Andrews University:  
One of a Kind

Niels-Erik Andreasen  
President

Thinking about my tenure at Andrews—22 years as president and three years as a student, I have begun to accumulate in my mind the things I have heard others say about our University, under the assumption that we see ourselves more clearly when we notice how others see us. How then do others see us? What is the first impression we give to those who look at us from the outside?

Andrews has a beautiful campus, and beauty inspires learning! The layout, trees, lawns, flowerbeds, even the walkways, parking lots and roads frame our University in a pleasant way. The circular drive leaves some things outside and others inside, but more importantly, all things are accessible from the magisterial entrance. “You work on a beautiful campus,” many are saying to me.

The buildings represent different designs, some more attractive than others, built in different styles and using different materials, but lined up in orderly fashion. They all give the impression of modesty and unassuming practicality. There are no golden domes or towering spires. The roofs are flat, the buildings functional in a solid sort of way. They fit the character of the institution, serious, but not stuffy. I have heard that said many times.

The people who work and study here are diverse in a stunning way, given our Midwestern, rural, small town location. A campus visitor once observed that walking across campus is like crossing Piccadilly Circus in London—the whole world is meeting here! Not only educators interested in diversity, but industrialists, business persons, CEOs of international corporations and politicians have noticed it. We may think we have a diversity problem on campus, while others who have visited here believe we must have diversity solutions stashed away all over campus.

Andrews University harbors academic ambitions way beyond its limited resources—bordering on sanctified impertinence as it were! It is a result of its many firsts in the Seventh-day Adventist Church—first college and then first university, first to offer doctorates, first to deliver off-campus education, the flagship institution in the world church. Ordinarily such ambition is not becoming, but in our case the desire to be best in class is good, for it has to do with providing exceptional educational services with very limited resources to students in need, and that is admirable, our guests tell me.

Finally, this University is deeply religious in a way uncommon among ambitious academic institutions. Inside our church family there may be questions from time to time, even doubts about the faith commitment on campus, but those who look at us from the outside through their own eyes see our commitment to faith and religious devotion very clearly. It is part of the University’s history of course, but more importantly it is part of our genetic make-up, visible, palpable, pervasive and surprising to many observers, our faith commitment drives our academic ambition, and vice versa. That is the Andrews brand—a small miracle to many external observers.

Each of these characteristics, so obvious to our guests on campus is a treasure to be carefully guarded—the campus, facilities, diversity, academic ambition and religious commitment. They have been carefully and lovingly honed for over 50 years. They matter.
Fond farewell

20

features

20 Farewell Tribute Events for President Niels-Erik & Demetra Andreasen
Opportunities for recognition of the Andreasens from the campus community took place on April 9 & 14, 2016.

22 In Their Own Words: Passion Play 2016
Four cast members of the 2016 Passion Play team share their thoughts about the experience, beautifully portrayed by photographer Jonathan Logan, who graduated from Andrews Academy in May.

24 The Strengths of Diversity and Inclusion
by Danni Francis
Kevin McDonald is the first-ever chief diversity, equity and inclusion officer of the University of Missouri System. A 1993 alumnus of Andrews University, McDonald has already built a strong reputation for expertise in this area. He shares his thoughts and insight into the role and strength of diversity inclusion in higher education.

departments

2 from the President’s desk
4 campus update
11 Howard happenings
12 faculty & staff
27 alumni calendar
28 alumni news
29 class notes
31 life stories

On the cover: A smooth transition in leadership is signified by this historic photo. Pictured left to right are: Ben Schoun, outgoing board chair; Niels-Erik Andreasen, outgoing president; Andrea Luxton, incoming president/outgoing provost; Christon Arthur, incoming provost/outgoing dean, School of Graduate Studies & Research; Artur Stele, incoming board chair. Photo: Darren Heslop, IMC staff photographer.
On Sunday, May 1, 2016, nearly 440 students celebrated the conferral of their degrees on the platform of Pioneer Memorial Church. 221 males and 217 females, representing 51 countries and 39 U.S. states, received a total of 276 undergraduate degrees and 162 graduate degrees.

The weekend began on Friday, April 29, when Michael Polite, associate chaplain at Andrews University, offered the Consecration address titled, “Almost.” Polite holds degrees from Union College (Lincoln, Nebraska), La Universidad de Sagunto (Sagunto, Spain) and Oakwood University (Huntsville, Alabama). He is currently pursuing a PhD in higher education administration at Andrews University.

On Saturday, April 30, John McVay, president of Walla Walla University in College Place, Washington, presented the Baccalaureate address, “How to Harmonize with a Lamb,” for both graduate and undergraduate services in PMC. Born in the Northwest, McVay has served as a faculty member at Pacific Union College in Angwin, California, and as dean of the Andrews University Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. He holds a PhD in New Testament studies from the University of Sheffield and writes regularly on the Epistle to the Ephesians and the theme of the church in the New Testament.

Multiple departmental services were held in various campus locations on Saturday afternoon. Graduation vespers offered an opportunity for tributes to faculty, students and family, followed by an information reception hosted by the Andreasens.

Commencement speakers included Maurice R. Valentine II, executive secretary of the Lake Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, and Elissa Kido, professor of education at La Sierra University (California). Kido’s address was titled, “Predicting Your Future.” She also received an honorary Doctor of Pedagogy during the final Commencement service. Due to health reasons, Valentine was unable to speak and Niels-Erik Andreasen, president of Andrews University, presented the Commencement address for the morning’s first service.

Kido is the founding director of the Center for Research on Adventist K–12 Education and the project director for CognitiveGenesis. In this role she has made an enormous contribution to the advancement of Adventist education in the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists. The promotion of academic excellence has served as a driving force throughout her 40-year teaching career that spans elementary to graduate education.

Kido holds degrees from Pacific Union College, California State University (Long Beach) and Boston University. Recently PUC
presented Kido with an honored alumni award, and within the last two years she has received the Award for Excellence and the Charles Weniger Award for Excellence from the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists. While serving as dean of the School of Education at La Sierra University, Kido launched CognitiveGenesis, the groundbreaking research project that assessed the academic performance of students in all Adventist schools throughout the North American Division.

Alejandro Bullón, retired evangelist, was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity during the first Commencement service. Bullón’s passion for evangelism fueled his 46-year ministry as a world-renowned evangelist known as the Billy Graham of Adventist Hispanics, conducting large-scale meetings on all five continents, reaching millions of people with impressive results.

Having received his bachelor’s degree in theology from Peruvian Union University in 1969, Bullón ministered as a pastor and youth director in Peru and Brazil. He also was the Portuguese speaker and host for the TV program, “It Is Written.” As a member of the Brazilian Writers Association, Bullón has authored 27 books. In 2002 his achievements were recognized by Peruvian Union University in Lima with the conferral of an honorary doctoral degree.

During the second Commencement service, Daniel Cole, professor of clinical anesthesiology and vice chair for professional and business development in the Department of Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine at David Geffen School of Medicine at University of California, Los Angeles, received an honorary Doctor of Science. Cole is president-elect of the American Society of Anesthesiologists Executive Committee, and serves as executive director for professional affairs and treasurer for the Board of Directors for the American Board of Anesthesiology. Previously, Cole served at Mayo Clinic-Arizona as chair of the Department of Anesthesiology and vice dean for continuous professional development. After earning his bachelor’s degree at Andrews University, Cole received his medical degree at Loma Linda University School of Medicine. Cole has given more than 300 invited presentations, received 48 research grants, written 90 manuscripts and more than 200 abstracts. He is also reviewer for 25 medical journals and has published three books, contributing 29 chapters to other volumes. Cole is listed in “Best Doctors of America” and “Super Doctors” and is a member of Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society.

Annual Andrews Research Conference
Featuring Arts and Humanities disciplines with “Text and Image” as the theme

This year marked the third annual Andrews Research Conference, an event that showcases the work of researchers in different fields. The conference took place from May 4–8, and featured graduate students, post-doctoral researchers and other presenters in a variety of academic fields.

“The first Andrews Research Conference was held on our campus in 2014 for the STEM disciplines,” says Sarah Burton, research services specialist for the Office of Research & Creative Scholarship and organizer of the conference. “It was the brainchild of Gary Burdick [associate dean for Research & Creative Scholarship] as a way to provide Adventist graduate students, post-docs and early career faculty—especially those at non-SDA universities—with a way to network with others in their field.” Last year’s conference focused on Social Sciences.

The official title for the 2016 conference was “Early Career Researchers and Creative Scholars in the Arts and Humanities.” It featured researchers in anthropology, communication, education, English, film, history, international languages, literature, music and visual art and design. The conference saw participants from Romania and Nigeria, as well as various locations in North America.

“We chose ‘Text and Image’ as the theme, since the Arts and Humanities disciplines are primarily concerned with texts—music, literature, historical texts, etc.—and images—paintings, graphic design, film, etc.,” Burton explains. “We were very pleased to see that presenters incorporated the theme into their presentations.”

To highlight the theme, the conference featured an exhibition, film screening and performance lectures in addition to the scholarly presentations. Musicians and creative writers performed or read their pieces then presented on them for 10 minutes while artists and other presenters allotted the full 20 minutes for scholarly presentation.

Among the presenters were Nathan Greene, local painter and alumnus of Andrews University, who presented on his art and faith; Johnson Babafemi Akintayo from Babcock University (Nigeria) and Isiaka Babalola from Lagos State University (Nigeria), presenting on integrating faith and Christian living with radio programming based on a study done of listener perceptions of Babcock Hope FM.

Andrews well represented at MASAL
Giving 33 oral presentations in 16 sections, six poster presentations and chairing four sections

Andrews University had the honor of sending over 50 students and faculty to this year’s Michigan Academy of Science, Arts & Letters Conference. Each year it takes place at a different Michigan campus; the 2015 MASAL conference was at Andrews University.

Taking place March 4 at Saginaw Valley State University (University Center, Michigan), MASAL featured presentations from 30+ disciplines, given by college faculty, graduate and sponsored undergraduate students, government researchers, librarians and more.

This year, Andrews University gave 33 oral presentations in 16 of the sections, six poster presentations, and had six chairs in four of the sections.

“All of the student talks I attended were outstanding,” said Shandelle Henson, chair of the Department of Mathematics. “Professors from other universities have definitely noticed over the last few years. For example, colleagues from a large university in Michigan have asked me three years in a row to have our students apply for their PhD program and assistantships.”

In addition to the presentations given this year, Andrews also was privileged to have one of its recent graduates receive the 2015 Ronald O. Kapp Award. WayAnne Watson’s paper, “Mashup Strategies in Las Cuatro Estaciones Porteña: A model for connecting compositional techniques to cultural interpretations,” was presented in the Interdisciplinary Studies section.

“We may be proud of course, and should be in the best sense of the word,” says Niels-Erik Andreasen, president of Andrews University. “But more importantly, we see how Andrews is maturing as a serious academic institution and is becoming a well-recognized Christian university in the country. I cherish that designation as much as I do the ‘flagship’ designation among Adventist universities. It has been my dream for a long while.”

“For a school our size,” said Monique Pittman, director of the J.N. Andrews Honors Program, “we are making a significant impact on thought-leadership in our respective fields with many of our former research students now in professional and academic positions across the world.” She added, “Behavioral science research shows that undergraduate research is one of the highest-impact learning experiences for young students. Our core mission is to nurture the academic and spiritual growth of our students, and I pray we always keep this in the forefront of everything we do.”
June board meeting makes it official
Andrea Luxton is Andrews University’s new president and Artur Stele is the new board chair

Andrews University Board of Trustees meetings took place June 1-2. President Niels-Erik Andreasen presented a briefing of the proceedings for campus personnel.

Five newly elected board members were welcomed during this session: Andrew Coetzee, group vice president, product planning for Toyota Motor Sales, USA Inc.; Vonda Douglas-Nikitin, associate professor of pathology, William Beaumont School of Medicine, Oakland University, Royal Oak, Michigan; Valerie B. Lee, chair, Department of African American and African Studies, The Ohio State University; Ernie Medina Jr., assistant professor and executive director, School of Public Health, Loma Linda University; and Bradley Tait, pharmaceutical consultant, Brad Tait Enterprise LLC.

“...and as president for the Euro-Asia Division, also based in Russia. Stele’s wife, Galina, is the first woman to graduate from Andrews University with a doctoral degree in ministry. A native of Kazakhstan, Stele (pronounced: STEL-ay) graduated from Almatty Medical College in Kazakhstan in 1979 with a degree in pharmacy and served in the Russian military from 1979 to 1981. In 1986, Stele received a bachelor’s degree in theology from Friedensau University in Germany. He earned his master’s degree and doctorate in theology from Andrews University in 1993 and 1996, and is fluent in Russian, German and English.

“The future is built upon many new initiatives, and I am pleased that a lot of them are in process. I am optimistic that Andrews will continue to prosper.”

These students submit multiple applications each year, while the number of students who register is significantly lower than those we accept,” Andreasen explained. “The task before us is to get more of the applicants to attend.” That means regular contacts during spring and summer, and a generous financial aid policy. Fortunately, it appears that the number of new students who are preregistered this year is higher than last. That is encouraging. We should expect that new academic initiatives and programs will stabilize the enrollment while we wait for the freshmen classes to start growing again.”

Andreasen wrapped up his report by sharing that he and his wife, Demetra, will be moving to California following his retirement this summer. He also shared his perspective on the reality of the University’s current financial situation.

“One difficulty we’re facing with the undergraduate enrollment is that the application numbers are high, even as the number of high school and academy seniors decline. This was due to lower than expected tuition revenue and reduced income from the auxiliaries operated by the University, principally the farm and dairy, but also the dining services and residential facilities.

In response to the loss in operations, the University academic administration, the provost and deans are turning to new programs that will bring in additional revenue not part of the traditional revenue stream. These new initiatives and programs are expected to bring additional students. It is anticipated that going forward these new programs will help the University replace revenue due to several years of decline in the regular undergraduate program until it stabilizes.
The 2016 Children's Leadership Conference took place April 22–24 in Chan Shun Hall. Organized by the Center for Youth Evangelism, the Lake Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists’ Children’s Ministries, the CLC is a training conference for leaders in target areas within the Lake Union, though there are usually attendees from elsewhere as well. They come from different backgrounds, including youth pastors, children’s ministry directors or people organizing Vacation Bible Schools. Many attendees come in order to work toward completing certification programs for children’s ministry.

“We offer some of the requirements they would need for certification,” explained Shawna Henry, director of children’s ministry at the CYE. In addition to training, some come simply to continue their education on leadership strategies.

The conference first began in 2014 as a way to provide Seminary students and Lake Union children’s ministry leaders a chance to attend a high quality training event annually. “Since 2014, over 300 children ministry leaders have been trained to be more effective in their local church,” adds Whitehead.

Titled “All God’s Children Got Shoes,” the third annual CLC featured diversity as its theme. “Different shoes have different purposes, yet all are important,” says Henry, explaining the conference theme. “Similarly, God has a variety of roles that he needs people to fill for Him. He needs some hands, some feet, some eyes, some ears—and they are all important.”

Four general sessions centered around diversity in worship or in ethnicity. The conference also featured additional breakout workshops, usually training workshops for certification. Keynote speakers included Linda Koh, children’s ministry director for the General Conference, and Sherri Uhrig and Melanie Cruz, children’s ministry director and assistant children’s ministry director for the NAD, respectively.

“Fiddler on the Roof”
Andrews University Theatre Wing’s third production

“Fiddler on the Roof,” set in pre-revolutionary Russia, traces the story of Teyve’s efforts to maintain the religious traditions of his Jewish community as his daughters, one by one, marry and move away.

The play was directed by Stephen Batchelor, produced by Simone Weithers, and starred Ryan Comeau as Teyve, Katharina Burghardt as his wife, Golde, and Nikki Weis, Ashlen Zapara, Sarah Mackintosh, Jillian Imes and Anna Rorabeck as the five daughters. The cast also included Alanna Asgeirsson, Jared Marsh, Ben Dietel, Calvin Parinussa, Cameron Van Buren, John Weiss, Peter Mazza, Jessica Bates, Elizabeth Bates, Kaitlin Litvak, Kara Kong, Tara Staniszewski, Flynn Chae, Ben Koch, Nama Talalima, Richard Clark and Alejandra Castillo.

“Fiddler on the Roof” is the third production of the Andrews University Theatre Wing, a student-founded, student-run club committed to bringing the dramatic arts to campus. Earlier the club mounted successful productions of “Belle of Amherst” and “Pygmalion.”
In April, students and faculty from Andrews spent an evening eating a simple soup supper, doing a privilege walk across campus in below freezing temperatures, and watching and discussing a documentary about the nearly 20,000 unaccompanied homeless teens each year in the Chicago school system. These teens are in unstable living situations—finding a place to sleep everywhere from couches to temporary housing or, for as many as 2,000 a night in Chicago, living on the street.

“The idea behind this activity was to allow students to begin to understand the life of someone with no other options,” said Ed Brennan, co-organizer of the event.

Although the weather was not as cooperative as participants and organizers hoped for, Brennan remained positive.

“I think that God wanted us to see what people really deal with when they live on the streets,” says Brennan.

A whole week was dedicated to raising awareness across the Andrews campus. Couches were set up to symbolize “couch surfing,” which is what many homeless people—youth, especially—find themselves doing. They rotate sleeping on couches belonging to friends and even strangers who offer them a place to stay.

“College students often don’t realize how many people their age are homeless,” said Curt VanderWaal, chair of the Teen Homelessness Taskforce on campus. “They imagine a skid-row alcoholic or a Vietnam veteran who’s down on his luck—it’s a lot harder to visualize a 17-year-old immigrant kid who sleeps on a friend’s couch because his parents can’t afford to take care of him.”

Other activities were a co-curricular program that educated students about homelessness, a showing of “The Homestretch”—a documentary portraying homeless youth in Chicago—and a panel discussion.

This project was organized by Nancy Carbonell, associate professor of counselor education and counseling psychology, along with AUUNICEF, BSCF, AUll4One, POWER and graduate students in Carbonell’s department.

“I’ve become more aware of homelessness in the last few years,” says Carbonell. “Some of the students we’ve had at Andrews have made me aware that 40 to 50 percent of the homeless youth tend to be LGBTQ young people and have been kicked out of their homes.”

Carbonell added that about half of the other homeless young people come from homes where the parents are substance or alcohol abusers, do not want to pay for their children anymore or may be illegal immigrants who cannot afford to support their children, driving them to the streets. In Berrien Springs alone there are almost 20 homeless high-school-aged youths.

Homelessness Awareness Week was just the first step to becoming more proactive about the great impact homelessness has on our nation.

“ar are easy and worthwhile steps to support these people."

With reporting assistance from The Student Movement staff.
Who wrote the Pentateuch?
Prominent Bible scholars present, discuss and defend authorship at international conference


The event featured noteworthy speakers who dialogued on how to approach the question of the composition of the Pentateuch. Currently, the Documentary Hypothesis as the former dominant theory about the composition being revised and criticized, and alternative approaches are being suggested and discussed by respected scholars.

The Documentary Hypothesis claims that the Pentateuch was originally written as four separate documents during a period stretching from the early monarchy to the exile, and that over time the documents were redacted together by other scribes.

“The Documentary Hypothesis has all but taken over the majority of scholarship—even Christian scholarship—in regard to the composition of the Pentateuch, which has effectively removed Moses and a literal reading of the text from history,” says Felipe Masotti, PhD student of Old Testament and co-planner of the event.

He explains that conservative academicians have made some efforts to develop an approach that can scholastically explain how the Pentateuch was composed.

“These Bible scholars reexamined, compared and evaluated biblical exegetical and theological data as well as extra-biblical material related to the Mosaic authorship, and scrutinized the Documentary Hypothesis in order to analyze its validity and relevance,” says Jiří Moskala, dean of the Andrews University Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, professor of Old Testament exegesis and theology, and conference presenter.

Presenters included Richard E. Averbeck (Trinity Evangelical Divinity School), John Bergsma (Franciscan University of Steubenville), Joshua Berman (Bar-Ilan University), Daniel I. Block (Wheaton College), Richard M. Davidson (Andrews University), Roy E. Gane (Andrews University), Duane A. Garrett (The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary), Richard S. Hess (Denver Seminary), James K. Hoffmeier (Trinity Evangelical Divinity School), Benjamin Kilchör (Staatsunabhangige Theologische Hochschule Basel), Gerald A. Klingell (Andrews University, Adventist Review), Michael LeFebvre (Christ Church Reformed Presbyterian) and Jiří Moskala (Andrews University), as well as other Andrews University faculty and PhD students.

“It was a unique privilege to bring these minds together for an open and honest discussion on this challenging topic,” says Constance Gane, associate professor of archaeology and Old Testament and curator of the Horn Archaeological Museum. “This was a series of presentations that the serious Bible student will want to revisit for years to come.”

“A Place to Grow”
Film brings communities of Oronoko & Berrien Townships and Berrien Springs together

The Berrien Film Project strives to represent the beautiful communities of Berrien Springs and Oronoko Charter & Berrien Townships. To that end, the project included two screenings of a documentary film called “A Place to Grow,” which features places and people in those communities. The screenings, sponsored by local businesses, organizations and individuals, took place at the Howard Performing Arts Center on April 17 & 18.

Representative musicians performed at the events as well, including the Berrien Springs High School choir and Andrews Academy’s string ensemble.

Pieter Damsteegt, the film’s producer and graduate of Andrews University’s documentary film program, put a lot of time and effort into “A Place to Grow.” Damsteegt shared his vision for the film as something that “would bring the community together.”

Much of Damsteegt’s work was acquiring images from all over the area, covering each of Michigan’s seasons. “I really enjoyed meeting the community throughout the filming process. It was so much fun interviewing folks in and around the community of Berrien Springs,” Damsteegt stated.

“There’s so many stories and amazing things about the area that if I had included them all, well, it would’ve been a pretty long film.”

Many people in the community also expressed how they felt about the local area. “I have a great sense of pride living here and owning a family farm in the Berrien Springs community,” said Bryan Bixby, Berrien Township supervisor.

Milt Richter, village president of Berrien Springs, said, “My favorite thing about Berrien Springs is the friendly people,” “I love our community and how unique it is. Diversity works here—from the international and educational aspects of the University, to the wineries, breweries and fruit farms, to the world-class fishing on the river, to the focus on youth at the County Fair, to the award-winning schools. Berrien Springs truly is a place to grow,” said Mike Hildebrand, Oronoko Charter Township supervisor.

Regarding the screenings, Damsteegt said, “I’d like to say in observing the response to the end product and then seeing the audience composed of the various communities all together was a great experience I’ll never forget. Again, I wanted it to be a conversation starter, and I believe that is what the film was.”
Spring 2016 at the Howard Center

It was a very busy spring season at the Howard Performing Arts Center with hundreds of talented musicians from Kindergarten through University-level displaying their skills. Look for the 2016–2017 season lineup in the next issue of FOCUS!

Left to right by row: Symphony Orchestra Concert, February 11 ▶ AUSA-sponsored Service Gala for UNICEF, February 13 ▶ Faculty Recital: Carla Trynchuk, violin and Chi Yong Yun, piano, February 14 ▶ Wind Symphony Vespers, March 4 ▶ Music Festival Concert, March 5 ▶ Young Artists Concert, March 6 ▶ Southwest Michigan Honor Band Festival, March 21 ▶ Great Lakes Adventist Academy Band, March 25 ▶ Easter Choral Concert, March 26 ▶ Michard Card in concert with University Singers, March 27 ▶ Carlisle Floyd’s “Susannah,” an opera in two acts, March 31 & April 2 ▶ Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra Concert, May 1 ▶ Andrews Academy Spring Concert, May 3 ▶ Ruth Murdoch Elementary School Instrumental Concert, May 5 ▶ Berrien Springs Middle & High Schools Choirs, May 23
On May 11, 2016, the Andrews University Board of Trustees elected Christon Arthur to serve as the next provost of Andrews University.

Arthur replaces Andrea Luxton, who was elected earlier this year to serve as the next president of Andrews University. Prior to becoming provost-elect, Arthur has served as dean of the Andrews University School of Graduate Studies & Research since 2010. In addition to that role, he has also served as associate provost, with responsibilities for faculty policy and faculty development, since 2012.

Prior to coming to Andrews University, Arthur served as an associate dean and associate professor within the College of Education at Tennessee State University (Nashville), and also as an acting and interim department head of education administration there. In addition, Arthur has worked as an elementary and secondary teacher, and as department head of arts and general studies in Grenada. He holds a bachelor’s degree in theology from Caribbean University College (now University of the Southern Caribbean, Trinidad & Tobago), and MA, EdS and PhD degrees in education from Andrews University, and has completed postgraduate training at Harvard University’s Institute for Management and Leadership in Education.

“I am honored to have this opportunity to continue to build on Andrews University’s legacy,” says Arthur. “I see the role of the provost as giving one’s best advice to the president, and providing academic leadership to help ensure that academic programs and processes are known for their excellence and academic rigor. That excellence and rigor needs to be carried out in every dimension of our University. We must also constantly grow and change if we are to be current; and be innovative and creative if we are to be ahead of the curve or ride the next academic wave in higher education. We grow and change and innovate because we recognize that an Andrews education is a whole-person endeavor that needs to add value to every dimension of students’ lives—body, mind and spirit—within the classrooms, but also where they pray, live and play.

“I also look forward to understanding and building on the strength of our ethnic, cultural and global diversity—which is a work in progress offering unparalleled opportunities for our students to understand and thrive in the diverse and changing environment of the world. Finally, I believe that it’s always been true that excellent Adventist Christian education is redemptive. As a result, what Andrews offers is the most effective methodology for redeeming and transforming each student for God’s kingdom.”

“As our search committee reviewed the potential candidates for provost, some of the most used descriptors for Christon Arthur referred to his spiritual leadership, vision, collaborative teamwork and his focus on student success and mentoring,” says Luxton. “Under Arthur’s leadership the graduate culture at Andrews has been transformed and he has also introduced a range of initiatives for faculty and students that have been both innovative and forward-thinking and have helped move Andrews University toward a future of strength and success. Personally, it’s been a privilege to work alongside him over the last five years as graduate dean and, more recently, as associate provost. I now look forward to the strength, passion and vision he’ll bring as the next provost of Andrews University.”

Arthur will assume the post of provost on July 1, 2016, when Luxton begins her term as the sixth president of Andrews University. The formal plan to replace the dean of the School of Graduate Studies & Research will be announced at a later date.

“\[quote\]

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Arthur becomes the new provost of Andrews University effective July 1, 2016

Christon Arthur at orientation for new graduate students in August 2012

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"I see the role of the provost as... providing academic leadership to help ensure that academic programs and processes are known for their excellence and academic rigor.”
Strayer “the slayer” retires*

Prolific author, respected historian and renowned teacher leaves large legacy

When adults asked Brian Strayer as a child what he wanted to be when he grew up, he proudly said, “A pastor and a preacher!” The dream was still alive when he began college as a theology major, but he soon felt called to enter another field.

“I apostatized and went into history,” he says with a laugh. “I fulfill my preaching desires by speaking to school, church and camp meeting groups all across the U.S. And I love it.”

Strayer earned bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees in history between the years of 1973 and 1987. From 1974–1975 Strayer was a research assistant for Richard Schwarz at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, working on a book project called “Light Bearers to the Remnant,” which was published by Review & Herald in 1979. He eventually moved on to teaching history, first at Southern Adventist University, and then, in 1983, at Andrews University.

“When I look back over my career, I’m most proud of the research and publication contributions I’ve made to my professional field and to the history of my church,” says Strayer. “It will be my legacy after I am gone.”

The passion for writing demonstrated so prolifically in his career will not end with his retirement; Strayer’s bucket list includes penning two biographies and a chapter in a historical book, and reading extensively outside his specialized fields, including some children’s books, which he intends to share with his “adopted” nieces and nephews. It’s not all about books, though; Strayer also has plans to lead an Adventist heritage tour on the east coast, tour Prague (Czech Republic) and take a river cruise in Germany, join the University’s Waldensian tour, and take a bus tour across the U.S. He also expects to spend more time with his mother, and his brother and family in upstate New York, as well as volunteering during elections this fall.

“Ellen White has told us that ‘We have nothing to fear for the future except as we forget how the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history,’” quotes Strayer. “We must ignite within our young people a love in our past history,’ he says. “I trust finding some downtime will be therapeutic for this chronic choleric.”

His legacy will not be a small one; Strayer has published and co-authored nine books, and hopes to have two more completed by next year. He has also contributed chapters to books, written articles and refereed others and composed myriad book and film reviews, dictionary and encyclopedia articles and scholarly papers. Strayer has also assisted in research and historical consulting, including for a production of a film on the life of Desmond T. Doss.

“One of my biggest goals in life has been to publish groundbreaking research in French and Adventist history,” he says. “I have written ten books and 80 articles advancing knowledge of the Bastille, Huguenots, local Adventist history and several biographies. So I guess you could say I’ve achieved my goal, and it has been hugely fulfilling for me.”

In 2004, Strayer was selected to receive the Medallion of Religious Freedom from Pacific Union College for completing Walter Utt’s book “Bellicose Dove: Claude Brousson and Protestant Resistance to Louis XIV, 1647–1698.” That same year he was nominated for the Edward Gargan Prize by the Western Society for French History for an article on Brousson he wrote two years prior.

“I composed the fake footnotes for the collection and never had so much fun in all my life as editing that book,” he says with a laugh. “It’s truly hilarious all the way through.”

Regardless of where he goes and what he’s doing, Strayer will remember fondly his time spent with students.

“I’ve been with students every day since I entered the classroom in September 1957 as a student,” he laughs. “I’m sure I’ll experience withdrawal pains this fall, and I will greatly miss our class discussions and inviting student groups to my home for films, pizza and ice cream.”

Strayer plans to spend quite a lot of time with friends, picking and freezing fruit, taking long walks in nature, and generally relaxing.

“As for a summer reading list, Strayer recommends the Adventist Pioneer Biography Series, which he enjoys immensely. He is currently reading Ben McArthur’s volume on Arthur G. Daniells.

“Ellen White has told us that ‘We have nothing to fear for the future except as we forget how the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history,’” Strayer says. “We must ignite within our young people a love for our Adventist heritage, and these books accomplish that.”

If you’re up for something a bit lighter, Strayer admits he never tires of perusing “Romans Were Known for their Aqua Ducks,” a compilation he created of 30+ years of Bluebook exam bloopers his students have written.

“I composed the fake footnotes for the collection and never had so much fun in all my life as editing that book,” he says with a laugh. “It’s truly hilarious all the way through.”

*Brian Strayer personally approved this title
Lilianne Doukhan's bookshelves go nearly to the ceiling in her office. Amidst the varying heights, widths, colors and ages of the books that fill them are souvenirs and mementos from around the world, representing a career packed with travel. Doukhan's entire life has been focused on music, and it has taken her to many places.

“It has always been music,” she says, when asked what her younger self wanted to do with her life. “There were other things, but from an age when you can reasonably consider what you want to do as a professional, it’s always been music. I didn’t envision as a child exactly what it would be, but I do believe I’ve achieved that goal.” She pauses, then: “That’s nice to be able to say.”

Doukhan’s career started in 1965 as a classroom teacher in the Adventist elementary school in Renens, Switzerland. After this she taught German and French at the Adventist university in Collonges-sous-Salève, France, served as administrator and teacher at the Indian Ocean Union Seminary on the island of Mauritius and filled several roles at Andrews University, including the Beltz Chair for Worship and Church Music in the Seminary, before beginning as chair of the Department of Music in 2013. In 2010 the University awarded her the Daniel Augsburger Award for Excellence in Teaching.

“’The continuous intellectual stimulation that comes from spending time with students is something I’ve enjoyed very much...”

Andrews University is the only Adventist institution of higher education to offer such a program. Doukhan has been invited to present intensive courses, lectures and seminars in Mexico, Italy, Bulgaria, France, Hong Kong, Peru, India, Netherlands, the U.K., Czech Republic, Portugal, Germany, Switzerland and South Korea, in addition to several locations across the United States.

Doukhan has no plans to stay put once she retires; her work in international development will continue to take her to various locations in Africa, and she and her husband will still spend winters at their second home in the south of France.

“The invitations will continue, but my plan is to catch up on everything I haven’t been able to do during the last 30 or 50 years,” she says with a smile, then adds that she is looking forward to not having every minute of every day scheduled. “Time will become a concept again. I will savor that.”

Despite the busyness of her work, Doukhan will miss interacting with her students immesely.

“The continuous intellectual stimulation that comes from spending time with students is something I’ve enjoyed very much over the years, and I will miss that,” she says. “I’ve also loved seeing our students perform in the Howard Performing Arts Center. We are so blessed to have such a beautiful performing arts hall on our campus.”

In addition to relaxing a bit in retirement, Doukhan dreams of crossing Russia on the Trans-Siberian Railroad, exploring St. Petersburg and Moscow along the way. But mostly, she just wants to take a breath, reflect on her career and enjoy having more time at her disposal.

“We come from a culture where you accept calls, you don’t take initiative to apply for jobs,” Doukhan points out. “Even though our lives have zigzagged and are never a straight line, I see God’s hand leading in the same direction always. You don’t always understand it being God’s hand, but when you look back at things that looked so absurd at the time, it’s just another step toward realizing the future he has in store.”
David & Helen Susens retire
From posts at the ITS Computer Store and Office of Academic Records

David and Helen Susens retired from their service at the University this spring. David retired after 15 years as manager of the ITS Computer Store and Helen retired after 16 years in the Office of Academic Records, her final position being assistant registrar for undergraduate off-campus programs.

David was born in Battle Creek, Michigan and Helen in Hillsdale, Michigan. David graduated with a BS in business administration with a concentration in management. Helen graduated with a BS in medical secretarial science.

David and Helen met at Andrews University in 1971. David took a religion course from Arthur Patrick, an Australian student in the seminary, and was so impressed with his character and integrity that when Helen and David were preparing for their wedding, they asked Patrick to perform the ceremony. He got a special permit to perform his only service in the U.S. David and Helen were married in the chapel of Lamson Hall in 1972. They remained in Berrien Springs for one year as David finished his degree and Helen worked in the records office as secretary to the assistant registrar.

David worked at Dakota Bake-N-Serv in Nebraska, Iowa from 1973–1975. David and Helen then moved to Cedar Lake, Michigan, where they raised their three children: Norman, Dennis and Marjorie. David worked for Cedar Lake Mill, Lakeland Mills, and at Great Lakes Adventist Academy. Helen was a homemaker for most of the family’s time in Cedar Lake but also served as teacher’s aide while the children were in elementary school.

David and Helen moved back to Berrien Springs in 1999. Helen began working as registration specialist in the Office of Academic Records and David started as a financial aid advisor before taking the position as manager of the ITS Computer Store.

David spent most of his career supervising and managing student workers at several academy industries. He enjoyed seeing their growth and maturity as they learned to take responsibility for and pride in their work, and formed many lasting friendships with them.

One of Helen’s primary tasks as assistant registrar was working with off-campus registrars to make sure students at their sites had completed their degree requirements. She enjoyed the detail-oriented aspects of her job and loved being able to tackle and solve complicated problems. She also helped with the ongoing transition of Griggs University to the campus of Andrews University.

David and Helen are making plans to move to Montana to be near children and grandchildren. They also intend to travel extensively, starting with a family camping trip in Montana, a canoe trip to the Boundary Waters of Minnesota, and a trip to Australia.

David and Helen enjoy travel, hiking, biking, cross-country skiing, canoeing, birding, photography and camping. They are looking forward to spending a lot more time with their children and their eight grandchildren. Most of all, they look forward to the second coming of Jesus.

Professor featured speaker at World Heritage Day
 Øystein LaBianca gives presentation on cultural heritage in Jordan

Øystein LaBianca, professor of anthropology, recently attended World Heritage Day in Washington, D.C. This event, sponsored by The American Schools of Oriental Research, The Archaeological Institute of America, The Smithsonian Institution and The George Washington University Capitol Archaeological Institute, took place April 18, 2016, at the Hirshhorn Museum’s Ring Auditorium, a part of the Smithsonian Institution.

LaBianca was one of several featured speakers, presenting on cultural heritage in Jordan. Specifically, he shared work that had been done to help preserve the archaeological site of Hisban.

“No one has worked longer than our Hisban project in Jordan,” LaBianca stated. “We’ve been instrumental in training other professors in archaeology in Jordan and people working for the government in archaeology.”

“I’ve been working in these circles with these colleagues for four decades,” said LaBianca. “I’m glad to be able to represent Jordan and our work as a university there.”

By studying Hisban, LaBianca says the site can be used “as a window” to see into the larger story of Jordan, especially as it developed over time. He describes the narrative as including “great traditions” and “little traditions.” The great traditions portray the march of empires through that region, while the little traditions tell of how local people survived underneath the legacy of the reigning empires.

LaBianca explained, “It’s not so much about the narrative, but engaging the local community and presenting the past and engaging with the narrative. Jordan is a good story—a positive story of archaeologists working with the local community to preserve and narrate and present the past. Other places like Syria and Iraq have had their history horrendously set back by the conflicts and terror and ideologies that have come to dominate those areas.”

LaBianca took a team of 40 people, including 10 students and five faculty members from Andrews, to Hisban from May 15 to June 2. The rest of the team were from European universities.
Kharkovyy new director of Alumni Services
Looking forward to challenges of reaching and connecting with global alumni community

On June 1, 2016, Andriy Kharkovyy was appointed as the new director for the Office of Alumni Services and executive director of the Andrews University Alumni Association. Kharkovyy takes on this new role following the departure of Tami Condon, Alumni Services director since early 2005. Condon left Andrews University to serve as vice president for Advancement at Southwestern Adventist University in Keene, Texas.

Both graduates of Wisconsin Academy and Andrews University, Tami and Andriy have worked together for over 15 years, ten of which were spent at the Office of Alumni Services, most recently as director and associate director respectively.

Throughout her tenure at Andrews, Condon has expanded engagement programs with alumni and friends of the University, conducting nearly 100 events annually on campus and around North America. Serving in a support role, Andriy worked on technical aspects of reaching out to the University’s large global alumni community, currently around 94,000.

“I am excited about new ways of connecting people. Andrews University, with its global alumni community, provides a great opportunity to do just that. The current economic climate as well as unique technological opportunities available provide us with the motivation and tools to be even more effective and I look forward to working on these challenges in the years ahead,” said Kharkovyy.

Kharkovyy came to Wisconsin Academy in 1997 from the small town of Tulchyn, Ukraine. “At 14 this was the first time I was away from home not knowing the language. Wisconsin Academy, like many other schools in our Church’s educational system, provided the right balance of education and personal attention that I needed to grow,” he says.

He credits Dale Sinnett, an Andrews alumnus from the Class of 1969, with helping him to succeed in high school and ultimately encouraging him to attend Andrews University after graduating from Wisconsin Academy in 2001.

Kharkovyy attended the Andrews University School of Business Administration, where he earned a BBA in 2006 and an MBA in 2009. In September of 2012, he married Amanda Jardine, whom he met while they both attended Andrews. Amanda is a licensed therapist and works at Berrien County Council for Children in St Joseph, Michigan.

Miller authors new book
Exploring the connection between the Adventist church and a series of Protestant reformers

Nick Miller, professor of church history at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary and director of the International Religious Liberty Institute, recently published “The Reformation and the Remnant.”

The book explores the connection between the Adventist church and a series of Protestant reformers by looking at a series of “hot potato” Adventist current issues, such as scriptural authority, the Great Controversy, creation and evolution, women’s ordination, last day events and so on, through the lens of famous figures from church history. It connects not just with the famous 16th century reformers, such as Martin Luther and John Calvin, but also with later reformers, such as James Arminius, John Wesley, and even our own reforming pioneers, such as William Miller, Joseph Bates and Ellen White.

Miller hopes that, “Seeing these connections makes us more able to reach our Protestant friends and neighbors, when we see what common heritage we have, and makes us more willing to continue to learn from each other.”

“I wrote the book because it seemed to me that a lot of contentious church discussion, and even debate, arose from some basic historical misunderstandings,” says Miller. “Our ignorance of our own history helped push people into more extreme positions, whether it be conservative or liberal, because culture, rather than the Bible, was really shaping their views.”

Miller draws on the founders of the Adventist church saying, “Our pioneers, including Ellen White, were willing to use and learn from the insights of their Christian contemporaries using scripture as a guide and filter, and so should we.”

Because of his book, Miller was asked to deliver the keynote address, “Reformation, the Great Controversy, and the Sabbath,” at a recent conference held at Friedensau Adventist University in Germany. Friedensau is not far from the Wittenburg, where Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the Cathedral door in 1517. The university held a commemorative conference a year ahead of the 500th anniversary of this event to explore the connections of the Reformation with the Adventist church.

For full text of this article: andrews.edu/agenda
Hyveth Williams & Karl Bailey receive prestigious award
J.N. Andrews Medallion awarded for teaching, ministry, research and mentoring

On Sunday, May 1, two faculty members were given the J.N. Andrews Medallion, awarded to those who exemplify the spirit and service of the pioneer Seventh-day Adventist scholar after whom the medallion is named. Hyveth Williams, professor of homiletics, and Karl G.D. Bailey, professor of psychology, were presented with the surprise recognition at the 8:30 and 11 a.m. commencements respectively.

Hyveth Williams joined the faculty of the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary in 1999. In 2012 she became the director of homiletics, a post she holds in addition to her duties as senior pastor of The Grace Place, a flourishing community church she founded in South Bend in 2013.

She completed a Bachelor of Arts in theology from Columbia Union College in 1984, a Master of Divinity from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary in 1989, and a Doctor of Ministry at Boston University School of Theology in Boston in 1998. Her dissertation was titled “Theleia Theology: a Preaching Model for Women.”

Before sensing a call to the ministry in the early 1980s, Williams worked in communication, government and human resources in Connecticut, London and Washington, D.C.

In 1982 she interned at the Pennsylvania Avenue Church in Washington, D.C. For three years she participated in all aspects of ministry and also conducted a Revelation Seminar, which resulted in 28 baptisms including 11 Jehovah’s Witnesses. During the final year of her seminary studies, Williams interned at All Nations Church in Berrien Springs. She served as associate pastor of Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church, as acting chaplain on the campus of Andrews University and as senior pastor at churches in Swampscott and Boston, Massachusetts, and Loma Linda, California, before joining the faculty at Andrews.

In addition to articles in professional journals, Williams is the author of several books. She is also a fellow of The Episcopal College of Preachers, National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. and a member of The Academy of Homiletics in Saint Paul, Minnesota.

The citation noted that her award was, “For her persistent effort to touch lives through teaching and ministry.”

“Words are not adequate to convey all that I felt the moment my name was mentioned,” Williams says. “But I was very surprised because I thought this was a recognition for faculty with many years of service. I was moved to tears when the graduating Seminary class stood for a standing ovation and almost everyone gave me a hug before receiving their diploma.”

Karl Bailey completed a BS in psychology and biology, summa cum laude, from Andrews University in 1999. He received his graduate education at Michigan State University with a Distinguished Fellowship earning a Master of Arts in psychology in 2002, and with an additional fellowship in Integrated Graduate Education and Research Training he completed his PhD in psychology in 2004.

Upon completion of his doctoral degree, Bailey joined the faculty in the Department of Behavioral Sciences and has become a driving scholarly force not only in the department, but also in the Honors program and the entire University. He has played a major role in the department’s success as one of the most scholarly, productive departments of the University.

Bailey successfully coordinates faculty-student research mentoring programs that result in about 20 student research presentations each year. Contributions to his field include 10 refereed journal articles, three chapters contributed to volumes, 29 scholarly papers read plus two for general audiences, 20 poster presentations, 38 student-led presentations, three of which were regional award winners, and 17 invited talks.

Bailey’s significant impact on the lives of his students was recognized in 2015 when he was the recipient of the Andrews University Student Association Teacher of the Year Award, Andrews University Advisor of the Year and Andrews University Research Mentor of the Year. In 2010, he received the Daniel A. Augsburger Excellence in Teaching Award and in 2016 he received the Siegfried H. Horn Excellence in Research & Creative Scholarship Award for pure and applied sciences.

“I have been blessed as both a student and a professor to be shaped by the students, scholars, teachers and staff at Andrews. I am very grateful for this honor, and it meant a lot to receive it at the graduation of a class that was instrumental in my continuing growth as a teacher and scholar,” he says.

In addition to a history of service on numerous University committees and various administrative assignments, Bailey serves as assistant head elder in his church and is a devoted husband to Rosemary, and father to two daughters, Lily and Anna.
Ann Gibson, professor emerita, saw the fruition of three years of work in March 2016. When she retired as professor of accounting at Andrews University in 2013, Gibson was appointed assistant to the treasurer of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists for treasurer training. Since that time she has been traveling the world training treasurers in the Adventist church, and developing a weeklong curriculum.

“Trust is the currency of any non-profit organization, including the church,” says Gibson. “Unless donors trust an organization to carry out its stated mission, they will choose not to give funds to that organization.”

Gibson conducted the first ever one-week training session for Church treasurers in the Columbia Union Conference. They also invited overseas division treasurers to attend this first session so they could understand the concept of how the training worked. About 70 treasurers attended the session.

The training event included workshops and presentations on church structure, mission and vision, legal issues and confidentiality, church and conference governance, team building, working policies, human resources and employment regulations, dealing with conflict, presenting financial statements and more.

“Trust is the currency of any non-profit organization, including the church,” says Gibson. “For those who might be anxious about teaching controversial material, I hope that this article can assuage concerns by demonstrating the value of engaging with these texts and the mindfulness that goes into teaching them.”

In April, Department of English faculty members Scott Moncrieff, professor of English, and Vanessa Corredera, assistant professor of English, received honorary mention by the notable Associated Church Press (ACP) for their coauthored article, “Fiction and Film: Thoughts on Teaching Potentially Controversial Narratives,” originally published in the October/November 2015 edition of The Journal of Adventist Education. The pair accepted the award at this year’s ACP convention which took place in St. Louis, Missouri.

The ACP is a professional organization dedicated to supporting excellence in journalism within the Christian community.

In their article, Moncrieff and Corredera discuss the logistics behind teaching fiction in an Adventist setting and the concerns that arise with teaching controversial material, and offer tips for both selecting fictional materials and teaching them. The article concludes with five tips for discussing difficult content with administrators and/or parents.

Both educators maintain extensive experience with difficult content in the classroom. The union came about when The Journal of Adventist Education approached Moncrieff about addressing this topic.

“I said I would—with Professor Corredera, who has excellent background in this area,” says Moncrieff.

Corredera comments on the impact she aims to have through this article. “Given the varied audience of The Journal of Adventist Education, my hope was to provide a helpful pedagogical resource for those who teach controversial material,” she says. “For those who might be anxious about teaching challenging material, I hope that this article can assuage concerns by demonstrating the value of engaging with these texts and the mindfulness that goes into teaching them.”

Vanessa Corredera & Scott Moncrieff discuss teaching strategy

For full text of the articles on this page: andrews.edu/agenda
September 29–October 2, 2016

Honor Class Reunions

Highlights of the weekend will include:
Wes Christiansen Memorial Golf Outing
Harvest Picnic and Wagon Rides
5K/10K Harvest Run
Homecoming Gala Concert
...and much more!

Honored Alumni 2016
Gordon Bietz (BD '68, DMin '76)
Jon L. Dybdahl (MA '66, BD '67)
Benjamin Reaves (MA '66, MDiv '73)
Yew-Chong Wong (EdD '76)
Lily Wong (EdD '76)

Leaders in Christian Education

For up-to-date information, visit alumni.andrews.edu/homecoming
On Sabbath evening, April 9, 2016, hundreds of faculty, staff and special guests came to the Howard Performing Arts Center to honor and celebrate the service of Niels-Erik and Demetra Andreasen. The following Thursday, the students of Andrews University also recognized their contributions at a special chapel service. Video footage of these events, including the premiere of Paul Kim’s film “A Life of the Mind,” is available at andrews.edu/president/president/andreasen/. Here are a few pictorial highlights from both occasions.
Clockwise from top left: Elynda Bedney, Student Financial Services director, gave a staff tribute • Richard Choi, professor of New Testament, spoke on behalf of faculty • Dwight K. Nelson, lead pastor, Pioneer Memorial Church, provided a Sabbath blessing • Loren Hamel, president & CEO of Lakeland Health, spoke on behalf of community, board & alumni • Andrea Luxton, provost, welcomed attendees • Mike Ryan, brought greetings from Congressman Fred Upton • Stephen Payne, vice president for Integrated Marketing & Communication, read a tribute from their son, Michael Andreasen • Stella Grieg, professor emerita of English, recognized Demetra Andreasen

Clockwise from top left: The Andreasens before their heartfelt responses on April 9 • The Andrews University Symphony Orchestra performed Vivaldi’s “Four Seasons” • Guests enjoy refreshments before the program • President Andreasen and Gordon Bietz, soon-to-be retired president of Southern Adventist University • Demetra Andreasen and Pat Spangler, FOCUS editor and long-time friend • The Andreasens receive appreciation from the student body at chapel on April 14 • Niels-Erik Andreasen speaking at the April 14 chapel • Niels-Erik and Demetra Andreasen walk away from Pioneer Memorial Church after his final chapel service
After a two-year hiatus, the Passion Play returned to the campus of Andrews University on Sabbath, March 26, 2016, under the auspices of the Center for Youth Evangelism. Directed by Joshua Stahl, a seminary student, hundreds of individuals experienced this interactive portrayal of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Four cast members share their feelings about the transformative ministry of the event.

Photos by Jonathan Logan

I loved playing Mary Magdalene because her story is so powerful, with themes of redemption, love and salvation in the story that make me feel so close to Jesus. I poured myself into the role, and during the dress rehearsal I startled the assembled scene directors with the force of my scream. I understand Mary’s terror, pain, loss, redemption and joy so much more now that I’ve had the chance to get so deep into her life and story. It’s an experience I’ll never forget.

**Katharina Burghardt** • senior music education major • “Mary Magdalene”

Playing the role of Mary, mother of Jesus, was both physically and emotionally exhausting. It was also one of the greatest experiences I’ve had the privilege of being a part of. For my role I had to cry throughout most of the play. More often than not, the tears were real. I was so overcome with emotion for how Mary must have felt to see her son go through what he did. I will never forget this experience and am grateful to have been given the opportunity.

**Ashley Neu** • senior communication major • “Mary, mother of Jesus”
I was shaken when I heard the soldiers whipping Jesus. Several of my friends were playing the role of Jesus and my heart ached as I heard the cries and groans. It was then that I could identify personally with Jesus and the disciples in a way I had never done before. As I saw the suffering my friends were going through, I was deeply moved. It became real. I will never forget how ridiculous the crowd was to follow the priests in wanting Barabbas released. Sound logic and reasoning would show that the calm Jesus was innocent and the ravenous Barabbas was guilty. The difference spoke volumes.

Christina Goosey • senior physical therapy major • “messenger for Pilate, crowd member at judgment scene & crucifixion”

After one of the resurrection scenes, I took a wrong turn and ended up outside the gym. To my left was a young family with two small girls. Realizing that I was still dressed like Jesus, I approached them...and asked the older sister Lilly (who was about 8) what she would like a blessing for.

She squinted her eyes, got very thoughtful, and then looked troubled. “I’m afraid of death,” she said. “I don’t want to die.”

“Have you ever invited Jesus into your heart?” I asked.

“No, I haven’t.”

So I told her how Jesus died for our sins so that we don’t have to, and that if she invited Him into her heart, she would never need to fear death again. I asked her if she would like to invite Him into her heart, and she said yes.

I held out my hand, and asked if she would like to hold my hand as we prayed. She paused when she saw the painted hole from the nail on the cross, but made the choice to hold my hand anyway.

As we prayed, she sincerely repented for her sins and invited Jesus to be the Lord of her life. When the prayer was over, her face shone and the fear was gone. As the unseen angels in heaven rejoiced, I gave her a hug and then headed back inside, looking for the right door.

But looking back, I don’t think I’d made a wrong turn after all.

John Weiss • community member • “Jesus”
When Kevin McDonald arrived on the Andrews University campus in the 1990s as an undergraduate student, the last thing he expected was to find a campus whose diverse community would help prepare him for his significant new position as the first-ever chief diversity, equity and inclusion officer of the University of Missouri System.

Diversity, as McDonald defines it, “is the various mix and combinations of human differences.” He maintains that we have to hold the belief that differences in and of themselves fuel creative energy and insight, and are the points of tension that spark alternative viewpoints and ideas and ignite the kindling forces behind creativity and innovation. McDonald believes if we recognize the important role that our collective differences play, and we commit ourselves to pervasively stress this importance, while striving to create environments and initiatives that promote inclusiveness and respect of all community members, we will have successfully shifted the lens through which we view diversity and inclusion—to see it as a part of excellence and not apart from it.

“What I didn’t anticipate was a compositionally diverse student body, who was engaged, welcoming and inclusive,” says McDonald. “I hadn’t been exposed to the breadth and depth of diversity that I encountered at AU, but it was so refreshing and reflective of the global context AU was preparing its students for.”

At Andrews, McDonald expresses that he found a community of students, faculty and staff who maintained a genuine concern for his wellbeing and future success. Reminiscing, he recalls administrators and mentors like Newton Hoilette and David Knight. He fondly remembers having men of color on staff who served as wonderful role models. Additionally, McDonald took classes from faculty like Duane McBride and former faculty member, Lynn Caldwell, who got him excited to learn about the contributions that he could make in the world.

Along with his Andrews experience, McDonald’s previous jobs including teaching and leading the diversity efforts at Rochester Institute of Technology and working as the vice president for equity and inclusion at Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University.

While at these institutions, he learned a great deal about the importance of understanding organizational climate and culture in performing this kind of work and the importance of developing and maintaining strong relationships with campus and local community members.

“Degrees and professional pedigree may help get you in the door,” says McDonald, “but your ability to forge and maintain strong interpersonal relationships is what helps keep you there and allows you to advance in your career.”

McDonald has learned the necessity of being politically savvy in order to navigate politically charged organizational waters in an effort to achieve desired outcomes.

While he worked in a similar capacity at his previous jobs, the Missouri opportunity is different in that it is charting the strategic diversity and inclusion efforts for an entire university system of approximately 79,000 students, 6,000 faculty and 18,000 staff. The University of Missouri System is comprised of four institutions each with their own mission, vision and campus culture, and that presents a unique opportunity in the diversity and inclusion arena.
Recently, the University of Missouri received significant news coverage of perceived racial hostility at one of their campuses—University of Missouri-Columbia. One of McDonald’s tasks will be to establish a plan of action toward relieving those racial tensions.

His first steps will necessarily involve gaining a better understanding of the important issues and opportunities at each institution within the system. He plans to develop an Inclusive Excellence Framework that is both universal in its application across the system, but that also provides significant latitude for every institution to identify where they fit within it.

McDonald intends to identify key strategies that support desired outcomes, and serve as a visible presence in attempting to build important relationships with faculty, staff and students, who have a great deal of skepticism regarding the trustworthiness of administration.

The challenges at University of Missouri-Columbia are those of countless campuses across the country. With the accessibility of various forms of media, especially social media, these realities on university campuses become increasingly exposed. McDonald believes that inherent in the changing demographics and increased diversity on campuses across our nation are opportunities for conflict.

“We must ensure that community members have the requisite social justice conflict resolution tools to navigate these experiences appropriately,” says McDonald.

He asserts that institutions have a responsibility to society and believes if colleges and universities are truly committed to inclusive excellence, they have to hold themselves accountable for making diversity and inclusion efforts an integral part of their everyday practices.

“Importantly,” says McDonald, “We must understand that the aforementioned expectations are just the manifestation of Christian principles that can’t represent lofty goals or rhetoric, but must instead be operationalized.”

Referencing Jesus Christ, he comments, “We’ve been informed by the best Teacher of all regarding how to treat others, engage others, uplift others, and commit ourselves, so we can’t afford to have select amnesia to applications of his teachings nor self-interpretations of his desired outcomes.”

Describing Andrews University, McDonald explains that the compositional diversity ranking of the university is significant for any institution—not just an Adventist one. He explains that in higher education, there is always talk about preparing students to operate as effective citizens in a global marketplace that stresses the need for multicultural competencies and the ability to work in interdisciplinary teams.

“At Andrews,” says McDonald, “this experience begins from day one, because the University brings an extremely diverse group of students together from a variety of lived experiences, and it asks them to live, work and learn on campus together.”

As McDonald sees it, at an Adventist university whose motto encourages students to seek knowledge and affirm faith in order to change the world, exposure to a plethora of cultural backgrounds enables students to interact in both proactive and reactive ways with diversity.

MOCHA (Men of Color, Honor, and Ambition) students at Rochester Institute of Technology. The one-year initiative was founded by Kevin McDonald, bottom right. Visit rit.edu/diversity/mocha-men-color-honor-and-ambition to learn more.
On a campus like Andrews, McDonald explains that students will seek out some interactions and navigate others by virtue of diversity being ever present in their classes, residence halls, chapels, Friday evening and Sabbath services, etc. As students hear from and learn about how culture and faith intersect with the rich cultures represented within the campus community, they gain a broader awareness of the world and a stronger understanding of the important role that faith plays in it, and this helps fuel their desire to serve as transformative agents.

“If I were working in a diversity capacity at Andrews,” says McDonald. “I would work collaboratively with faculty, staff, students, alumni and administrators to create an overarching framework that made clear the strong connection that diversity and inclusion have with Andrews University’s pursuit of organizational excellence.”

To do so, McDonald would affirm existing efforts that have aided in the recruitment of a diverse student body, but by also making sure efforts were inextricably bound to other areas like campus climate and intergroup relation, education and scholarship, and the organizational infrastructure.

McDonald would ask questions such as the following to ensure that proper issues and concerns were being raised on campus:
1. How are diverse student populations performing academically, and are they persisting and graduating (what do statistics look like disaggregated)? Are we being intentional in our efforts to academically and socially connect them in ways that create a sense of belonging/community and that build self-efficacy?
2. Are we recruiting and retaining diverse faculty and staff?
3. Are we engaging our multicultural alumni? If so, how and do additional opportunities exist to engage our alumni with current student populations?

4. How are our diversity and inclusion efforts reflected in our policies, processes and practices?
5. How are our current philanthropic efforts designed to include diversity?
6. Are diversity and inclusion important parts of the institutional strategic planning efforts and are they reflected in the compositional diversity of our leadership and our Board of Trustees?

McDonald has been married for 19 years to Kimberlyn and has three children: Rodney Osborne Jr. (currently working on his Master of Divinity at Andrews University), Kayla 15, and Kesslyn, 14. He enjoys singing and developed a love for it while singing in male groups on and off campus while as an undergraduate at Andrews. He fondly remembers being a member of the Black Student Christian Forum, and the many opportunities for music ministry it provided him. He is a vegan who enjoys exercising regularly and watching his daughters play volleyball, describing them as “fanatics” about the sport.

Faith plays a significant role in his personal and professional life. “I remain extremely grateful for the firm foundation that Andrews helped me establish in this regard,” says McDonald. “Every opportunity that I’ve been afforded is a blessing that I’ve never taken for granted and I remain humbled by every blessing bestowed upon me.”

Danni Francis is a senior English major at Andrews University and summer intern for FOCUS magazine

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As our world becomes increasingly connected, communities become more diverse. Traditional cultures of origin and educational systems have not kept pace with each constituent’s need for knowledge and training to navigate our progressively diverse world. The demand for diversity competency is no longer an elective option for those who travel but a foundational communication essential for all.

The vast majority of diversity initiatives serve to motivate organizations to become “visually diverse.” The next goal of most diversity initiatives in organizations is to diversify the programming: curriculum, food offerings in the cafeteria, diversity represented in promotional print material, social/cultural activities, etc. Most institutions remain at level one or two.

Andrews University finds itself with a unique opportunity. Due to our position as the flagship educational institution for the Seventh-day Adventist Church, which also includes the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, we have been blessed with people coming to attend Andrews from around the globe for many years. Consequently, we have the visual diversity that so many are still seeking to attain.

This has been noted by U.S. News and World Report, which has listed Andrews University in the top 10 national universities in the United States for ethnic diversity for many years and this year we are listed as number two! As a result of being “gifted” with visual diversity for many years, we have worked steadily to achieve the second goal of diversifying our curricula, cocurricular programming and institutional structure. We have made great strides in these domains and continue the ongoing development in these areas.

This foundation allows Andrews University to move forward to the next level of diversity training and to fully maximize the benefits of our diverse community. We are embracing the opportunity to move from Passive Representational Diversity to Inclusive Transformational Diversity, through the innovative M.I.R.R.O.R. Diversity Training Program. This involves working with each constituent member of the Andrews’ community to become increasingly aware of biases: and to equip and Motivate each person at Andrews University to develop the skills and training needed to create Inclusive Relationships; develop authentic Respect for Others, and maintain a lifelong commitment to “self” Reflection and personal growth.

Moving towards transformational diversity is part of our strategic plan for preparing the Andrews University community for global service and is essential to fully attain the Andrews University institutional mission to Seek Knowledge, Affirm Faith and Change the World.

Carole Woolford-Hunt is associate professor of counseling psychology and chair of the Department of Graduate Psychology & Counseling and the Institutional Diversity Council
Alumni calendar of events
For more information visit us online at www.andrews.edu/alumni/ or contact the Office of Alumni Services at 269-471-3591 or alumni@andrews.edu.

June

11  Michigan Camp Meeting Event
    5 p.m.
    Fellowship Hall, Cedar Lake Church
    Cedar Lake, Michigan
18  Indiana Camp Meeting Event
    5 p.m.
    Indiana Academy
    Cicero, Indiana
18  Wisconsin Camp Meeting Event
    5 p.m.
    Andrews University cabin
    Camp Wakonda
    Westfield, Wisconsin
25  Lake Region Camp Meeting Event
    5 p.m.
    Camp Wagner
    Cassopolis, Michigan

July

31  Summer Commencement Service
    9 a.m.
    Pioneer Memorial Church
    Berrien Springs, Michigan

August

4  ASI/Arizona Regional Event
    6 p.m.
    Location to be determined
    We look forward to meeting with local alumni and those who will be attending the ASI Conference. More information will be available at the Andrews University booth for conference attendees.

September

29–Oct. 1  Homecoming Weekend
    See page 19 for details.
    Berrien Springs, Michigan

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

Would you be interested in serving as a local host for an alumni gathering? Or maybe you'd be willing to sponsor an event in your area? How about serving on our Alumni Board of Directors? Connecting with students as a mentor? We'd love to hear from you! Email alumni@andrews.edu or call 269-471-3591.
Regional events

Nebraska
A regional event was held in Lincoln, Nebraska on Sunday, April 17. A good group of alumni who live in the area attended. One of the highlights of this event was a memory book that was prepared for our outgoing president with various notes and memories from alumni and friends. President Andreasen was presented with this book during spring graduation weekend.

Colorado
On Tuesday, April 19, in Denver, Colorado, Andrews University held one of the largest regional events to date in this area. Well over 70 alums as well as friends of the University came out along with their families to hear updates about Andrews and share a meal with each other. The event will be scheduled again next year, so please plan to join us if you live in or around the Denver area.

Electronic transcripts now available

The Office of Academic Records, in cooperation with the Office of Information Technology Services (ITS), is pleased to announce a new offering of electronic transcripts (e-transcripts) in addition to our current mailed transcript option.

Presently, Andrews University processes over 8,000 transcripts a year from current students and alumni. Out of many services offered by our office, the Andrews Transcript Request Service is already highly respected for its fast processing, responsive customer service and free transcripts.

While it does add minimal fees, e-transcripts offer students a host of additional benefits, such as:

- 24/7 availability
- Faster transcript delivery
- Automatic status updates
- Online transcript order tracking
- Instant mobile text alerts
- Problem notification via email
- Credit and debit cards accepted
- State-of-the-art PDF document security
- Ability to attach additional forms online with the order
- Paperless consent available

It is important to note that e-transcripts are only available for Andrews University students and do not include students taking classes through Griggs University, Consortium (unless it’s Andrews consortium) or the School of Education’s distance learning courses.

We would like thank ITS for the many hours of technical expertise and we look forward to offering this new service for students and alumni.

andrews.edu/services/registrar/alumni_former_students/transcript_requests

Final diploma awarded by Andreasen

Heather Owen Nudd (MA ’05, EdS ’06, PhD ’16) was the recipient of the final diploma awarded by Niels Erik Andreasen after 22 years as president of Andrews University.

Nudd graduated with a PhD in educational psychology. Her dissertation is titled “An Examination of Implicit Beliefs and Ability Judgments Among School Psychologists.”

This and other dissertations, as well as other educational research by Andrews University students and faculty, is available at digitalcommons.andrews.edu.
1950s

Alvin Richard Klein (BA ’54) recently finished an intensive two-volume writing project that he’s been working on for the past 19–20 years. It chronicles his family’s history, beginning with his Dad’s parents, Ed & Elizabeth Klein, who came to America from the Ukraine of Russia. Volume one also includes his mother, Ann Kathryn Korody and family coming from Hungary and Romania. The second volume continues with the Ted and Ann Klein family, of which Alvin is a part. Revealing how a large family lived in rural America more than a century ago, it also highlights how both families were led into the Seventh-day Adventist Church. At 406 spiral-bound pages, this is a true treasure for family members and close friends. Alvin writes, “I am excited that before my 88th birthday (April 27, 2016) I have been blessed by our loving Lord to have finished this project.”

1970s


1980s

Derek Morris (MDiv ’80, DMin ’87) was recently named president of Hope Channel, the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s international television network with 43 affiliate channels. His previous position was editor of Ministry magazine.

Morris, an associate secretary for the Adventist world church’s Ministerial Association since 2010, begins his new role with an already established relationship with Hope Channel. For more than six years he has served as host of Hope Channel’s most-watched program, “Hope Sabbath School,” a weekly, interactive Bible study program.

Morris holds a Doctor of Ministry in preaching from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in Charlotte, North Carolina, and a Doctor of Ministry in practical theology from the Andrews University Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary.

1990s

JoAnne Favors (MS ’89) announced her candidacy for the 28th Legislative District House seat (Chattanooga, Tennessee) in the August 4 Democratic Primary. She currently serves on the Health, and Insurance and Banking Committees and has served as vice chair of the Democratic Caucus, Health Professions chair, and House Democratic Whip. She was also appointed as Tennessee Director for Women in Government, Inc., and serves as co-chair for Mayor Andy Berke’s Council on Women in which over 200 women participate. She arranges for A Day on Capitol Hill each year for her constituents to travel to Nashville and learn about the political process.

Her professional, political and civic background includes obtaining a master’s degree in nursing administration and adult health from Andrews University, being elected as state representative in 2004, being the first African American female to be elected to the Hamilton County Commission in 1998 and 2002, serving as executive director of the Southside and Dodson Avenue Community Health Centers, associate professor of nursing at Chattanooga State Community College, head nurse and clinical nurse specialist. She has received many honors and service awards, and is a frequent speaker at civic, religious and educational events.

1990s

Maurice Ngai (MBA ’92) has been appointed as a new independent director, chair of the Audit Committee and a member of the Compensation Committee for SPI Energy Co. Ltd., based in Shanghai. SPI is a global provider of photovoltaic (PV) solutions for business, residential, government and utility customers and investors. Ngai is the founder and CEO of SW Corporate
Services Group Limited, a company providing company secretarial, corporate governance and compliance services. Prior to that, he was the director and head of listing services of an independent integrated corporate services provider. He has over 25 years of corporate and professional experience, working in senior management posts of company secretary, executive director and chief financial officer. Ngai obtained a doctoral degree in finance at Shanghai University of Finance and Economics, a master’s degree in corporate finance from Hong Kong Polytechnic University, a master’s degree in business administration from Andrews University of Michigan and a bachelor’s degree in laws at University of Wolverhampton. He is in a selected talent pool of State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration of the State Council (SASAC) and is serving as an independent non-executive director of several reputable listed companies.

**Rick McEdward (MDiv ’93)** was elected president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s Middle East and North Africa Union, a region that has half a billion people and is one of the most difficult places in the world to share the gospel. He has served as director of the Global Mission Centers for World Religions and associate director of the Office of Adventist Mission since 2011. The MENA Union Mission Oversight Committee elected McEdward to replace Homer Trecartin, who asked to return to the United States for health and family reasons. McEdward also served as associate director of the Institute of World Mission at the Andrews University Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. He received his undergraduate degree from Walla Walla College (now Walla Walla University) in 1990 and his Master of Divinity from Andrews University. He completed a doctorate in missiology from Fuller Graduate Schools in 2012.

**2000s**

The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga recently announced the appointment of **David Rausch** (PhD ’08) as vice provost for Academic Affairs. Rausch has a PhD in leadership from Andrews University and MBA from Samford University. Rausch also completed post-doc graduate work in education technology at Michigan State University and is certified as an instructor/administrator in a number of Learning Management Systems as well as being certified as a Quality Matters Peer Reviewer.

Rausch joined the UTC faculty in 2009. He has served as director of the doctoral program in Learning and Leadership and director of the School of Professional Studies. Prior to coming to UTC, Rausch held faculty and administrative positions at Samford University, Davenport University, Northwood University, Macomb Community College, and as visiting faculty for the University of Santo Amaro, Sao Paulo, Brazil.

In addition to his extensive experience in higher education, Rausch has also worked in marketing and sales, strategic planning, investments and securities, and served in the U.S. Navy for four years.
Deaths

Virginia Ellen Eakley (DIP2YR '46, BS '59, MA '63), 91, of Berrien Springs, Michigan died on Tuesday, April 5, 2016, at her home.

She was born to Verna M. and Leroy A. Eakley on May 13, 1924, in Oak Harbor, Ohio.

Virginia graduated from Bethel Academy in Arpin, Wisconsin, in 1943, and Emmanuel Missionary College (now Andrews University) in 1947. She worked as a Seventh-day Adventist elementary school teacher for 40 years in Ohio; Cicero, Indiana; and Ruth Murdoch Elementary School in Berrien Springs. She enjoyed traveling, writing poetry, and her cats and dogs.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her older sister, Annabel E. Sevison; her younger sister, Marvin (who was raised by her parents); and friend, Phyllis Standen (former faculty).

Survivors include her cousin, David Goodsworth; stepniece, Laura Frey; and stepnephew, Lester Sevison.

Agnes E. Gibson (former staff), 100, of Berrien Springs, Michigan, died April 3, 2016, in St. Joseph, Michigan.

Agnes was born March 10, 1916, in Rainy River, Ontario, Canada, the daughter of Charles J. and Anna (Ferris) Louiseau.

In addition to caring for her family, she had been postal clerk and manager of the Andrews University Post Office for 40 years.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Lewis Philip Gibson, in 1958; two brothers, Stanley and Gilbert Louiseau, and her son Garth, who died April 25, 2016.

Agnes is survived by her son, Robert (Debbie) of Pentwater, Michigan; four grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and her sister, Margaret Squire of Pentwater.

Grace (Benedict) Delware Hamilton (BS '61) died on March 31, 2016, in Crystal Lake, Illinois.

Grace was born January 3, 1910, in Bristol, Wisconsin to Elizabeth Higgins Benedict and LeGrand Benedict.

In her 106 years, Grace lived through much history, including the 1918 influenza epidemic. She also campaigned with her mother and sister to gain the women’s right to vote. Living through the Great Depression was a vivid memory and caused her to always be creative in ways to reuse, rebuild, repurpose and recycle.

Grace attended Carroll College in Waukesha, Wisconsin and completed her undergraduate work at Andrews University. She earned her graduate degree in education from Bowling Green University in Ohio. She also studied at McCormick Seminary in Chicago, University of Pittsburgh and Western Michigan University. She taught school in Michigan, Pennsylvania and Ohio.

On June 7, 1930, Grace married Everett Delware, a Presbyterian pastor. Until his retirement, Grace worked at his side in such roles as Sunday school teacher, choir director and secretary. He passed away in 1983.

One year later, at a Carroll College reunion, Grace met Harold Hamilton, a man she had dated in student days, who was also widowed. The two married in 1985. They were together until Harold died in 1996.

Grace led a rich, full and active life. She looked upon retirement as an opportunity to try new things, enrolling in woodworking classes, braiding rugs and caning chairs. She also became an active volunteer in the community, even tutoring young men in jail as they acquired their GED. In her 90s, she tutored foreign students in English.

Grace was preceded in death by two infant children, Charles Beals Delware and Mary Jo Delware; and an adult daughter, Nancy Lee Delware.

She is survived by daughter Elizabeth and her husband John Sangerloo (BA '61) of Reno, Nevada; and son, John Everett Delware (Nancy) of Crystal Lake, Illinois.

Dennis Frederick Wales (att.), 75, of Berrien Springs, passed away March 21, 2016 at his home.

Dennis was born Nov. 15, 1940 in Stambaugh, Michigan to Ernest & Gladys (Shoquist) Wales. He married Janet Bengry Callahan, Cienna & Celton Wales; brothers Robert Wales (att.) of Houghton, Michigan and Richard Wales (att.) of St. Joseph, Michigan.

Dennis is survived by his wife Janet; daughter Kim (Gary Keiser) of Berrien Springs; sons Dana (att.) (Dawn) Wales of Berrien Springs and Scott Wales of Berrien Springs; grandchildren Preston & Derek Lane, Aaron Keiser, Cody Wales and Kailey Wales; Callahan, Cienna & Colton Wales; brothers Robert Wales (att.) of Houghton, Michigan and Richard Wales (att.) of St. Joseph, Michigan.

Dennis is survived by his wife Janet; daughter Kim (Gary Keiser) of Berrien Springs; sons Dana (att.) (Dawn) Wales of Berrien Springs and Scott Wales of Berrien Springs; grandchildren Preston & Derek Lane, Aaron Keiser, Cody Wales and Kailey Wales; Callahan, Cienna & Colton Wales; brothers Robert Wales (att.) of Houghton, Michigan and Richard Wales (att.) of St. Joseph, Michigan.

Dennis was preceded in death by his parents.

Jerry R. Coyle (MA ’55), 85, died March 20, 2016, in Maryville, Tennessee. He was born Nov. 30, 1930 in Lincoln, Nebraska.

While attending Platte Valley Academy, he joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church. He then went to Union College in Lincoln, graduating with a bachelor’s degree in 1954. In 1955 he received his master’s degree in religion from the Seminary in Washington, D.C. He served as pastor-teacher in Fergus Falls, and Blackberry, Minnesota.

On August 18, 1957 he married Virginia Durichek in Minneapolis, Minnesota. They pastored districts in St. Paul, Lamberton and Duluth, Minnesota.

Following that they moved to St. Joseph, Missouri and Charlotte, North Carolina.
then back to Hutchinson and Minneapolis, Minnesota. Their next pastorates were all in Illinois: Downers Grove, Waukegan, Round Lake, Rockford, Elgin and Dekalb.


Jerry is survived by his wife of 58 years, Virginia; one daughter, Sharon (BS ’82) and Don Johnson (BS ’81) of Seymour, Tennessee; one son, Larry (AS ’83, BS ’86) of Benton Harbor, Michigan; and two grandchildren.

Verna Sylvesta (Renschler) Brenneise (att.) died peacefully in Lodi, California after a short illness on March 16, 2016, at the age of 95.

Verna was born on Feb. 8, 1921, in Leola, South Dakota to David and Martha Renschler. She graduated from Hinsdale School of Nursing in 1945 and with a degree in physical therapy from Loma Linda University in 1946. She married Ed Brenneise in 1946.

Her nursing career was at Stanford University Hospital and El Camino Hospital, Mountain View, California. She particularly enjoyed singing in church choirs and extensive world travel with her husband.

She is survived by her husband Ehud (Ed) and sister Evangeline Pflugrad of Sunland, California, her daughter Linda (BMus ’71, MMus ’72) and Ed Mack (att.) of Denver, Colorado; son Harvey Brenneise (BA ’73, MA ’74) of Seattle, Washington; and daughter Carmen Brenneise of Cameron Park, California; four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her brother Clarence Renschler (MA ’57).

Charlotte Virginia Groff (BA ’54, MA ’65, PhD ’86) died March 12, 2016. She was born August 9, 1932 in Hinsdale, Illinois and died in the house in Berrien Springs she had lived in her entire life.

Charlotte was an only child, born to Virginia Fairchild Boone and Earle Groff. Her education was entirely at Emmanuel Missionary College (later Andrews University) with a BA in English (minor in French), MA in Middle English and PhD in educational psychology.

She worked as a school teacher until she retired at 70. One year she taught in Benton Harbor, but the rest of her career was with Coloma, Michigan schools. Her specialty was teaching early reading in the younger grades. During the summers she worked with the Migrant Program.

Charlotte took an interest in genealogy, traveling out East to do research. She was a member of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants and Daughters of the American Revolution and she signed up many relatives to these organizations. For years she was an officer in the local DAR chapter. In that position she read and judged many high school essays and then traveled around to the high schools in the county handing out awards.

Her faith, her religion and her church were an important part of her life. She was baptized at age 8 into the Seventh-day Adventist Church, joining the Andrews campus church that later became Pioneer Memorial Church. She was a member for 75 years, making her the longest member of that congregation.

Charlotte attended every Alumni Homecoming banquet at Andrews University beginning her senior year as an undergraduate student and every single year, without fail, until her death. Which means she attended every banquet from 1954–2016 (61 banquets!). She was one of the reunion leaders for her 60th reunion in 2016.

Her father died in 1944 and her mother died in 1968. Therefore, she spent most of her life without her parents. Her closest relatives were her cousins Mary Jane Kimmel Chavez and George T. Kimmel Jr. She took an interest in George’s children; Mary Ann (BA ’66) and Tom.

Having never married, she had no children of her own.

She quit watching football in 1974 when Johnny Unitas retired. After her retirement she continued with an active life, driving, doing DAR work, and helping with the church until the end. Charlotte had a strong personality with an interest in family traditions. She will be missed by all who knew her.

William (Bill) R. Bornstein (BA ’49, MA ’51), 90, died Feb. 18, 2016, in Sanford, Florida. He was born to Benjamin and Lena Bornstein on July 28, 1925, in Paterson, New Jersey.

When his family relocated to Rhode Island, he developed his love of the sea. The New England work ethic became his life’s motto: “It is not what you start that counts, but what you finish.”

Born to a Jewish father with ties to more than 250 family members killed in the Holocaust, he was drafted into WWII in September 1943, serving in the United States Navy as a pharmacist’s mate, second class, until an honorable discharge in April 1946.

In 1949, he graduated with a BA from Emmanuel Missionary College. He married Marilyn Eliene Fellows on June 4, 1950. In 1951, he graduated with an MA from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary in Takoma Park, Maryland and by 1953 received his ordination. In 1984, he completed doctoral studies at Fuller Theological Seminary in Thousand Oaks, California.

His life represents one of total dedication, devotion and service in ministry. His 42 years of denominational service included pastoral work, evangelism and administrative positions in the following conferences: Pennsylvania, Ohio, Rocky Mountain, Greater New York, Upper Columbia, Ontario, Canadian Union and ending with Florida. Retiring in 1992, he continued evangelism and guest-speaking appointments with Florida Conference on a volunteer basis for the next eight years.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Marilyn (att.); one daughter, Bonnie Bornstein-Rodriguez (former staff) and son-in-law Santiago Rodriguez (MDiv ’94, DMin ’04); and two grandsons, James-Ryan and...
Miroslav M. Kiš (former faculty), professor emeritus of ethics, died Feb. 23, 2016, from a heart attack.

Miroslav Kiš was born in Mikluševeci, a small village in the country of Yugoslavia, on Nov. 20, 1942. He was the tenth of 11 children born to Andrija and Natalija Kiš. When he was 2 years old, his father was killed near the end of WWII while warning the village of impending bombardment. This was the beginning of severe poverty for his family. During his elementary schooling, he was often hospitalized for malnutrition.

Miroslav’s early years living under communism strengthened his faith in God. As a young child of 8, he chose to stand up for his beliefs when beaten by his teacher for not attending school on Saturdays. This faith was again tested during his obligatory military service when he was court martialed for refusing to participate in Saturday exercises. When he appeared before the judge he was asked why he refused. He said it was a matter of conscience. “Oh?” The judge said, “Tell me about this.” He proceeded to relate his experience when he was 8 years old. When he was finished, the judge said, “I wish we had more communists like you.” He was given his Saturdays off in exchange for Sunday duties.

Like others in his family, Miroslav took up watchmaking and repair as a professional trade, working on tiny ring watches as well as steeple clocks. But his greatest joy was expressed when he began to compose music and lyrics which were published in the Yugoslavian SDA hymnal and sung at youth congresses and other church gatherings.

Desiring to further his education and feeling the call of God to the ministry, he applied and was accepted to study at Séminaire Adventiste du Salève, Collonges, France, where he attended from 1968 until 1973. While studying theology there, he met Brenda Bond (MA ’93), an American studying French. In 1971 he traveled to the United States for the first time and they were married in Brenda’s home state of California. They spent their first two years of married life at Collonges where he finished his degree with honors.

Back in California he studied further before moving to Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan, to pursue a Master of Divinity at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. While studying, he supported the family by repairing watches dropped off at Krause Pharmacy (in the building now occupied by the Journal Era). Their firstborn son, Andrej (BA ’00, MA ’04), arrived in June 1976.

Upon graduating that year in December with his degree, he and his family moved to Montreal, Quebec, Canada, where he pastored and served as youth director for the Quebec Mission as well as pursuing his PhD in philosophical ethics at McGill University.

Their second son, Adam (BA ’00), joined the family in June 1978. In 1980 the family moved to College Heights, Alberta, Canada where he taught in the religion department at Canadian Union College (now Burman University).

In 1983 Miroslav graduated from McGill University and was immediately offered a position teaching theology at the Andrews University Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. In 1986 he became chair of the Department of Theology & Christian Philosophy, where he was instrumental in developing the ethics program over the 32 years he taught there.

Throughout the years of his career at the seminary, he frequently traveled around the world as a speaker, lecturer and consultant on ethical matters. He wrote articles for Adventist publications as well as refereed journals. He contributed to chapters in several books, and authored one book, “Follow Me.” Miroslav left an impression on the Seventh-day Adventist Church through his contributions to many committees of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Over the years he mentored thousands of students who now serve as pastors, academicians and church administrators throughout the world.

But above all his pastoral and academic endeavors, Miroslav made his family a priority, even in his career decisions. As often as possible he took them on trips, whether domestic or abroad, and frequently visited his extended family in Europe and California. That was the area where he wanted to leave the greatest legacy of all.

He is survived by his wife Brenda, sons Andrej and Adam, daughters-in-law Daisy and Kristi (BSELED’00), and grandchildren Zachary, Julie and Cedric.

Michael Rodriguez. He was predeceased by his parents and his brother, Leonard Bornstein (BA ’58).


Born on August 6, 1926, he was almost 90 years old. During his life he became a father of five, an ordained minister, a registered architect and a crusader for mission work around the world.

He met Dottie Shasky (att.) at Emmanuel Missionary College and they married on June 1, 1948. Together they raised James (Jim) Davidson Jr. (att.), Joni Davidson Picukaric (att.), Brent Davidson (att.), John Davidson (att.) and Bonnie Beth Davidson Briggs (BBA ’86). He was also a father to Jim Jr.’s wife, Virginia (att.); Joni’s husband, Duro Picukaric; Brent’s wife, Kristen; and was a teacher and mentor to Bonnie’s husband, Bill Briggs (BSAS ’83, BArch ’86), who is also an architect.

During his time in the U.S. Air Force Service (1944–46) he was stationed in France, Morocco, French West Africa, Liberia and Germany. After returning to the U.S., he continued his spiritual journey of service in the Michigan Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and was ordained as a minister in 1964.

He served as principal of the Holly SDA Elementary School, a full-time pastor for the Michigan...
Bill Davidson (professor emeritus), his five children and grandchildren Carol June Davidson Walker, Rebecca Davidson Cutler, Natasha Davidson, Heather Briggs (current student) and J J Briggs. His three great-grandchildren were the light of his life.

Anna (Homenchuk) Klimes (EdD ’77), 86, died peacefully in her sleep on Dec. 29, 2015, in her home in Folsom, California.

Although she had suffered from osteoporosis for many years, she continued to be an active member of her community, church and family.

Anna was born to Ukrainian immigrants in Saskatchew an, Canada in 1929. She was married in 1954, received her bachelor’s degree from Walla Walla College (1957), her master’s degree from Indiana University (1964), and her doctorate in education from Andrews University (1977).

Her work has been an amazing tour around the world, serving on three continents, Asia, Europe and North America. She taught every level of students from elementary through graduate school. She was best known for her work with high-school and college students challenged by reading disabilities and directing total immersion English programs.

She is survived by her husband of 61 years, Rudolf E. Klimes (MA ’77, former faculty), her three children, Anita Heidi Borrowdale (BS ’81), Bonnie Klimes-Dougan (att.), and Randy Klimes, and their spouses (Greg Borrowdale (att.), Jack Dougan and Lindsay Klimes), six grandchildren, and seven siblings.

Gordon Schuyler Travis (MA ’60) passed away at his home on Nov. 23, 2015, in Orlando, Florida. He was 89 years old and had advanced Parkinson’s disease.

He was born in Boise, Idaho on Sept. 2, 1926, the only child of David and Ethel (Mudge) Travis. Gordon’s mother died when he was 10 years old.

Gordon and his father were charter members of the Springfield, Oregon Adventist Church. He graduated from Laurelwood Academy in 1945.

On July 3, 1945, Gordon entered the U.S. Army at Fort Lewis, Washington. He was a medic (surgical technician) and served in China in the Army of Occupation. He received a WWII Victory Medal and was honorably discharged in 1947.

He earned a Bachelor of Theology in 1951 from Walla Walla College.

Gordon was married to Verna (Sackett) on June 18, 1950. For 65 years they celebrated their wedding day on the 18th of each month with a dish of ice cream. Gordon said he would never remember anything once a year, therefore they have celebrated 785 anniversaries!

In 1952 they moved to Bremerton, Washington, where Gordon served a four-year apprenticeship at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, graduating as a journeyman marine pipefitter in 1957.

In 1958 the family moved to Washington, D.C., where the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary was then located. Gordon graduated June 18, 1960 with a master’s degree in Bible and systematic theology with a minor in applied theology with the first class of Andrews University.

After graduation, Gordon was employed by the Northern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists for ten years as an assistant pastor, pastor and evangelist.

For 17 years Gordon worked at St. Helena Hospital and Health Center, Deer Park, California, also serving as a volunteer chaplain. He retired in 1988.

After Verna retired, the family moved to Texas where they worked in evangelism, until ill health necessitated a return to the Northwest.

Gordon loved to read and travel. Between him and his wife Verna, they have been in 48 of the 50 United States.

Gordon is survived by his wife of 65 years, Verna, of Orlando, Florida, daughter Ruth (Daniel) Hanson, son Jonathan (Patricia) Travis, three step-sisters: Ester Dunton, Helen Kissee and Aletha Huddleston, five grandchildren, one great-grandson, and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his oldest son, David LeRoy Travis, and his step-brother Lowell Bender.
Patricia and Bill Mutch love trekking around the world together, meeting new people, and experiencing new things. By remembering Andrews University in their estate plan, they are able to make a real difference in the lives of future Andrews University students from all over the world. And because it doesn’t have any effect on their present income, Patricia and Bill have the freedom to keep enjoying the adventure ahead.

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

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Email: plannedgiving@andrews.edu
Web: andrews.edu/plannedgiving

Allen Stembridge, dean of the School of Business Administration (SBA), signs the new Memorandum of Understanding between Andrews University and Chung Shan Medical University (CSMU). The SBA has forged new strategic alliances with CSMU and National Taipei University in Nursing and Health Science, both located in Taiwan. The alliances will allow students from those universities to study at Andrews University for the final part of their undergraduate program, followed by enrolling in the Master of Business Administration (MBA) program at Andrews. For the complete story about this new partnership, go to https://www.andrews.edu/agenda/41238.