

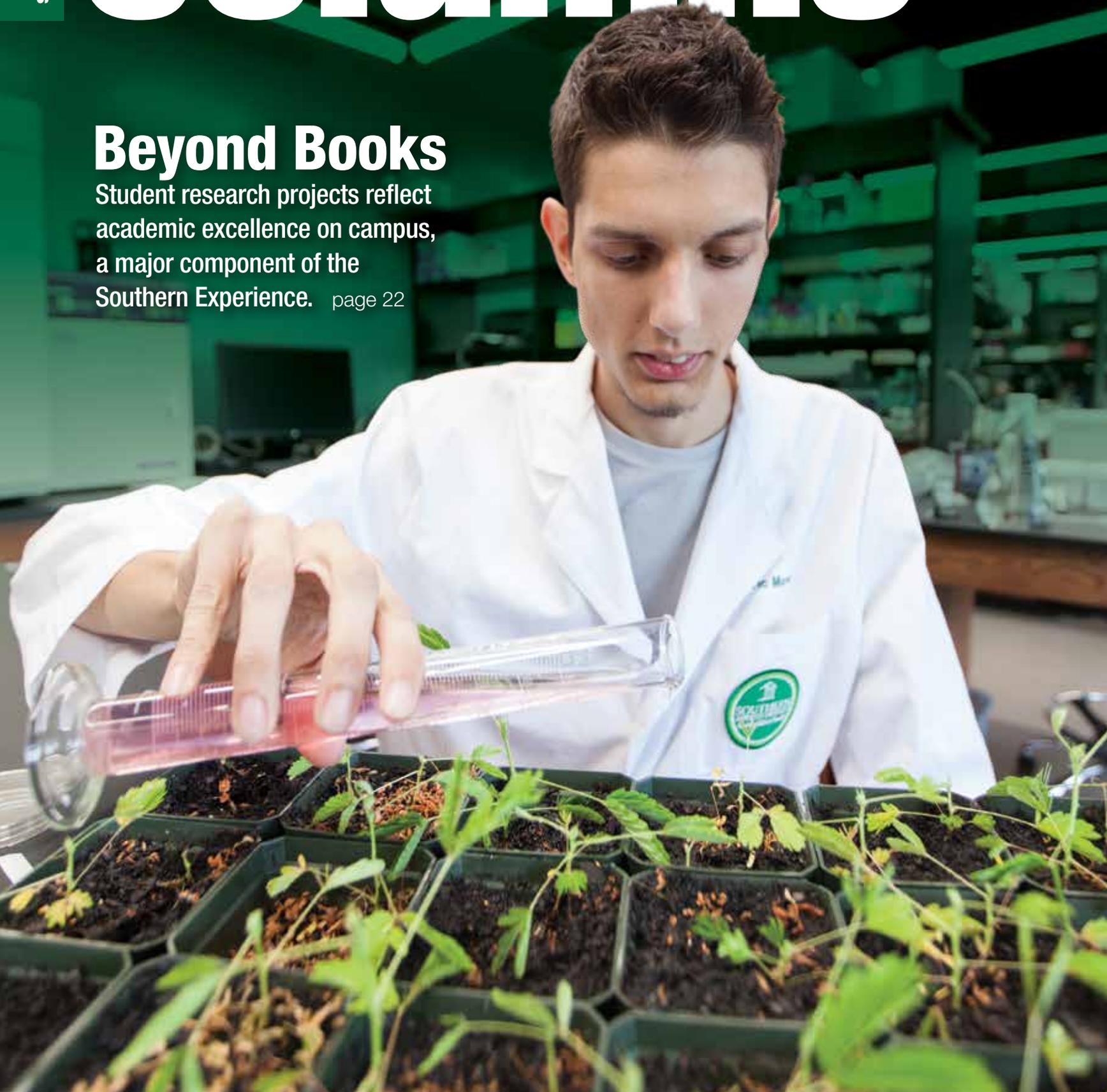
the magazine of Southern Adventist University

spring 2015

columns

Beyond Books

Student research projects reflect academic excellence on campus, a major component of the Southern Experience. page 22



Birthday Birds

Last May, Southern President Gordon Bietz rode his bicycle 70 miles for a university fundraiser honoring his 70th birthday. This year, pink flamingos flew in all the way from Florida to set the mood for this special day. "I believe they actually had 71 of them, though I didn't count," Bietz said. "Maybe it's better if we don't count the years either!" Even if he isn't worried about the numbers, you can be sure employees and friends of Southern will be watching the calendar closely in 2015-2016. Bietz recently announced his plans to retire next May (see page 6 for related article), leaving only one remaining year to creatively celebrate his more than three decades of service to Southern as president and pastor.



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On the cover: Eric Morris, senior biology major, is researching how artificial sweeteners impact a plant's response to stimulation and what this reveals about the adverse effects of sugar substitutes.

columns

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youtube



Find the video links at southern.edu/columns.



The university's annual Southern Awareness Sabbath video, sent to every church in the Southern Union for inclusion during worship, focuses on how students are encouraged to develop and use their God-given gifts to glorify Jesus and serve others.



Using a combination of stationary and drone-captured footage, Leo Macias, '11, created this video of hummingbirds feeding while he and his wife, Hillary (Prandl), '12, were visiting friends in northern California.



"I Am Beautiful," an original spoken word piece by senior nursing major Kameron Carter, is about letting Jesus define your beauty—not advertisements, other people, or social media. For the video version of this poem, Carter is joined by Cassie Matchim, junior journalism and global policy and service major.

twitter



#ilovesouthern

» **Boaz Papendick, '04, @boazpapendick**

Papendick's photo won the #ilovesouthern contest in February sponsored by the university's Advancement office.

March is that delicious slice of time in the South when you can still go jacketless but the bugs are not the boss of us.

» **Kendra Stanton Lee, assistant professor, @kendraspondence**

When you're about to take a midterm and your classmates are singing "Deliver Us" from The Prince of Egypt ... Yup, we're doomed!

» **Chanty Alicea, junior religious studies major, @AshesRemain_**

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“Seven, a local street artist, came as a guest speaker for class today to show some of his work and teach us basic elements. So much fun. And yes, Campus Safety showed up to the scene.”

» **Aileen Martinez, junior art therapy major,**
@aileen_like_a_cholo



“It’s such an honor to have had Gordon Bietz as the president of Southern during my time here!”

» **Jared Powrie, junior computer science and missions major,** @jnpowrie

See page 6 for news about Bietz’s retirement plans.



#lifeatsouthern #snow

» **Nick Lindsay, senior film production major,**
@nrindsay

worth a click!



The documentary *I Will Not Fear* follows Chattanooga businessman and triathlete Ed Rusk as he begins to better understand the strong connections between the physical pain of earthly trials and the

eternal significance of overcoming adversity with Godly perseverance. Nothing makes that more evident than a 140-mile Iron Man competition! Film production majors Nick Lindsay (director), Mark Comberiate (producer), and Dillan Forsey (cinematographer) created the documentary and recently took home several awards from the SONSscreen festival in California. Honors included Audience Choice Award, Best Cinematography, and Best Documentary Short. The piece also won Best Picture at Chattanooga’s Broad Street Film Festival in April.

For more information, visit iwillnotfearfilm.com.



facebook



Valentine’s Day is almost upon us, and this orangutan I met in Bangkok knew it.

» **Tucker Anderson,**
senior nursing major

Anderson is a student missionary in Thailand.

Thank you so much Mrs. Minner and Southern orchestra. “Adagio for Strings” is my favorite song, and I’ve longed to hear it live for the past three years. It was inexpressibly spectacular.

» **Adam Sawyer,**
junior religious studies major

I can’t believe they just did a Maori war chant. Night=made!

» **Kenn Laughlin, sophomore global policy and service major**

Laughlin was one of many attending the annual Asian Night event in Iles P.E. Center.



I walk lions. What do you take for a walk?

» **Moses Maier, junior global policy and service major**

Maier is a student missionary in Zambia.

[leadership]

Bietz Announces Retirement Plans for May 2016

On April 21, Gordon Bietz, DMin, announced to Southern's Board of Trustees that he plans to retire at the end of the 2015-2016 year, his 19th as president.

"In a sense, there is never a right time to transition away from a place you love this much, because there is always more you've dreamt of accomplishing," Bietz said. "But I want to leave at a time when the university is in a strong position for new leadership."

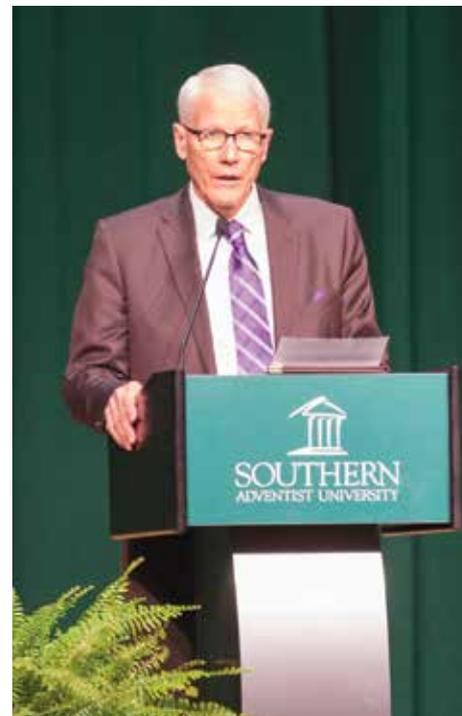
Under Bietz's guidance, both enrollment and the university's budget have doubled. Nearly \$80 million in construction projects were completed during his tenure to accommodate that growth, including Southern Village apartment complex, Hulsey Wellness Center, and Florida Hospital Hall, home to the School of Nursing. Plans are underway for a \$28 million student center, and Bietz said he would like to witness the groundbreaking on that project before his retirement.

Academics were also strengthened during the current presidency, as evidenced by accreditations for Southern's

professional schools and 13 consecutive years of a Top Tier ranking by U.S. News & World Report's "Best Colleges" guide. The Graduate Studies program, in particular, has seen tremendous growth. In 1997 there were just a handful of graduate classes, and today the university offers 13 master's degrees and a doctorate.

"I've had a bird's-eye view of the man who has given decades of his life in professional and Christian leadership," said Ron Smith, PhD, Board of Trustees chairman for Southern. "He has showcased honesty, sensitivity, responsible scholarship, careful governance, and a large heart for every student who passed through the halls of Southern during his administration. He will be missed."

Before becoming Southern's president, Bietz pastored the Collegedale Church of Seventh-day Adventists and served as president of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference. His passion for nurturing wholistic spiritual development comes naturally and was instrumental in the creation of Southern's service-learning program that connects academic curriculum with volunteer work.



Bietz answered questions from employees about his retirement during a Town Hall meeting April 22.

Reflecting on his time at Southern, Bietz summarizes the driving force behind so many years of commitment to the thousands of students who have come to campus seeking personal and spiritual growth.

"When students ask me for advice, I have just three words: love your neighbor," Bietz said. "I don't think we have even begun to grasp the depth of those words and put them into practical application."

The university's Board of Trustees has assigned a committee to the nationwide search for Southern's next president and expects that process to be completed before Bietz retires in 2016.

—Lucas Patterson

» by the numbers

446

Facebook "Likes" resulting from the university's #lovesouthern campaign.

\$378

Scholarship dollars raised by students donating their coins during Southern's "Gifts of Change" project.

4:01:13

Boston Marathon finishing time by School of Religion Professor Carlos Martin.

[around campus]

New Technology Degrees Include Business Emphasis

The Technology Department is adding two four-year degrees to its catalog: a Bachelor of Technology in Construction Management and a Bachelor of Technology in Automotive Service Management. Both areas of study currently exist as associate degrees, and the two additional years of business study will focus on management and marketing.

“There’s a lot more to running a business than just doing the actual job,” said Mark Hyder, ’82, JD, dean for the School of Business and Management. “These expanded programs give students the complete package in terms of training.”

Both degrees are hands-on, with required labs and remodeling projects

throughout the year. For the construction degree, students will also get real-world job experience through summer internships working on commercial projects.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics, careers in construction management are on the rise. But beyond the obvious importance of job placement and career stability, Southern’s professors believe there is eternal value in graduating Adventists with these skill sets.

“We need more churches and schools,” said John Youngberg, Technology Department associate professor. “It’s one of my missions to build the labor force that keeps the church growing and in good repair for the next generation.”

Automotive technology is experiencing similar growth, with job demand above average. These new degrees allow students to not only find a job, but also have the skills to run their own businesses as entrepreneurs.

“We can place every student who graduates from this program,” said Dale Walters, ’81, associate professor in the Technology Department. “It’s a profession that isn’t going away soon.”

Prospective students, and businesses looking to partner with the university for qualified interns or potential employees, can visit southern.edu/technology for more information.

—Julia Bonney

Culinary Arts Program Adds Dedicated Kitchen Space

Southern is the only Adventist school in North America offering culinary arts, and it is one of only a few colleges or universities in the country providing training focused on the preparation of vegetarian and vegan foods. The program began in 2013 as a one-year certificate track through the School of P.E., Health, and Wellness, but then expanded to an associate degree by 2014.

That academic growth solidified the need for a dedicated space the program could call home. During the past two years, hands-on culinary arts courses were taught in the Collegedale Community Church kitchen and the Village Market kitchen, but by January the program



moved into its permanent Fleming Plaza headquarters at the site formerly occupied by Southern’s Campus Kitchen eatery.

The new facility is a combination of cooking and classroom equipment. Occupying 3,000 square feet, the space

contains 16 food-preparation stations and state-of-the-art stoves to complement the tables and technology for multimedia lectures by professors. Renovations totaled approximately \$200,000, which was \$50,000 under budget. These are expenses Southern expects to recoup through increased enrollment due to the improved resources now offered.

“If you want to be a chef, we can help you down that path,” said Program Director Crystal Whitten, PhD, “or you can add these classes to an existing degree for some interesting combinations.”

Visit southern.edu/culinary for more information.

—Staff Report

149

Students who went to Bolivia, Colombia, Egypt, Haiti, Navajo Nation, Nicaragua, and Peru on spring break mission trips.

\$1.16

Millions of dollars received by Southern from the City of Collegedale for the sale of eight acres near Four Corners.

2

Chattanooga’s rank by the Barna Group in a list of the most Bible-minded U.S. cities.

[graduate school]

MSN Program Creates Mental Health Concentration

Beginning Fall 2015, students pursuing a Master of Science in Nursing will be able to select a mental health emphasis within their degree. This is the fourth nurse practitioner concentration offered by Southern, joining the acute care, adult/gerontology, and family tracks.

“Our mental health nurse practitioner program trains nurses who are able to provide psychiatric services,” said Holly Gadd, PhD, graduate program coordinator and nursing professor. “This is helpful because nurse practitioners generally have the ability to write prescriptions as well as offer counseling to patients.”

The new emphasis will be taught in conjunction with Southern’s Master of Science in Counseling program (see related article on page 20), utilizing some courses from the School of Education and Psychology.

“It’s a good move that will strengthen the counseling students’ understanding of who they’re working with in advanced practice,” Gadd said. “This also helps our nursing students to have the same understanding of what a counselor does.”

The School of Nursing hopes the new emphasis increases graduate school enrollment; students have expressed a

strong interest and many have already registered. Gadd believes students with this new degree will have little difficulty finding employment upon graduation.

“When you look both locally and nationally at unmet needs in the mental health area, there are not enough providers,” Gadd said. “I feel that for Southern to offer a program which meets those needs in a hurting world is just really essential. Expanding in this field fits well with our mission as a Christian university.”

Visit southern.edu/graduatestudies for more information.

—Julia Bonney

[news briefs]

Outdoor Leadership Program Awarded \$25,000 Grant

For the last two years, graduate assistants from the Outdoor Leadership program have taught classes about trees, the water cycle, and other topics for inner-city youth at the Calvin Donaldson Environmental Science Academy. Thanks to funds from Versacare, this education and mentoring program will continue.

Wagner Accepts Position as Interim Vice President

John Wagner, EdD, president of Southern from 1983-1986, is serving as vice president for Advancement while the search continues to fill the vacancy created by Chris Carey’s departure for a position with Rocky Mountain Healthcare Foundation.

Profits from Book Subsidize Students’ Archaeology Trip

Giselle Hasel, ’04, MFA, associate professor in the School of Visual Art and Design, wanted more students to participate in a summer dig with the School of Religion in Israel. To help, she decided proceeds from her book, *Understanding Museums*, would assist worthy students who are unable to afford the full cost of this course and trip. The subsidy raised more than \$1,000.

Professor to Lead Faith-Based Business Journal

Professor Michael Cafferky, DBA, has been named editor for the *Journal of Biblical Integration in Business*. He teaches in the School of Business and Management while holding the Ruth McKee Chair for Entrepreneurship and Business Ethics.



John McCoy, left, and “I Am the Way” sculptor Gregory Johnson guide the installation.

Sculpture Completes Summerour Hall Renovations

Southern’s clay and bronze “I Am the Way” statue, installed in February, depicts Jesus kneeling next to a girl on a bench while pointing at the open Bible in her hands. “This is the last project for the building, and I think it’s perfect,” said John McCoy, EdD, dean for the School of Education and Psychology. “The theme of the sculpture is really what drives our faculty and staff.”

Alumni Host Informal, Home-Based Chapter Meetings

Healthcare professionals created the concept as a networking tool and means to stay current regarding Southern news. However, the meetings grew to include a variety of career fields and have already occurred in Nashville, Tennessee, and Washington, D.C. More gatherings are planned for Orlando, Florida. To learn about hosting or attending such an event, call 423.236.2829.



English Department Professor Marcus Sheffield enjoys teaching special topics courses.

Working with Words in a World of Numbers

By Myron Madden, senior English and journalism major

English Department Chair Keely (Kuhlman) Tary, '97, PhD, and her team have never had problems attracting interested English majors. But as homes across the country continue to tighten their financial belts—questioning all expenditures in terms of return on investment, including a liberal arts degree—professors are going out of their way to make studying English at Southern as practical as it is pleasurable.

“Students want to know they will have a job when they graduate,” Tary said. “It’s not just for the love of language anymore.”

Tighter Career Focus

In order to help students see a direct career path, the major was split into four distinct emphases. Students may now choose from concentrations in teacher certification, professional/writing, teaching English as a second language, or graduate school preparation.

This segmentation has already started helping students narrow their focus, and English professors are further enhancing the students’ job prospects by encouraging them to pick the right minor to accompany their chosen concentration. This gives students a choice: they can familiarize themselves with an industry they’re already interested in to support themselves while they pursue their dream profession, or they can couple language mastery with their chosen minor to appear more marketable for employers.

The department is also working to better promote the need and value of internships, a move that will hopefully nudge students majoring in English to be more intentional about what they plan to do with their degree. With the exception of students on the graduate school track, internships are required for all English majors, and professors have already used their professional networks to connect students with part-time work and study opportunities with professional organizations. Recent examples include *Adventist Review*, Network 7 Media Center, and the Carolina Conference’s communications department.

Courses for Non-Majors

Professor Marcus Sheffield, (attended), PhD, suspects that studying literature is often the bane of a non-English major’s existence. For this reason, the department is working to broaden its catalog of classes to better interest those pursuing other degrees. In 2015, Sheffield taught *Money and Its Discontents*, a course designed to attract business majors in need of writing credits. The class focuses on how the theme of money is woven throughout classic works of literature. Thoreau’s *Walden*, for example, details the author’s social experiment of simplistic living surrounded by nature. In Sheffield’s class, students engage in lively discussions about the ledger Thoreau kept to record his minimal spending and consider the author’s conclusion that less money leads to a more enjoyable lifestyle.

Due to the success of that class, Sheffield will soon introduce a new topics course, *The Games We Play*, which centers on classic and contemporary works of literature that revolve around sports. A sampling of other special topics classes includes one on great books and their films and one on science fiction and the Christian.

“I enjoy reaching students I wouldn’t ordinarily reach,” Sheffield said.

Professional Growth

In order to provide the best for their students, English professors strive to remain up to date on the latest research and developments in their field. For Kathy Goddard, associate professor, that means keeping a finger on the publishing industry’s pulse. Goddard has used her influence within the field to help students get their work into print, and she often hands out letters of recommendation for her strongest writers when meeting potential employers at national conventions. She also recruits her best students to assist her on projects, and recently enlisted four to work with her on a collegiate quarterly Sabbath School lesson.

“If they want to work in a publishing house and they have actually been published, that gives them an edge on their resumé,” Goddard explained.

And any edge in the job market is an edge for the English Department. Enrollment remains strong, but with higher education under the national microscope, it always pays to have numbers on your side—even when you work with words. ■



April Homecoming

Leif Fredheim, '11, a graduate student working on his conservation degree at University College London in England, returned to Southern for volunteer work at the Lynn H. Wood Archaeological Museum. During his two weeks back on campus, Fredheim helped with the restoration of several artifacts in the university's collections. A storage jar, bowl, and jug were put back together using existing vessel sherds, as well as plaster fills he created for stability. While it's not unusual for alumni to visit and help, the level of Fredheim's skills and work is unprecedented. The museum's next special exhibition, "A World in Miniature: Creation, Cosmos, and Ecology on Seals from Biblical Times," is scheduled to open November 17.



Student Paul Turner hopes to work at La Vida Mission in New Mexico after graduating from Southern.

Understanding My Role in the Impossible

By Paul Turner, junior theology and community wellness major

Consider the Navajo Nation's desert lands. The towering mesas and expansive skies inspire an attitude of reverence; however, a deeper look provided reason to think otherwise.

With the scorching New Mexico sun beaming down, I grabbed and crumbled a fistful of rock-hard soil around in my hand, realizing there is virtually no life here. Compound this physical reality with a study of the Navajo's emotional composition—they are a marginalized people often suffering the negative effects of alcohol, poverty, and spiritualism—and it becomes difficult to feel the amazement experienced only moments before.

And yet there is hope for this desert land.

Healing the Land

After an exhausting 30-hour drive, stopping only for food and fuel, 24 students and staff from Southern finally arrived at their spring break mission trip destination in northern New Mexico. For 50 years, La Vida Mission, an independent Seventh-day Adventist school for Navajo youth, has been making huge strides in this American Indian community. Now it was our turn to contribute to the cause. We had come primarily to assist on a variety of construction projects, but also ready to share some Bible teaching and drama ministry with the Navajo children.

During a breakfast-time devotional, our group received a powerful message from the team's foreman for the week, Todd Johnson, '78. Mr. Todd is an inspiring leader who spends 10 months out of each year volunteering at locations where he feels God has called him to serve, earning wages for his family's necessities in the other two months. For several weeks prior to our arrival, he had been at La Vida working on a large water purification system and making preparations for our arrival and the tasks that lay ahead.

During our worship that morning, Mr. Todd explained how the region has been experiencing a drought for many years. Navajo farmers have been running into difficulties with the soil, because the meager amounts of precipitation that do fall wash away the topsoil, stripping the ground of its last remaining vitality.

But this wasn't a history lesson in the traditional sense. We were encouraged to continue building up La Vida's agricultural program with these words from Isaiah: "The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy" (Isaiah 35:1-2). In those verses, our group of volunteers from Southern heard God promising to heal the Navajo desert. Giving life to a parched land was beyond *our* capabilities, but Mr. Todd encouraged us to give our burden for the Navajo to God and claim His promise, "Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert. The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs" (Isaiah 35:6-7).

So we had the promise from God that He would heal the land and bless the Navajo's physical needs, but what about their emotional and spiritual needs? This same chapter in Isaiah speaks to that, as well: "Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. And those the Lord has rescued will return. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away" (Isaiah 35:5, 10).

Students and staff on our spring break mission trip were, with divine help, able to participate in both types of healing. Some of our team spent the days replacing sheets of paneling on greenhouse roofs and putting up a massive fence to protect the precious little vegetation that does take root. Other students taught Bible class each morning and presented a drama ministry to reach the children using laughter and creativity as tools. And we all participated in friendship ministry—playing games with La Vida kids, inviting them to nightly worships in our cabins, and sharing laughs and hugs that never lasted long enough.

Sin has left a world of thirsting, lifeless people. But God has put us here in this moment to show His goodness to them. We're not the answer, but we know who is and we can share His promises. I called on those promises while in New Mexico, and we can call on them every day. ■

Bringing Jesus to Life

SonRise Resurrection Pageant is a success each year because more than 900 volunteers take on temporary roles that forever change lives. 2015 marked the passion play's 20th anniversary of putting flesh and bone to this ancient, amazing story.





1



2



3



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6



7

(Facing Page) Despite the large numbers of SonRise guests (8,000-10,000 come through annually), the crucifixion scene held behind Hulsey Wellness Center maintains a solemn, nearly silent atmosphere.

1. Construction materials for the marketplace are stored in a tractor trailer throughout the year. In the 36 hours before SonRise, 20 adults and 15 academy student volunteers built all of the booths and shops.

2. Southern students Erin Brandon and Josh Littell helped lead song service at the Friday evening vespers program held specifically for cast members. The two transformed from musicians to military men overnight and spent Saturday as soldiers at the resurrection scene.

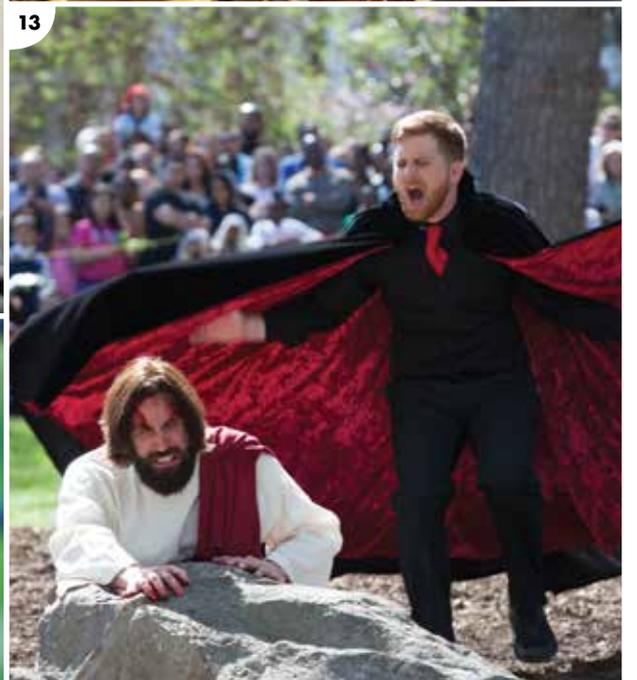
3. The SonRise cast prepares to leave vespers and pick up their costumes.

4. Adjunct faculty member Dag Pontvik, '13, left, was director of the Last Supper scene. Here he checks in with his cast before vespers.

5. Tom Verrill, senior vice president for Financial Administration, was one of many volunteers helping to distribute 400 costumes. It was his second year assisting in this capacity. Previously, Verrill volunteered by working with local agencies to bring the homeless to SonRise.

6. Andy Compton, '02, one of six different people portraying Jesus this year, gets airborne during "fly rehearsal" Friday night. Compton is an accountant at Southern.

7. Troubling world and life events are portrayed by a cast of approximately 100 in SonRise's opening scene. Leon Weeks, '80, associate professor, portrays a heart attack victim while his "daughter" looks on.



16



8. Sherrie Williams, '93, communications director for the Collegedale Church of Seventh-day Adventists, is a SonRise veteran. During the last 20 years, she has held many positions, including pageant executive director. Williams has also been director of other specific areas, such as costumes, extras, marketing, props, support staff, and volunteers.

9. On SonRise morning, 47 soldiers met at 7 a.m., 90 minutes before the pageant begins, to have volunteers help them buckle and lace up the 20 pounds of armor.

15. The animal coordinator volunteer arranges for alpacas (pictured), chickens, cows, donkeys, ducks, horses, and rabbits to make an appearance in Jerusalem for guests to pet and hold. And it's not just the kids who get excited to interact with them!

16. By the conclusion of this daylong event, it is not unusual for soldiers to show bruises from wearing the armor. But by the following year, many forget the pain and sign up for another tour of duty, perhaps eyeing a promotion from soldier to centurion.

17



18



10. Church and community members bring the Jerusalem marketplace to life. Shopkeepers are responsible for decorating their own spaces and "selling" items to those who pass through the main city street (the promenade sidewalk between Thatcher South residence hall and the student center). This year there were 60 shops run by 73 families.

11. Brian Henning, '04, SonRise executive director, and Trenton Schwarzer, Campus Safety officer, discuss logistics for accommodating the significant increase in pedestrian and vehicle traffic on campus during the event.

12. Makeup artists and cast members wait in Wright Hall's lobby for the judgment scene to begin.

13. Jesse Rademacher, '01, has been portraying Jesus during SonRise for many years (five as a student and four after joining Southern's faculty as an associate professor). Student Rick Griggs tempts and ridicules Christ while taking on the role of Satan in this Garden of Gethsemane scene.

14. Every year pageant staff hear from parents who share how excited their children were to meet Jesus, portrayed here by Joshua Michalski, '09 and '10.

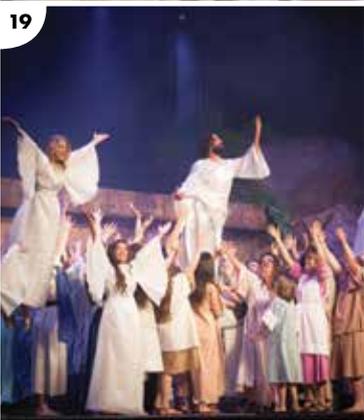
17. Student Ryan Johnson, one of the actors portraying Jesus in the judgment and crucifixion scenes, has stage blood applied by the makeup artists. Approximately one gallon of the mixture is used during the day, and a tarp is placed on the floor of Wright Hall's lobby to catch what falls.

18. While in character as Mary Magdalene, student Paris Pringle invites the audience to accept Jesus into their lives at the end of SonRise.

19. Tears flow freely for many while watching the resurrection in Iles P.E. Center. To view a video of this scene, visit southern.edu/columns.

20. Cast and crew from the final scene take a well-deserved rest. This is one of the more complicated parts of the story to dramatize, requiring audio and lighting technicians, a fly crew to lift Jesus and the angels, pyrotechnists for the explosion at Satan's defeat, safety personnel, stage hands, and more.

19



20



GET INVOLVED

It's never too early to inquire about volunteering for SonRise 2016. Assistance is welcome in all areas. Email ssplatt@southern.edu or visit facebook.com/SonRiseCollegedale.

Half-Hour Drive Whole Other Wo

Southern students and staff converge on do
Chattanooga during Community Service Day
new partnerships and perspectives along th

By Lucas Patterson, editorial manager



World
Downtown
y, building
e way.

Although Collegedale is statistically one of the fastest-growing cities in Tennessee, for now it remains a respite from the traffic and troubles of a more urban environment. But being so close to Chattanooga has its benefits, especially when it comes to training students for service work involving the homeless or other disadvantaged people. Within minutes, Southern's volunteer groups are able to immerse themselves in a world far removed from campus life amid the mountains of Happy Valley.

The contrast can be life changing, and Dora Desamour, Christian Service Program director for Southern, appreciates having such a strong tool at her disposal for engaging students.

"Chattanooga provides our young people the chance to address needs not always witnessed in the suburbs," Desamour said.

Sadly, the need for volunteers continues to increase. According to census figures, poverty in Chattanooga's city limits has grown by 10 percent or more since 2000, affecting many intact families and individuals who are homeless for the first time. Choosing which organizations to partner with can be a difficult process for Southern. Word spreads quickly among nonprofits and social service agencies about the quality and quantity of the university's volunteers, leading some groups to approach Desamour for help. But more frequently, she is proactively reaching out to the community in search of a good fit for future service projects.

"We are always seeking ways to add new organizations as Christian Service Program partners," Desamour said. "We look for groups that are striving to make an impact in their community."

The Salvation Army has a 150-year history of doing just that, which made it an attractive organization to work with for Southern's largest single service project.

Street Store

Approximately 1,000 students and staff headed off campus for its 22nd annual Community Service Day on January 19, and several of those volunteers set up shop on sidewalks in Chattanooga, building a temporary "Street Store" for the homeless outside of the Salvation Army's downtown headquarters. More than 750 pieces of clothing donated by the campus community hung neatly from cardboard hangers on fences as students rushed back and forth helping customers find exactly what they needed. The experience was designed to provide clothing for the homeless while giving them the chance to decide for themselves what they want and need instead of blindly accepting handouts. So along with shirts and shoes, they were given dignity and hope.

For Street Store, Southern made use of space in front of the Salvation Army's building to host this pop-up event. The location was ideal, since the homeless population was already accustomed to frequenting the nonprofit—plus the Salvation Army had inside space for the event in case of rain. But a dry, cool morning greeted the 200-300 visitors who came by for an unusual shopping experience and a free sack lunch.



Andrew Anobile, senior religious studies and social work major, assists a Street Store shopper. More than 60 Southern students and staff volunteered at this site.



Ruby Ramos, sophomore global policy and service studies major, talks to a shopper during Street Store. Conversations filled with love and respect were as valuable as the free clothes to many of the homeless.

Natalie Herrera, junior social work major, was a student leader on the Street Store project and volunteers with a number of other Chattanooga nonprofits. This kind of service work is common for her, but she still left Street Store changed because of the opportunity.

“I approached two men and, without thinking about it, asked if they needed help looking for something and made sure they had gotten food to eat,” Herrera said. “We had a great conversation. They thanked me for coming up to them without showing any fear and told me how other young women will see them on the street and cross to the other side to avoid them. This left quite an impression on me!”

Salvation Army staff noticed the generous spirit of Southern students and heard positive feedback from the people they served. Kimberly George, marketing and development director for the nonprofit, said the enthusiasm—and even the age—of these volunteers made an impact that morning.

“Our clients typically don’t get much one-on-one interaction with young people, and they felt loved as a result,” George said. “The Southern

Freshman nursing major Whitney Powell, left, helped students at Tech Town put together mock newscasts. Fellow producer-for-a-day Sonja Cartwright, religious education major, joined in the fun.

students were so passionate! They understand what it means to serve and share the love of Jesus through their hands and feet.”

With only 10 people on staff, the Salvation Army does not have the manpower to organize and execute a Street Store on their own. The value of volunteers, especially those who share a Christian call to action, is difficult to overstate. For a video of television news coverage from this unique event, visit southern.edu/columns.

Tech Town

Another downtown location with heavy student involvement on Community Service Day was the Bessie Smith Cultural Center (BSCC), an African-American museum and performance hall that hosts art exhibits, concerts, history programs, and educational events. BSCC brought in Tech Town, a local nonprofit whose mission is to help children explore their imaginations using electronics as a tool, for a free program in January. Children experimented with robots, green screens, and other gadgets for a chance to get their hands on technology that might spark an interest and create a career path that otherwise doesn’t seem possible.

Rodney Balmes, senior theology major, was a student leader at Tech Town and spent the day primarily at a circuit-making station. He noticed that these at-risk children—who as a whole, he said, had a reputation for misbehaving—were respectful and a joy to help. Some of the children were shy at first, but the combination of “cool” electronics and friendly faces led to a noisy room by day’s end.

In part because of his ministerial training, Balmes views his time volunteering downtown through a spiritual lens. The contrast between small town and downtown has a potential for eternal consequences.

“Collegedale is a quiet town, where many of the people you meet are already Adventist,” Balmes said. “Chattanooga is a booming city,

“The Southern students were so passionate! They understand what it means to serve and share the love of Jesus through their hands and feet.” ~ KIMBERLY GEORGE, SALVATION ARMY STAFF



where we have an opportunity to reach people who are acquainted with Adventism but have not yet fully been given the gospel message. In fact, that door for discussion is already open. Some of the staff and other adults we worked with said they knew us because we are the ones who worship on Saturday.”

These interactions are especially valuable when the university, and the church as a whole, are well represented. Dionne Jennings, BSCC executive director, considers the Tech Town event and collaboration with Southern to have been a great success.

“Southern students came excited to participate,” Jennings said. “We will approach them in the future when we need a project partner.”

Training Servant Leaders

In the 2010-2011 academic year, Southern formally established the Christian Service Program, making service-learning (volunteer work that uses academic training) and community service a part of the general education requirement. In a four-year college career, students will complete 39 hours of service work, at a minimum. This is similar in scope to programs increasingly found at secular universities as well. Though the concept of mandatory volunteering may sound odd at first, it is intended to help students become servant leaders in their churches, communities, and families.

“I want our students to leave this institution with more than a career,” Desamour said. “The service requirement is no different from other ways we teach and train our students. In order to encourage ‘the pursuit of a life a service,’ as Southern’s mission statement says, we must first provide them with the necessary tools.”

Money is one of the tools Southern needed in order to start the Christian Service Program, and it remains critical to maintaining momentum. With the assistance of donors, Southern provided the initial funding necessary to hire a Christian Service Program director. Additional funds have come from a non-Adventist source. In 2014 the Christian Service Program, in collaboration with the Center for Teaching Excellence and Biblical Foundations of Faith and Learning, applied for a grant from the Lily Foundation (lillyendowment.org). They were awarded more than \$42,000 to be used for faculty training on the integration of vocation and service, and also to create and teach a class for freshmen on the same topic.

Abundant Need

Whether it’s through the Christian Service Program or one of the additional ministries on campus, there are plenty of volunteer projects available in Chattanooga and surrounding areas—students worked in three states on Community Service Day alone!

“Southern embraces the idea that you can find your passion in service, and through my involvement I have found that to be true,” Balmes said. “Every student here has ample opportunity to love and serve their neighbors in one way or another.”

Gifts of support for the Christian Service Program can be shared by visiting southern.edu/give or by calling 423.236.2829.

COMMUNITY CONTRAST

Along with the Street Store and Tech Town projects, many other downtown Community Service Day locations provided the chance to work in an urban environment and come face-to-face with some of the more striking contrasts that exist outside of Collegedale.

BETHLEHEM CENTER

200 West 38th Street

Students helped clean classrooms for the after-school program, prepared garden beds for spring planting, and handed out flyers to community members.

CHAMBLISS CENTER FOR CHILDREN

315 Gillespie Road

Students painted at this facility for education, child care, and residential services.

CHATTANOOGA ROOM AT THE INN

230 North Highland Park Avenue

Students organized and cleaned an apartment that will provide residence for a formerly homeless family.

SOUTH CHATTANOOGA YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER

101 East 11th Street

Students helped the Office of Multicultural Affairs by painting and doing light repairs.

Southern’s work in Chattanooga isn’t limited just to Community Service Day. Several Campus Ministries teams spend multiple Sabbath afternoons each month volunteering with these and other programs:

FLAG CAMP (Fun Learning About God)

East Lake Community

Students provide activities for kids including Bible stories, crafts related to the stories, and ball games.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN

727 East 11th Street

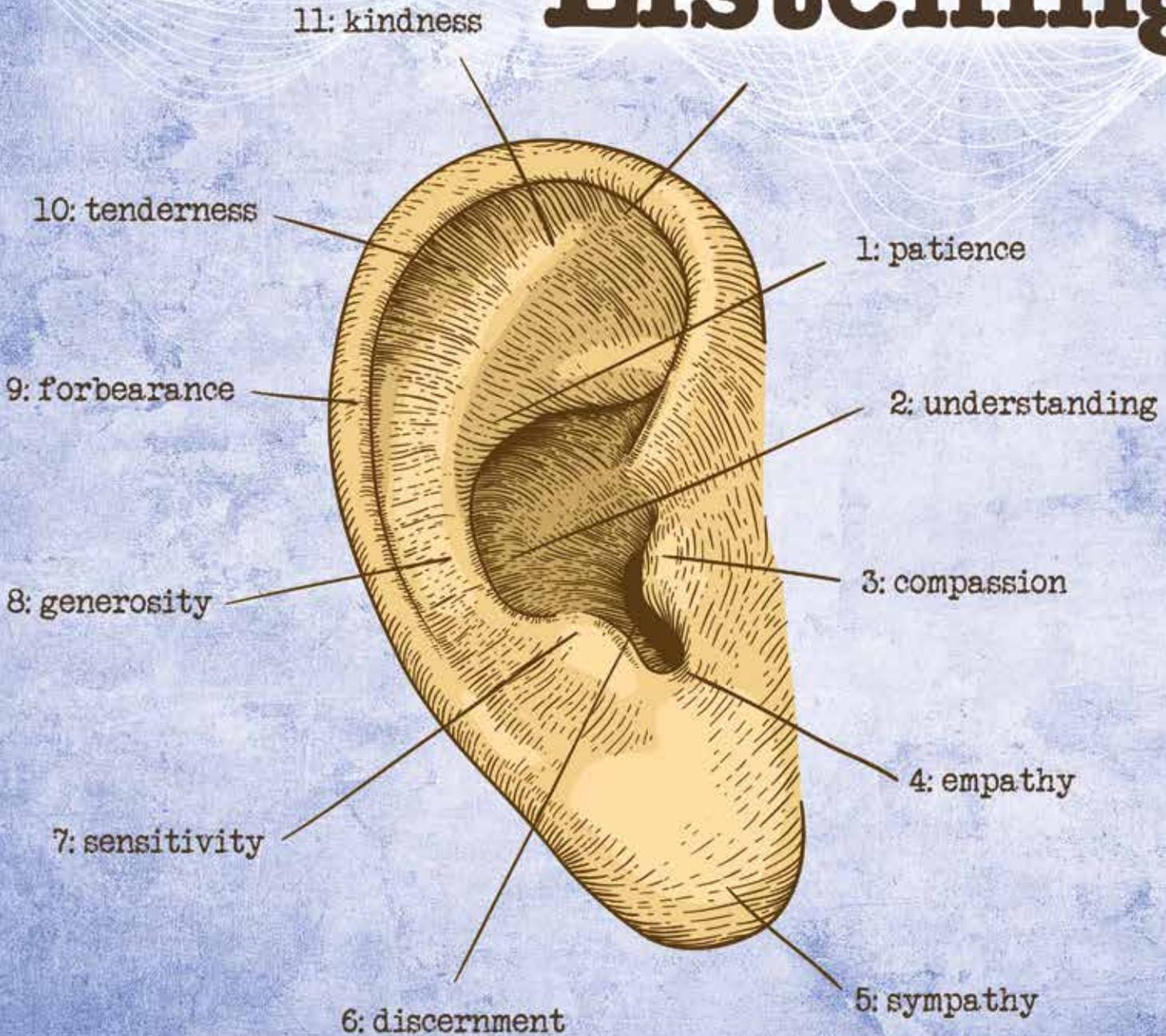
Students make meals for the homeless and partner in other ways with the service agency.

WEST SIDE FOR JESUS

College Heights Community

Students spend time singing, reading, and playing with kids before they go door-to-door praying with families.

The Science of Listening



Graduate students enrolled in Southern's counseling program put their knowledge and ears to the test by working with more than 60 community clients each semester. This free service offers a bright light in the darkest of times.

By Luke Evans, '13

King Solomon, the wisest man in history, wrote "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety" (Proverbs 11:14). Southern is doing its part to heed this warning by building an army of professional listeners who fight for the health and well-being of others. Sometimes these battles occur during scheduled appointments in a comfortable, quiet office. Other times it's urban warfare with emotional shots coming from all directions.

Students pursuing the Master of Science in Counseling degree acquire the tools to deal with both scenarios, and they have opportunities to test these skills on campus. Behind Summerour Hall, the newly renovated home to Southern's School of Education and Psychology, is a small and inconspicuous parking lot. Immediately inside the building is a waiting room similar to what is used in private practice. As patients are called back for their counseling, they sit in comfortable chairs opposite the graduate student for meetings that are mutually beneficial.

"We offer these services free of charge, and many clients have overcome struggles with the support of our students," said Ardelle Dickinson, '07, PhD, assistant professor of counseling. "At the same time, these sessions provide students with practical skills they will need in their future careers."

Though the sessions are one-on-one, the meetings are still highly supervised. Cameras in each counseling room record the conversation, both for liability and learning purposes. Student counselors have the chance to go back over their client meetings with professors and seek out moments to celebrate and moments to re-evaluate.

This process, and the entire Master of Science in Counseling program, has the industry's stamp of approval from

the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Education Programs (CACREP). This demonstrates a commitment to high academic standards and assures students of the program's quality. Graduates from CACREP colleges and universities perform better on national exams and have a streamlined licensure experience.

But not every counseling experience falls under such calculated and standardized circumstances. Sometimes emergencies arise and a student's readiness is put to immediate test. Such was the case this spring as Southern's campus went into a state of shock over the death of a student.

Kimberly Andreu passed away in her residence hall room from natural causes. Although she had been enrolled at Southern for only three months, many students were shaken by the incident. As social media lit up with speculation and sorrow that night, graduate counseling student Kristen Robinson saw an opportunity to help.

"I heard that Southern's Counseling Services coordinator was at the dorm, so I reached out to her and asked if I needed to be there as well," Robinson said. "While I did not do any official counseling there, I worked with about 15 students who were closest to Kimberly by offering support and condolences for their loss."

Robinson stayed until after midnight, sharing hugs and encouraging words. She describes the experience as "baptism by fire" and suspects she was in a state of shock herself while trying to assist others.

"The experience left me second-guessing myself," Robinson said. "But as I become more exposed to this type of work, especially over the summer when I will take a class specifically on grief counseling, I have faith that I'll improve."

The baptism metaphor is appropriate for a program that integrates faith and learning. Applying spirituality into counseling sessions with the community can be difficult, though; many of the students' clients do not believe in God. A divine presence, however, is nonetheless part of each appointment.

"I may not be able to pray *with* every client, but I can pray *for* them on my own and trust that God will allow me to be a witness for Him by my preparations and my practical example," said Francisco Ortiz, counseling graduate student. ■

For more information about the Master's of Science in Counseling degree, visit southern.edu/graduatestudies.



Graduate student Melanie Hubbard, left, reviews a client session while in a community counseling room with Assistant Professor Ardelle Dickinson.

BEYOND BOOKS

STUDENT RESEARCH PROJECTS REFLECT ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE ON CAMPUS, A MAJOR COMPONENT OF THE SOUTHERN EXPERIENCE. By Angela Baerg, '06

Southern is respected as a safe place for spiritual growth that emphasizes traditional Seventh-day Adventist values. These are great things to be known for, but the academic experience on campus is also compelling. In fact, there has been a recent push for student research—more commonly associated with graduate school—to become a central feature of undergraduate studies.

This new emphasis provides students with hands-on experience, leapfrogging them beyond textbook knowledge and helping them take their first steps into a professional community. Students learn how to dialogue with others in their field and present their findings, sometimes even getting published for the first time. They also hone their abilities to solve problems and think creatively, an indispensable skill in the global job market of the 21st century.

Undergraduate research studies are often key to achieving postgraduate success as well, a fact not lost on Southern's large contingent of science students.

"Medical residency programs, for example, are looking for students who stand out—that's one reason research programs are so important for our pre-meds," said Biology Department Professor Rick Norskov, '76, PhD. "If graduates do not have this, their applications are not as strong and sometimes will not even be considered by a hospital."

As more students pursue independent and in-depth projects, Campus Research Day, held annually in April, offers them the perfect venue to present outcomes. Begun in 2006, this much-anticipated event has grown each year. In 2015, it included more than 250 students from 12 schools and departments, who shared their research through podium presentations and posters across campus.

LAB EXPERIMENTS

Many studies represented at Campus Research Day are experiments that take place in a laboratory with the goal of finding specific scientific breakthroughs.

Kassaundra Kirschmann, junior biology major, worked under Biology Department Assistant Professor David Nelsen, PhD, to understand potential benefits of black widow venom. Kirschmann was excited about practicing 2-D electrophoresis, a laboratory process used to separate macromolecules based on size. The technique, which applies a negative charge so that proteins move toward a positive charge, is used for both DNA and RNA analysis. It took many tries before she perfected her dissecting techniques.

"I will never forget the first time I was able to extract venom from the spider without ripping the gland open and having venom leak out," Kirschmann said. "I hope that one day the data I collected will aid in medical advancement."

A.J. Fines, senior theology and international studies major, made a presentation during Campus Research Day about the impact of activity levels on college students' lives. Fines has a health and wellness minor.



Kassaundra Kirschmann, junior biology major, is using DNA analysis techniques to research the potential benefits of black widow venom.

Eric Morris, senior biology major, put in a lot of quality time in the laboratory for his research on the behavior of *Mimosa pudica*, a tropical plant from Brazil that moves. Known as “the sensitive plant,” it retracts its leaves when stimulated due to a combination of mechanisms. Morris is testing how feeding these plants with artificial sweeteners will impact their responses to stimulation and looks forward to seeing what his study reveals about adverse effects of sugar substitutes.

Morris researched how to conduct his tests and then spent two months growing his plants, trying six different methods before he found the most effective way.

“I’m surprised by how much I’ve enjoyed this research,” Morris said. “The most unforgettable part has been tickling the sprouts and watching them ‘dance.’”

FIELD STUDIES

While some Campus Research Day presentations originated inside a laboratory, other studies were conducted in the field. Under the direction of School of Nursing Assistant Professor Lilly Tryon, ’82, DNP, nine nursing students

evaluated sleep quality in college students. This study conducted a sleep intervention, logging the relationship between sleep quality, perceived stress, and daily spiritual experience.

Another group of students, supervised by P.E., Health, and Wellness Professor Harold Mayer, PhD, analyzed how workout training levels for middle-aged obese women could be oriented toward not only fat loss at the present moment, but also long-

term metabolic efficiency. Crystal Catarama, senior biology major, has been involved since the study’s launch.

“We’re seeing the results we expected,” Catarama said. “What’s surprising is the extent of our results.”



“We’re seeing the results we expected,” said senior biology major Crystal Catarama, left. “What’s surprising is the extent of our results.”

The study has seen more weight loss, specifically a drop in body fat percent, than was anticipated. During the most recent semester, all but one participant experienced anywhere from a 5-pound to a 24-pound drop in the testing time. Mayer presented their research at the Global Health and Lifestyle Conference in Switzerland in 2014, and the students hope to share the expanded data at future events, such as conferences by The American College of Sports Medicine or The American Council on Exercise.

“One woman in our study had been struggling with weight loss for years. She had tried numerous fad diets and fitness classes, all to no avail,” Catarama said. “After completing our study, she lost 24 pounds in 10 weeks simply by changing her diet and walking five days a week. Seeing her weight loss journey and watching her overall outlook on life change was far more rewarding than I could have ever imagined.”

RAISING AWARENESS

At times, student research is less about breaking new ground and more about helping people better understand existing information. For example, Colton Adams, senior history major, examined assumptions regarding pre-Civil War slavery in the United States and uncovered records indicating a surprising number of free African Americans who owned slaves. The research and networking associated with this study helped Adams acquire a state-level legislative internship.

Senior history majors are required to take a research methods course, and some students utilize money from the Floyd Greenleaf Research Endowment Fund to help offset travel expenses associated with information-gathering trips to archives, museums, and other locations. The fund was created specifically for History and Political Studies Department students and is named after a former professor who was later Southern’s vice president for Academic Administration.

Much like Adams, senior mathematics major Kenji Nomura worked on a project that made use of already available information. His research derived equations that predict the magnitude and duration of epidemics. For this process, he mimicked existing mathematical modeling for infectious diseases, analyzing previous research and detailing the logic behind it.

“The pure application of mathematics has been refreshing and surprising,” Nomura said. “I hope my work can make the material simpler and more accessible for people outside of the mathematics field.”

SOCIETAL TRENDS

Research studies benefit every field, helping students analyze trends present in society and equipping them with the knowledge to combat the undesirable ones. Melissa Rodas, junior social work major, spent last year as a student missionary



Aida Coria, left, and Danielle Huisman, senior English majors, are exploring the “male gaze” concept of feminist film theorist Laura Mulvey. “This research is vital in the movement toward body acceptance,” Huisman said.

in Thailand, a country with one of the highest rates of human trafficking in the world. After witnessing the conditions firsthand, Melissa felt called to learn more about how policies and rescue-treatment methods could be improved.

“I hope to return there one day,” Melissa said. “My goal is to join nonprofits fighting injustices such as human trafficking and to make a real difference in the fight against involuntary servitude and sexual exploitation.”

Aida Coria and Danielle Huisman, senior English majors, are exploring the “male gaze” concept of feminist film theorist Laura Mulvey. Huisman was surprised how much the media affects women’s perceptions of themselves. Women’s bodies are often filmed from certain angles and in specific lighting to highlight particular areas, thereby reducing them to objects. In contrast, men are rarely portrayed in the same way, wearing more clothing and shown in natural lighting.

“This research is vital to the movement of body acceptance,” Huisman said. “Most importantly, I hope this research helps women realize that their value is not dependent on others’ perceptions of whether or not they are beautiful, but rather that they have value because they were made by the Beautiful One.”

RESEARCH CULTURE

Campus Research Day and other independent student projects have produced materials of such high quality that Southern built Knowledge Exchange, an institutional repository designed to bring together all of the university’s research under one umbrella. Much of the information archived at southern.edu/knowledgeexchange has even been peer reviewed, including entire publications of student and staff work, such as *Journal of Interdisciplinary Research* and *Interdisciplinary Journal of Best Practices in Global Development*. The site generates consistently heavy traffic, with approximately 70,000 downloads last year alone.

McKee Library Director Dan Maxwell, PhD, has big plans for helping Southern grow as the explosion of on-campus research and critical thinking continues.

“My dream is that the university will become an applied-research powerhouse,” Maxwell said. “Through hard work, we hope our research will become the best in the area as we strive to equip our students for success in a competitive world.” ■

Ray Hefferlin: Memories of a Great Mentor

Josh Barrow, senior physics and math major, had the opportunity to study the periodic trends in triatomic spectroscopic constants as research assistant for Ray Hefferlin, PhD, who passed away in March (see full obituary on Page 29).

Barrow’s research focus for the last two years has been to find the patterns in triatomic vibration frequencies, which are related to how molecules emit light of different colors. Documenting these periodic behaviors could help astronomers make important predictions about the make up of stellar objects.

Hefferlin’s research took him all over the world, and in 2014 Barrow accompanied

him to The International Advances in Applied Physics and Materials Science Congress and Exhibition in Turkey as Hefferlin presented some of their work. Barrow presented the rest of the material himself at The International Conference on Spectral Line Shapes in Tullahoma, Tennessee.

Barrow chose Southern because he wanted to attend a university where he could pursue scientific knowledge in conjunction with his beliefs. Hefferlin’s thirst for knowledge and strong faith were an inspiration to everyone around him and a perfect fit for Barrow.

“It is rewarding to discover more about our Creator by studying the patterns that He



Studying under a Christian researcher was important to senior physics and math major Josh Barrow, right, when choosing a college. Hefferlin was the perfect fit. Here, they examine data together.

has set up in nature,” Barrow said. “In science we search for those patterns, for beauty and for truth. It’s incredibly exciting when you can find both together. I will miss so much being able to find them alongside Dr. Hefferlin.”

To view Hefferlin’s memorial service, visit southern.edu/columns.



Associate Professor Robert Ordonez studied abroad himself and relates well to international students.

A Friendly Face and Familiar Perspective

By Jared Powrie, junior computer science and missions major

Moving is never easy, especially when that new location is more than 9,000 miles away. Becoming acquainted with a different culture and unfamiliar people are only some of the changes I had to embrace after leaving home in Australia and enrolling at Southern. My saving grace was that at least Americans speak English (sort of).

One huge blessing was that I was able to make friends very quickly, both with students and staff. One individual I met early in my sophomore year was Robert Ordonez, '95, associate professor in the School of Computing. I had never taken a class from him, yet felt as if I had always known him. That's a pretty good sign for things ahead!

New Approach

Computational Thinking was the first class I took from Professor O. Though I enjoyed the content of the class, what made it even more enjoyable was that he would joke and laugh with us while still maintaining a high level of professionalism. He is relatable, up-to-date on his pop culture references (most of the time), and unquestionably capable of teaching me what I need to know about computer science.

Another aspect of Professor O that I deeply appreciate is his willingness to explain concepts multiple times and in multiple ways. Coming from another country, I grew up with a different style of learning from what most professors use in the United States. This has led to occasional misunderstandings. When Professor O shares something I don't fully grasp, I know he empathizes—he was an international student himself once—and I can see the wheels turning in his head as he works to find a new approach for reaching me.

The Extra Mile

Classes for the winter term were beginning in just a few days and I was still back home, half way around the world. Because of a good friend's wedding in Australia, I already knew I was going to miss the first two days of school. My plan was to fly out early Tuesday morning and arrive in Tennessee later that same day (thanks, in large part, to the many time zones crossed and hours "gained").

I emailed all of my professors to let them know I would be missing

their first class of the semester and that, besides being completely knackered,* I'd be ready to go on Wednesday morning. When I looked at my schedule again, I noticed I would not be missing one, but rather two of Professor O's classes: a class and a lab. Because lab is such an integral part of the class, I was worried about how I would be able to catch up on the missed project, so I emailed him once more. Even though it was going to be extra work for him, Professor O said he would record the lab and talk me through it when I arrived. This was a real relief, but what really topped off his email was the ending where he wrote "I'll be praying for a safe trip. Be very careful, please!"

To make a long story short, my journey back to campus was the perfect storm of mishaps (albeit safe mishaps), and a 19-hour trip grew into a 42-hour nightmare. It proved difficult to remain positive along the way, but Professor O and I had been keeping in touch and he continually offered his advice and assistance. That kept me sane.

While waiting out a blizzard in Chicago, I realized my schedule was beyond repair, so I messaged Professor O asking for advice. Within minutes came this amazing reply: he had a good friend in Nashville who would pick me up, and I could stay at his house until the first available bus left for Chattanooga in the morning. Sure enough, this friend of his very kindly took my call at 2 a.m. on Wednesday, picked me up at the airport, and allowed me to shower and then sleep on what felt like the softest bed ever created.

I ended up arriving in Chattanooga around noon. By this time, I had now missed my Wednesday classes as well. Not surprisingly (at this point, anyway), Professor O met me at the bus station. He helped get my luggage and fed me before dropping me off at my campus apartment.

There isn't a moment that goes by when I don't appreciate the support and kindness of all faculty and staff at Southern. But as I collapsed in my room at the end of this grueling ordeal, there was no disputing who was at the top of my list that day. ■

**Editors' note: We have it on good authority that "knackered" means "exhausted" in Australia.*

We'd love to hear from you, and so would your classmates! Send updates about additions to your family, educational accomplishments, marriage, professional recognitions, or other news you'd like to share to:

alumni@southern.edu or Alumni Relations • P.O. Box 370 • Collegedale, TN 37315-0370

60s **Dave Osborne**, '64, and his wife, **Judy (Edwards)**, '64, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on March 30. Upon graduation from Southern, he was sponsored by the Florida Conference to attend seminary at Andrews University, and she received a master's degree in teaching there as well. Dave retired in 2012 but continued to be an interim pastor for the last two years. Judy is taking lifelong learning courses at a local university, and Elderhostel classes appeal to them both for the future. They live in Lincoln, California, and love to travel.



Tui Pitman, '65, moved to Loma Linda, California, after leaving Southern. He began graduate work in history and education, and while there Tui met and married Faye (Heath). Soon after her graduation from nursing school, they moved to Berrien Springs, Michigan, where he attended seminary and graduated with a Master of Divinity in 1969. He accepted a call to pastor in Chicago, and Faye taught nursing at Hinsdale Hospital. In 1970 their first son, **Sean**, '93, was born. In the spring of 1971 they accepted a call for mission service in Bolivia, where Tui ran rolling clinics and was pastor of a 16-church district. Shortly afterward, their second son, **Shannon**, '95, was born. In 1975 they moved to Sheffield, Alabama, where Tui was the pastor of a three-church district. For the rest of his ministry, they worked in the Gulf States Conference. They live in Wetumpka, Alabama.

Garland Ray Cross, '66, and his wife, **Pamela (Smith)**, '65, have both retired from teaching. They recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 16, 2014. Friends and family, including their three grown children and seven grandchildren, held a party for them at the Cumberland Heights Seventh-day Adventist Church fellowship hall. They live in Altamont, Tennessee.



70s **Brian Strayer**, '73, is a professor at Andrews University and has taught history by the essay method to freshmen and sophomores at three other colleges and universities: the University of Iowa, Newbold College, and Southern. He recently published his book, *Romans Were Known for Their Aquaducks: and Other Gems of Wit and Wisdom in Western Civilization*. The story behind it is succinctly told in the foreword, along with a dedication to **Floyd Greenleaf**, '55, a former history professor at Southern for whom he worked as a reader in the early '70s. He lives in Berrien Springs, Michigan. The book is available on amazon.com.



Dan Hall, '78, is a pastor in Griffin and Thomas-ton, Georgia. His wife, **Susan (Brougham)**, '75, works in Griffin as a part-time RN for Gentiva Healthcare. They live in Hampton, Georgia. Pictured at right in the photo above with Dan and Susan are daughters **Sharon Snider**, (attended), and **Carolyn Carter**, '01.

80s **Ingrid Kirindongo**, '83, recently published a book titled *Body Wars: The Battle for Good Health*. As a nurse, Ingrid has seen what happens when people neglect their health. She wrote this book to educate children on the need to take care of their bodies early in their lives to prevent disease and illness throughout life. She lives in West Palm Beach, Florida.

90s **Tom Turk**, '96, met his wife, Jennifer, when her brother introduced them right before Tom was heading to Australia for student mission work. By the time Tom returned, an engagement was underway! They are celebrating 18 years together and live in Ooltewah, Tennessee.



00s **John P. Sterner**, '01, was honored by Northwestern Mutual in December and given membership in its 2014 Forum Group, which recognizes individuals for an outstanding year of helping clients achieve financial security. Sterner is affiliated with the Pruett Financial Group based in

Nashville, Tennessee. This is the fifth time Sterner received the Forum honor. He lives in Chattanooga with his wife, **Elizabeth (Reeder)** (attended).

David Haluska, '03, authored *Jesus Loves Trucks*, a new picture book from Review and Herald Publishing. David found it difficult to find appropriate Sabbath readings that engaged his two young sons' interests. Throughout the book, David shows how missionaries use machinery all over the world to further God's work. His hope is that *Jesus Loves Trucks* will be a stone in the foundation of each toddler's connection with God. He and his wife, **Mindy (Bell)**, '01, live in Collegedale.

Jonathan Castells, '04, moved to the Chicago area to serve as a critical care nurse at Sherman Hospital in the Advocate Health System. He recently married **Sineyra (Jimenez)** (attended), and on February 26 they had their first child, Josiah David. Jonathan enjoys singing in a vocal group consisting of Southern alumni, working with Pathfinders, learning how to care for a newborn, and figuring out how to live in the snow.

Jessica Kisunzu, '08, graduated with a chemistry degree. Near the end of her time at Southern, she became more interested in teaching and the opportunity to do organic chemistry research. This year, Jessica finished the Berkeley doctoral program at the University of California. She recently started work as a postdoctoral researcher at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) in Zurich, Switzerland.



Spenser Roy Lim, '09, has had a constant fight with neuropathy since 2010, but he made a comeback by completing a triathlon in 2014. He has held various jobs, including photographer at Indian Creek Camp and Loma Linda University School of Medicine. He also played a role in Loma Linda's transition to electronic medical records systems. Currently, Spenser is seeking an RN position and will continue working toward his bachelor's degree.

He hopes to work on a neurology or rehabilitation nursing floor. Until then, he plans to continue volunteering and staying physically active. He lives in Loma Linda, California.



Amanda Tortal, '09, became a graduate assistant for the School of Social Work in 2011 and was hired by Southern as soon as she completed her MSW requirements. She currently works at Southern with the ASSIST program, providing tuition assistance to high school students who spend time in physical and emotional support of the elderly. Amanda is engaged to **Sean Ancheta**, '13. Sean graduated with a pre-physical therapy degree but has decided to pursue a career in nursing. Amanda and Sean both served as student missionaries while attending Southern and would love to use their degrees in the mission field. They both live in Ooltewah.

10s **Chris Clouzet**, '10, recently joined the Alumni Association of Loma Linda University as the assistant editor and staff writer. He helps produce the *Alumni Journal*, writes and edits office materials, helps with photography, and maintains social media. He lives in Loma Linda, California.

John Remitera, '10, served at Southern as assistant chaplain immediately following graduation before being hired by the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference as a pastoral candidate the next year. He is currently at the Andrews University Theological Seminary working on his Master of Divinity and will be graduating this May. While attending Andrews, he had the privilege of traveling to Cuba to hold an evangelistic campaign, and traveling to Turkey, Jordan, and Israel to study. God has blessed him with a wealth of experiences and many friendships. He lives in Berrien Springs, Michigan.

Michael Pascal Worotikan, '11, and **Claire Baylon**, '10, met while studying nursing. One of the biggest impacts Southern had on them was a passion for ministry; they immensely enjoyed the Patten Towers and Feeding the Homeless programs that filled their Saturday afternoons. After two years of being in a long-distance relationship after graduation, Michael living in New Jersey and Claire in Tennessee, God impressed Michael to move to Nashville, Tennessee. He proposed to Claire in June 2014. The wedding is planned for October 2015. Michael works on the orthopaedic floor at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, and Claire continues working in the Medical Intensive Care Unit, also at Vanderbilt. Their hope is to follow God's guidance and help their home church's youth group to grow.



Sarah Crowder, '12, graduated as a public relations major. She worked in Southern's Marketing and University Relations office as well as for the *Southern Accent* newspaper. Sarah is a creative services specialist at Adventist Health System. She lives in Jacksonville, Florida.



Keri Mau, '12, is finishing up her Master of Public Health degree at Loma Linda University. She is heavily involved in volunteering with Quiet Hour Ministries, an endeavor that combines her love of traveling, short-term mission trips, and leadership. She also enjoys participating in various music groups and ministries when she isn't studying or in a different country. She lives in Grand Terrace, California.



Hasel Toruño, '12, has been employed at Adventist Health System in Florida as a human resources deployment analyst working on iSynergy, a big project initiative to upgrade the current system used for human resources, supply chain, finance, and information technology. She recently graduated with her MBA from Webster University. She resides in Altamonte Springs, Florida.



Tim Johnson, '12, and **Mia (Lindsey)**, '12, married this past October in Chicago, Illinois. Mia is the ministry relations coordinator at J103 Christian radio station, and Tim is a web developer at Covenant Transport. They live in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Sara Uribe, '12, took a year off following completion of the BSN program to be a student missionary. She was a staff nurse at the Riverside Farm Institute's clinic in Zambia. There she helped maintain the clinic and treated a variety of patients. She is currently transitioning to working in the United States. Sara's sister, **Amanda**, (attended), completed an associate's degree and began the communication sciences and disorders bachelor's program at Loma Linda University last fall. Amanda enjoys living back in her home state of California and looks forward to continuing on to graduate school in the coming years.

Ingrid Hernandez, '13, graduated as a business management and public relations major. She worked in Southern's Marketing and University Relations office as well as for the *Southern Accent* newspaper. She is currently a communications specialist at Adventist Health System. She lives in Orlando, Florida.

Shauna Chung, '13, taught English at a middle school in South Korea for one year after graduation from Southern. She is currently enrolled in the master's program for English at California State University (Long Beach), where she is pursuing a degree in rhetoric/composition.

Andrew Keyes, '13, and **Rhina (Urdaneta)**, '11 and '13, were married on December 21. Andrew is a student at Loma Linda University's School of Medicine, and Rhina is working as a cardiac nurse at Loma Linda Medical Center while studying for a master's degree from their School of Nursing. They live in the Loma Linda area and have a strong desire to continue serving the Lord as a team.

Remembrance

Kenneth Burke, '59, passed away in November of 2013 at his home in Southern California. Ken taught at Loma Linda University in the School of Allied Health Professionals for many years. He is survived by his wife, **Ann (Cunningham)**, '60, and three of his children: **Daniel**, '09, Sabrina, and Susan.

Alan Bush, '45, passed away on July 27, 2014, in Longwood, Florida. Alan was president of his graduating class, and on graduation day he and **Thetis (Webster)**, '44, were married. Alan took dentistry in Atlanta at Emory University School of Dentistry and then practiced in Lansing, Michigan, for 40 years. He is survived by his wife, Thetis; daughters, **Pamalan Mitsch**, '71, and Janelle Burke; five grandchildren; and one great granddaughter.

Dewey J. Eurick Jr., "DJ," '52, passed away at the age of 86 on August 24, 2014. He was a member of the Birmingham First Church for 38 years and an elder since 1980. DJ served two years in the U.S. Navy prior to graduating from Southern with a bachelor's degree in business. In 1964 he began a 28-year career in pharmaceutical sales. He attended homecoming at Southern (SMCites, '45-'55) as often as possible and thoroughly enjoyed the special celebration for his honored class in 2012, along with the 2013 reunion accompanied by his daughters. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Shirley; three daughters and sons-in-law: **Cindy**, '75, and **Lester Johnson**, '77, Alice and Phillip DiGiorgio, **Christell**, '86, and Brownlee Fiveash; two sons and daughters-in-law: Steve and Paola Sparks, and Greg (attended) and Tammy Eurick; nine grandchildren, two great-grandchildren; a brother-in-law, **J.D. Bledsoe**, '53; and three nephews.

Dave Hallman, '72, passed away on November 29, 2014, after a valiant fight against kidney cancer. He and his wife **Peggy (Dunn)**, '76, were denominational employees for almost 40 years, serving at Blue Mountain Academy, Camp Kulaqua, Camp Berkshire, Camp Mohaven, and most recently at Cohutta Springs for the past 10 years. The funeral was held in Mississippi, and a memorial service took place at Cohutta Springs Conference Center. He is survived by his wife, Peggy; his sister, **Judee Spicer**, '73; sister-in-law, **Judy Robertson** (attended and current employee); and son, **Russell Hallman** (attended and former employee).

Philip Roy Martin, '89, passed away peacefully on February 24 at his home in Ooltewah, Tennessee. He was 54 years old. He graduated from Southern with a degree in nursing and worked for the Pennsylvania Department of Forestry, Perry County EMS, Hamilton County EMS, Hamilton County 911 Center, Hamilton County Volunteer

Fire Department, several area hospitals, and as a travel nurse. His greatest joy was working with Air Tek fixed-wing and Air Evac rotary-wing air medical ambulances. He is survived by his wife, Theresa Ellis Miller; stepson, 2nd Lieutenant Matthew C. Miller; stepdaughter, Rebecca Miller; grandson, Blake; brothers, Arthur and Paul; aunt, Gloria Trostle; and numerous cousins.

Barbara Ruf, English Professor and Department Chair

Barbara Ruf, former professor and chair of the English Department at Southern from 1969 until her retirement in 1987, passed away on February

18. She is survived by her husband, Elder Rolland Ruf, retired pastor of the Collegedale Church of Seventh-day Adventists; three sons and daughters-in-law: **Rolland Jr.**, '73, and **Tina (DeVries)**, '76, **Warren**, '74, and **Jane (Crevasse)**, '75, and **Stephen** (attended and current employee) and **Jodi (VandeVere)**, '83, and current employee; grandson, **Adam**, '04; and granddaughters: **Rebecca**, '07, **Sarah**, '13, and **Amanda**, current Southern student.



Ray Hefferlin, Physicist and Research Professor

Ray Hefferlin passed away March 7, 2015. Though his research and professional curiosity would take him all over the world, Ray loved the Chattanooga area and spent the last 60 years calling Collegedale home.

He was born in Paris, France, in 1929 and moved to California with his father at the age of 7. He received his bachelor's degree from Pacific Union College in 1951 and later a doctorate from California Institute of Technology. He married



Inelda (Phillips), '58, in 1954. Shortly thereafter he accepted a position as a professor at Southern in 1955. Ray's passion for physics was evident early on as a young professional. He spent the summers of 1957 and 1958 in California at the National Radiation Defense Lab and even witnessed two atomic blasts. His research there, combined with his job at Southern, led to consulting positions with Oak Ridge National Laboratory, near Knoxville, Tennessee. During the 1960s, Ray received his first research grant

and focused on experimental spectroscopy, studying the interaction between matter and radiated energy. By the 1970s, he switched to more theoretical work and, along with Southern students and a colleague in New York City, began creating a chart (similar to the periodic table of elements) that organized diatomic molecules in a way that highlighted their similar properties. Always in pursuit of better data, Ray led his team in refining this chart through the years. The end result was a definitive work that is being used today by students and scientists internationally.

Countless other projects moved forward under his mentorship, and graduates who studied with Ray have worked in such notable fields as Higgs boson research and human genome sequencing.

Ray is survived by his wife, Inelda; daughters, **Lorelei** (attended), Jennifer Harrell, Heidi Kronenberg, and **Melissa** (attended); seven grandsons; one granddaughter; and two great-grandchildren.

For those wishing to honor Ray's life, the family has suggested donations be made to the Ray Hefferlin Physics Endowed Scholarship Fund, which provides need-based tuition assistance for physics and engineering students. To give online, visit southern.edu/hefferlinendowment.

Frank Knittel, Southern President (1971-1983)

Frank Knittel, past president of Southern Missionary College, passed away February 15 at the age of 87.

Frank earned a bachelor's degree in 1947 from Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska. In 1951 he was inducted into the armed forces and served as an operating room technician in Brook Army Medical Center, Ft. Sam Houston, Texas. In 1954 he earned a master's degree, and six years later he earned a doctorate from the University of Colorado at Boulder.



He held many positions in the Adventist educational system, including faculty member at La Sierra University, Loma Linda University, and Andrews University, and president of Southern. He also served as associate pastor of the Riverside Community Church in California from 1990-1998. He was a prolific writer and contributed articles to both secular and Christian publications.

He is survived by his wife, Helen Dean; son, **Jeffrey**, '80; daughter, **Sherry Drew** (attended); five grandchildren: Joseph Drew, **Andrew Knittel**, '10 and '13, **Rachel Carithers**, '10, Jessica Drew, and Jacob Drew; one sister, Joyce Hardin; nieces and nephew; and two sisters-in-law; Dott (Bill) Moon and Cheryl (Richard) Carpenter.

In honor of Knittel's life, contributions can be made to the Student Scholarship Fund at Southern. Call 423.236.2829 or visit southern.edu/give.

General Conference Session 2015 Alumni Dinner Event

San Antonio, Texas • July 9, 5 p.m.



Southern would love to see alumni and friends who live near San Antonio or who are visiting for the General Conference meetings. Our complimentary dinner will take place at Casa Rio Mexican Restaurant, overlooking the beautiful and historic River Walk.

Join university staff for great food and fellowship while learning about what's happening at Southern. You're welcome to bring family or a guest, but seating is limited to 100 attendees. We look forward to visiting with you then!

To RSVP, email alumni@southern.edu or call 423.236.2830.





allegory

By Gordon Bietz, president

Many people at Southern have heard me share stories set in Fenton Forest. These short parables were a staple of my sermons while pastoring the campus church decades ago. In preparation for the 2015 General Conference (GC) meetings in Texas, we've dusted off the characters, added illustrations by a recent alumna, and packaged them as a complimentary gift book for those who stop by Southern's booth during the GC Session in San Antonio. After all, the values represented in these allegories never get old (even if the author and some of his earliest audience members do). Allow me to introduce some of my friends, starting with Gruff.

Gruff's Bad Day

Once upon a time in Fenton Forest, Gruff Bear had a bad day. Now it was not unusual for Gruff to have bad days, but this one was worse, much worse than any he had ever had before.

Gruff was going to his favorite berry patch early in the morning, and whom should he find there but Sweetpea Skunk and Scamper Squirrel hard at work collecting berries—berries that Gruff considered his own. When Gruff saw them, he yelled, "You don't like berries, and you are stealing them just to make me mad!" And with that he chased them out of the berry patch all the way to Crashing Creek. They dropped half of the berries they had collected as they ran.

Gruff couldn't figure out why Sweetpea and Scamper would do that. He never did anything to hurt them. Well, not much anyway. Except that time that he tried to make Sweetpea's den larger so he could hibernate in it. Sweetpea said he ruined it, but Gruff told her to think of it as an expansion project. But that had happened a long time ago.

As Gruff couldn't find any ripe berries, he decided he would go to his honey tree and see what new treats the bees had prepared for him. As he walked along Ivy Lane, thinking about the nerve of Scamper and Sweetpea in taking those berries, he saw Freddy Fox and Lightfoot Deer coming down Ivy Lane with a pole between them and a bucket full of honey slung between the pole.

"What do you have here?" Gruff said.

"What do you mean, 'What do you have here?'" said Freddy. "It is honey. Don't you know what honey looks like?"

"Of course I do!" replied Gruff. "Where did you get it?"

"From bees!" said Freddy. He was suffering from some bee stings and was not about to take any guff from Gruff.

"But that is my honey!" said Gruff. "You took it from the honey tree, and you don't even like honey. You are just trying to make me mad."

"It's not your honey tree," said Freddy as he and Lightfoot began back up Ivy Lane, protecting their bucket of honey. Gruff began to move menacingly toward them, and they ran as fast as they could toward Green Meadow, dripping a sticky trail behind. As they broke into a clearing, a flock of black birds swooped down and grasped the bucket of honey and flew away with it.

Gruff was furious. "Is everyone in Fenton Forest trying to starve me to death? I need to be gaining weight for the winter, and I am going to starve. What will happen next?!"

As soon as he said those words, a terrible thought crossed his mind. He had dammed up a portion of Crashing Creek and made a pool of water where he had trapped a very large salmon. He had been saving it for a special occasion, and now he knew that with the whole Forest family working against him, someone would be stealing it. He raced to the pool, and his worst fears were confirmed. There was no fish, and there were the tracks of Randy Raccoon leading away from the pond.

Gruff was furious and ready to tear the Forest apart. He raced for Randy's home. As he ran back along Ivy Lane, he started to cut through the council area when he saw the Fenton Forest folk gathered there.

"They called a council meeting without telling me," he thought.

He approached the Forest council area when everyone turned toward him and shouted "Happy Birthday, Gruff!" and began to sing.

It was a wonderful party with fresh honey, Sweetpea's special berry pie, and a big fish. At the end of the party, Wise Old Owl said to Gruff, "Don't measure everything from the small perspective." ■

After GC Session in July, a limited number of Fenton Forest books will be available from Southern. For more information, call the Advancement office at 423.236.2829.

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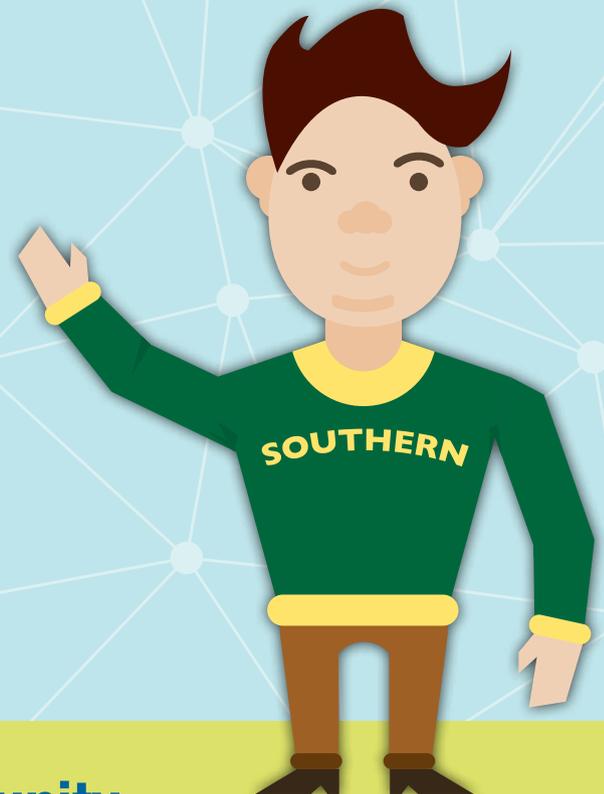
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