

2024



# NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

Seventh-Day Adventist Theological Seminary

*Go and Lead*

01	Seminary Dean's Welcome
02	Seminary Financial Letter
04	Thursday Schedule
05	Friday Schedule
06	Sabbath Schedule

---

*Table of*  
**CONTENTS**



# Dean's WELCOME



Dear Seminary Students,  
Welcome to your new, international, and friendly Seminary family, and to a new experience at this outstanding institution! On behalf of the Andrews University community and especially the Theological Seminary's faculty and staff, I would like to warmly greet you as well as any family members who may have accompanied you and invite you to become an integral part of our committed community of faith. We are delighted to have you here.

Together we want to form a unity of love, faith, and hope around Jesus and His Word. God is smiling on us, so we can smile on each other and encourage one another. You have the privilege of joining a vigorous learning and worshipping community.

Together we want to fulfill God's mission, live a theocentric life, and do everything to the glory of God. Beyond learning to lead congregations and teaching the truth of the Bible, we want to be molded by the Spirit of God and create a place of contagious Seventh-day Adventist Christianity. As never before, this is the place to learn and live ministry at its best.

Here you will have the opportunity to experience the richness and variety of the global Seventh-day Adventist Church. You will be rubbing shoulders with devoted church leaders and students from around the world. Do not miss the opportunity to connect with them and form eternal friendships

God has called you to ministry and brought you here to prepare you for a great future in the service of the Lord. I pray that we will continue this journey together in an attitude of humility, determination, consecration, praise, and thanksgiving. Use the privileges He gives you and always be faithful to Him and His calling, because He is constantly faithful to you! Set your priorities straight and do not be distracted even by useful things! Turn all your assignments into prayers and devotionals.

May the experiences of Seminary life help you to grow in the Lord and increase your knowledge of Him. May our gracious and awesome Lord richly bless you in your life and studies, helping you to find a proper balance in all your various activities, and give you joy in working closely with Him to fulfill His mission in your life. May this new academic year be for you an awesome walk with the Lord! May He enable you to take up the challenges with courage and wisely use the opportunities which are ahead of you! May He grant you grace, peace, wisdom, a good memory, joy, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Never forget God's promise to you: I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you@ (Ps 32:8 NIV). Let Him be your strength always (Hab 3:19; Phil 4:13).

*Ziri Moskala*

# *Dean's Financial* LETTER

Dear Seminarians,

I am very pleased that you are studying at the SDA Theological Seminary at Andrews University, deepening your call, and preparing to be even more useful for the Lord! I really want the years you spend here to be the best and most meaningful of your life. Let me share with you a very serious burden which lies on my heart.

For several years, there has been a deepening concern for Seminary students who are entering or graduating with extensive debt. When the topic was brought to the attention of the Seminary's Executive Committee, which includes the GC President, NAD President, and NAD Union Presidents, they requested that the Seminary leadership seek ways to educate and encourage students to avoid excessive student loans.

There seems to be a number of factors that are contributing to the rising student debt load that may include the following: (1) entering Seminary with high undergraduate debt; (2) relying on debt for living expenses while in the Seminary; (3) using loans to boost standard of living (not living as a student); (4) unawareness of the dollar amount of monthly payments and the relationship to denominational wage scales; (5) ease of obtaining student loans ("just sign here"). Often individuals do not understand how the repayment of a loan, which includes principal and interest, will affect their future income and standard of living.

When employed as a pastor, your income may be approximately \$45,000 (depending on the area in which you will serve, the years of service, your experience, etc.), but after paying taxes, giving tithe and offerings, and repaying your educational debt, you will be left with substantial less to pay your bills and living expenses—rent/mortgage, utilities, car expenses, food, children's education, medical, travel, gifts, and so forth. To a certain extent, the amount of your monthly payment on your student loan will determine how much will be left for your living expenses.

The Seminary administration is not against the careful use of student debt to finance one's education, as long as the student has a realistic plan for the ability to pay back the loans without undue strain on the family budget.

# Dean's Financial LETTER *Cont.*

We are strongly against excessive debt that leads to high payments for many years. Too often it seems that some students simply take the loan proceeds because the money is available, without calculating the cost of repayment.

In Spring Semester 2022, Tyler Kern, 2021–2022 Seminary Student Forum Co-President, and Sharyn Nash Smoot, Director, Seminary Business Administration, presented a financial resources seminar. Please view that presentation here: <https://www.andrews.edu/sem/sem-chapel/chapel/index.html> under Lectureships > Care Team > Finance & Resources. If you wish to consult with Sharyn regarding your personal financial situation, you may e-mail her at [shari@andrews.edu](mailto:shari@andrews.edu) or arrange an appointment through Karen Rodriguez (phone: 269.471.6941; e-mail: [seminary@andrews.edu](mailto:seminary@andrews.edu)). She is available to help you to make the right financial decisions. During your Seminary experience, I wish to encourage you to take advantage of the DSLE652 Personal and Family Finance course we offer each academic year. Students who have taken this course have testified that it has been one of the most practical courses both for them personally and professionally.

Please reflect prayerfully on the following wisdom from the Word of God:

- “The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender.” (Prov 22: 7 ESV)
- “Be not one of those who give pledges, who put up security for debts. If you have nothing with which to pay, why should your bed be taken from under you?” (Prov 22:26–27 ESV)
- “The wicked borrows but does not pay back, but the righteous is generous and gives.” (Ps 37:21 ESV)
- “This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy.” (1 Cor 4:1–2 ESV)

May our loving Lord grant you wisdom, discipline, and the right discernment to know how to manage life and the financial part of it that your usefulness can grow and not be hindered by poor choices and decisions. Remember, you are a steward of the assets God is giving you (Matt 25:14–46; Luke 16:1–13). Manage all God’s gifts well to His glory and may our gracious Lord be with you!

Most cordially,  
Jiří Moskala, ThD, PhD  
Dean

# THURSDAY

*August 22*



## Seminary Chapel

8AM Mentor Sign-up (seminary commons)

8:30AM Worship

Welcome

Worship in song

Prayer

Devotional

Abner Hernandez

Jose Miguel Marin

Heather Crews

Jiří Moskala

9AM Seminary Overview

Care Team & Counseling

First the Blade

Seminary chorus, Seminary Worship, SNN

Seminary Clubs

Old Testament Holy Land Tour

Europe Reformation Study Tour

Adventist Heritage Tour/Heritage Sabbath

Care for Cuba Tour

Center for Faith Engagement Opportunities

NAD Evangelism Institute

Doctoral Programs

Seminary Finances

Group photo, ALL programs

Programs Meet Together

Mdiv Program (Chapel)

DSLE Program (S215)

PhD Program (N310)

Roy Gatton

Kenley Hall

David Williams

Club Presidents

Paul Gregor

Trevor O'Reggio

Kevin Burton

Fernando Ortiz

Prescott Khair

Tim Madding

Wagner Kuhn

Sharyn Smoot

Darren Heslop

Mdiv Staff & SSF

DSLE Faculty & Staff

PhD Faculty & Staff

12PM Lunch (mentor groups meet together)

Sack lunches can be picked up in the seminary commons

# August 23 FRIDAY

---

## Terrace Cafe (Campus Center)-5:30PM


Go through line for your meal and seating for faculty, staff, students and their families will be in the Great Lakes Room. Tickets will be handed out at the bottom of the stairs. Faculty from Practical and Applied Theology will greet you in the Terrace Cafe and help seat you in the Great Lake room.



---

## Vespers Program (Great Lakes Room)

Welcome	John Reeve
Prayer	Wagner Kuhn
Introduction of AU President	Jiří Moskala
AU President's Remarks	John Wesley Taylor
Introduction of Faculty and Staff	Jiří Moskala
Presentation of Awards	
W. Larry Richards Greek	Cedric Vine
Placement Exam Award	
Hebrew Placement Exam Award	Jerome Skinner
Special Music	Seminary Chorus
Student Testimonies	Larissa Jeffrey & Emily Ellis
Devotional	Daniel Olariu
Sabbath Schedule/Announcements	John Reeve
Closing Prayer	Alayne Thorpe



*"So now, go. I am sending you to  
Pharaoh to bring my people the  
Israelites out of Egypt."*

# August 24 SABBATH

## Seminary Chapel

### Sabbath Program

10AM Sabbath School

Practical & Applied Theology Department Faculty

Prelude David Williams

Welcome Roy Gatton

Prayer Natasha Richards

Worship Songs Emily Ellis & Friends

Lesson Study Joe Kidder & Tom Shepherd

11:15AM Break

11:30AM Divine Service

Welcome Trevor O'Reggio

Prayer Myrna Araujo Constantine

Worship Songs Emily Ellis & Friends

Scripture Reading Abner Hernandez

Matthew 24:35–39

Sermon Jiří Moskala

“As it was in the time of Noah”

Closing Hymn David Williams

“Standing on the Promises” (No. 518)

### Lunch-12:30PM

Lunch is provided by the New Student Orientation Committee and the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. All those in attendance are welcome.

### Mdiv Mentor Groups -1:45PM

Mentor groups will meet together in meaningful fellowship led out by the Mentor Group leader, Fernando Ortiz and mentors.

Watermelon will be served in the afternoon





# NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

*Seventh-Day Adventist Theological Seminary*

*Go and Lead*

Andrews University

Seventh-Day Adventist Theological Seminary

4145 E Campus Circle Dr | Berrien Springs | MI | 49104

269-471-6941

[auseminary@andrews.edu](mailto:auseminary@andrews.edu)