for your valuable input.

andrews.edu/focus/survey
In the face of decreased enrollment and budget cuts, President Niels-Erik Andreasen emphasized Andrews University’s continual role as a leader in Adventist education at the board briefing held on Monday, June 1, 2015. The report followed a special two-part board meeting, which addressed financial issues in the morning and academic affairs the same afternoon.

As is customary, Andreasen noted each item that had been addressed by the board, highlighting important details or complications. He described the President’s Report, a summary of the year’s events, and the Provost’s Report, a recounting of triumphs from schools across the University.

Following this was a report from the President’s Council, which reviewed new programs at Andrews and discussed student finance. This was a comprehensive information session, Andreasen noted, “and accounts for more [time] than anything else.” Next was a report from the vice president for University Advancement, David Faehner, regarding institutional development. Faehner reported that last year $13 million was given to Andrews University in major gifts. Andreasen also took this time to note that a new Health and Wellness director has been named: Dominique Wakefield, assistant professor of health & exercise science at La Sierra University (see page 10).

As was true of last year’s June report, the most pressing concern for the University is low enrollment and the accompanying financial setbacks. “The long and short of it,” said Andreasen, “is that the applications and admissions numbers for new students and transfer students generally are as good as any year in the recent past. The problem is we still don’t know if these students who are admitted will actually matriculate.” While there’s been an increase in graduate enrollment and the School of Distance Education, student fees aren’t as high for those programs. “These increases don’t translate readily to increased revenue,” Andreasen noted, “so that’s a challenge.”

Because of last year’s lower than expected enrollment, tuition income fell short, resulting in a year-end budget shortfall of approximately three million dollars. Andreasen emphasized that this was not the fault of University departmental spending, noting that spending actually came in $50,000 under budget.

“We are bracing ourselves for a drop,” Andreasen announced, noting that the administration is taking responsible steps to prevent a second year with a deficit. The board passed a budget for the 2015–16 school year that anticipates a decrease in enrollment of five percent instead of the customary two percent, translating to budget cuts of nearly $3 million.

“I think enrollment in the near future will be developed through new programs—in physical therapy, in business, in architecture,” said Andreasen. “I think that while we may not get all the undergraduate students back quickly, we may find we can replace them with graduate students and specialized undergraduates.”

Andreasen then noted the departure of University attorney Brent Geraty and the sale of two plots of University-owned land before ending on a note of encouragement, the affirmation of the University’s reputation for academic excellence. The GC Education Department had reached out to him: “They wanted to talk to Andrews about its future engagement with the world church.” Lisa Beardsley-Hardy, education director, “told us to ‘hang in there. You are needed,’” he said. “We don’t really have another Andrews anywhere.” He concluded: “[Our] reputation, because of many, many years of training people here…to do something important in the world…is still how to do education in the church.”
Commemoration of Rwandan genocide
Midwest Rwandan Community holds their annual event at Andrews University

The Midwest Rwandan Community held the 21st Commemoration of the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda on the Andrews University campus, Saturday, April 11. The Midwest Rwandan Community is led by president Louis Ruhaya, who spearheaded this event. The organization is responsible for representing the Rwandan community and celebrating Rwandan history.

Held in the “Never Again” spirit of the United Nations policies, this annual Michiana area event was well attended by more than 200 individuals. Keynote speaker was Joe Richie, a Chicago area businessman who also serves as co-chairman of the Presidential Advisory Council (PAC) for Rwanda, to help facilitate private sector investment in the country.

This year’s program had the special focus of refuting persons who have denied or minimized the genocide of 1994. The program began with video testimonials from Rwandans who were there during the genocide.

One of the highlights of the program was the testimony of Consolee Nishimwe. She told the story of her experience, which she wrote about in her book titled, “Tested to the Limit: A Genocide Survivor’s Story of Pain, Resilience, and Hope” (Balboa Press, 2012). At the end of her speech, the entire audience rose in silent respect.

Richie, the keynote speaker, also shared remarks from His Excellency Eugene Richard Gasana, Rwandan State Minister and Ambassador to the United Nations, who was unable to attend due to a flight cancellation.

In the words of Jean Hakiza, a building supervisor for Andrews University Custodial Services and a Tutsi survivor who helped in the organization of the event, “This (event) reminds the world that we’ve had a terrible war, or genocide that shouldn’t have taken place. This is what happened to Rwanda.

Department of World Mission publishes book
Seeking to help the church to understand how people in this world approach controversial issues

At 800 pages, “Church and Society: Missiological Challenges for the Seventh-day Adventist Church” is a weighty book both literally and intellectually. Produced and published by the Andrews University Department of World Mission, the book aims to use a combination of sociological research and Biblical perspective to “help Christ’s church to understand how this ‘world’ and the people who live in it think, feel, and react to some of the issues they face in their daily lives.”

With this goal in mind, “Church and Society” features 31 essays on globally relevant and often “uncomfortable” topics divided into five sections: Lifestyle and Health Issues, Development Issues, Human Rights Issues, Religion and Public Life, and Family and Domestic Issues. The 34 authors include church administrators, professors and researchers, doctors, lawyers and non-profit leaders from four continents. They approach their respective topics, which include such pertinent issues as euthanasia, homelessness, prostitution, Christian political involvement and economic exploitation, in a diverse fashion. Some employ mainly case studies and excerpts from interviews. Others rely more on statistics and data analysis.

All 31 essays, however, share a common format that splits the text into three sections: description/analysis of the topic, bibliographical discussion and missiological application. Each article also includes a series of discussion questions for educators, church leaders and individual readers, as well as suggestions for further reading and a full bibliography. The essays also share a common conviction that sociological and anthropological research is useful—even necessary—to the directives of a worldwide, mission-minded church. While some will claim that “preaching the simple gospel” is all that is required for effective ministry, general editor Rudi Maier notes that the social sciences “need not call into question a minister’s faith, hope, and commitment,” but rather can be “the mechanisms for determining a better way of doing ministry” that understands individual situations in nuanced and perceptive ways.

“As an editor,” explained Rudi Maier to Adventist Today, “I didn’t have a specific agenda for this book except to help people to understand some of the painful issues people face inside and outside the church...I hope that they will be treated with the same respect and compassion that Jesus gives in response to each one of us and our needs.”

The volume is currently available for sale through the Department of World Mission at Andrews University for $49.50.
Graduate communication degree updated

The Andrews University Department of Communication has made changes and improvements to the Master of Arts in Communication program, including renovating a studio, revising the curriculum, reducing the tuition by 45 percent, and updating online course enrollment options.

The department is committed to providing quality education and the changes that are being made to improve and strengthen the program will go into effect beginning fall 2015.

Students will now be able to complete the MA in Communication with 33 credits instead of the previous 40. The reduction will allow students to complete the degree in less than two years at a lower cost. In addition, students will also automatically receive a 45 percent tuition discount on graduate Communication course work for the next two years.

The department has also added a live synchronous online option that allows students some flexibility in location. Concentrations such as communication management, international communication and interdisciplinary communication are available, but not required. Finally, a dual degree option is available with a Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Communication. This program is designed to take three and a half to four years and has two optional Communication concentrations: media ministry or interdisciplinary communication.

The department has acquired and renovated a media center and studio facility. Furthermore, the program and curriculum have been revised to strengthen the research component of the program and add key courses to the curriculum. In addition, the goal for the 2015–16 school year is for all graduate faculty to have terminal degrees in communication or a closely related field.

“Our goal in making these changes,” said Rachel Williams-Smith, chair of the department, “is for several purposes:

• To produce graduates who easily obtain jobs and careers in well-known and respected organizations,
• To produce graduates who can improve the effectiveness of Christian Adventist media programming in reaching young people,
• To make the program as affordable as possible, and
• To cultivate a departmental team of faculty experts who are well-equipped to train the next generation of communicators.

We want to become the premier program option for students from both Adventist and public colleges and universities who wish to earn a master’s degree in Communication.”

Seminary contributes to innovative Hebrew research

Collaborating with the Global Learning Initiative on electronic databases for learning biblical languages

The Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University is pleased to announce that the Seminary has officially become a collaborator and partner of the Global Learning Initiative (GLI).

The GLI began as a European Union-funded research project based on a partnership between Aalborg University, Leeds Metropolitan University, London Metropolitan University, and a few other European institutions. The Free University of Amsterdam’s Biblical Hebrew Database has been implemented in a software-based learning environment in order to create a cutting-edge, intuitive program that applies modern research about language retention to biblical languages. The Bible Online Learner, a free open-source Biblical Hebrew and Koine Greek learning site, also grew out of the Global Learning Initiative.

The Seminary specifically is tasked with improving the Hebrew and Greek databases, programming features of language exercise development, and enriching the grading experience for language instructors. Oliver Glanz, assistant professor of Old Testament, has been instrumental to the initiative due to his expertise in electronic work with biblical languages. Last year, Glanz worked with several scholars to develop a program known as SHEBANQ, or System for Hebrew Text: Annotations for Queries and Markup. The system, which is produced by the Eep Talstra Center for Bible and Computer (ETCBC), won the Best Digital Humanities tool or suite of tools award. SHEBANQ allows researchers to develop and share queries and annotations with other users, connecting multiple opinions on textual questions and enriching study of the Hebrew Bible.

Seminary administrators are optimistic that the new partnership with the Global Learning Initiative will mean further innovations in Biblical scholarship. “I am very pleased,” says Jiri Moskala, dean of the Seminary, “that the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary is now partnering with prestigious European universities in collaboration on electronic databases for learning biblical languages. This will help our [local] and worldwide students to work closely with the biblical languages...by providing a better understanding of the original intent of the biblical material.”

Humberto M. Rasi, Special Projects, Department of Education, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, was the keynote speaker for the 8:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Commencement services with an address titled “On the Road to Success.” University President Niels-Erik Andreasen presented him with an honorary doctorate for his contribution to Adventist education.

Rasi has worked as a teacher, author, editor and educational administrator for the church for almost 60 years. In the 1970s he served as a teacher, department chair and eventually dean of graduate studies for Andrews University, and from 1990 to 2002 he was director of the Education Department of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. He has published, contributed to, or co-edited numerous books and articles, as well as cofounding the Institute for Christian Teaching and establishing the Adventus Editorial Consortium.

For Rasi, coming to Andrews University for Commencement was “moving.” “It was a memorable experience,” he says, “in terms of returning to the university where I worked for ten years, where we lived with our family in the 1970s. It was a high honor to receive an award from the oldest institution of Adventist education.” This is Rasi’s fourth honorary doctorate.

Martin Joseph Doblmeier, founder and president of Journey Films, spoke at the 11 a.m. Commencement service. His address was titled “Through the Lens of Faith.” Doblmeier has been working in documentary filmmaking for three decades, producing and directing more than 30 films about religion, faith and spirituality that have had wide distribution and critical acclaim including an Emmy, three U.S./International Film Festival awards, and six Gabriel Awards for best film on a topic of religion in America. Notably, he directed a trilogy of films about Seventh-day Adventism: “The Adventists” (2010), “The Adventists 2” (2013), and “The Blueprint: The Story of Adventist Education” (2014).

“I am delighted to receive a degree from Andrews, a school with so many accomplished graduates,” Doblmeier says. “But I am also grateful on behalf of all the filmmakers—particularly documentary filmmakers. Honorary degrees usually go to authors and writers but in making a serious documentary film I can spend between two to four years in research, production and presentation so it really is like an advanced degree when done properly... I feel a sense of pride on behalf of every serious documentary filmmaker and hope they have some sense of sharing in this.”

Both Doblmeier and Rasi noted that they experienced a warm welcome at Andrews University and appreciated the enthusiasm of the students, the hospitality of faculty and the beauty of the campus. “There is something special happening at Andrews,” Doblmeier says, “and I am delighted to play a small part in it.”

**Engineering students team with Hope**

*For Michigan Colleges Alliance team at the Stryker Engineering Challenge*

Two Andrews University engineering students, Jonathan Penrod and Michael Hess II (*far right*), were part of the Michigan Colleges Alliance team that placed second at the 2015 Stryker Engineering Challenge, held March 26–27, 2015, at Stryker Medical in Portage, Michigan.

Teams of four students, preferably sophomores, competed for $1,000 scholarships and interviews for Stryker internships. This year there were six teams competing from the following institutions: Purdue University, University of Notre Dame, Michigan Tech University, Western Michigan University, University of Michigan, and the Michigan Colleges Alliance. The Michigan Colleges Alliance team consisted of Penrod and Hess from Andrews University, and Rochelle Miller and Justin Hanselman from Hope College.
Spring 2014 at the Howard

Clockwise from top left: Walla Walla University Steel Band, March 22 • Pygmalion, March 27 • An Afternoon at the Opera, March 29 • Great Lakes Adventist Academy Band, April 3 • Wind Symphony Spring Concert, April 19 • Mendelssohn’s “Symphony No. 2” with Symphony Orchestra, University Chorale & University Singers, April 25 • Lake Michigan Youth Orchestra, May 3 • Ruth Murdoch Elementary School Instrumental Concert, May 7 • Andrews Academy Band, May 12 • Ruth Murdoch Elementary School Choral Concert, May 13

Schedule, information, and tickets:

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Bonnie Proctor at her retirement reception on Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Bonnie Proctor has retired from the School of Graduate Studies & Research as the dissertation secretary after 24 years of service to the University. She joined the University in 1991.

Proctor was born in Baltimore, Maryland, and graduated from Columbia Union College in 1966 with a BA in English. She worked for two years at the General Conference in public relations, before taking time to raise her three children. During that time, she also worked part-time at Library and Educational Services, which is a business owned by her husband. The family moved to Berrien Springs in 1970 when her husband Derrick was hired by the Department of Behavioral Sciences.

In July 1991, Proctor took over the position of dissertation secretary from Joyce Jones, who was one of the first dissertation secretaries for Andrews University. This position was created soon after Emmanuel Missionary College became a university and began granting doctoral degrees.

The position includes myriad responsibilities, such as reading all doctoral dissertations and master’s theses, checking for grammar, syntax and punctuation, and checking to see that the writings are correctly documented according to a plethora of professional writing styles, such as APA and SBL. Proctor was also adept at dealing with administrative duties, including guiding students as they wrote their documents and making sure they were on the right track with regard to format and style. For many years, she also read the DMin dissertations, but when their program became too large, she willingly turned this over to someone else. Due to her meticulous editing, she was nicknamed “ruler lady” at first, and then later the “gatekeeper.”

Proctor says that “all in all, it has been a great experience” and she was “greatly blessed” by the 24 years she worked at Andrews. She declares that the “best parts of working at [my] job were getting to know some very special students, and the feeling of accomplishment in knowing that the dissertation or thesis was now ready for publication and was just about error-free!”

She did have challenges, however, such as explaining things via email for those students from almost every continent who were distance education students. It was especially difficult when she first began, as she had to communicate with students from China, Korea, the Philippines, Africa or Europe, via telephone or mail.

Proctor has been married for 47 years this summer. She and her husband have three married children, all of whom attended Andrews, and ten grandchildren, four of whom were adopted from Russia and Ukraine. Because all of her children and grandchildren live in the Berrien Springs area, she plans to see them often, and do “fun things.” She plans to use her extra free time for hobbies and some volunteer work.

Dominique Wakefield first served at Andrews University as director of Fitness & Exercise Studies from 2008 to 2012. She is very excited about returning to Andrews, citing the opportunity to affect long-term change as a primary motivation. “I had the privilege,” she notes, “of being part of a great wellness team that participated in laying the groundwork for the new health and wellness initiatives on this campus. I believe that there is a tremendous potential to further transform this campus.”

Provost Andrea Luxton says, “Dominique Wakefield is an exciting choice for this position. She brings energy and passion for health and wellness, along with excellent credentials. I have no doubt that she will energize the campus community to make wellness part of the fabric of the University.”

Wakefield considers her upcoming work not only academic and administrative, but spiritual as well. “I believe that God has made us humans ‘very good’ and he wants us to live extraordinary lives,” she says, “which is possible through optimal levels of the different dimensions of wellness. When you see the power of wellness transform lives and even save lives, it truly is an inspiration!”

Bonnie Proctor at her retirement reception on Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Dominique Wakefield returns to Andrews

Dominique Wakefield, assistant professor of health and exercise science at La Sierra University, is the new director of Health & Wellness at Andrews University.

Wakefield holds a BA in physical education with a health emphasis and an MA in teaching international languages from California State University. In addition to working as a personal trainer, corporate wellness program coordinator, and physical education instructor, she has taught physical education at Southern Adventist University and tutored German both in Germany and in California. “Having worked in the corporate, clinical and academic settings thus far, I have had many different types of rewarding experiences,” she says. “All of these have had their own challenges, but I believe that ‘if it doesn’t challenge you, it doesn’t change you!’ and ‘change’ is what we need, especially as it pertains to health, wellness and fitness.”

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George Knight receives Festschrift

In honor of his distinguished teaching, research, editorial and publishing career

The chapel of the Andrews University Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary was packed with guests, faculty, staff and students on Tuesday, April 21, 2015, for the presentation of a Festschrift to George Knight, emeritus professor of church history. The recently released book, “Adventist Maverick: A Celebration of George Knight’s Contribution to Adventist Thought,” was presented to Knight in honor of his distinguished teaching, research, editorial and publishing career. The volume, published by Pacific Press Publishing Association, is a collection of writings by 19 colleagues and students, edited by Woodrow W. Whidden and Gilbert Valentine.

Reflecting on the methodology Knight used, President Niels-Erik Andreasen said, “He [Knight] has written a good many books about early Adventist history, and he told me once that he wrote these books the same way the pioneers wrote their books, using pen and paper... That is a mark of distinction!”

Festschrift tributes were given by Gilbert Valentine, chair of the Department of Administration and Leadership, La Sierra University; Jerry Moon, chair of the Department of Church History, Andrews University; and Woodrow Whidden, professor of religion, emeritus, Andrews University. Brian Strayer, professor of history, also gave a tribute to the late Gary Land, whose scholarly contributions in the area of Adventist church history are notable.

Valentine began by noting the impact of Knight’s scholarship, “It’s not an exaggeration to say that apart from Ellen White, Professor George Knight is probably the most prolific author the Adventist church has seen... [he] has become one of the most influential voices in the contemporary Adventist church... Dr. Knight is certainly the most prolific author that Andrews University has produced, and is its most widely read scholar.”

Knight’s ability to address theological issues in a way that engages the whole church is a particular gift. He has addressed the issues of philosophy of education, Adventist history, Adventist theology, ecclesiology and mission, and biblical exposition.

Jane Thayer, associate professor of religious education, emerita, shared Jerry Moon’s tribute, which focused on Knight’s role as a teacher. Moon wrote, “Forty-plus years of distinguished teaching and publishing have made George Knight a magisterial figure in Seventh-day Adventist education. He has taught in Adventist colleges and seminaries all over North America and literally from Australia to Zimbabwe.” That means thousands of pastors and teachers took his classes, exerting an enormous influence on the thought leaders of Adventism.

In 2003 Knight was the first recipient of the Daniel A. Augsburger Excellence in Teaching Award, as well as the Teacher of the Year Award.

Woodrow Whidden spoke of Knight’s role as an editorial impresario—someone who conceives, directs and casts “operatic dramas.” In this category of literary productivity are doctoral dissertations he directed (13 listed), the Bible Amplifier Commentary Series, the Adventist Pioneer Series of biographies, and the Ellen White Encyclopedia, which he launched. There were also countless informal manuscript reviews. Knight’s rigorous attention to detail has resulted in, as Whidden put it, “a body of literature that has made lasting, often path-breaking contributions to the fields of Adventist history, biography, biblical commentary, educational philosophy, devotional uplift and theological discourse (both historical and systematic).”

Before the formal Festschrift presentation took place, Valentine explained, “This is a distinctive kind of Festschrift. Nineteen colleagues or former students of George Knight have contributed, reflecting and critiquing on the wide array of topics that Knight has written on. We then asked Knight to respond to those reflections/critiques, thus getting both sides of the conversation in this really enjoyable volume.”

In his response, George Knight spoke of the need for perspective and humility. Knight quickly put the focus on Jesus Christ, stating, “That’s why we’re here today.” He said that his life has been a “search for meaning.” He learned that servanthood in every area was what Jesus’ life was all about, and his death was about our salvation. During a particularly difficult time period of his life, Knight shared how his first Bible teacher, Robert Olson, was invited to his house. Olson knew of Knight’s struggle, but he didn’t say anything about it. He spent a day “just exuding the sweet love of Jesus,” and when he left the house, Knight told his wife, “I met Jesus today, in Robert Olson.”

Knight continued by stating, “I was an Adventist for 14 years before I became a Christian. My life since that day has been dedicated to helping other people understand who Jesus is... Let’s never forget who we are in relationship to Jesus Christ and what he has done for us.”

The entire presentation may be viewed at andrews.edu/go/youtube.
Emilio Garcia-Marenko, who recently retired as registrar and associate provost, was awarded the J.N. Andrews Medallion during the 2 p.m. Commencement Service on May 3, 2015. The J.N. Andrews Medallion is the highest honor given by the University.

Emilio has associate and bachelor’s degrees in theology from Central American Adventist University in Costa Rica, and an MA and EdD from Andrews University. Before retiring in December 2014, Emilio worked for Andrews in various capacities for more than 30 years, beginning to teach at an extension of the Seminary in Puerto Rico in 1983 and eventually accepting an invitation to serve at Andrews as registrar in 1997. In 2004 he became associate vice president for Academic Administration, and in 2007 new provost Andrea Luxton invited him to become associate provost. He also helpfully stepped in and served in senior administrative positions during leadership transitions, as well as acting as interim dean of the School of Graduate Studies & Research for the two years before Christon Arthur was appointed dean.

According to the citation accompanying the award, Emilio received the award “for his contributions to the field of theology and education, and for his influence as registrar.”

“While I have endeavored to provide my best possible efforts and quality to the Church, the University and God’s children,” says Emilio, “this award challenges me to dedicate the rest of my life to put my best quality efforts in serving God and blessing others.”

Garcia-Marenko awarded with J.N. Andrews Medallion

At the final commencement service of spring graduation

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In addition to his work as a teacher, pastor, evangelist and university administrator in Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Mexico, one of Emilio’s proudest accomplishments was the overhaul of Andrews University’s registration system. During his tenure as registrar he helped redesign the process to be more user-friendly and moved it online. He also implemented a philosophy of continuous improvement in the Office of Academic Records. He has published in various journals, and conducted workshops and training sessions in the areas of family life, educational administration and curriculum development.

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Bailey honored at annual awards ceremony

At the May 21 Recognition & Awards Forum, Karl Bailey, associate professor of psychology and coordinator of the Behavioral Neuroscience program, won an impressive triumvirate of awards: Research Supervisor of the Year, Academic Advisor of the Year, and Teacher of the Year. The research and academic advising awards were selected due to feedback from academic advisees and student researchers; the designation of Teacher of the Year came from the campus-wide popular vote organized by the AUSA (Andrews University Student Association).

Bailey came to Andrews in 2004 after earning an MA in psychology and PhD in cognitive psychology from Michigan State University. He is a member of Phi Kappa Phi, Psi Chi National Honor Society in Psychology, and Beta Beta Beta Biological Society. He has received the Michigan State University Distinguished Fellowship and the Andrews University Faculty Development Grant, and has contributed chapters to volumes and articles to many scholarly publications, including “Journal of Memory and Language” and “Trends in Cognitive Science.”

“Dr. Bailey is incredibly intelligent, approachable, and is a great instructor,” wrote one student in the Teacher of the Year nomination form. “He challenges me to think critically, apply what I’ve learned, and makes learning fun.” Another added, “Dr. Bailey always goes above and beyond. He’s passionate about his field and the students. Andrews is lucky to have him!”

“I am thankful that the students saw fit to recognize my service in these three areas,” says Bailey, “and I see my successes as part of a mentoring process that started when I was an undergraduate student at Andrews, and has continued throughout my entire teaching career. I am glad that I can invest in my students in the same way.”

“He challenges me to think critically, apply what I’ve learned, and makes learning fun.”
Jeffery retires as School of Education dean
After a 42-year career in Adventist education

James Jeffery, dean of the School of Education, is retiring after a 42-year career in Adventist education, 16 years of which were spent at Andrews University. Jeffery came to Andrews in 1999 from Canadian University College (now Burman University) in Lacombe, Alberta, where he was dean of professional studies and chair of the education department. He taught in the graduate K–12 leadership program for three years before becoming dean, a position which he has held for 13 years, making him the longest-serving dean in the history of the School of Education.

Jeffery has led the School of Education through two NCATE accreditation visits, in 2004 and 2011. “The last accreditation visit was especially meaningful,” he says, “because the accrediting team...wrote in their findings that they could not find any areas for improvement. This only happens to about 10% of the 1,700 colleges and universities that are accredited by NCATE.” In the last six years, Jeffery also had the opportunity to serve on the Board of Examination for NCATE, visiting colleges and universities across the U.S.

“Some of my best memories,” Jeffery says, “have been working with staff and faculty who are professionals and extremely talented.” He has been thrilled to work in “a strong and respected academic program,” one that—for four years straight—ranked as the top teacher preparation program in the state of Michigan.

“Dr. Jeffery was a good leader,” says Annabelle Lopez, a professor in the School of Education. “He gives us the freedom to explore what would work to get results.” She recalls how he always took coworkers’ ideas seriously and spent time with them individually to help them realize their goals.

Jeffery says that more than anything, his experience at Andrews has taught him to be patient and slow to judge. “God is in control,” he says, “and I should not run ahead of his leading.”

While he will miss spending time with his coworkers and innovating new ways for the School of Education to improve, Jeffery is excited for his retirement plans. He and his wife plan to spend their summers at a cottage on Prince Edward Island, Canada, and their winters visiting their sons, daughters-in-law, and grandchildren in Alberta, Tennessee and California. More immediately, Jeffery is looking forward to sailing his 35-ft sailboat down the St. Lawrence River to Eastern Canada this August. “This has been a dream for a long time,” he says, “and now I finally have the time to do it.”

Laren & Averil Kurtz retire
As head cashier for Financial Records and office manager for the Department of Music

Husband and wife team Averil and Laren Kurtz are both retiring after a joint total of 20 years of service to the University. Averil served as the office manager for the Department of Music for 10 years and Laren is retiring as the head cashier for Financial Records.

Laren graduated from La Sierra University in 1968 with majors in French and theology. He then matriculated through Andrews University for a Master of Divinity in 1971, and a Master of Arts in missions in 1972. He would eventually complete a Master of Arts in Near Eastern studies in 1991, and a PhD in biblical Hebrew language and literature in 2007, both from the University of Toronto.

Originally from Sri Lanka, Averil Juriansz moved to Canada at age 10. Averil is proud to say, “we are now in the fourth generation of that family attending an Andrews school; from Uncle Ralph Juriansz, to my siblings and many cousins, our children, and now my grandchildren at Ruth Murdoch.” Including extended relatives, there are more than 30 Andrews school alumni in her family. Averil obtained a BA in French in 1969 and an MA in education in 1972 from Andrews University. She was introduced to Laren Kurtz in 1970 by her French teacher Pietro Copiz, who noticed that they both spoke French and were interested in mission work.

Together they embarked on a cross-continental career. They taught at Broadview Academy, worked as missionaries in Zaire (now Congo), and pastored and taught in Ontario, Canada. They also served in Mexico: Laren as a missionary Old Testament teacher at the University of Montemorelos, and Averil continuing to teach English as a Second Language and French through 2003. From Mexico they decided to set their sights on Berrien Springs, where their daughter Camille, and son-in-law Bryan Clayton lived with their children. They started working at Andrews University in 2004. Laren worked first as a contract Greek teacher in the Department of Religion & Biblical Languages, then as the head cashier for Financial Records until his retirement. Averil worked as a contract English teacher in CIEP, then as the office manager for the Department of Music. Both Laren and Averil agree that their favorite part of the job was the personal connections they were able to create with the people they came in contact with.

After retirement, Laren and Averil plan to travel a little with their son Llewellyn. They will continue to live in Berrien Springs. When in town, Laren plans on writing, doing some copyediting for the School of Graduate Studies & Research and the Inter-American Division Publishing Association, and restoring his prized 1940 Chevy. Averil says she will work in her garden, sew, get back to quilting, and also do some translation and editing for the Inter-American Division Publishing Association.
healthy lifestyles
When did your enjoyment of swimming begin? Describe the experience of learning how to swim if possible and what you like about it.

My joy of water began from a very young age. One of my fondest memories of childhood is when my Grammy instigated a full-on water fight at a large family reunion. Buckets, water balloons, hoses. Everyone got involved and had the time of their lives!

My family would visit the beaches along Lake Michigan frequently. I would lie on my stomach in the water and look down at the sand and pretend to be in a beautiful underwater world of fantastically colored fish and all sorts of different coral everywhere. There, I would pretend to swim by pulling myself along the sandy floor with my hands. One day, when I was about 7 years old, I was brave enough to take my hands out of the sand and start moving water instead. I felt so free to explore this amazing world!

When I was a little older, the apartment complex I lived at had a pool and my favorite game was to throw all the pennies in the house I could find into the pool, then I would dive down and collect all of them. I would spend as much time in the pool as possible.

How long have you been working with the aquatics program at Andrews University and what types of duties do you have?

When I was 13 I took swimming lessons to learn the six strokes and how to dive from Andrews University Beaty Pool. By the end of the summer I was volunteering at the pool as a swimming teacher’s aid. When I was old enough to be hired I tried to glean as much as I could from all of the different teachers and their teaching styles. When my age permitted I quickly became a lifeguard and then a swimming teacher. After a few years away at a different college I later returned to finish my business degree at Andrews and also reapplied to work at the pool. I’ve been here ever since and my job duties include, but are not limited to, being the program & marketing coordinator, swim teacher and back-up lifeguard if necessary.

What’s the most favorite part of your job? What’s the most challenging?

My favorite part and often the most challenging part of my job is connecting with individuals and groups. My passion is helping them to achieve their goals through a grace filled experience. I absolutely enjoy the look in someone’s eye when they truly grasp a new concept for the first time. The “I get it” moment. When the person of any age, who was maybe terrified of water and crippled by fear, is able to confidently let go of the edge and swim safely from one side to the other. Perhaps if they can conquer their swimming fears they can have the courage to conquer other fears as well and become more holistically healthy individuals. God wants for us to be more than conquerors. He has big plans for us.

Do you enjoy other water sports? If so, what kinds?

Yes, I love tubing and wakeboarding. Underwater hockey is a blast! I really want to learn how to surf. There is nothing much better than being in a canoe on a still lake at sunset with my husband.

You also teach rock climbing on the Andrews climbing wall. How does that translate into climbing in the outdoors? Are many people interested in that activity?

Indoor climbing gyms are fantastic in that they allow for a more convenient way to train during the off-season when the weather is not ideal. Indoor walls help build up climbing strength, agility and technique, and prepare you physically for climbing outdoors. First-timers for the outdoor climbing experience should definitely have a knowledgeable and qualified leader or guide teach them the ropes out there—safety first! The rock climbing class is always full with a waiting list. The class is designed as an introduction to climbing in a gym. The rock wall open hours for the students and community are usually well attended.

A couple years ago you participated in a Tough Mudder event. What was that experience like?

Tough Mudder was a blast! I ran it with my now husband, fiancé at the time. The run was about 12 miles with numerous physical challenges throughout. It was hard but fun—a fantastic mix of land and water. We accomplished it as a team, I helped keep the running pace and Jon helped me through a number of the obstacles that required more upper body strength or height.

What is your favorite type of exercise and what motivates you to maintain a healthy lifestyle?

I realized more recently that I’m a social exerciser. I exercise regularly when I’m meeting up with friends. So I’ve started being more intentional about planning to meet up with friends to exercise. One of my favorite forms of exercise is Ultimate Frisbee, because it is a brilliant blend of running, agility and teamwork. God has blessed me with a loving husband and many close friends and family that I wish to keep up with. I know that when we go to heaven our bodies will be changed in the twinkling of an eye but I also believe that we are to live as if we are in the kingdom now. I am looking forward to heaven and the new earth but I am also finding great joy and blessing through my loved ones now.
The Swallen Mission Conference, sponsored by the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary’s Department of World Mission, was named after a supporter of Andrews University whose interest and support was completely unexpected (see The Swallen Story sidebar).

The lectureship brings leading scholars of world mission onto campus. Past speakers include Paul Hiebert, Charles Van Engen, Jonathan Bonk, Dudley Woodberry, Darrell Whiteman, Roger Schroeder, Steve Bevans and Scott Moreau. The series usually attracts Andrews’ faculty and students, staff from the locally based Adventist Frontier Missions (AFM), missiologists from off-campus, and mission administrators and educators from the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. The focus is on the academic study of mission—missiology.

The most recent conference was held February 19–20, 2015 and was a departure in two ways. First, the topic had never been featured before because Short-Term Mission (STM) is a relative newcomer in global missions. The academic study of STM among missiologists only began about ten years ago. Usually, missiologists define STM as a trip or assignment lasting a year or less. Second, the Department of World Mission invited the Center for Youth Evangelism (CYE), also based at the Seminary, to be a co-sponsor. CYE is well known for organizing the Pathfinder Camporee every five years. Other entities, like AFM, Lake Union Youth Ministries, North American Division Office of Volunteer Mission, and General Conference Office of Volunteer Mission, Office of Adventist Mission and Institute of World Mission provided support.

In this conference the youth ministry part of the church worked alongside missiologists on a topic valued by both. Three Andrews faculty worked in mutually appreciated collaboration: Glenn Russell, assistant professor of religion, College of Arts & Sciences; Ron Whitehead, director, Center for Youth Evangelism; and Gorden Doss, professor of world mission, Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. Says Doss, “Those of us who study and teach missions and those who lead STM groups often work in separate domains. This lectureship brought us together in a very helpful synergy that was good for us all.”

This year’s conference was planned for STM leaders—past, present and future—including seminary students, faculty and staff, youth pastors, campus chaplains, campus student missionary leaders, conference youth leaders and others. The keynote speakers were leading STM researchers and writers.
Robert J. Priest teaches at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and Kersten Bayt Priest at Indiana Wesleyan University. Their experience in the field as missionaries, as researchers and writers, and as teachers gave great credibility to their presentations. They were forthright about describing the challenges of STM, as well as its potential. Merely getting a group of people to an overseas destination and back safely, and providing a good experience for them is not enough.

Glenn Russell discussed STM from the background of his longtime leadership of overseas trips and academic study of Adventist STM. Pat Gustin, retired director of the Institute of World Mission, spoke from decades of experience as a long-term missionary and administrator of student missionaries and an educator of missionaries. Other speakers discussed relationships with receiving local churches and conferences, safety and insurance, and training for STM. Ron Whitehead noted that, “The Short-Term Mission Conference should take place every few years because it is so practical to support STM trip leaders.”

The topic of STM apparently addressed a perceived need because the attendance was large and consistent, from start to finish. Attendees lingered long after each meeting in animated discussion. “There is a recognition,” says Glenn Russell, “that this mission conference has started the vital conversation between short-term mission practitioners, church administrators and mission experts regarding Adventist short-term mission. There is much that can be done to make Adventist short-term mission trips much more effective.”

Tentative plans call for another conference featuring STM in two or three years.

Gorden Doss (BA ’72, MDiv ’75, DMin ’87) is professor of world mission in the Department of World Mission at the Andrews University Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary.

Clarence Swallen was born in 1900. In 1913 his older brother and he attended a Seventh-day Adventist evangelistic meeting in Ohio. Clarence remembered going to the meetings on his bicycle. His brother joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church and later attended Madison College, a self-supporting school, in Tennessee. He became a nurse/health educator and his goal was to be a missionary in China. Although that dream was never fulfilled because of health reasons, he spent 60 years as a missionary in the Appalachian mountains of Tennessee.

Clarence loved his brother and would frequently visit him in his humble dwelling. After his brother’s death he committed part of his estate to supporting Seventh-day Adventist missionary work around the world. In 1962 Clarence and his wife visited Andrews University and met with Richard Hammill, then president. Hammill took them on a tour of the campus, riding in Clarence’s old Nash Rambler with a hole in the ragtop of the roof. It was raining that day and as Mrs. Swallen slid into the backseat she got her skirt wet. They took Hammill’s riding with them as an indication that he was a humble man and that Andrews University was a quality institution.

At the end of that visit Swallen gave his first Social Security check to Andrews University to help students who wanted to be missionaries. Hammill gave the money to two students and had them write letters of thanks. That tradition continued and in 1985 when David Faehner, vice president for University Advancement, visited him at his home he wept as he shared those two first letters. He funded future missionaries until his death in 1989 and some Andrews University students sang at his funeral.

The story does not end with Swallen’s death. In his estate, he left an endowment of $1.1 million to Andrews University. The interest from that premium has assisted more than 1,000 students with over $1 million in the last 20 years. In addition, he set aside money to conduct the Swallen Mission Lectureship series sponsored by the Department of World Mission at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary.
“Beyond Beliefs” is a landmark study about the attitudes and behaviors of Seventh-day Adventist millennials. Conducted by Andrews University Department of Religion & Biblical Languages chair Paul Petersen and colleagues Jan and Leanne Sigvartsen, the study originated in a class of 37 students who wrote extensively about each of the 28 Fundamental Beliefs. They have since extended their research to more than 700 Adventist young adults, and plan to expand the study worldwide. Melodie Roschman sat down with Leanne Sigvartsen, the originator of the project, to talk about the results of “Beyond Beliefs,” and why they’re important.

**What's the motivation behind your research? How did you decide to start this project?**

That’s actually quite a personal question, but I don’t mind talking about it. I had five miscarriages, and thought I wasn’t going to have any children of my own. So I thought, what can I contribute that can be a lasting legacy? For many years I had been a counselor in Australia, specializing in youth and young adults, and had written two post-graduate theses on bullying and sexual harassment.

I’m always totally amazed that when one door gets closed to you another one opens. My husband was given the opportunity to teach Doctrines of Adventist Faith in the religion department at Andrews. I was helping him put together his syllabus, and I said, “Some of these assignments that you’re wanting to do”—because he was having them keep a journal—“this is good data, we could actually do something with this.” We were actually quite excited about it. So we went to Paul Petersen [department chair] and he was extremely excited about it, because we put it all together and laid it out for him. We had a little preliminary survey that I had just sort of written as a fishing exercise, and in our discussions we both had hit on the same thing: that a lot of decisions for young adults in Adventism and in a lot of religions are made for them, often without their consultation.

One of the criticisms of previous research has been that a lot of research questions are not written in a language that millennial young adults can really even understand. You look at some of these instruments, and I mean, even I struggle, and I’ve got several degrees! I look at this and say, “Good grief! What are you even trying to say here?” So that was the real motivation behind it...We were able to design an instrument based on giving young adults a real voice... That experience combined with this opportunity became the Beyond Beliefs study, and throughout it we have really emphasized that young adults need to be given a voice.
Can you take me—in brief—through your research process?

There are three phases, and each phase took advantage of different cohorts. In the first phase, we wanted to find out what young adults actually thought, so we gave them three very, very broad questions, and let them answer them... What basically happened was that they had to read the fundamental—or the belief, we just called them the 28 Beliefs—of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. We just let them talk, and it became very apparent that there was more to the story than previous research had let on.

Okay, we use this example. Previous research had found that there was a correlation between early baptism and retention in the Adventist church. And that was all well and good, so there’s been this big push in the last 20 years: baptize them as young as possible! But, unfortunately, no one stopped to ask a bunch of 20-somethings how they felt about this. In the first cohort we had a young person who stated that she felt robbed of her opportunity to make a mature decision for Christ because her parents were so eager for her to be baptized without any regard for whether this was something that her older self would have wanted. So what we did is we took all of these responses—because people talked about a lot of things: some of them talked about zombies and we were like, “Whoa! Has anybody looked at zombies?”—we took all of the weird and wonderful things—as well as these hard questions too.

Research recently has not gone deep enough so that we have jumped to the wrong conclusions and we haven’t involved young adults in this process. And let’s face it. These are adults! They are not children. That’s another thing that really concerns me in a lot of Adventist literature and publications. When we look at millennial young adults, what we often [visualize] is a bunch of teenagers standing in a field. That is not a millennial young adult. They are urban. They are not standing in fields. In fact, most of them are working so hard that they do not have time to get out to the country to stand in a field! And what are they doing out in a field? You get no cell phone coverage out there! [laughs]

Our process is to find out what they actually think first, then explore the things that they said. And the beauty of that is when we constructed this 90-question survey—and it’s huge, it’s not just yes or no, Likert scales—we do ask hard questions... We asked questions about nepotism in church hiring practices. Did they do merit-based recruitment? Are they going to continue to discriminate against women?... Every single component of it

Knowledge of the 28 Fundamental Beliefs

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beginning of class</th>
<th>End of class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I know nothing</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I know a little</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I know some of it</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I know quite a lot</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I know most of it</td>
<td>35%</td>
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Belief 4, God the Son (page 70)
I personally wished that I would have waited to be baptized until I was about the age that I currently am. I feel like so many kids are shoved into the baptismal pools at church because their parents want them to be ‘saved’ or because it is ‘time.’”

Belief 15, Baptism (page 138)

What were some of the challenges of the project? What were some of the rewards?

I suppose the biggest challenge that I personally faced was that people said, “You haven’t finished your PhD, you can’t do research.” Which, where I come from, is ludicrous. You can’t even get into a PhD program in Australia...without doing at least one or two major research theses. It’s completely different as an education system, and I suppose that was the biggest hurdle.

One of the things that really tickled me was that our surveys—if you get a ten percent response rate on your surveys, you have done very well! But over ninety percent responded. We were upfront with Millennials. We told them, “We want to hear from...
“Right now, this fundamental is very important because I don’t have my parents telling me what is right and what is wrong. They can’t force me to go to church and they aren’t around telling me what I cannot watch on Sabbath. I still follow their rules that they had when I was younger, but I feel as though I am making my own decision regarding the Sabbath, thus the Sabbath is a lot more enjoyable now than it ever was.”

Belief 20, The Sabbath (page 171)

you. We want you to tell us what you think.” Did they ever! We had people signing up from Jan’s class as soon as registration for the next one opened. His classes were full, to the point where he’s only supposed to have 45 people in his Doctrines class, and it was full long before school even started. People wanted to be part of this study. That was a real reward: to have young people see the vision and see the opportunity. Also, when we made public our findings [they said], “Yeah, that’s right, that’s what it was.” That’s exactly what we wanted. We didn’t want to put our ideas into this.

Did you have any concern that people were telling you what you wanted to hear?

Well, we were filing all the responses anonymously, so we didn’t really know who these people were. And when you read these responses, you know they’re not just telling you what they think you want to hear. I mean, they start talking about zombies! I think it comes back to this [attitude of] “Oh, everybody’s a liar.” These are young people who have been raised in religiosity. I’m as cynical as the next researcher, but I didn’t see any evidence that these people were telling us what they thought we wanted to hear, because the class was a safe place. There’s an emphasis on discussion, on listening to other people...You give people the opportunity to talk about religion and they will.

What was something that surprised you?

Around 72% are not vegetarians. However, we found that when we talked about stewardship, they were not just talking about giving money to the church: they were talking about being stewards of the earth, and that included looking after the planet and also being kind to animals. I believe that the health message is probably not the most efficacious selling point to this group of people, because they’re under 30. There’s nothing wrong with them now...However, this aspect of stewardship—how did that meal arrive on your plate?—this is very important to young people. Was that animal treated fairly? Was it slaughtered humanely?

And I suppose another thing that kind of surprised me—because again it’s this assumption, people just make these assumptions not based on anything, they’re just wild guesses pretty much—like the assumption that research at Andrews [will be skewed] because it’s such a conservative university. Well, we actually asked them a question about that: “are you conservative, are you liberal?” And we had a whole bunch of other options, like “a little bit of both, I don’t know what they mean, I don’t like these terms” and I think it was 15% said they were liberal, only 10% said they were conservative, around 16% said “I don’t like these terms,” just 5% didn’t even know what they mean, and I think 44% said they were a bit of both. Interestingly there was some in the “other” section as well, which is something we had kind of suspected, being foreigners ourselves. These terms are largely American...socio-political terminology. You take it offshore and it means nothing.

Were there any results that were exactly where you thought they were going to be?

Early baptism...We asked them what age they were when they were baptized, and we found that if you were 14 or older when you got baptized, and were asked if you would do it again—would you be baptized—two-thirds of them said yes. Now, there were one-third that said no. When we...
“As humans, we do not have the right authority to judge and to tell others what to do...I do believe that there are obvious movies, video games, and music that we should stay away from and that we should take care of our bodies as the temple of God. But I am afraid of this doctrine being used for judgment when it is not our part to tell people how they should act.”

Belief 22, Christian Behavior (page 182)

“I like this fundamental because I personally cannot wait for Christ to return again. This world is an absolutely horrific place and Jesus needs to return soon. What I don’t like is that those who died unrighteous will remain dead. I completely understand why that is, but I fear that some of my own family members will be one of them. Also, I am not excited for the end times because persecution will be happening, but I know our suffering will not last long. Still it’s something to not look forward to.”

Belief 25, Second Coming of Christ (page 201)

Also, Jesus was just so popular; out of all of the Godhead, Jesus was it. And you know, people have said to me, “This isn’t important, fundamentals aren’t important, Jesus is important.” And I’ve said, “That’s all well and good, I do believe that Jesus is important, however, any Christian church can give them Jesus. What’s going to keep them with Adventism or attract them to Adventism? Bottom line, it’s the 28 beliefs. And if we can teach them the beliefs—because they like the beliefs themselves, it’s the way that they’ve been carried out or presented or explained that young adults take the most issue with. It’s not the belief itself.

Did you learn anything about yourself?

Coming here and doing a major research project, the assumption was that I was the secretary, who did not write this...If I did speak up, rather than somebody saying, “oh, you’re talking about your research,” I was being “outspoken.” I think the other thing was that [when] I said something like, “early baptism may have been a mistake,” I was being “difficult.” Again, the word that was used. And that was something that shocked me. I suppose the thing I learned...
is, okay, what do I do? Do I maintain my integrity and say, “I can appreciate that this is not how things have been done, but we can keep on doing it that way and keep losing millennials. Because we did all this research in the 80s, and 90s, and early 2000s, and we lost Generation X. I look at my school photo from high school and there were like 45 people in that class, and there’s probably three who are still in the church... Are we going to do that again? I have two small sons now; what is going to happen to their generation? Is there going to be a church left for their generation? What does this research mean for Andrews? For the church as a whole? For individual members? This is a new way of doing research. This is something that we think Andrews should be very proud to be affiliated with. I think they are; we have been really well received.

Again, for the church, this is something that they can use – you know, we talk about interfaith relationships. This is something that we can share; we’ve made our data available for anyone who wants it. We’re being very transparent with the responses, with the actual quantitative data. If you’re a researcher with a proposal that we think has validity, and reliability, we are more than happy to give you our data... With our global study, we’re joining forces with a lot of researchers from around the world. My little survey—well, not little, it’s 16 pages long!—is being translated into all of these languages, so we’re going to find out. We’re giving millennials a voice not only in English—we’re giving them a voice in Portuguese, in Spanish. This is so exciting! We’re going to hear what they have to say, and I think that is extremely important for Adventists.

I think this is also really important for parents...They don’t need to guess anymore, because when they guess, they’re often wrong. What they need to do is know. They need to ask [their millennials]. Read what their peers are saying about this. Don’t tell them what to believe, ask them what they believe—because they may even teach you something. I am eternally amazed at the responses I saw in this book. I encourage parents—and ministers—don’t tell them what they think, ask them what they think. Information is the best jumping-off point. You want to make things better for our church, and keep them around? Know who we’re dealing with, and don’t try to force them into a mold.

You said you were going to expand the research to a global level? Well, secular research actually shows that Millennials, no matter where they are, have fairly similar belief systems and perspectives on things. They attribute that to the digital age... We want to know if that is in fact the case. 17% of our 700 young people were actually international students, and a third of our participants were born overseas. It’s a pretty [diverse] group, yet I think we saw [similarities] again and again. This is a great place to do research, because it brings together so many people.

If you had to summarize your findings in one sentence, what would you say? The Seventh-day Adventist Church is in very good hands if these people inherit it, and they’re ready for their inheritance right now.
In 1957, the whole world was looking upward. The Space Race was going full tilt, and the Soviet Union had just leapt ahead with the launch of Sputnik, the first man-made rocket to make it to space, on November 7. Dreams of leaving the ground were common; but for Gene Wilson and Bob Kalua, two students in Angwin, California, those dreams took an unusual form.

Gene and Bob shared a deep love for acrobatics. They checked out any circus acts and strongman routines they could, and soon developed their own two-man balancing act, which they performed whenever possible. They dreamed, however, of having a full-fledged acrobatic team, and in 1959, that dream began to become a reality. By this point, Gene was at Loma Linda and Bob was at Pacific Union College, but during breaks Bob would visit and they would work on digging out a space with hand shovels on a neighboring hillside to build a practice area for a whole team. This team, they decided, would be called the Gymnics – a combination of “gymnastics” and “Sputnik,” the gravity-defying satellite.

In 1960, Bob’s Gymnics were asked to perform for the North American Youth Congress in Atlantic City, New Jersey. They were a huge hit, and audience members took their enthusiasm back to schools across North America, which soon started establishing acrobatics programs of their own. Bob coached the Gymnics in Angwin until 1966, at which point he moved to teach at San Pasqual Academy in Escondido, California, and took the team with him. Two years later, he received an invitation from Farrel Brizendine, an old friend who was now the department chair of physical education at Andrews University. Brizendine brought the Gymnics to Berrien Springs.

Contrary to popular belief, gymnastics had already been happening at Andrews—and many other Adventist schools—for the better part of two decades. Instructors taught beam, rings, high bar, vault, ground tumbling and trampoline to men’s and women’s gym classes. In 1951, a biology student and former Army Cadet named Winfield Hardy formed the EMC Tumblers. Among the inaugural members were Jim Keeney, Reid Tait and Glen Henderson, all of whom had children or grandchildren eventually become Gymnics.

When Farrel Brizendine joined the physical education faculty in 1964, he took over teaching gymnastics classes and brought women onto the EMC Tumblers, dubbing them the Andrews University Gymnastics Team in honor of the school’s new name. He introduced more acrobats to the team, and they began to tour throughout the Lake Union. By 1968, though, he was overwhelmed by coaching, teaching and now being chair of physical education. That’s when he called up Bob Kalua and asked for his help. The Gymnics and the Andrews University Gymnastics Team merged into one, and the Gymnics as we know them today were born.

The Gymnics held their first home show to resounding applause in the spring of 1969, and that summer they traveled to the World Youth Congress in Zurich, Switzerland to perform for more than 20,000 Adventist young people. The following year, more than 200 people auditioned for 45 slots on the team. In the summer of 1970, the Gymnics toured throughout the Midwest for eight weeks, and during the school year they used their shows for more local ministry. On one notable occasion, they performed at the world’s largest walled prison in Jackson, Michigan. A prisoner sent them a letter after the show telling them that their routine had led to his conversion to Christianity: “I saw what should be listed as the Most Greatest Show on Earth,” he wrote. “If Christians are as happy as those young people are then that is what I want!”

In 1971, members of the Gymnics joined forces with gymnasts from Adventist schools across the country to form the Gymnaires for Christ, a temporary 32-person team that would travel across North America for 90
THE GYMNICS LEGACY


A time of transition for the Gymnics

The 2000s were a time of transition for the Gymnics

The current 2015 team performed for the Indianapolis Pacers half-time show

Many former Gymnics enjoyed the reunion held during 2015 Homeshow weekend, April 10–12, 2015

days, covering 18,315 miles, doing 138 shows, and sharing values of devotion to Christ and healthy living wherever they went. For many team members, it was the trip of a lifetime.

Over the years that followed the Gymnics thrived, traveling far and wide and gaining popularity in the church and the local area. Apart from faithful coach Bob Kalua, they were under the direction of Dan Klein from 1975–76, Ernie Stevens in 1980, and Franz Martinez from 1982–1983. They performed for audiences of thousands, volunteered at Camp AuSable, and in 1979 toured Europe for six weeks. They soon began to see exposure outside the Adventist community as well: they performed a routine for 15,000 spectators during the 1987 Special Olympics Sports Spectacular in South Bend, Indiana, and helped host the Sports Acrobatic National Championship at Andrews in 1989.

Sharon Aka, who started on the team in 1974 when she was in the 7th grade and stayed for ten years, remembers many of the Gymnics’ high points fondly. “One of my best memories,” she says, “was the six-week Europe trip during the summer of 1979. This is when I discovered that I loved to travel. Hands-down the best experience of Gymnics, though, was meeting my future husband Tim on the team!”

Over the years, the Gymnics have also done many mission trips: to the Dominican Republic in 1982, Puerto Rico in 1983, and Coach Kalua’s homeland of Hawaii in 1985. In the 1990s they visited Haiti, Trinidad and the Philippines.

The Gymnics’ 40th anniversary in 1999 brought another milestone, however, that led to questions about the team’s future: Coach Kalua’s retirement. With a special Millennium performance imminent, Brian Curry stepped in as interim coach, serving from 2000–2002 and 2005–2006. “The most exciting thing about being the coach,” he says, [was] taking youthful energy and creating something that [would] inspire people of all ages to live healthfully.” Another Hawaiian native and former Gymnic Paul Chong became coach from 2002–2005, but when he left the administration found themselves again looking for a coach who could make a long term commitment to the Gymnics.

The answer to their prayers was Christian Lighthall, who joined the Gymnics in 2006 and served until 2013. He introduced aspects of cheerleading to the Gymnics, taking them to the literal heights that Bob Kalua and Gene Wilson had dreamt of so many years ago.

Today, the Gymnics train, perform and spread the gospel under the leadership of Eric Paddock, the son-in-law of former Gymnics Don and June Mathis. While some things have changed—the floral muumuus and matching suits, thankfully, are a thing of the past!—the team’s mission remains the same. Nowhere was this clearer than at this spring’s Gymnic Reunion, from April 10–12, 2015, which saw former Gymnics reminiscing with old friends and celebrating the team’s legacy together. “Gymnics have this almost indefinable thing that creates a sense of belonging,” Sharon Aka reflects. “It’s a bond that truly stands the test of time. Once a Gymnic, always a Gymnic.”

“We have always been a team that focuses on building relationships. We strive to be missionaries in the guise of gymnasts,” says Eric Paddock. “We provide anti-drug and wellness rallies at middle schools and high schools, vespers and church services at academies, and clinics for aspiring gymnasts. We use the talents given to us to perform hour-long shows for academies, public school rallies, youth groups, and other venues supporting healthy lifestyles and looking for opportunities to share Christ.”

“To be a light for Christ is always our focus,” says Andrew Osano, who has served as assistant coach for the past four years. While renowned for their acrobatic abilities, the Gymnics end every performance with a “Tribute to God”—a portrayal of Biblical history from creation to the resurrection of Christ. In addition to the outreach component, Osano talks about an “in-reach” element: “We have opportunities to share in each other’s burdens and joys. Every Thursday night, we end practice early and have a bit of family time. We sit in a large circle and give our praises and prayer requests then we all link hands and pray. For many people on the team, Gymnics is a family away from home. We spend so much time together both on and off the mats.”

With such a rich legacy, Paddock has high hopes for the future. “It is a great honor to be able to continue here at Andrews University,” Paddock says. “The year behind us was a success in my eyes, and the year ahead of us is looking great. I can’t wait to see what God has in store for us from here on out.”
Corpus

Mens

Spiritus
Alumni calendar of events
For more information visit us online at andrews.edu/alumni or contact the Office of Alumni Services at 269-471-3591 or alumni@andrews.edu.

July

5  General Conference Alumni Gathering  
   11 a.m.  
   Sea World San Antonio  
   Ports of Call picnic area  
   10500 Sea World Drive  
   San Antonio, Texas  
   Tickets include reduced entrance fee, picnic lunch, and Andrews promo pack.

August

2  Summer Graduation  
   9 a.m.  
   Pioneer Memorial Church  
   Andrews University  
   Berrien Springs, Michigan

New Student Orientation Events

16  Alumni Lend-a-Hand Move-in  
    Residence Halls  
    Andrews University  
    Berrien Springs, Michigan

17  Legacy Parents Reception  
    4 p.m.  
    Randall Lounge, Buller Hall  
    Andrews University  
    Berrien Springs, Michigan

21  Alumni Barbecue and Mentor Event  
    6 p.m.  
    Howard Performing Arts Center  
    Andrews University  
    Berrien Springs, Michigan

Please Note: Locations and times are subject to change. As the date of the event you’re interested in gets closer, be sure to double-check the alumni website or call the office for updates.

RSVP for an event:  RSVP for the above gatherings online at AU&ME, our alumni community: alumni.andrews.edu/rsvp

Who are alumni?
If you’ve attended, worked or taught at Andrews University we consider you alumni! And if you’re a parent or a potential student considering Andrews, you’re invited to be our honored guest at any alumni gathering.
Regional events

Portland, Oregon
Sunday, March 15, 2015

The charming Garden Room at Elephants Delicatessen was a new location for our gathering this year. Local alumnus Ray Ammon (MAPM ’07) offered prayer, then Donald Bedney (MDiv ’90, MSA ’91) and Tami Condon (BS ’91, MA ’13) hosted alums to brunch and shared photos and news from campus. Ron du Preez (MA ’78, MDiv ’85, MA ’88, DMin ’93) and Ike Anunciado (BS ’91, MSPT ’92) were able to join us after participating in the 37th annual Shamrock Run, which passed through the streets of downtown Portland. Next time it would be fun to organize an alumni team to run and walk together!

Walla Walla, Washington
Thursday, March 19, 2015

Alums met in the Havstad alumni center on the campus of Walla Walla University for a light soup and salad supper. Local alumni hosts, Astri and Ralph (MA ’66, MA ’72, EdD ’81) Coupland, helped arrange and set up a lovely event in the newly renovated space. Alums enjoyed catching up with each other and Andrews representatives David Faehner (MA ’72), Donald Bedney and Tami Condon shared updates from campus.

Apopka, Florida
Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Over 100 local alums attended a special event held at the historic Highland Manor. Greeting alums were Vice President for University Advancement David Faehner and Associate Director of Alumni Services Andriy Kharkovyy (BBA ’06, MBA ’09) followed by a report on various Andrews business from President Niels-Erik Andreasen, pictured here with Robert (BA ’54, MA ’65) & Ruth (DIP2YR ’52) Kloosterhuis. Also in attendance at this event were several potential new students who were invited by University Advancement and Enrollment Management.

Andrews Volunteer Launch Party
Monday, April 13, 2015

This inaugural event, held in the lobby of the Howard Center, marked the formal beginning of a newly formed team of volunteers who are ready to serve the University in a variety of ways. The positive response from alumni, students, faculty and friends was appreciated. Local alumnus Ray Nelson (BD ’68), pictured, currently serves as our volunteer coordinator. A few current volunteering opportunities include: providing campus tours, mentoring students, ushering for concerts, assisting departments and serving campus events such as Lend-A-Hand Move-in and Homecoming. For additional information or to put your appreciation for Andrews into action, please visit alumni.andrews.edu/volunteer.
Though it was pouring outside, approximately 100 alums joined us for brunch at the Residence Inn near Hamilton Place. David Faehner and Tami Condon shared campus news and photos, and Niels-Erik Andreasen (MA ’65, BD ’66) followed up with additional updates, taking questions and offering the benediction. Hebe Soares from the Office of Development and Tari Popp and Phyllis Inghlish from the Office of Planned Giving & Trust Services assisted with hosting. Pictured, left–right: Esther Tyler, Sharon Anderson and Anita Oliver.

A large group of enthusiastic alumni and friends of Andrews University, including Jeffrey (MDiv ’83, PhD ’93) & Pattijeann (att.) Brown (above), enjoyed a time of remembrance and fellowship in Huntsville. Many shared how their time at Andrews has made a difference in their spiritual journey, while others shared how their education at Andrews has made their professional careers a true success. The group enjoyed each other’s company, good food and great conversation. They also learned of the great and wonderful things happening on campus and many were eagerly interested in returning to attend Homecoming.

Endowment offers award for Greek placement score

The W. Larry Richards Greek Placement Award is given to the student who scores highest on the exam

W. Larry Richards, former director of the Greek Manuscript Research Center at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, and emeritus professor of New Testament exegesis, is a renowned authority on the Greek language, having dedicated his career to fostering an understanding of textual studies.

Before the late 1970s, incoming seminary students were required to take a Greek “qualification” exam during orientation week. Grading the exam, however, was so tedious that the department voted to waive the exam for anyone who had completed two years of college-level Greek.

During the 1994 fall semester, however, the seminary changed the language requirement, now calling for students to pass both a Hebrew and Greek “placement” exam upon arriving on campus.

“The outcry was widespread and understandable because some students had not studied Greek since taking intermediate Greek in their sophomore year,” Richards said. So much time had passed that “Greek was no longer a useful tool.”

Consequently, faculty members were sensitive to the students’ frustrations. Richards was one of the New Testament professors at the time, and he offered to do a Greek review session for the new students, just prior to orientation week. It was an “immediate success.”

“[We] reviewed beginning Greek during the first evening and intermediate Greek during the next three evenings and I concluded the review session by giving the students a practice exam.” Richard was repeatedly told by students how much the review sessions helped them.

In its first years as many as 80 students attended, but after the Department of Old Testament began to do a Hebrew review session on the same dates, the number dropped to around 50 students. Still, Richards taught all of the sessions until he left Berrien Springs, when Felix Cortez succeeded him.

The Department of New Testament started offering an award in 2013 to the student who scored highest on the Greek Placement Exam. The award is named the W. Larry Richards Greek Placement Award in honor of the work begun by Richards. Richards states that he hopes “the award will motivate students to keep up their Greek before coming to the seminary.”

As the endowment grows, Richards plans to include a second and third place award. Persons are invited to donate to this endowment (development@andrews.edu) with matching funds given for a contribution.
1960s

**Terry Gene Seifert** (BA ’64) writes, “Fifty years has passed. Where has the time gone? A career in education and world travel as a retiree...can’t ask for more than that. Married to Marlene for 50+ years...we celebrated through a safari in Africa. Good luck to all ’64 grads.”

**James Hoffer** (MA ’64) published his new book, “Secrets and Mysteries of the Lost Ark: A Bible Adventure,” through TEACH Services, Inc. Secrets and Mysteries is a 12-lesson study guide which uniquely weaves the major teachings of the Seventh-day Adventist Church into the sanctuary message. Appropriate for individual or group study, prayer meetings, seminars, etc., the book is now available through many Adventist Book Centers as well as Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and the author’s website, www.LostArkSeminar.com. A Spanish version is anticipated in the near future. Further information as well as free PowerPoint programs are available on the website. Jim was recently interviewed on LifeTalk Radio, and has presented his material in various places, including as a featured speaker at the 2015 Georgia-Cumberland camp meeting. Jim and his wife, Vera, are retired after 46 years of ministry, and now reside in Ringgold, Georgia.

1970s

**David (MDiv ’71) and Judy (MAT ’71) Osborne** recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Dave has retired after 40+ years of pastoring and occasionally serves as an interim pastor. He is also a law enforcement chaplain and joined a 140-voice chorus in the Del Webb Sun City facility where they live in Lincoln, California.

**Kenny H. Chan** (BS ’74), MD, chief of pediatric otolaryngology at Children's Hospital Colorado and professor of otolaryngology, University of Colorado, was elected president of the American Society of Pediatric Otolaryngology during its annual meeting in Boston on April 26, 2015. The American Society of Pediatric Otolaryngology is a professional organization that recently celebrated its 30th anniversary. Its mission is to foster excellence in the care of children with otorhinolaryngologic disorders by promoting education and collaborative research.

**Stanley Eugene Patterson** (BA ’77, PhD ’08) writes, “I am privileged to serve as chair of the Department of Christian Ministry at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University. I also serve as executive director of the Christian Leadership Center. I was honored by Andrews University this year with the Daniel Augsburger Excellence in Teaching Award, which was so unexpected but a cherished affirmation.”

**Ronald Jaecks** (BA ’78) is a surgeon with Kaiser Permanente in Salem, Oregon. He has enjoyed being involved with the activities of the American College of Surgeons, including serving as president of the Oregon chapter. Recently he was given a new honor by being elected on the national level of ACS as a governor. “It was a dream come true for me to be elected as governor for service in my professional organization,” he says.

On a recent morning run at Bush Pastures Park in Salem something large landed on his head and took off with his hat. A few seconds later the object appeared again and this time he felt sharp pain in his head as claws dug into his scalp. At first he wondered if he were having a stroke or aneurysm. He later learned that it was a large barred owl that attacked him. Jaecks observed that he appreciated the education that he had through the various levels of medical school. However, he said, “I never expected to handle an attack from an owl.” The experience caused widespread national attention from commentators like Rachel Maddow, Anderson Cooper 360 and papers like USA Today and the Wall Street Journal to mention a few. Jaecks says, “Life and medical practice can bring some unique challenges.”

1980s

**Sylvia (Torres) Torres-Thomas** (BSN ’82) recently earned a PhD in nursing from the University of Central Florida. She was one of four graduate students from a student body of over 56,000 to receive the Order of Pegasus. This prestigious award recognizes exemplary students on the basis of academic achievement, professional and community service, leadership, publication and research experiences, and overall excellence. Sylvia works as a registered nurse with her
husband, Daniel Thomas (BS ’82), DO, MS. Together they will be conducting a pilot study to test a promising treatment that aims to slow or stop the progression of Alzheimer’s disease. She is also an adjunct professor of nursing at Herzing University. Sylvia and Dan have two sons and currently live in the Orlando, Florida area.

Ronald Lee Evans (att.) is responsible for saving eight historic buildings in a small community in Michigan. His yard and gardens have been on three area garden tours and he serves as the substitute organist at Hinchman United Methodist Church. He spends the winters in Naples.

Helen M. Northcott (MA ’80) is applying to the new College of Registered Psychotherapists in Ontario, Canada, and then taking the mental health instructors course in Toronto. She is thankful she completed her master’s degree at Andrews University as well as the Family Life Education Certificate.

Ami (Long) Hendrickson (BA ’88) has signed a four-book publishing deal with Anaiah Press. “Dear Alderone,” a middle-grade novel, is slated for release in July 2015. Journals chronicling the life of a high school freshman in 1985 later help her daughter weather a crisis and reach a clearer understanding of her mother, her family and herself. “Carol of the Horse,” an illustrated children’s book that tells of a warhorse in a Bethlehem stable on the night of the first Christmas, will be released in time for Christmas. Two other titles are scheduled for publication in 2016. Hendrickson, a writer, editor, speaker and workshop leader, lives in Southwestern Michigan with her husband, Robert (BA ’88, BS ’88), and their daughter.

1990s

Aimable Kayice Niyobuhungiro (MA ’95, DMin ’08) is currently a vice rector for Student Services at the Adventist University of Central Africa in Rwanda/Kigali. In addition, he is the coordinator for the MIDA program [an extension of Andrews University in Kigali]. MIDA stands for Master of International Development Administration, coordinated by Dawn Dulhunty, director of the off-campus International Development Program at Andrews University. Aimable is also a member of the East Central Africa Division Research Committee.

Brian Yeager (att.) is president of Barefoot Media Ministries and general manager of KT5Y Radio, a contemporary Christian station owned by the Idaho Conference, that has won many awards in the industry. His wife, Michelle (Coursey) Yeager (att.) cohosts the morning show. Brian worked at the Center for Youth Evangelism as The eXtreme Team director when he was at Andrews.

2000s

Micah Robert Lee Villwock was born to Mike (BT ’08) & Jody (BA/BBA ’01, current staff) Villwock on Sunday, Nov. 23, 2014 at 9:40 a.m. He weighed 7 lb. 6 oz. and was 20 inches long. Big brothers Elijah (7) and Noah (5) were super excited to welcome their baby brother home.

Anthony Usher (DMin ’09), lives in Hempstead, New York, and recently published a book through TEACH Services, Inc., titled “The Rise and Fall of Capitalism: A Social, Religious, and Political Perspective.” In addition to writing, he serves as a pastor for the Northeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

2010s

Susan Clinton (DSCPT ’13) writes, “Since receiving my Doctor of Science in Physical Therapy in 2013, I have been accepted as a Fellow in the American Academy of Orthopedic Manual Therapist and started my own private physical therapy practice—Embody Physiotherapy & Wellness, LLC. We have just celebrated our one-year anniversary as a company.”

If you are going to hurt yourself skiing, you might like to do it at Bittersweet Ski Resort northwest of Kalamazoo, Michigan, where Andrews graduates Emily Leffler (BA ’12) and Tori Steely (BS ’09, MS ’13) are on the Ski Patrol and can help you down the mountain. Both teach at Battle Creek Academy in Battle Creek, Michigan.
Deaths

June L. Muchmore (MA ’63) died May 9, 2015. She was born June 19, 1915 in Cairo, Ohio, to Daniel and Ruah (McCarty) Harpster Jr. She married her sweetheart, Warren Muchmore, on Valentine’s Day in 1942.

June graduated with a BS in education from Miami University (Ohio) in 1936, when it was uncommon for women to attend college. She was active in the YWCA and Mortar Board Honor Society. She earned a Master of Arts in education from Andrews University, graduating magna cum laude.

For 30 years June was an English teacher, starting in Ohio and continuing in Michigan, where she finished her teaching career at St. Joseph High School. She was proud to be the founder of The Reading Lab there.

She was a member of both Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, and DV Chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood. June was a woman of family, faith and education. She was a charter member of the Fairplain Presbyterian Church where she remained an active lifelong member.

In recent years she spent her time reading, taking part in book clubs, doing crossword puzzles to keep her mind sharp, and spending time with her friends and family.

June is survived by her son Lee (Patricia) Muchmore of Stevensville, Michigan; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. June was preceded in death by her parents, husband Warren, and sister Carol Asborne.

Ruth Helen Hamberger (BA ’47), 90, a long-time resident of Berrien Springs, Michigan, died on May 3, 2015 in Chico, California.

Ruth was born Feb. 20, 1925, in Buffalo, New York, to Hugo and Bertha Wagner. She was a teacher of English and French for many years. She was well known for her intoxicating laugh which made others laugh. She loved to have friends around her dining room table.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William Hamberger (BA ’51), and her son, Kevin Hamberger. She is survived by her daughter, Joan (BS ’78) (Mark) Calfee of Flournoy, California; son, David (BA ’84, MA ’90) (Karen) Hamberger and her grandson, Jeffrey Hamberger, all of Madison, Tennessee.

Rosemae Hafstrom (BS ’62, MA ’74), 88, formerly of Stevensville, Michigan, died on March 4, 2015, in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Rosemae was born Feb. 20, 1927, in South Bend, Indiana, the daughter of Mae (Cox) Smith Collins and Paul Smith Sr. She graduated from John Adams High School in South Bend and continued her education until she earned a master’s degree in education from Andrews University in Berrien Springs.

She taught for many years as an elementary teacher in the Lakeshore Public School System, Stevensville. She was a published poet and a sister in PEO (Philanthropic Educational Organization). She enjoyed her travels, volunteering for evangelistic organizations, spending time with family and God.

Rosemae married Warren Richard Hafstrom on Dec. 25, 1946, in South Bend and they were united for 64 years; the last 48 years they lived in Stevensville.

She is survived by her daughter, Connie (att.) (Randy) Johnson of Indianapolis; sister, Nancy (Robert) Hartman, brothers, Don (Sonya) Smith and Mike (Janis) Smith and her sister-in-law Dorothy Smith, all of Mishawaka, Indiana; three granddaughters and three great-grandchildren.

Rosemae was preceded in death by her husband, Warren (2011); son, Gregory David Hafstrom (att.); brothers, Paul Smith Jr. and Tom Smith.


At the age of 16, he left home and joined the Merchant Marines during World War II. After turning 18, he joined the Marine Corps. He married Ruth Ross on March 29, 1948. He was self-employed as a radio/TV repairman and also worked at Studebaker.

LeRoy later graduated from Emmanuel Missionary College, now Andrews University, with a BA in physics. After graduation, he worked at Bendix, now Allied Signal, as an aerospace engineer.

He was a member of the Village Seventh-day Adventist Church in Berrien Springs.

LeRoy was a devoted husband to Ruth, and father to David (Jennifer) of Phoenix, Arizona, Stephen (BA ’72) (Mary (BA ’72)) of Williamson, Michigan, Richard (Deborah (BA/BA ’74)) of St. Joseph, Michigan, Gary (BS ’78) (Kara) of Salt Lake City, Utah, and Diane (Ronald Wendth) of Cincinnati, Ohio. He was grandfather to 16 grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

He was a brother to Bessie, Ruth, Elwyn and Florence who predeceased him; and Dorothy Hildebrand (EdD ’79) of Berrien Springs, who survives him.

Vivian Noemi Chaij (att.), 56, of Chattanooga, Tennessee, died on Feb. 28, 2015.

Surviving are her husband, Laurence Daniel Chaij (BBA ’84); children, Lauren Elise Chaij and Jonathan Brandon Chaij; and brother, Richard Reyes.

Werner W. Lehmann (former staff), 81, of Eau Claire, Michigan, died on Feb. 26, 2015 from the results of a massive stroke. He was born Feb. 4, 1934 in Rosthern, Saskatchewan, Canada.

His parents being grain and dairy farmers gave Werner an appreciation for an honest work ethic that followed him the rest of his life. He was a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, where he faithfully served in various capacities throughout his lifetime. His early education began in a little country school in the town of his birth. He graduated from La Sierra University in California in 1970 with a BS in biology and from Loma Linda University, California, with a Master of Public Health.

In 1995, he and his family moved to Eau Claire, Michigan, and he began working for Plant Services at Andrews University.

After retirement, he spent many hours composing music to the honor of his precious Savior.

He is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Shirley (Oetman) Lehmann (former staff); daughters Leandra Block of Bullhead City, Arizona, Jennifer Wittum (BT ’96, BT ’00) of North Carolina, and Karyn (BS ’06) (Zach) Owen of Loveland, Colorado; son Kevin (BT ’04) and Linnea (att.) Lehmann of Granger, Indiana; four grandchildren; and sister Ellen (Lyle) Thunstrom of Madison, Wisconsin.

Regina Esther (Walker) Spence (BS ’83), 60, of Apopka, Florida, died on Feb. 20, 2014. She was born on Dec. 11, 1953, in Queens, New York.

Regina attended primary and public school in Bay Shore, New York, before later going
on to graduate from Andrews University where she studied nursing. After graduating Regina worked at various hospitals in the Hinsdale, Illinois area before moving back to New York in 1986, following a diagnosis of Multiple Sclerosis and a very rare blood disorder (Essential Thrombocythemia). Thanks to the effort and encouragement of her late mother, Romelda Walker (a licensed occupational therapist), and her strong faith in God, Regina decided to take on MS her way, rather than let it take her, and in the process lived her life as normally as possible for almost 30 years.

She continued working as an RN in different hospitals in New York’s Manhattan and Brooklyn until it became more difficult for her to move around because of her MS. She eventually moved to Long Island. However, as a long time member of the Amityville Seventh Day Adventist Church in Amityville, New York, Regina decided to take her life as normally as possible, rather than let it control her. She would research the many kind, she would research the

Before she died, she had been working on a book about how she was dealing with MS. She wrote a blog for two years that went around the world. Her inspirational book, “Mutley’s Great Adventure: What I’ve Learned Living With MS,” was just published and is now available at amazon.com.

Survivors include her husband Anthony Spence (att.), her siblings Patricia, Dahlia and Ronald Walker, and in-laws, Anna Walker and Paul (MA ’72) and Lenore (MA ’72) Brantley. Regina was preceded in death by her parents, Samuel Earl and Romelda Walker and her older brother Samuel, who affectionately nicknamed her “Mutley.”

Samuel Hezekiah Joseph (MDiv ’73, DMin ’75) died on Feb. 20, 2015.

He served the Seventh-day Adventist Church as a minister in the East and North Caribbean Conferences for about four decades, until his retirement in October 2001.

After working in several Caribbean islands for the East Caribbean Conference, Joseph earned a Doctor of Ministry from Andrews University in 1975. He held the distinction of being the first minister to be sent a call by the newly established North Caribbean Conference. His first appointment for them was in the St. Thomas district as the successor of Pastor J.C. Shillingford.

His passion for scholarship and value of education were well established beyond his personal life and included his entire family. His two daughters are physicians, and before his son Sammy’s untimely death, all three children were accomplished musicians.

Joseph served the NCC as an administrator (secretary) for three years, and director of several departments of the church, including Stewardship and Communication.

Crystal Allene Cantrell Morris (BS ’73) died on Feb. 19, 2015. She was born to Allene Cantrell and Raymond Cantrell on Dec. 25, 1951 in Detroit, Michigan.

Crystal was a precocious child and a talented student in Berean SDA Elementary School at Temple Seventh-day Adventist Church, but attended the young congregation at Burns Avenue Seventh-day Adventist Church.

She matriculated at Adelphi Academy in Holly, Michigan. In addition to her classes in high school, she was an assistant dean and a teacher’s assistant. Crystal graduated with honors and chose to pursue higher education at Andrews University, studying to fulfill her lifelong desire of becoming a nurse.

Before graduation, Crystal served as a student medical missionary in an Adventist clinic in Haiti.

While studying at Andrews University, she met a developing missionary in an Adventist clinic in Haiti. While studying at Andrews University, she met a developing missionary in an Adventist clinic in Haiti.

After graduation and passing her state boards to be a registered nurse she married Jack in her home church, with T. Marshall Kelly officiating. The Southwest Region Conference of Seventh-day Adventists asked them to pastor in the Houston, Texas area.

In Houston, Crystal and Jack were blessed with their first child, Jack Arthur II, in 1975. After moving to Hammond, Louisiana their family added a gorgeous baby girl named Marissa Alaine, in 1979. The family was completed by the birth of John Adam in 1982.

Crystal complemented Jack’s ministry in many ways and in various locations, both domestic and abroad. Congregations around the globe were blessed by their ministry.

Phyllis E. (Grieve) Rosenberg (BA ’49), 87, of Coldwater, Michigan, died on Feb. 11, 2015. Phyllis was born Oct. 13, 1927, in Montague, Michigan, to James & Rhotilda (Kemstra) Grieve. She earned her bachelor’s degree in English with a minor in French, from Andrews University. She later graduated from University of Michigan with a master’s degree in library science.

Phyllis was an English teacher in Wyoming and Three Oaks, Michigan, before spending a year teaching on an Army base in Japan. She worked as a school librarian for several years in the San Francisco area. She married Marvin M. Rosenberg on June 15, 1959 in Reno, Nevada and moved to Coldwater shortly afterwards.

Phyllis was the librarian for the Branch County Library, and later director of the Coldwater Public Library and eventually the Branch District Library. She...
worked there from 1972 until her retirement in 1995. Phyllis led the restoration and addition to the library as well as establishing the district library system.

Phyllis was an avid reader and a founding member of the Branch County Literacy Council, as well as serving as a board member and tutor after retirement.

Phyllis is survived by her husband Marvin, her children Laurie Rosenberg of Hillsdale, Wesley Rosenberg of Berlin, Germany, several nieces and a nephew, and many great-nieces and -nephews.

Esther Maas Nelson (att.), 101, died on Feb. 4, 2015. She was born in Saskatchewan, Canada on June 9, 1913.

In the seventh grade Esther started violin lessons. In the ninth grade she began playing in a radio orchestra at Emmanuel Missionary College (now Andrews University) in Berrien Springs, Michigan. She finally earned a seat next to the concertmaster.

After attending Union College and Emmanuel Missionary College, she married, moved to Atlanta, Georgia, where her husband finished dental school, and had two children. In 1970 she moved to Loma Linda, California, and became director of volunteers at the Loma Linda University Medical Center.

On Dec. 18, 1971, she married George J. Nelson, a chemistry professor. They were happily married for 22 years. Until she was in her mid-70s, Esther sang in the John T. Hamilton Chorale that toured England and Hong Kong. Esther loved people and life and her home was a welcoming meeting place for friends.

She was predeceased by her husband, George J. Nelson (BS ‘32), her son, John W. Mallernee, her stepdaughter, Maryan Jessen, and her siblings Ellis Maas (BA ‘27, BTh ‘27), Carl Maas (DIP2YR ‘27), Noema Knopf (att.) and Arthur Maas (att.). She is survived by her son, Rollin (Karen Fleming) Mallernee II, and the children of her second family, Myrna (John (att.) Odom and Steve Nelson, three grandchildren, her surrogate daughter, Carol Maas, many nieces and nephews and six great-grandchildren.

Herbert Hampton White (MA ‘58), 98, of Reed City, Michigan, died Jan. 28, 2015.

White was born March 12, 1916, in Covington, Kentucky, to William Herbert and Lucy Alice (Bell) White. He married Luella Garrett (att.) on August 21, 1939, in Iowa and she preceded him in death on April 28, 2001. He married Dorothy Culbert (BA ‘35) on August 31, 2002, in Reed City and she preceded him in death on August 17, 2011.

He spent his childhood to early adulthood in Kentucky, Massachusetts, Colorado and Nebraska; his working adulthood in Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota and Illinois; and his retirement in Arkansas and Michigan.

Herbert attended Intermountain Academy in Colorado, Campion Academy in Colorado, Union College in Nebraska where he received his BA in 1942, and Andrews University where he received his MA in 1968.

He taught in Seventh-day Adventist elementary schools and was a minister in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Herbert enjoyed woodworking, photography and travel.

He is survived by two sons, Philip White (BS ’71), Stephen White, stepson Larry Beardsley, three stepdaughters, Laura Long (Beardsley), Donna Stilson (Beardsley) (att.), Ellen Murdick (Beardsley) (former staff), five grandchildren, five step-grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wives, son Howard White (att.), a sister Esther, one step-brother and two stepsisters.

Erno Gyeresi (MBA ‘09, former staff), 98, died on Saturday, January 31, 2015 at his home in Niles, Michigan. Erno’s death followed a long battle with cancer. He was born on Feb. 27, 1960, in Nyaradzsere, Romania, to Iosif and Marta (Csongvay) Gyeresi.

Erno earned his high school diploma from Bolyai Farkas Theoretical Lyceum in June of 1979. Later that year, he was accepted into the Babes-Bolyai University Faculty of Mathematics program. Before he could begin his undergraduate program, he completed nine months of mandatory military service.

In June of 1985, Erno fulfilled all degree requirements for a BS in mathematics, except for his final thesis. His aptitude for a bright career in mathematics was balanced by a calling to the gospel ministry, a calling pursued by his father, a grandfather and a total of 10 members of his extended family. So while working on his mathematics degree, Erno concurrently attended the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary in Bucharest, Romania, where he graduated in June of 1985 with an undergraduate degree.

By the early 2000s, he had completed all but his dissertation for a PhD in systematic theology from Andrews University, and in 2009 he completed an MBA with an emphasis in management.

Erno married Illdiko Ilona Galfi (MAYM ’04, BBA ‘13, current staff) on August 4, 1985, in Tîrgu Mures, Romania. They lived in Cluj Napoca for 13 years, where Erno served in various roles in the Seventh-day Adventist Church as a pastor and secretary/treasurer for the North Transylvania Conference.

In 1998, he moved his family to Berrien Springs to attend the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary.

As a student, Erno worked in several departments, including Physics Enterprises, the James White Library, and Andrews University Press. In 2005, he began full-time employment at the Press, and in 2011 he was named associate director, responsible for all business management and marketing.

He was the managing editor of the Andrews Study Bible, first released in the New King James Version in 2010; managing editor of the same study Bible in the New International Version (forthcoming); editorial consultant for the Romanian edition of the study Bible (2014); and managing editor of the Andrews Bible Commentary (forthcoming).

Erno is survived by his wife of 29 years, Illdiko Gyeresi of Niles; his son, Lehel Gyeresi of Houston, Texas; his daughter, Harmat (Kyle) Beebe (BBA ’10) of Altamonte Springs, Florida; his parents, Iosif and Marta Gyeresi of Tîrgu Mures, Romania; and his sister, Judit (Viorel) Dan of Madrid, Spain.
Roy and Darlene Puymon always enjoy the ride. They’ve been biking together for decades, and they know how great it feels to do something they love while staying active and spending time together. Roy and Darlene also remembered Andrews University in their estate plan, and they know how great it feels to give such a meaningful gift to an institution they love—a gift that doesn’t slow them down any in the present.

Learn how you can do something that’s good for Andrews—and good for you. Call or write today.

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Web: andrews.edu/plannedgiving
Major construction is happening in Berrien Springs this spring and summer. A new water and sewer system is being installed on M-139, necessitating temporary road closures at varying times, including at the J.N. Andrews Blvd entrance (above), Garland Avenue and College Avenue. To make matters more challenging, additional road repair is taking place at other major intersections, including Kephart Road, leading some to bemoan that entering and exiting town is like navigating a maze. Completion is scheduled for the first week of August so thankfully everything will be accessible again before new students and their families arrive.