The Path to Irresistible

Andrea Luxton, president

Among my different travels this last summer, I visited Ukraine. While I was there, my hosts at the Adventist university took me to Kiev and to a fascinating museum of micro-miniatures. The museum featured the work of Mykola Syadristy; I would invite you to go online and search for some of the pictures of his art. One for example is of a single human hair, cut and polished so it is transparent. Then inside the hair is a miniature artificial rose twig in all its beauty. From a flea with golden shoes to a chessboard and pieces on the head of a nail, each object is beautifully and intricately made. With the naked eye all you can see is a small indistinguishable blob—under a microscope all the details become evident. I know that if I return to Kiev again, the call back to the museum will be irresistible.

Six weeks later I attended a summit for K–12 teachers in the North American Division and then for the following three days a higher education summit, exploring the future of higher education in North America. At the end of our session we voted a document that will be known as the Chicago Declaration. In this document are details of the challenges to higher education, some steps for the future and then a declaration. This declaration confirms that this group of more than 100 individuals are committed to a path toward a system of Adventist higher education that will (1) make that education more accessible and affordable, (2) focus on excellence in learning that will impact readiness for the workplace, (3) exemplify and reinforce the spiritual core of our church, (4) support and build excellence in teaching, and (5) find more collaborative and coordinated ways of delivering education, especially online.

That is a brief summary from my perspective, and by the time you read this you may well have read several different articles and perspectives on the summit.

Let me share with you, however, what I took away from this event and the K–12 summit that preceded it. For it is more than this important statement. As I mingled among my fellow educators and listened to them speak with commitment and love, commitment to the mission of Adventist education and love for their students, I realized that here was also the essence of irresistible. Just like the museum in Kiev, from a distance maybe there was just a blob. But in reality here was vision, careful and loving engagement with that mission, and at the end—beauty.

I know those of us in Adventist education are not perfect: we can do better; we can collaborate more effectively; we can and should extend our reach; we certainly should represent the kingdom of God more effectively.

But irrespective of this, I do want to pay tribute to the Andrews University faculty and staff, past and present, and to my colleagues at other Adventist institutions around this nation and beyond for paving the path to the irresistible through their passion, convictions, deeply rooted sense of mission and most of all their care, compassion and dedication to the lives they touch every day.

Thank you!
15 Celebrating 50 Years at Tall Hisban
by Jeremy Gray
The first season of the Heshbon Expedition in 1968 was overseen by Siegfried Horn and included only five participants from Andrews. Since then an estimated 2,000 people from around the world have participated in the dig, among them students, professors and volunteers.

24 A Day at the Dig
by Jeremy Gray
Experience what it’s like to spend a day at the archaeological dig in Jordan.

26 The Next Chapter, Storyline Five
by Andrea Luxton
The final storyline from the 2017–2022 strategic plan outlines plans for an Andrews University campus that expresses its values through its physical campus spaces and environmentally friendly state-of-the-art facilities.
Race, Racism and Health

*Featured at Lakeland Health’s Community Grand Rounds series*

**On July 10, 2018, Dr. David R. Williams** was the guest speaker for Lakeland Health’s Community Grand Rounds series, held at the Howard Performing Arts Center.

The Community Grand Rounds series is Lakeland’s three-year educational speaker series focusing on the impact of racial discrimination on the health of African Americans and on health inequities. It is a collaborative effort between Lakeland Health and the Todman Family Foundation, designed for professionals in medicine, allied health fields, social work, government leaders and community members.

Williams is the Norman Professor of Public Health and Professor of African and African American Studies at Harvard University. Previously he taught at Yale University and the University of Michigan. The author of over 400 scientific articles, his research focuses on social influences on health. Elected to the National Academy of Medicine and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, he has been ranked as the Most Cited Black Scholar in the Social Sciences in the world and as one of the World’s Most Influential Scientific Minds.

During his presentation, Williams spoke about the biological effects of exposure to racial discrimination and provided examples of what clinicians, health systems, municipal leaders and others could do to address this problem.

Michael Nixon, vice president for Diversity & Inclusion at Andrews University, says, “I am delighted that Lakeland Health hosted this installment of the vitally important Community Grand Rounds on Race, Racism and Health on our campus. As we continue striving to develop world changers here at Andrews, it is important that we also understand the unique effects and challenges that members of certain races have been forced to wrestle with due to the ills of racism.”

Curtis VanderWaal, chair and professor of social work and director of the Center for Community Impact Research at the Institute for Prevention of Addictions, shared his response toward the program and speaker. “We are indebted to Dr. Williams for not only his research but also the practical examples that he shared to help clinicians, school administrators, health systems, municipal leaders and everyday citizens address this problem directly.”

Visit lakelandhealth.org/community-grand-rounds for additional resources and information.

---

**Don’t forget to write**

Letters are always welcome. To ensure a range of viewpoints, we encourage letters of fewer than 300 words. Letters may be edited for content, style and space.

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

**By email:**
focus@andrews.edu
Andrews University at the 2018 North American Division Teachers' Convention in Chicago. Students excited about AU #auedu #aushp #teachersconvention

The Early College experience is off to a great start! What better way to end the first day of classes than with ice cream! #auedu #worldchangersmadehere #exploreandrews

This week learn about our speech department! This summer our students help run a speech summer camp! #auedu #aushp #auspeech #splad #summacamp #speechtherapy #studentspotlight

Graduating physical therapy students present their research posters. #auggrad18 #worldchangersmadehere

“World Changers Made Here.” Andrews University is currently hosting student groups from Sahmyook University in Korea and has just signed an agreement with Peruvian Union University. Left to right: KIM Sung Ik, president, Sahmyook University; Gluder Quispe, president, Peruvian Union University; Andrea Luxton, president, Andrews University. PHOTO CREDIT: Stephen Payne, with Gluder Quispe Yeny Quea

No need to pull apart your LEGO pirate to see what his insides look like, just give him an X-Ray CT scan.

Have you seen our World Cup station yet? Come and enjoy watching the game with us! #jwlpatronservices #WorldCup2018 #jameswhitelibrary #andrewsuniversity

Touchdown! #graduation #andrewsuniversity #seminary #graduation2018

Something new @AndrewsUniv — 4 the 1st time faculty staff & admin signed their commitment to moral leadership on the theme banner (in red) — 2nite the new students made the same commitment on the same RENOVATE board (in all other colors) — a full color fully covered reminder @PMChurch

Andrews University Dining Services
Healthy, Exciting and Beautiful. Yum.

Andrews University Alumni shared Oliver Glanz’s post Highlighting an individual here at Andrews University who leads an active example of a healthy lifestyle, congratulations to Oliver Glanz, associate professor of Old Testament in the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, on his amazing solo summit of the Matterhorn!

Andrews University: Dave Faehner, vice president for advancement, extols the benefits of plateless eating during his Top Ten presentation for University Convocation. (August 30, 2018)
Andrews summer experience

Multiple groups enjoy learning and fun

SAHMYOOK UNIVERSITY

This summer, Andrews University hosted two groups from Sahmyook University, our sister university in Seoul. These groups, Blue Ladder and Global Frontier, ultimately brought 45 students to campus.

The Korean government funded the cultural and educational experiences for these students. This government-funded program was designed to expose students to different cultures, with a special emphasis on exploring various global career options, as well as having hands-on exposure to and understanding of community engagement.

At the heart of their time on campus was a series of English conversation courses offered by the Center for Intensive English Programs.

Beyond class, these students did everything from paint a Benton Harbor school to helping feed the hungry in Saint Joseph/Benton Harbor. The students also picked peaches and blueberries, canoed the Saint Joseph River, climbed the University’s rockwall, and visited companies and corporations ranging from Village Hardware to Whirlpool.

And, each week, students ended their week-long activities with a sundown worship on the shores of Lake Michigan, followed by ice cream.

SBA SUMMER CAMP

In 2016, Jerry Chi, assistant dean of the School of Business Administration, strategized a global partnership to collaborate with 13 top universities in Taiwan and China. The end result was a one-month summer camp designed to attract Chinese and Taiwanese students to Andrews while introducing them to American culture.

This year’s camp happened in July and August and involved both academic and recreational activities. While at Andrews, the students were given the opportunity to prepare for and take two TOEFL tests. In addition, they could take a hospital management class that simulated American classroom instruction. When the students were not studying or attending class, they went on excursions to various local corporations, healthcare organizations, museums and local cultural sights including Six Flags, Silver Beach and Chicago Premium Outlet.

The goal with each of these activities was to educate and expose the students to a wide variety of experiences that could help foster the development of global mindsets. “For them to develop positive behaviors, their experiences must produce a sense of competency, a feeling of connectedness to American higher education, and a belief in their abilities to make sound cultural decisions,” Chi described.

Thanks to the mixture of cultural exposure and an MBA program introduction, the camp was a success. Many students left with a positive impression of Andrews University, and some have already filed their applications to study at Andrews. In the past 2017–2018 school year there were 13 students from these universities who joined the MBA program at Andrews.
EARLY COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

EARLY COLLEGE EXPERIENCE OFFERS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

for motivated high school students and new incoming freshmen to earn college credit while getting a taste of undergraduate student life at Andrews University. This three-week program allows students to take a 3-credit-hour college class, participate in exciting academic seminars and share in adventures outside the classroom in and around our beautiful Southwestern Michigan main campus. Drawing students from all over the country, the Early College Experience has been a resounding summer success.

The inclusion of rising high school seniors sets Early College Experience apart from many similar summer programs. As an extension of the Explore Andrews Program, this summer opportunity allows students to better understand the university experience, meet with faculty and career professionals, and work with an Explore advisor to help determine what academic programs they will pursue up to a full academic year in advance.

One such student, Nehemiah Sitler, participated two years in a row before enrolling this fall as a new freshman. “The Early College Experience was an excellent program that taught me immeasurable skills. These skills and experiences put me ahead in high school, prepared me for success in college, and connected me with a strong support group of friends and mentors.”

Early College Experience has seen yearly increases in enrollment and there is already strong interest in next summer’s program. Andrews University is excited about the future of this program as it increases our outreach to students during the summer months. For more information, check out the program online at andrews.edu/exploreandrews/earlycollege.

HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY CREATED THIS PROGRAM TO OFFER 9TH-GRADE STUDENTS FROM BENTON HARBOR HIGH SCHOOL AN OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN A MATH RECOVERY COURSE. THE PROGRAM COVERED TWO-SEMESTERS OF ALGEBRA 1 IN EIGHT-WEEKS. PARTICIPANTS EARNED 0.5 CREDITS FOR EACH SEMESTER THEY COMPLETED. THE GRADE Earned WAS ALSO TRANSFERABLE BACK INTO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND COUNTED TOWARDS THEIR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION.

Eleven students registered for the program: seven students completed semester one and four students completed semester two. The students who did not complete the course found summer jobs whose hours conflicted with class time.

Each participant received a scholarship that included registration, transportation, breakfast, lunch, tuition and tutoring. The program ran from June 18 to August 15, 2018, with classes held Monday to Friday.

During the course of the program, students were given campus tours and opportunities to meet with professors in departments where students expressed vocational interest. These included nursing, aviation, music and education.

The Andrews team of instructors created engaging methods to teach math which included art, drama and music.

The program was developed by Carlisle Sutton, director of Community Engagement Integration, in collaboration with the provost, graduate dean, SDEIP and the Departments of Mathematics, Teaching Learning & Curriculum and Graduate Psychology & Counseling.

"I believe it is fair to say, we have all been changed by the experience. We have seen God create this opportunity to demonstrate His love, and support those needing our help. The program was designed to aid students needing math recovery but we were blessed to have been able to get to know them," says Sutton. "We hope this program will become an annual event, where we can continue to expand the range of subjects offered. This will help us to better serve our community."

The students completing the program all passed the course. The success of the students is the result of the efforts of the instructors who worked hard to develop creative strategies to teach the material that ensured the students grasped the concepts, Griggs administration support with the curriculum, academic assessments, and accreditation system must also be recognized. The team was indeed incredible! We also appreciate the assistance of the Benton Harbor Area School administration.

This program would not have been possible without the many generous gifts from local Adventist churches, Andrews alumni, faculty, staff and administration, the Lake Union, and friends of Andrews University.
Family Finances the topic for ACFRP

With John Matthews and Ben Maxson as the keynote speakers

FROM JULY 19–21, APPROXIMATELY 150 participants and presenters from as far away as England and Italy attended the sixth annual Adventist Conference on Family Research & Practice held at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary.

Family conferences similar to this have been held at Andrews University since 1975, with the most current form existing for six years. The ACFRP conferences are geared towards professionals including social workers, marriage and family therapists, counselors, psychologists and family ministry professionals. Each conference provides a forum for exploration and dissemination of the most current research and practice strategies related to family ministry in the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and creates an opportunity for Adventist family ministry scholars to share and dialogue about the best practices in family ministry.

The theme for this year’s conference was Family Finances, and the keynote speakers were John Matthews and Ben Maxson. John Matthews is a graduate of Southern Adventist University and holds a Doctor of Ministry from Andrews University. He is an ordained minister, and has conducted numerous stewardship and family finance seminars throughout the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists. In addition, he has authored numerous books and was the principal author of the 2018 Adult Sabbath School Quarterly, "Live Stewardship... Live Happy."

Ben Maxson currently serves as the senior pastor of the Paradise California Seventh-day Adventist Church. He also serves as a lead professor in the Andrews University Seminary Doctor of Ministry cohort for Spiritual Growth and Discipleship. Previously he held the position of director of stewardship at the world headquarters of Seventh-day Adventists from 1995 to 2004.

David Sedlacek, professor of family ministry and discipleship at Andrews University, summarized the conference, “The keynote speakers were inspiring in how they integrated stewardship theology into the real world of family finances. In addition to workshops focused on family finances, other workshops covered topics such as domestic violence, building resilient families, grief and loss, autism and biracial marriage.”

This year’s conference owes its success to the Andrews University Departments of Discipleship & Religious Education, Behavioral Sciences and Social Work, the Family Ministries departments at the General Conference and the North American Division, and AdventSource.

Nursing receives ACEN accreditation

For all three of its programs

THE DEPARTMENT OF NURSING HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED ACCREDITATION COMMISSION FOR EDUCATION IN NURSING (ACEN) processes for all three of its programs.

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN pre-licensure) program provides students with a complete spectrum of professional study, as well as a general education in the arts, humanities and sciences. It received eight years of continued accreditation from ACEN, guaranteeing it to be an accredited program until 2026.

The Registered Nurse–Bachelor of Science in nursing (RN–BSN) online completion program allows RNs who already hold an associate’s degree to be awarded the BSN in nursing. It received ACEN accreditation in spring 2018 with no follow-up reports and is accredited until spring 2026.

The online Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program allows students to move directly from a Bachelor of Science track to DNP studies. The program also allows MSN graduates to obtain their DNP within a reasonable time frame. Its ACEN accreditation was initially given with no follow-up reports in fall 2017. The accreditation is valid until fall 2022.

“ACEN accreditation demonstrates a seal of quality for nursing programs,” says Jochebed Bea Ade-Oshifogun, department chair. “This adds value and quality to Andrews University’s School of Health Profession programs. Our pre-licensure BSN and RN–BSN graduates can pursue graduate programs anywhere in the world. Our BSN and DNP graduates can easily and effectively secure employment after graduation.”

The Department of Nursing’s accreditation also ensures that pre-licensure BSN graduates can continue to take licensure examinations, and DNP graduates can take the national board certification examination, as only students from accredited institutions are permitted to sit for national board examinations.

Ade-Oshifogun says, “Our graduates can be proud of their alma mater. We are eternally grateful to God for the success achieved.”

The Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) is located at 3343 Peachtree Rd NE, Suite 850, Atlanta, Georgia 30326 and can be reached at 404-975-5000.
Creating healthy change in the workplace

Subject of the eighth annual Leadership Conference

On July 23, 2018, the eighth annual Leadership Conference was held at the Howard Performing Arts Center on the campus of Andrews University. About 120 people attended and heard the keynote speaker, Rex Miller, speak about implementing innovation and creating healthy change in the workplace.

According to Duane Covrig, chair of the Department of Leadership, the department has been bringing in special speakers for the students for over 20 years. For the past eight years, they have teamed up with Whirlpool and Lakeland Health to not only serve their students but also the local community. This year the leadership department collaborated with Whirlpool to bring in Rex Miller.

Miller is known as a change expert who consults with companies to help them “do” change. He has written on change in churches, in organizational culture and using space more effectively. His latest book is on workplace nudge and focuses on wellness change in organizations.

Covrig noted, “This was one of the best conferences we have had in a decade. I think what made it so effective was Rex’s willingness to come a night before and meet with our campus innovation committee and then stay a day later after the conference to meet with our wellness program officers. Rex went out of his way to be helpful to our campus community and it showed throughout his time here. We heard from many at the conference on how they wanted to use Rex’s ideas to create a happier, healthier and more resilient workplace environment. It was a deeply healing conference.”

2018 summer graduation

Speakers include Janet Ledesma, Charles Tapp and Julian Melgosa

During the weekend of August 3–5, a total of 329 students graduated from Andrews University. Janet Ledesma, associate dean and professor of leadership in the School of Education, presented “Unbroken While Broken” for the Consecration service.

Ledesma, who earned her PhD at Andrews, also works as the educational leadership coordinator and was formerly chair of the Faculty Senate. She served as an Adventist school principal for over 28 years in all types of schools and has a burning desire to assist Adventist school principals through mentoring and by developing resources such as webinars.

Charles A. Tapp, senior pastor at Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church gave the Baccalaureate speech, “The Great Work.”

After earning a bachelor’s in theology and accounting at Oakwood College (now University), Tapp received an MDiv at Andrews University. Over the past 37 years, he has served in the Northeastern Conference, the Inter-American Division, the South Central Conference and the Potomac Conference.

In addition to his pastoral ministry, he has worked in radio and television broadcasting as an announcer, voiceover artist, producer and host of several programs. He has also served as an instructor on several Adventist college and university campuses in the United States and abroad.

Julian Melgosa, associate director of education for the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and associate editor of “The Journal of Adventist Education” (international editions), presented the Commencement address titled “Transition.”

Melgosa earned a bachelor’s degree with majors in education and psychology as well as an MA in psychology from the University of Madrid (Spain). He later graduated with a PhD in educational psychology from Andrews University. Melgosa is a chartered psychologist, an associate fellow of the British Psychological Society and a prolific author in the area of emotional and mental health. He has served the Seventh-day Adventist educational system in five divisions and worked as an accreditor.
HOWARD CENTER PRESENTS

THE 2018–2019 SEASON
AN EXCEPTIONAL CONCERT EXPERIENCE

FOR TICKETS, INFORMATION AND A COMPLETE LISTING OF PERFORMANCES, CALL THE BOX OFFICE OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE.

(Ticket prices do not include $1 box office fee)
Service, family and horses
Dan and Nancy Agnetta retire after many years of service at Andrews University

YEARS AGO, A YOUNG MAN KEPT STOPPING by a boarding stable and asking for a young woman who boarded her horse there. This young man was Daniel Agnetta, and the young woman is now Nancy Agnetta.

“We began here at Andrews as a couple,” Nancy explains. “He was working on a master’s degree in psychology [at Andrews University]. I was a non-Adventist. My parents and his boss set me up, unbeknownst to me. We finally connected and started dating.”

“I’m here to serve other people and to be Christ’s ambassador,’ that’s what our young people believe who are going into teaching.”

Nancy ended up taking Bible studies with Daniel and Virgil Bartlett, a former director of student teaching in the Department of Teaching, Learning & Curriculum at Andrews University. They ended up getting married.

“I met her in a barnyard and she’s kept me in one for the last 43 years,” Daniel quipped.

Since 2001, Daniel has been the human resources director at Andrews. Nancy started as an adjunct professor teaching an ESL class in the English Language Institute in 2002. She has been an assistant professor of education since 2007.

Both Daniel and Nancy describe their time at Andrews as one that has been surrounded by examples of sacrificial service and dedication to both the students and to the mission. “It’s the people that make it [Andrews University] stand out and it’s their productivity. They are an awesome group of people who work here and have given and dedicated their whole lives to service here,” explains Daniel.

They have seen this attitude in the students as well. “With that focus, that genuine focus of ‘I’m here to serve other people and to be Christ’s ambassador,’ that’s what our young people believe who are going into teaching,” says Nancy. “They impact me almost as much or more as I impact them. I am blessed every day.”

An attitude of service has not been the only thing gained during their time at Andrews. Nancy feels that she has gained a more global perspective of the church mission and the educational experience.

“I have had students go on tours and come back and are just changed. They are better people with a broader knowledge of what the world is like,” she describes. Even though this was not her firsthand experience, these students helped connect her to everywhere else and gave her a different perspective.

For both of them, their colleagues and students were their favorite parts about working at Andrews. “I’ve worked in multiple places prior to working at Andrews University,” says Daniel. “I came in knowing my business and I leave having gained a family.”

Even though they are happy to be retired, it was hard for both of them. Nancy will definitely miss working with her students and Daniel will miss mentoring his younger colleagues and helping them achieve their career goals.

Now that they are retired, they are working on building a second home in North Carolina. Nancy hopes to enjoy her garden, horses and dogs more. They are both looking forward to spending time at the brand new international equestrian center near their future home.

“I came in knowing my business and I leave having gained a family.”

FAR LEFT: Dan and Nancy Agnetta look forward to spending more time with their horses and dogs during retirement in North Carolina

LEFT: A joint retirement celebration was held in the Campus Center Lincoln Room on June 28
Desmond Murray receives J.N. Andrews Medallion

For his dedication to research, community engagement and students

Desmond Hartwell Murray was the recipient of the John Nevins Andrews Medallion during the summer commencement service on August 5, 2018.

He was awarded the medallion for his work with community engagement, academic achievements, dedication to research and scholarly contributions.

“This award memorializes the lessons of service [I] first learned from my mom and dad.”

Murray stated, “I am most thankful for the blessings and burdens of this award. It honors the past yet points and prods, instructs and inspires to do greater and be better. This award memorializes the lessons of service first learned from my mom and dad. Thanks to everyone for your well wishes and to God, the Living Springs of all good things.”

He graduated from Andrews University with a Bachelor of Science in chemistry in 1985, then went to Wayne State University for graduate studies, where he earned his PhD in chemistry in 1992. From 1992 to 1994, Murray was a Post-doctoral Fellow with Harvard University. In 1995, Murray became an assistant professor of chemistry at Andrews University and a chemistry instructor for the Berrien County Math Science Center. He became a tenured associate professor of chemistry at Andrews in 2011.

In 2005, Murray founded the nonprofit organization, Building Excellence in Science and Technology (BEST), People First, Innovate Early. This program provides early research participation opportunities for high school and college students. Since 2010, Murray has also been the organizer for an annual BEST Early Research Symposia.

In addition to founding and directing BEST Early, Murray has been involved in numerous other community-related activities. Since 2001, he has been an editor and columnist for the Benton Spirit Community Newspaper. In that same year he also developed the Benton Harbor Science Initiative to provide STEM enrichment programs for local students. In 2003 he began the Socrates After School project, where he helps to organize and lead special joint science department assemblies and tutoring workshops.

Murray has also been a remarkable research mentor for his students. He has mentored 91 undergraduate research students, 28 high school students, 25 J.N. Andrews Honors Research students and seven graduate students. In addition, he has collaborated with over 23 professors and colleagues in research, produced six peer-reviewed publications and written 32 scientific abstracts.

Most recently, Murray created and chaired the Community Engagement Council as part of the University’s commitment to meaningfully engage with our surrounding communities. Efforts such as Change Day in 2017 are initiatives inspired by members of this council. He is also a member of the Scholarly Research Council and the Race & Justice Subcommittee.

Due to his dedication, Murray has won several awards, the most recent being the College Science Teacher of the Year Award from the Michigan Science Teachers Association and the Outstanding Service Award from Andrews University, both in 2012.

Christon Arthur takes the leap

With the U.S. Army Golden Knights team

The good news: our provost, Christon Arthur, participated in a tandem parachute jump with the U.S. Army’s Golden Knights team in Chicago on Wednesday, August 22.

The even better news: 13,500 feet later, Provost Arthur landed safely!

Here’s a glimpse of his thrilling journey. He says he’s ready to do it again.
A window to the world

Seminary professor, Jacques Doukhan, retires after 34 years at Andrews

Thirty-four years ago, in 1984, Jacques Doukhan accepted a position at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. Prior to his arrival, Doukhan had been serving as a missionary in Mauritius with his wife, Lilianne Doukhan.

“I didn’t plan to come here,” he said. “I was called. I came as a missionary, from one mission to another mission.”

In fact, Doukhan had been at Andrews years before to complete his second doctoral degree. He was actually the first graduate from the first doctoral degree offered by the Seminary. He tells the story that upon graduating he was so exhausted he made an oath to never come back. Little did he know that God had other plans.

Doukhan grew up in Algeria, North Africa, in the crossroads of three cultures and three languages: Hebrew, French and Arabic. He has lived in a total of six countries including Algeria, Switzerland, Israel, France, Mauritius and the United States.

“All my life has been made up of crossing something different and something new—new windows, new people, new languages, new experiences,” he explains.

With this background, it comes as no surprise that the diversity at Andrews is very important to him. Doukhan describes the environment at Andrews as one that makes differences ordinary.

“When I arrived here I realized something interesting. If I had been there [France] I would have only been there. If I live here [Andrews] I am everywhere. As far as my ministry, it is a window to other places. Here I am happier. It has enriched my human life and my human experience. That’s truly what I retain as one of the values at Andrews.”

Doukhan says that it was at Andrews where he blossomed as a scholar. It was here he wrote most of his books, and here that English became his first language of writing. During his time at Andrews he has served as professor of Hebrew and Old Testament exegesis, director of the Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies and general editor of the Seventh-day Adventist International Bible Commentary project. He also conducted Beth B’nei Shalom, a Hebrew Adventist church service, for 16 years and served as the editor of the journal “Shabbat Shalom.”

When asked about his experiences as a professor, he shared how meaningful it was for him to interact with his students. “My greatest joy is not something I get in the immediate. It’s something I get afterwards when students write to me or get in touch with me and express their gratefulness.”

As a scholar, Doukhan also enjoys discovering new things in his study of the Scriptures. Throughout his years of teaching he realized that these surprises are only multiplied when he is in class with students.

“Every day I learn something significant and new about the Scriptures and that makes me happy in my experience as a teacher and a scholar,” he says. “A scholar is not someone who just remembers—it is someone who also produces a truth which seems to be new although it is rooted in what you remember.”

Now that he is retired, Doukhan will still continue to teach occasionally and serve as general editor of the Seventh-day Adventist International Bible Commentary project. He and Lilianne will split their time between here and the south of France.

In reflecting on his time here at Andrews he says, “This is actually the place I spent most of my life and I don’t regret it. I did not shape my life...There is a lot of His [God’s] hand there.”

Every day I learn something significant and new about the Scriptures and that makes me happy in my experience as a teacher and a scholar.”
In April of 2001, Arlene Bailey arrived in Berrien Springs with her husband who had come for a job interview. She inquired at Ruth Murdoch Elementary School (RMES) and was told there were no positions available. With this in mind, Bailey began looking elsewhere. She interviewed at two other locations and was praying that God would place her where she should be. God did lead, and on July 1, she accepted a fourth-grade teaching position at RMES.

“I’ve always been convicted that God wanted me at Ruth Murdoch, and that he opened the doors the way he did very deliberately,” says Bailey. “If you had told me years later that I would still be teaching here, I would have laughed myself silly.”

During her 17 years at RMES, Bailey taught Grade 4 for five years, Grades 7–8 for five years and Grade 5 for seven years. While there she started the Honors Society and successfully reimplemented changes to the Outdoor Education program. Out of her 44 years as a teacher, she spent the longest consecutive time at RMES.

When asked to describe what makes RMES stand out for her, Bailey says it is the global atmosphere. Being on the campus of a diverse university has allowed her to make connections and do things with her class that she would not have been able to do elsewhere.

“No matter where you go you will find someone to connect with and that connection brings you back to this school. If you’ve taught at Andrews University or gone to school at AU, you will find that connection come up again and again. I think that’s sort of what it will be like in heaven.”

Everything Bailey did was anchored in her mission to share Christ with the students. She tells stories of having students come back to her and thank her for the impact she made on their lives. She has also witnessed students joining together in prayer during a troubling situation. Each of these instances reaffirms her resolve that teaching is more than just a curriculum. It is teaching students about life, and most importantly about developing a close relationship with Jesus.

“We always say, Lord, put me where you want me because we think we are serving a purpose. And I do think I’ve served a purpose,” reflects Bailey. “But the bigger picture for me is that while I touched many students’ lives, my life became how I am today because of how I was touched.”

While she will miss her students, Bailey plans to spend her retirement doing the things she has not had time to do while teaching. She is looking forward to being able to sew, garden, read, paint, crochet and most of all enjoy time with her grandchildren.
Andrews University’s archaeological dig at Heshbon, the longest continuous archaeological project in Jordan, celebrated its 50th anniversary this past summer. Over the past 50 seasons the project has grown and expanded into the Madaba Plains Project (MPP), which now includes the sites Tall al-‘Umayri and Tall Jalul, which began in 1984 and 1992 respectively. The first season of the Heshbon Expedition in 1968 was overseen by Siegfried Horn and included only five participants from Andrews. Since then an estimated 2,000 people have participated in the dig, among them students, professors and volunteers. Throughout its history the MPP has made significant contributions and advancements to the field of archaeology as well as the practice of archaeology in Jordan. It has served as the training ground for countless professors and archaeologists, many of whom have gone on to lead other digs throughout the Middle East.

In honor of these achievements, the 50th anniversary of the Heshbon dig included several celebrations throughout the month-long excavation. It kicked off with a night at the Hisban Women’s Association where the directors of the dig presented the research and history that motivates the dig. Along the walls hung photos of the original expedition, where local visitors enjoyed picking out their younger selves or parents and grandparents who worked on the dig in years past. One detail, easily missed, provided a bit of a culture shock for western eyes—small pieces of paper taped over the faces of women who, later in life, decided to cover their faces completely.

Later in the month the site also played host to a group of local school children who came to get a history lesson beyond the classroom. The main day of celebrations, July 11, started off with a mini conference at the German-Jordanian University in Madaba.
In the evening, the main ceremony took place on the site at the base of the tell. A small tarp was erected for shade and rows of seats faced a podium. In attendance was Prince Ra’ad of the Hashemite royal family of Jordan, who worked on the site incognito in the 1970s and has been a friend of the dig ever since. A number of local dignitaries, founding members of the MPP, and directors of the other sites in the MPP were all in attendance. During the speeches, Øystein LaBianca (BA ’71), director of the Hisban dig since 1996, was also presented with a plaque by the local government, commemorating his commitment to the site. The atmosphere was definitely that of a celebration. Kids ran around the outskirts of the ceremony, laughing and playing throughout the event. Sweets and coffee were served continuously. Once the ceremony came to an end, attention shifted to the huge tent adjacent to the ceremony, where Prince Ra’ad cut the ribbon to a mini bazaar. Members of the Women’s Association brought goods, homemade sweets and snacks, spices and textiles, all for sale. The visitors mingled and socialized, taking pictures with each other and exploring the tell as the sun set. The celebrations, with the presence of many friends of the dig, both old and new, speak to the long history of excavations at Hisban.

“Initially, [Horn] planned to start the dig on June 6, 1967, so I was enroute to Israel when he was advised by the U.S. Embassy to cancel or postpone the dig because of war clouds. Sure enough, that very day was the start of the Six Day War.”

and snacks, spices and textiles, all for sale. The visitors mingled and socialized, taking pictures with each other and exploring the tell as the sun set. The celebrations, with the presence of many friends of the dig, both old and new, speak to the long history of excavations at Hisban.

All of this would not have been possible without the dig’s founder, Siegfried Horn, who was himself a remarkable man. He served as a minister and missionary in the Netherlands and later in Indonesia, then known as the Dutch East Indies. A German citizen, Horn was a prisoner of war from 1940 to 1946, first held by Dutch forces in Indonesia and later by English troops in India. During this time, his wife managed to send him books to study. He read and studied books on biblical history, the history of Israel, Palestinian archaeology, Ugaritic studies, and much more, copying hundreds of notes by hand so as not to forget what he learned. He also borrowed books from other prisoners and spent whole nights copying them by hand. In addition to his own studies, he taught his fellow prisoners biblical Greek and Hebrew. And to improve his own skills he kept a rigid schedule, studying vocabulary lists in French, Greek and Hebrew, which he mastered by translating the entire Old Testament over several years. After Horn’s release, he moved to the United States to continue his education and in 1951 completed a PhD in Egyptology from the Oriental Institute at the University of Chicago. Additionally, he studied under William F. Albright, one of the leading biblical archaeologists and historians of the 20th century. Horn then taught at Andrews University for 25 years and started the Andrews University Archaeological Museum to house the finds from the Heshbon Expedition. In 1978, the museum was renamed in his honor. Throughout his time working in the Middle East, Horn also helped the Jordanian government, translating and identifying many items found throughout the country.

Although the dig now celebrates 50 years, the original plan would have made this the 51st year, as Horn originally planned to start digging in 1967. Lawrence T. Geraty, who was one of those original five Andrews participants and then still a doctoral student at Harvard University, remembers their last-minute change of plans: “Initially, [Horn] planned to start the dig on June 6, 1967, so I was enroute to Israel when he was advised by the U.S. Embassy to cancel or postpone the dig because of war clouds. Sure enough, that very day was the start of the Six Day War.”

The war between Israel and its neighbors forced Horn to reschedule the beginning of the dig to 1968. In fact, both Horn and Mervyn Maxwell, Andrews University professor of church history and another of the original members of the expedition, described digging in the inaugural season of 1968 and still hearing the sound of shelling and gunfire in the Jordan River valley.

In its original phase, the goal of the Andrews University Heshbon Expedition was to settle the disputed date of the Exodus.
The majority opinion at the time claimed that the Exodus took place sometime in the 13th century BC, citing archaeological evidence that the kingdoms of Moab, Edom and Ammon were not inhabited before this time. It would be impossible then for Moses to have taken Heshbon, the Amorite capital, before this time (Numbers 21:21 ff). Adventists, however, took a minority opinion that the biblical chronology places the date of the Exodus somewhere around 1450 BC (1 Kings 6:1, Judges 11:26). In the biblical record the city of Heshbon is referenced 35 different times, first appearing when it was taken by Moses.

The Heshbon site’s importance, archaeologically speaking, is due in large part to its continuous habitation over so many years. And perhaps even more so, its occupation by so many different factions, likely as a result of its geographical placement. The site lies 20 miles east of the Jordan River and about 16 miles southwest of Amman, the capital of Jordan. High up on the tell, you can get a sweeping vista of the historic surroundings, including Mount Nebo, the Jordan River valley, the tip of the Dead Sea and the city of Jericho. And on particularly clear days you can see Jerusalem, with the Dome of the Rock a sparkling dot when the sun shines just right.

Its strategic placement makes the history of Hisban like a tour through Ancient Near Eastern history. Joshua divided Heshbon between the Israelite tribes of Reuben and Gad (Numbers 32) before it was reassigned to the Levites (Joshua 21). It fell into Moabite hands during the time of Judges (Judges 3). An era of flux under Saul ended when David regained it and began an era of evident splendor during Solomon’s reign. Perhaps its most famous reference, for archaeologists at least, is Song of Solomon 7:4—“Your eyes are like the pools of Heshbon.”

After Solomon’s death Heshbon went once more into flux, changing hands from the ten northern tribes to the Moabites (Isaiah 15 and 16) to the Babylonians during the time of Nebuchadnezzar. It was a prominent city in the prophecy concerning the downfall of Moab (Jeremiah 48).

Heshbon was a Jewish town during the Maccabean Period, and under Herod’s reign it was fortified. When the Romans controlled it outright they called it Esbus. The Jews sacked it sometime between AD 66 and 70. But it returned to prominence as an important market town in the Roman province of Arabia Petrae, which was formed in 106 AD. During its time as a Roman town a proposed visit by then emperor Hadrian in 130 AD sparked the construction of a highway from Jerusalem to Heshbon with the distance to Heshbon marked at every Roman mile. Of these milestones three have been found, and their references to Roman emperors into the late fourth century indicate that the highway to Heshbon must have been maintained at least until then.

After Constantine’s conversion, Heshbon’s importance as a Christian town is evident. Not only did the town send its Bishop Gennadius to the Council of Nicea (325 AD), but it also sent bishops to the later Councils of Ephesus (431 AD) and Chalcedon (451 AD). And in 649 Pope Martin I responded to a query about theological matters brought to him by Bishop Theodore of Heshbon, this even after the Islamic Invasion around 625. After this point its references in the Western corpus slowly peter out. As a result, and due to a primary interest in biblical history, the original expedition neglected the rich Islamic history of the site. This disinterest was not out of malice, but one that merely reflected the dominant, Orientalist view of the time period. Maxwell described getting “all this history—such of it as we were able to get on this first expedition—in reverse. Archaeology is like opening a book at the back and proceeding towards the front, paragraph by paragraph.” But because one cannot excavate everything at once, he

“This first season of excavations at old Heshbon proved to be far more rewarding than one could have expected, and we returned from it not only richer in archaeological experience, but also loaded with a great collection of finds.”
concludes, “archaeology is more like reading fragments of phrases, here and there, on a page, now and then, in reverse.”

The first Heshbon season in 1968 commenced with the fragments the team were most interested in. At the top of the tell was Area A, in which was discovered a Byzantine church that was partially destroyed with the seventh-century spread of Islam. Pieces of the mosaic floor were found, a feature unique to Byzantine churches of that time. Of particular interest was a plaster wall fragment with “Daniel” written in Greek. Additionally, the church included three levels where it had been rebuilt or at least renovated. Although the upper, most recent, floor had the best mosaics it was also considerably smaller than the lower levels, thus indicating that the congregation had shrunk over time as Islam became the dominant religion in the area. Area B was on a lower ledge of the tell and was primarily for a probe, a hole dug down as far as possible with the intent of seeing how many layers could be expected in the next season. In their first year, the team descended to the Hellenistic period, also finding a few sherds of pottery from the late Bronze Age. Area C was the western slope of the tell which contained layers of debris from the top of the tell that had been washed down from thousands of years of winter rainfall. And finally, Area D contained the ascent to the acropolis in which they discovered a stairway-like street, flanked by shops and storage buildings.

Horn was really pleased with the results of the dig’s first year, saying, “This first season of excavations at old Heshbon proved to be far more rewarding than one could have expected, and we returned from it not only richer in archaeological experience, but also loaded with a great collection of finds.” This collection included more than a thousand pounds of pottery, all to be shipped back to the U.S. In addition to pottery, the team also found bones, coins, needles, nails, rings and other metal items, stone, bone ivory and colorful pieces of glass, which to this day are the types of items found on site.

Despite an eagerness to continue this progress, 1970, the second season, marked the second time that armed conflict upset the schedule of the expedition. The Jordanian civil war, later known as Black September, erupted, beginning in June with confrontations between the Jordanian armed forces and the PLO. The expedition was cancelled and Horn was evacuated by the Red Cross from Amman to safety in Athens, Greece.

Although it was delayed, the second season of digging in 1971 was particularly fruitful, with several highlights. In a clay lamp was discovered a hoard of 66 Arabic coins, made of silver on a bronze core. In addition, a rare “rolling-stone tomb” was uncovered. One foot thick with a four-foot diameter, it was the first of its kind found east of the Jordan River and reminiscent of the kind in which Jesus’ body was placed. The beginning of a large reservoir was also discovered, estimated to hold around 2.2 million liters of water, which reminded those digging of the Song of Solomon passage describing the pools of Heshbon.

Despite a rich array of finds, Horn believed he had reached the Heshbon dating from the time of Jeremiah and Isaiah, leaving the date of the Exodus unaddressed. Although the earliest items before bedrock dated from the seventh or sixth century BC, Horn felt that the next season would be the last season of digging at Heshbon. However, in 1973, the third season of the dig, a number of new finds convinced the team to schedule two more seasons.

In 1973, Geraty assumed the position of director from Horn, who had recently been appointed dean of the Seminary and felt the time commitment too much to continue as director of the dig. Previously a student of Horn’s at Andrews, Geraty had gone on to complete his PhD in 1972 at Harvard University, focusing on Syro-Palestinian archaeology and the Hebrew Bible.

The year began particularly well, even before digging had begun, when in early 1973 the first publications detailing the pottery found at Heshbon were published. G. Ernest Wright, then president of ASOR (American Schools of Oriental Research), Old Testament professor at Harvard University, and one of the most important experts in biblical archaeology, was deeply impressed by the publications, stating, “This is the first publication of well-stratified, tightly controlled strata, dealing with archaeologists’ greatest dark age—the post-New Testament era. For pottery sequences from Roman to the Crusader periods, with this publication Heshbon becomes the type-site for all archaeologists.”

Success continued into this third season. While trying to find the narthex of the 6th-century AD Byzantine church, the team unearthed an Islamic bath constructed sometime in the 13th or 14th century. It came complete with a furnace room, a room with heated floors, and tanks for hot and cold water that was delivered via clay pipes. It was one of the best Mamluk baths ever excavated and the only one like it found in Jordan. Moreover, a Roman coin was found that had been minted there at Heshbon. The mint at Heshbon only operated for three or four years around 220 AD. Before this only seven coins had been found from the Heshbon mint, bearing the Roman name Esbus, and this one was in the best condition of them all. Particularly heartening for the team was the discovery of items dating to the 12th century BC, much closer to the date of the Exodus that Horn had originally hoped to achieve with the expedition.

The fourth dig in 1974 continued with the discovery of a third-century AD Roman temple underneath the Byzantine church, which had preceded the Christian site at the top of the tell. However, further excavation of the church was halted due to the Mamluk bath found the previous season. Its impressive preservation and uniqueness in the region drew the attention of archaeologists. This season, the team discovered that the Heshbon mint at Heshbon only operated for three or four years around 220 AD. Before this only seven coins had been found from the Heshbon mint, bearing the Roman name Esbus, and this one was in the best condition of them all. Particularly heartening for the team was the discovery of items dating to the 12th century BC, much closer to the date of the Exodus that Horn had originally hoped to achieve with the expedition.

The fourth dig in 1974 continued with the discovery of a third-century AD Roman temple underneath the Byzantine church, which had preceded the Christian site at the top of the tell. However, further excavation of the church was halted due to the Mamluk bath found the previous season. Its impressive preservation and uniqueness in the region drew the attention of archaeologists. This season, the team discovered that the Heshbon mint at Heshbon only operated for three or four years around 220 AD. Before this only seven coins had been found from the Heshbon mint, bearing the Roman name Esbus, and this one was in the best condition of them all. Particularly heartening for the team was the discovery of items dating to the 12th century BC, much closer to the date of the Exodus that Horn had originally hoped to achieve with the expedition.

The fourth dig in 1974 continued with the discovery of a third-century AD Roman temple underneath the Byzantine church, which had preceded the Christian site at the top of the tell. However, further excavation of the church was halted due to the Mamluk bath found the previous season. Its impressive preservation and uniqueness in the region drew the attention of archaeologists. This season, the team discovered that the Heshbon mint at Heshbon only operated for three or four years around 220 AD. Before this only seven coins had been found from the Heshbon mint, bearing the Roman name Esbus, and this one was in the best condition of them all. Particularly heartening for the team was the discovery of items dating to the 12th century BC, much closer to the date of the Exodus that Horn had originally hoped to achieve with the expedition.
the Jordanian government, which began planning steps towards protection and preservation with the aim of restoring it as a tourist attraction. That season another rolling stone tomb was found from the time of Christ, similar to the one discovered in 1971. Further excavations of the earliest layers unearthed city fortifications from both the 12th and eighth centuries BC. In 1976, the final season of the original Heshbon Expedition, the most impressive find was an extensive cave system that spreads throughout the underside of the tell.

Although Horn’s original goal of dating the Exodus was never realized, the Expedition was still a resounding success. In fact, G. Ernest Wright again praised the dig, commenting that, “specialists must in the future consider the Heshbon Expedition one of the pivotal excavations in Jordanian archaeological history. For this reason, its importance is out of all proportions to the money spent.”

In the 1970s excavations at Heshbon wound down as Geraty and his colleagues broadened their ambitions and developed the Madaba Plains Project. As a result, their focus shifted towards expansion to sites beyond Heshbon.

In 1984, Tell el-Umeiri, which is believed to be the ancient Ammonite city of Abel Keramim (Judges 11:33), was first excavated. Its first season, again under the direction of Geraty, proved incredibly rich. One of the most important finds in the history of the Madaba Plains Project was found there, just under the surface: the seal impression of Baalis, an Ammonite King (Jeremiah 40:14). It was the first extra-biblical reference known of Baalis, who ruled around 600 BC, actually quite late into Umeiri’s occupation from 3000 to 500 BC. In later seasons, the dig at Umeiri came under the direction of Larry Herr, until 2008 when Douglas Clark succeeded him as director.

In 1992, excavations started at Tell Jalul, a larger site than both Heshbon and Umeiri, under the co-direction of Randall Youker, then assistant professor of Old Testament and biblical archaeology at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, and David Merling, curator of the Horn Archaeological Museum. Evidence suggests that Jalul was occupied from 3000 BC until around WWI, nearly 5,000 years of history. Jalul was also one of the sites that was particularly cutting-edge in its use of technology, specifically the use of geographical information systems, known as GIS, which provides a 3D digital topography of the site.

“In many ways the progress made this season in engaging the local community is a fitting tribute to the 50th anniversary of the project.”
is one of the most tangible changes in the process of digging since 1968. The Heshbon Expedition first computerized its results in 1977 in the basement of the library. However, the first season at Umeiri in 1984 was the first to computerize the data from the start of the dig process, which was undertaken by James Brower (MA ’78), programmer and systems analyst for the Institute of Archaeology. In 1996 the use of digital photography began on the MPP sites. Previously, a dedicated team built a darkroom where negatives were developed on site during the dig. Now, many of the practices that first began at MPP sites are commonplace at other archaeological sites in the region, including the use of iPads for data entry, GPS, remote sensing, aerial photography, including drone photography and satellite images, 3D modelling and photogrammetry.

Robert Bates, adjunct professor of anthropology and archaeology at Andrews, who started in 2000 at Jalul, says that, “The Madaba Plains Project has been at the cutting edge of documentation and technology for archaeology in Transjordan.” However, while Bates oversees the database on iPads, the same old shovels, trowels and guffas, a local invention somewhere between a bucket and a basket, are used in the actual digging. In that regard, Bethany Walker of the University of Bonn, co-director and chief archaeologist of the Hisban project, says that, “the physical process of excavation and recording hasn’t changed that much...We’re using the same old locus sheets that were developed by the original Heshbon Expedition. We’re just digitizing them.” And in a similar vein Bates adds that, “technology hasn’t changed what we do, but it has changed how we do it.”

By the time the MPP returned to the site of the original Heshbon Expedition in 1996, the focus of the project had begun to change as well and two academic research goals came to the fore. First, the anthropological approach of archaeology, which LaBianca made a focus as director of excavations at Heszban. And second, a conscious focus on the Islamic history that had been disregarded by the original Heshbon Expedition. Toward these ends, LaBianca started the Hisban Cultural Heritage Project.
“Perhaps the development in technology is one of the most tangible changes in the process of digging since 1968.”

When LaBianca first became involved in 1971 his role was to assist in collecting, analyzing and identifying the bones found on site. Between the end of the expedition and the beginning of MPP he received his PhD from Brandeis University, doing his dissertation on the implications of the food culture of Heshbon. It was natural then for him to bring this focus when he became a co-director of the MPP as excavations began at Tell el-Umeiri. The excavations took on the theoretical framework LaBianca had established, in particular his notions of sedentarization and nomadization and intensification and abatement, ideas that attempt to address the cause of changes in human settlement over time.

Towards a new focus on the Islamic aspects of the tell’s history, the project brought in the expertise of Bethany Walker, who first joined the dig in 1998 as a “newly minted” PhD from the University of Toronto, with an expertise in Islamic pottery. She has single-handedly bolstered the project’s knowledge of the Tell’s Islamic history. Walker specializes in the Mamluk period, so-called for the Mamluks, a military class who were originally slave soldiers. Their skill as warriors, particularly on horseback with bow and arrow, elevated them in status above average citizens. The Mamluks came to establish a realm that ruled out of Cairo during the high middle ages, around 13th century until the Ottoman period beginning in the early 16th century.

In particular, Walker has used both references to the historical record of the Arabic corpus as well as archaeological sources to better understand the reality of Islamic history and life. This approach is important because Islamic historians have tended to prefer textual study, and there has traditionally been a dearth of research from archaeological sources. As a result, Islamic history has been biased toward urban elites, the ones who had the texts written, and has therefore neglected the reality of rural regions. Walker describes Hisban as “a perfect 14th-century site,” and her research has made it one of the most important areas for the study of rural Islamic sites and how the lives of local people were impacted by those far away elites. She describes it as “one of the best archaeological sites for understanding how the Mamluk regime operated on a local level.”

Despite this pivot away from biblical history, LaBianca emphasizes that, “there is no doubt that the focus on the later periods has helped us understand the biblical periods.” In particular, a whole new understanding of settlement in the biblical times takes into account tents and caves as part of the settlement system. LaBianca adds that, “those insights have come from the fact that we have embraced the later periods.”

The future of excavations at Hisban will surely include an expansion of the Islamic period sites. This year also saw a return to the ruins of a Byzantine church a short way north of the tell, which were originally excavated in the 1970s. Darrell Rohl (BA ’07) of Calvin College oversaw the project, which required a good deal of cleaning before a small trial excavation trench returned promising results for further excavations of the site. Improved security and preservation of the ruins will be the next step. Additionally, this season followed the city wall from the Iron Age period city, which was much bigger than the boundaries of the tell and therefore much larger than originally thought. Similarly, given the importance of Hisban in antiquity, it is easy to believe that the city was much larger than just the ruins of the tell. As a result, many of the archaeologists involved in the dig have expressed a desire to do land surveys off the tell in the hope of finding further sites for excavation.

The dig will also continue to build its Jordan Field School, started in 2011 as a way to give archaeology students hands-on experience in the field, using the site as an extension of the classroom. Furthermore, one of the main goals of the project moving forward is to improve the presentation of the site to the public. This has already started with the addition of more than 30 signs in both Arabic and English, which guide visitors along a path, explaining the history of the tell. The hope for the future is a full visitor’s center located at the Nabulsi

“Walker describes Hisban as “a perfect 14th-century site,” and her research has made it one of the most important areas for the study of rural Islamic sites and how the lives of local people were impacted by those far away elites.”
complex, a series of abandoned buildings owned by the local Nabulsi family just down the road from the entrance to the site. A preliminary design has already been drawn up by members of the Andrews University School of Architecture & Interior Design, which includes educational spaces, not only for tourists but also for local school children.

But perhaps most important is the continued development of sustainable relationships with the community. This will involve continued connections with institutions like the Jordanian Department of Antiquity and the German-Jordanian University of Madaba. But it will also involve relationships with individuals. Individuals such as Yosef AljBoor, who is the foreman of the local workers on site. Yosef recalls accompanying his father who worked on the site in 1968, when he was just 8 years old. He started working himself in 1971 at the age of 11, carrying guffahs. He worked every dig until he joined the army at 16 years old. After the military, he began working as the foreman of the site, and this season was in charge of 27 local workers, most of them from Hisban. In the hiring process, Yosef tries to be conscious of which young men in the village have a family they need to support and gives them priority. Additionally, he tries his best to take an equal amount of men from each tribal family, such as the Ajarmeh, Bani Sakhr, Adwan and Nabulsi, so as to avoid potential conflicts.

This season has also seen the beginning of a cooperation with the local Women’s Association of Hisban, which will hopefully be the foundation for long-term engagement with the women in the community. Most significantly, women from the Association organized feeding the workers on the dig, providing the second breakfasts and hosting lunch at the Women’s Association Center. The liaison officer tasked with organizing this cooperative was Shahd Ma’sha’allah. Having grown up in Hisban, she went on to study mechanical engineering, is now training with the Ministry of Public Works and Housing, and took a one-month leave to work with the dig. She oversaw

“One of the main goals of the project moving forward is to improve the presentation of the site to the public. This has already started with the addition of more than 30 signs in both Arabic and English, which guide visitors along a path, explaining the history of the tell.”
three women who had an additional four to five helpers, usually from their extended families, who cooked for about 45 people on an average day. The involvement of the Women’s Association also provided the bazaar that was set up during the 50th anniversary celebrations. This cooperation is particularly valuable in providing the women with an income of their own, something that can be somewhat difficult in an Islamic community.

Finally, one of the biggest strides forward in the goal toward community engagement is a partnership with the Sela corporation, which is a not-for-profit company established in 2015. One of its founding members, Marie Elena Ronza, started at Hisban as an architecture student from the University of Rome in 2001. Now she serves as head of community engagement and is a co-director of the dig, focusing on restoration and presentation. She founded Sela with a team working on a restoration project in Petra, where they perfected the model of community engagement that she first experienced at Hisban. Sela’s mission is to train members of local communities in archaeological excavation, documentation, landscape rehabilitation and conservation. The idea is to create a labor force for the archaeological sites in the country and job opportunities for the local economy. Sela also aims to start micro-enterprises to provide local communities with the ability to fund restoration projects of their own. And finally, Sela hopes to raise awareness among local communities of the process of archaeology and the history behind it.

In many ways the progress made this season in engaging the local community is a fitting tribute to the 50th anniversary of the project. The dig has been diverse since its beginning in 1968. Although only five members of Andrews University were a part of the inaugural season, 35 other staff came from institutions and countries, in addition to 146 local Jordanians! This season the dig continued its legacy of diversity. In addition to Andrews University, students represented the University of Bonn, Bethel College, Missouri State University, Calvin College, Oklahoma State University, German-Jordanian University, Harvard University, Macquarie University, University College London, Cambridge University, Kyoto University, and more. On site a whirlwind of languages, English, Arabic, German, Italian and more, represented only a portion of the 19 different nationalities present. It is this diversity that provides the brightest future for the project. As Walker concludes, “The future of the project is going to be this way. It’s going to be multi-faith, multi-language, multi-cultural and very diverse. And it just enriches the experience for everybody.”

Jeremy Gray, a native of Berrien Springs, graduated from Andrews Academy and Boston University (BA history/mathematics). His honors thesis examined a mathematical debate between John Wallis and Thomas Hobbes. He is currently pursuing a master’s degree in linguistics at Trinity College Dublin. Gray’s grandfather, Harold T. Jones, taught mathematics at Andrews University for nearly 40 years.
Five in the morning, twilight has only just begun and dawn has yet to break. It is difficult to be up at that hour, particularly for a group of mostly college-age students. However, going from a nice clean bed to pulling on already crusty, dirty work clothes makes it doubly difficult. No point in showering at this stage of the day. Breakfast is downstairs at the Salomé hotel in Madaba. Olives, cucumber, hard-boiled eggs, hummus, pita and something akin to pancakes with a date syrup. When you step outside to catch the bus at 5:30 you can tell how the day’s temperature is going to unfold. If you shiver and need to wrap your keffiyeh into something more like a scarf, you know it is going to be a good day—not too hot. But if instead you can feel warmth on the wind, prepare yourself—it’s going to be a hot one. That’s why we’re up at this hour. The best and most productive digging happens from when we arrive at the tell at 6 until about 9:30. During those hours the sun still has a long way to go until its zenith, and the breeze that blows up the tell from the west is cool and refreshing. Under these circumstances manual labor is quite comfortable. After that, however, the digging gets challenging.

“Digging” is, of course, more than just digging. It involves a slew of tasks from the very fine and gentle to the tough and tiring. Everything from traweling and soil sampling, to boulder removal and smashing can be experienced in a day’s work. Most often, however, soil is removed by means of trowel and a crumpled metal scoop. Progress happens layer by layer, and the soil fill is placed in a guffah, a local invention somewhere between a bucket and a basket, made of old car tire rubber. The guffahs are carried to the sifts and emptied. The contents are given a good shake to get rid of the finer dirt, and then the sifter goes over what is left behind—mostly rocks, but also in varying quantities potsherds, small shards of glass, bones and tesserae, the cubes that make up mosaics.

At around 9:30 second breakfast is served. Up parallel to the top, on the most reasonably flat part of the tell, teeters a tent. Though this is more an improvised awning with poles roped out to stakes, supporting what appears to be sewn-together burlap sacks that flap in the wind. Flimsy, but just enough for its intended purpose—to produce ever-desirable shade, providing a brief respite from the sun’s rays. Underneath lies a large mat with benches and floor cushions. On the approach two designated hand washers meet the diggers with pitchers of water. Hold out your hands and rinse, just enough to take off the top layer of dirt. The menu rotates: falafel, different kinds of folded pastries, or manaqish with za’atar, a bread resembling a large pita topped with a combination of spices unique to the Levant. Accompanying is always water, carefully served hot tea, and some kind of fruit, most often watermelon.
**11:30 a.m.**

After second breakfast, the sun begins to find a better angle at our backs and the effect is noticeable, uncomfortably so. Things slow down and everybody begins to drag as the heat saps away energy. Work doesn’t last too long after that, but it feels like it does. 11:30 a.m. and work begins to wrap up. It starts with a quick brushing of the square to get rid of footprints for tomorrow’s early morning progress pictures. Then gathering the tools and taking them down to the workhouse, collecting the pails of found pottery, and heading down to lunch.

Lunch is served a short downhill, thankfully, walk away at the women’s association center at the bottom of the tell. The generous main hall is set up with plenty of tables. But perhaps its most redeeming, most welcoming characteristic is the air conditioning, which makes for a welcome relief from the heat of the day. The first order of business is to drop off your bags and pails along the wall and head to the bathroom to clean up. A line forms at the sinks. A cold douse of water to the face not only brings something like an approximation of cleanliness but is also awfully refreshing. In a corner of the hall, the food is set up and one of our hosts says a few words at the microphone explaining the local dish on offer for the day. They all seem to be some variation on the theme of chicken and rice, with a salad of vegetables.

**Afternoon**

After lunch the small, charmingly rickety buses return to the hotel carrying dazed diggers. Time to clean up a little more properly this time, probably get a shower, and then siesta. It is encouraged to get at least a bit of sleep in the afternoon to offset the effects of early mornings. Perhaps more crucially, however, it keeps you indoors during the hottest part of the day.

**6 p.m.**

Although the largest task is pottery reading, other experts are also plying their crafts. In one corner of the patio Øystein LaBianca does “bone reading,” where he identifies bone types and determines the animal they come from. In another, Warren Schultz, a numismatist from DePaul University who specializes in Islamic coins, hunches over the found coins with a jeweler’s loupe pinched under his brow. Another corner sees the setup involved in the process of “flotation,” which is overseen by Alan Farahani of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, who describes himself as a paleoethnobotanist. Flotation is a method for collecting the carbonized remains of cooking practices, a task that normal sifting does not usually succeed in doing. Unlike sand and stone, these artifacts float in water, leaving seeds like olive pits or stone fruit pits, kernels of grain, shells and charcoal, some of which are microscopically small.

After a few hours pottery washing and reading commences. Yesterday’s pottery finds are laid out on tables in the garden patio adjacent to the hotel. Grapevines cling to a pergola overhead and provide the ever-desirable shade to work under. While waiting for the expertise of Bethany Walker, co-director and chief archaeologist of the dig, the team from each square begins work on their pottery washing. The pails of pottery finds from the morning’s excavation have been soaking while the workers enjoyed their siestas. Now with the dirt a bit looser old toothbrushes help clean the various sherds. It’s only a cursory cleaning but it can go a long way toward revealing something similar to the original color and patterns. When the pottery sherds are cleaned, they are placed in mesh bags and left in the sun to dry for tomorrow’s pottery reading.

While others labor at their pails of sherds, Walker makes her way through the tables of laid out pottery. “Late Byz, Mamluk… HMGP [Handmade, geometrically painted], Umayyad….” Walker rattles off as she “reads” pottery. It’s too fast for a novice to ascertain any rhyme or reason save for the most obvious pieces, but there are years of experience behind those usually split-second decisions. More puzzling pieces require a few more seconds of inspection. They’re sorted chronologically and compared with other loci within the square. The hope is to paint a picture of the date or activities of each specific portion of an excavated square. Some are kept, others are discarded. In some rare instances, pieces that are believed to be of the same pot are kept together in hopes of reconstructing them back home. In even rarer cases, a pot is found that is already, for the most part, intact. These are accorded much greater care and usually a dedicated team.

Once pottery reading and washing are finished, it is free time. Dinner comes soon after, around 6 p.m. Occasionally there will be a lecture by a specialist about their particular interest. The intelligent among us go to bed early in preparation for tomorrow’s early morning. Those of us intelligent in less conventional ways stay up, maybe to enjoy the city of Madaba in the cool evening air or to share a movie night with newly-made friends from the other side of the globe.
As we turn to our next chapter, we have chosen several lenses (core strengths) with which to approach and communicate our overarching theme (mission). The lens of Explore Intentionally identifies our commitment to finding new and relevant ways to live out our mission and to encourage students to do the same. Live Wholly portrays actively our historic commitment to holistic education (Body, Mind, Spirit) and our commitment to reinvigorating that in the lives of our current community whether through initiatives in physical, emotional or spiritual wellness. The lens of Learn Deeply is the lens of depth and quality: what we are known for and how we can continue high impact practices for our students. And our final lens of Engage Globally is part of our story DNA: it is the way of the past and the way of the future, albeit through adjusted storylines.

And so we move to those new storylines, strategies that we believe will both ensure the continuity of the rich Andrews story, as well as deepen and strengthen the story as it moves into the next chapter. Each storyline will be rooted in our overarching theme(s) and through our chosen lenses, but will in turn introduce new and engaging plots that will add color and texture to our future. These will be the central thrust of this chapter of the Andrews’ story.

The Next Chapter

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY
2017–2022 Strategic Plan

by Andrea Luxton

STORYLINE FIVE:
Students and campus guests will experience an environmentally friendly campus that expresses its values through its physical campus spaces and provides state-of-the-art facilities for education, especially where professional spaces and equipment are required.

Imagine walking onto a University campus and immediately feeling a sense of peace because of the surroundings: shady trees, a deer disappearing into the bushes, well-kept flower beds, small unique garden areas and enclosures, and paths on the central campus that will allow you to walk your 10,000 steps a day without back-tracking on yourself. Then discover that this campus is actually an arboretum. And more than housing just academic buildings, here is a church that seats around 2,000 people and a state-of-the-art performing arts center. A little further afield is an observatory, and miles of trails for biking and walking. This is the environment so many of us at Andrews University are able to work and live in every day. This is a gift.
Over the last year I have been sharing with you the storylines that make up our 2017–22 strategic plan. We have explored four of those storylines and now I come to the fifth and final one, the one that focuses on where we live and work: Students and campus guests will experience an environmentally friendly campus that expresses its values through its physical campus spaces and provides state-of-the-art facilities for education, especially where professional spaces and equipment are required.

This storyline is a little different from the first four. Unlike the others I have described, what you will read here will reach more into the realm of what could be, should be, to place the University where we want it to be as we look ahead. And unlike much of the other storylines, it is you, as alumni and friends of the University, that in a very real way will need to help us decide if all we write here will be a reality.

First let me start with one part of this storyline that certainly is very real and will soon be there to help transform our University culture. The Wellness Center is going up! Each week measurable progress is visible, and we hope for our official opening in the fall of 2019. But this center is far more than a building. It has been thoughtfully planned to represent our campus commitment to seeking wellness in every sphere for our students and employees. Whether it will be in the energy of the gymnasium, the strength and flexibility building of the fitness rooms, the relaxation of the spa, the stimulation of the education areas, the taste of new and healthy cuisine in the demonstration kitchen, the enjoyment of the aquatics area, or companionship shared in the outside areas or the lobby, this will be a go-to place for the campus. It will be a daily reminder of God’s creative power and particularly the physical gifts he has given to us to enjoy and celebrate.

However, just as this is not intended to be just a building, so too our other plans. One of those is also currently underway. Our architecture program has for many years spearheaded a range of projects in this country and abroad that speak to the heart of our University mission, and our new marketing message: World Chang-ers Made Here. You have read of some of their projects in this magazine, such as their work in Durban, South Africa and in Puerto Rico, not to mention in our local Benton Harbor area. They have turned containers into mobile medical units and have encouraged the campus and other communities to be environmentally aware, thinking actively on how to create meaningful spaces for community. But all this has been done in physical buildings on the campus only built for temporary use. With donations and support from the University, we are very pleased to announce that some development is now on its way to make their space more representative of their work. Here is an example of well-needed and more representative new space and we look forward to sharing more of these improvements with you.

This is what we have been able to do. But now here are some “what ifs” that are based on our current needs and are embedded in our strategic plan. Please read and imagine with us.

Some are asking what happens to our current gymnasium once the wellness center is built. Our best and current proposal to date is to see this turned into an innovation space, with the opportunity for different groups to use areas for innovative ideas and business opportunities that would support or be initiated by students. And then there would be the opportunity of using open areas for creative space for current and future programs and student projects. Imagine what possibilities there could be for this space! Dream with us.

Another “what if” relates to our School of Health Professions. With growth and expansion of current programs and new plans for future programs, how do we ensure that our spaces represent the quality of the programs we are offering? Our accreditations this year in multiple health profession areas have shown how highly respected our programs are, but can we do more to support them? What about a state-of-the-art SIM lab that can be used by
I could keep dreaming and imagining, for there is more for us to consider. How can we, for example, respond to the needs and expectations of our residence hall and family students living in aging facilities? How can we extend our wellness focus into other spaces across the campus? How can we in all things balance modesty with opportunity, needs and creativity? We cannot and should not build for the sake of merely building. However, we should and must create spaces that reflect our mission, our needs and provide us a strong future.

The four storylines that I have shared with you over the last year are all critical in framing the pathways of our future and the futures of our students. Some have financial implications; many not. By sharing these with you, we wanted you to be part of our thinking, part of our story that reaches into the future.

In our fifth storyline, however, we know that we are talking about investment, investment we believe that will bring return. But nevertheless, investment. In this storyline too, I share it in the hope that you can see and become excited about our vision. In addition though, I share this storyline in the hope that it will encourage you to actively help make one or more of these dreams a reality.

We will be needing you! Thank you.

...I share this storyline in the hope that it will encourage you to actively help make one or more of these dreams a reality.”

health professions building will do that and more and is (must be) a cornerstone of our plans for the future. Please dream with us.

But not all of the “what-ifs” relate to health professions. The Howard Performing Arts Center is one building on campus that is often over-stretched due to our active music department and community activities. In the meantime our music building has almost outlived its natural life! So what if we added a small “black box” recital hall and the music practice rooms/specialized classrooms/offices to the Howard? What exciting opportunities could that offer us for the future? Dream!

And then there is engineering, one of the greatest national areas of growth, and its engagement with the rest of our stellar STEM programs (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics). What if we expanded the current science building to provide more flexible creative space for engineering? What if we used that opportunity to also provide new open and lobby spaces for the interaction and engagement of all our STEM students? Could this perhaps push those programs to an even higher level? Dream with us!
It was wonderful meeting alums and friends of Andrews at this event hosted in the Experience University Room at the Bolingbrook Medical Center, part of AMITA Health. Over 40 alumni as well as several prospective students came to this first regional event held in Chicago in many years to greet President Andrea Luxton (MA ’78) and David Faehner (MA ’72), vice president for University Advancement. Attendees also enjoyed a complimentary dinner along with pictures and updates about Andrews presented by the alumni director, Andriy Kharkovyy (BBA ’06, MBA ’09). Opening prayer was given by Vladimir Radijojevic (BS ’95, MSPT ’96) and Thor Thordarson (BS ’85) gave the closing prayer. A special thank you to AMITA Health for sponsoring this event. We look forward to returning back to the Chicago area in future years!
FOCUS

ALUMNI HOMECOMING 2018
September 27–30, 2018

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

9 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
PT Continuing Education
Physical Therapy Building
Anatomy review in the new anatomy lab by Ryan Orrison (BS ’96, MSPT ’97, current faculty), and “Health Promotion and Wellness in PT: Taking your skills to a new market” by Sherry McLaughlin, PT, MSPT ’90, CSCS, founder, Michigan Institute for Human Performance

1:30–5 p.m.
Registration
Alumni House Backyard Tent

2–5 p.m.
Wellness Lounge Open House
Campus Center 168
Stop by the University’s Wellness Lounge for a free body scan, short chair massage, updated sketches of the new Center for Wellness, and more!

3:30–5 p.m.
Cancer Research Forum
“Phytotherapy Maximizes Innate Immunity and Cancer Healing”
Garber Auditorium, Chan Shun Hall
The School of Health Professions is hosting its first research forum with keynote speaker Dr. Benjamin Lau. Book signing with Dr. Lau will follow in the Chan Shun Hall lobby.

6 p.m.
Spirit of Philanthropy & Homecoming Banquet
Alumni House Backyard Tent
Please RSVP at andrews.edu/go/dinner to secure your complimentary ticket, as space is limited.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

7:30 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:30 a.m.
Shotgun start
Wes Christiansen Memorial Golf Outing
Harbor Shores Golf Club, St. Joseph, Michigan
RSVP required
Entry fee: $105 regular, $50 AU students
Price includes 18 holes of scramble golf with cart, lunch and prizes. Support the Alumni Scholarship Fund while enjoying a morning of golf—Four Man/Woman Scramble.

8:30–10 a.m.
Women’s Scholarship Committee Brunch
Lincoln & Hoosier Rooms, Campus Center
RSVP required
Featuring an inspiring presentation by Laura Malcolm, assistant director of Alumni Services.

9–11:10 a.m.
PT Continuing Education
Physical Therapy Building
Celebrating Innovative Graduates—panel discussion and networking.

9 a.m.–12 p.m.
Wellness Lounge Open House
Campus Center 168
See Thursday, 2–5 p.m. for details.

10:30 a.m.
Campus Bus Tour
The bus will load at the Alumni House parking lot at 10 a.m.
Tour guides: John (BA ’76, MA ’83) & Judy (Ashdon) Nay (BS ’76)

11:30 a.m.
Presidential Portrait Unveiling
James White Library
Harry Ahn’s portrait of Niels-Erik Andreasen, president emeritus, will be unveiled.

3–5 p.m.
Biology 50th Anniversary of Graduate Program Open House
Bill Chobotar Student Commons

1–4 p.m.
Homecoming Classic Car Show
Andrews Administration Building Parking Lot
Admire beautifully restored classic cars at this nostalgic fourth annual event hosted by the Bookstore.

5 p.m.
31st Annual Homecoming Parade
Viewing bleachers curbside, between Howard Center & Seminary
Come out and watch the pageantry of the creative floats, marching bands and fire trucks as they move through campus. Don’t forget to bring some cash for the Sammy Arepas food truck that will be on-site with vegetarian Latin food!

6:30 p.m.
International Flag Raising Ceremony
Flag Mall

7:30 p.m.
University Vespers
Pioneer Memorial Church
Speaker: Tacyana Nixon
Getting clear about the “I AM” in a distinctive and biblical way.

8:45 p.m.
Impact Vespers
Burman Hall Chapel
Speaker: Dilyss Brooks (MDiv ’05), chaplain, Loma Linda University Weekend Theme: “Passing the Torch”

10:30 p.m.
Meet and Greet Reception
University Towers Activity Center
Hosted by BSCF Alumni and AUSA.

Innovating for the Future

HONOR CLASSES:
1958 • 1968 • 1978
1988 • 1993 • 1998
2008 • 2013 • 2017

Art: Drew Tetz (drewtetz.com)
SABBATH, SEPTEMBER 29

8–11 a.m.
Nursing Alumni Sabbath
Breakfast (Come-and-Go)
Marsh Hall 200

9 & 11:45 a.m.
The Church at Worship
Pioneer Memorial Church
Speaker: Dwight K. Nelson (MDiv ’76, DMin ’86)
Sermon: “Tales from a Vineyard: When You Can’t Get Any Closer”

10 a.m. & 11:45 a.m.
One Place
Newbold Auditorium, Buller Hall
Speaker: June Price, University chaplain

10:30 a.m.
Sabbath School
Pioneer Memorial Church
Presented by the Class of 1968.

11:45 a.m.
BSCF Alumni Worship Service and New Life Church
Howard Performing Arts Center
Speaker: Dilyes Brooks (MDiv ’05)

1 p.m.
Class Reunion Luncheon Buffets
Dining Services, Campus Center
$10.07 for dine-in; $11.13 for take-out; Senior citizen: $9.07 for dine-in; Child (ages 6–12): $7.69 for dine-in
Meal cards may be purchased ahead of time at the Dining Services office, or pay with debit/credit card (no cash) as you go through line.

Badger, Lincoln and Hoosier Rooms, Campus Center

1:30 p.m.
Physical Therapy Celebration
Physical Therapy Building
Reminisce, Unite and Empower
Physical therapy graduates and their families are invited to lunch and fellowship. Lunch provided.

1:30 p.m.
Department of Public Health, Nutrition & Wellness International Cuisine Potluck
Third Floor, Marsh Hall

2:30–3:30 p.m.
Robert A. Wilkins Memorial Service
Chemistry Amphitheater, Halenec Hall
This time and place will provide an opportunity for alumni and friends to reflect on a life well-lived.

3–5 p.m.
Museums and Open Houses
You are encouraged to explore campus and check out your former department: alumni.andrews.edu/homecoming for details.

3–5 p.m.
Dairy Open House
8225 Dairy Road
Come by the Andrews University Dairy to reminisce over the end of an era in dairy farming at Andrews.

3:30–5 p.m.
Michiana Adventist Forum Presentation
Garber Auditorium, Chan Shun Hall
Speaker: William Johnsson, “Time to Speak Out”

4–5 p.m.
Biology 50th Anniversary Program: Recollections of the Past
Biology Amphitheater

5:30–7:30 p.m. (tours will depart every half-hour)
Harvest Tours
The wagon will load at the Alumni House backyard

5:30–7:45 p.m.
Class Reunion Photos
Alumni House Backyard Tent

5:30
Golden Hearts Club (1968 and earlier)

5:50
Class of 1948

6:05
Class of 1958

6:20
Class of 1968

6:35
Class of 1978

6:50
Class of 1988

7:05
Class of 1993

7:20
Class of 1998

7:35
Class of 2008

7:40
Class of 2013

7:45
Class of 2017

6 p.m.
Harvest Picnic
Alumni House backyard tent
Whether it’s under the big tent or sitting around the crackling campfire and roasting s’mores, enjoy fellowship and a haystack supper.

8 p.m.
Alumni Homecoming Gala
Howard Performing Arts Center
Complimentary concert featuring Department of Music ensembles.

9 p.m.
Alumni vs. Students Basketball Game
Johnson Gymnasium

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

7:30–11 a.m.
Aviation Annual Fly-In/Drive-In Pancake Breakfast
Andrews University Airpark
Adults $7 (children ages 10 and under $3)

8–9:30 a.m.
School of Education Alumni Breakfast
Room 180, Bell Hall

11 a.m.–12 p.m.
Hard Hat Tour of the Center for Wellness Construction Site
Roughly one-third of new students coming through FIRST STOP during New Student Orientation identified themselves as Legacy students—students with a sibling, parent and/or grandparent who attended Andrews. The Alumni Association celebrated this legacy connection by taking photos of the students and/or families.
Lend-a-Hand
August 19, 2018
Local alumni, student Ambassadors and friends assisted new students and their parents as they moved into the residence halls at this annual Alumni Services-sponsored event.

Biblical Research Institute Conference, Rome, Italy
August 19, 2018
The impact Andrews University has had on biblical scholarship around the world was in evidence at the 4th International Bible Conference sponsored by the General Conference Biblical Research Institute. The individuals pictured in the group photo below are all alumni of Andrews University. The topic for the conference was eschatology. Photo: Costin Jordache (Adventist Review)

Alumni Barbecue
August 24, 2018
New students benefited from the mentoring of alumni as they enjoyed an indoor “barbecue” (due to inclement weather). Pictured below is Carmelita Troy (right), associate professor of accounting.

Alumni Association Board
September 10, 2018
The current Alumni Association Board posed for a group photo at its September 10 meeting.
Front row, L–R: Brittany Huset (MAYYAM ’17), Bradley Sheppard (BA ’82, MA ’87, PhD ’11), newly appointed president, Diana Ssemanda (att.)
Middle row, L–R: Terence Teat (BBA ’92), Judy Nowack (att.), Patricia Spangler (BS ’04), editor of FOCUS, ex-officio, Laura Malcolm (BBA ’11), Jan Pickett (BSW ’83, MA ’86), BSCF co-representative, ex-officio
Back row, L–R: Dave Nelson (AT ’87), Vladimir Radivojevic (BS ’95, MSPT ’96), Andriy Kharkovyy (BBA ’06, MBA ’09), executive director, Denard Fenaud, GSA president, ex-officio
1950s

Jean (Schlunt) (BS ‘58) & Donald (BA ‘58) Rhoads celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 15, 2018. Jean spent her entire year in the educational system. Don was a mathematics professor in the Andrews math department for a total of 15 years and was chair of the department when he retired. He also operated a retail electronics store in Bloomington, Indiana, for 14 years. After Don’s retirement in 2006, he helped Jean enlarge a 1976 class project on Indiana folklore into a 150-page book titled “Modesto, Tales of Life in Southern Indiana,” which they self-published. Don and Jean have three children—Jill, Anne-Marie and Karl (BA ’86), five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

1960s

E. Preston Smith (MA ’66) served as a pastor for 40 years, 19 years in Oregon and 21 years for the Northern California Conference. In 1965 the Oregon Conference sent him to Andrews University where he earned a master’s degree in New Testament. He retired from the Northern California Conference in 1989. He and his wife Alene Ward returned to Oregon where Preston worked as a volunteer for Portland Adventist Hospital for 15 years. He and Alene married in 1947 and had a happy life together until 2015 when she died at the age of 89. They have two children, Linda Kenne and Richard, and many grandchildren. Preston currently lives with his daughter Linda and her husband, Owen, in College Place, Washington. He states, “I was greatly blessed by my year at Andrews.”

1980s


1990s

Cindy Krafft (MSPT ‘92) received the Andrews University School of Health Professions Alumnus of the Year award August 5, 2018. She has dedicated her career to the home health field, in particular to improving the quality of care that older adults receive during home health rehabilitation. Krafft is currently the CEO of Kornetti and Krafft Health Care Solutions, a home health consulting company operating with the goal of supplying tools that facilitate fiscal security for agencies. Cindy and her husband, Walter (BSET ’91), live in Illinois with their four children, Adam, Joshua, Nathan and Sarah. She enjoys hiking, gardening and mountain biking.

Arthur Hamann (MA ’92) is semi-retired after teaching social studies in the secondary special education system for 27 years. He is currently a part-time tutor at a Muslim K–12 day school in Rockford, Illinois. His wife Madelene is a nurse practitioner employed by Beloit Health System. Their daughter Ysabella is a 10th grader at Wisconsin Academy and son Stephen is a 7th grader at Alpine Christian School in Rockford, Illinois.

2000s

Elton DeMoraes (MDiv ’05, DMin ’15) was recently voted vice president for ministries and ministerial director of the Southwestern Union of Seventh-day Adventists. Fluent in Portuguese, Spanish and English, DeMoraes has pastored multilingual congregations in Houston and East Texas. In 2010 he joined the Texas Conference, where he served as director for church planting and stewardship; evangelism, church planting and ministerial director; and executive secretary. He and his wife, Alessandra, have one daughter, Isabella, and reside in Burleson, Texas.

2010s

In June 2018, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) announced that Robert Don Moon IV (BBA ’17) was a winner of the prestigious 2017 Elijah Watt Sells Award. Moon is employed with RSM US LLP in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The 2017 award was bestowed upon 58 CPA candidates who have obtained a cumulative average score above 95.50 across all four sections of the CPA Examination, passed all four sections of the Examination on their first attempt and completed testing in 2017. A total of 95,858 individuals sat for the Examination in 2017.

CORRECTION: The class note of John Lorntz (MA ’75) in the spring 2018 issue of FOCUS (page 30) incorrectly stated that his wife Maribel and he have two daughters. The two daughters, Breyette and Tarina, are the children of Joyce Hanscom Salabaria and John Lorntz.
Lauren Rae Matacio (associate professor emerita, BA/BA ’71, MA ’79), 68, passed away on July 30, 2018 in Ypsilanti, Michigan.

Lauren was born in Waupaca, Wisconsin, on October 29, 1949 to Maxine (Hunt) Matacio and Paul Matacio (MA ’65). She attended various elementary schools as her father accepted the call to pastor Adventist churches throughout the Midwest. For high school, Lauren attended Andrews Academy briefly and graduated from Broadview Academy in 1967. She attended Andrews University and graduated in 1971.

In the summer of 1970, she married William Berlin (later Berlingieri), fellow student of Broadview Academy. Their daughter, Jamie Berlin, was born in 1974. They separated, and Lauren pursued a Master of Education at Andrews.

She taught elementary school in Kalamazoo and Dowagiac, Michigan. Next, Lauren pursued an MLS in library science at Andrews University. She was subsequently employed by Andrews University at the James White Library in 1991. She served as associate professor of library science until her retirement in 2018.

Lauren’s life was filled with her love of books, creative arts, music, nature and family.

Lauren is survived by her daughter, Jamie Berlin; and her brothers, Doug Matacio (BA ’71, MDiv ’74) and his wife Verla and Timothy Matacio (BA ’77).

William W. Davidson (professor emeritus), 87, of Niles, died June 20, 2018, in St. Joseph, Michigan.

Davidson was born July 8, 1930, in Chauncey, Ohio, the son of John E. and Alta (Metzger) Davidson. He proudly served his country during the Korean War. He earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in civil engineering from Ohio University, and a PhD at Pennsylvania State University.

Before coming to Andrews in 1970, he taught at Ohio State University, Pennsylvania State University and Kanawha Valley Graduate Center of West Virginia University. He also worked as a construction supervisor for Davidson’s Building Service and was a registered professional engineer in the states of Michigan, Pennsylvania and Colorado.

Davidson served as the first dean of the College of Technology from 1974 to 1982. He then returned to the classroom to teach engineering and architecture, and held the title of professor emeritus. He loved working with students, including going on many Maranatha mission trips with them.

Survivors include three sons: William Jr. (Cathy) of Athens, Ohio, Mark (Karen) of Berrien Springs, and John (Karen) of Commerce City, Colorado; two daughters: Shawna (Dan) Guiett of Saginaw, Michigan, and Carol (Charles) Mendoza of Silver Spring, Maryland; nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, John and James; sisters: Aurelia, Alta, Ann; and his wife, Jacqualyn, in 2017.

Howard Drew (BS ’61), 87, died June 20, 2018, in Berrien Springs, Michigan.

Howard was born March 3, 1931, in Bloomville, Wisconsin. He earned a bachelor’s degree from Andrews and a master’s degree from Michigan State University, and taught vocational agriculture at Galien High School for 23 years.

He enjoyed camping with friends and had adventure tours to 27 countries and every state in the U.S.

He is survived by his wife, Lorraine (Schenk) Drew (DIP2YR ’52), daughter Karen Pierson (BSD ’85), son Kevin Drew and 10 grandchildren.

Howard was preceded in death by his son, Gary, three sisters, two brothers and his parents.

Roland R. Hegstad (MA ’54, Honorary LLD ’91), 92, died on June 17, 2018, in Dayton, Maryland.

Born prematurely at home on April 7, 1926, in Stayton, Oregon, Hegstad weighed just two pounds. His mother put him in a large shoe box and placed him in the oven where the pilot light kept him warm.

A gifted high school scholar, Hegstad earned Oregon statewide first place for fiction writing and second place for his art. He graduated from Walla Walla College (now Walla Walla University) in 1949 with degrees in journalism and theology.

Hegstad married Stella Radke in 1949. Son Douglas Hegstad was born in 1953; Sheri Clarke in 1954, and daughter Kimberly Handel in 1965.

Hegstad became an expert in international religious liberty. His work took him around the globe, to the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, beginning in the mid-1960s.

In 1959, at age 32, Hegstad accepted a call to the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists as associate editor of Liberty magazine. Within months, he was promoted to editor. Hegstad edited Liberty for 35 years until his retirement in 1994. Liberty won multiple awards for excellence in art and design from the Associated Church Press. Its circulation exceeded 400,000.

During this time, Hegstad was one of the most widely recognized Adventist preachers. In 1966, he delivered the annual address for Americans United for Separation of Church and State at Constitution Hall.

In his early career Hegstad pastored churches in Ephrata and Clarkson, Washington. Hegstad attended summer courses at the Loma Linda University School of Public Health in the early 1950s then attended and graduated from...


In retirement, Hegstad was recruited to edit Perspective Digest for the Adventist Theological Society, a role he continued until 2004. He also authored a dozen books.

He is survived by his wife, Stella; son, Douglas; daughters Sheri Clarke and Kimberly Handel; and five grandchildren.

Robert A. Wilkins Jr. (professor emeritus, BA ’61) 79, of Berrien Springs, Michigan, died July 2, 2018, after a bout with pneumonia.

Bob was born July 19, 1938 to Robert A. and Dorothy (Fuller) Wilkins Sr. (DIP2YR ’27), in Wauseon, Ohio. Bob attended public schools, took clarinet lessons, enjoyed bicycle riding, and playing baseball in the summer. His sister, Jean Anne, completed the family on February 8, 1940. While Bob was sick with a childhood disease he began collecting stamps and baseball cards, especially the Cleveland Indians. This became a lifelong hobby.

He graduated from Lancaster High School in June 1956. While living in Lancaster, Bob, his mother and sister attended the Seventh-day Adventist church. He was baptized in the Lancaster church in 1956.

After graduating from high school, Bob drove to EMC to work in the book bindery for the summer before starting his freshman year. He met Beth Foster during his junior year when she also began working in the book bindery. Bob graduated from Emmanuel Missionary College (now Andrews University) in 1961 with a bachelor’s degree and continued his studies at Purdue University where he completed a Master of Science. He married Beth in 1962 after she graduated from Andrews University. He completed his Doctor of Philosophy in chemistry from Pennsylvania State University in 1973.

He returned to Andrews University in 1971 (before completing his doctorate) and was chair of the chemistry department from 1971–1988, when he resumed full-time teaching until retirement July 1, 2002 and was given the distinction of professor of chemistry, emeritus.

He received the Faculty Award for Teaching Excellence several times and was also selected as Teacher of the Year numerous times. Bob and Beth were very generous to students and each year had two students live with them.

While at Andrews, a young chemistry major by the name of Bill Mutch had Bob for a professor and in 1973 Bob hired Mutch to be a fellow professor. Bob, Beth, Bill and Pat were neighbors and planned several summer vacations together, backpacking and hiking in Teton National Park, Glacier National Park and the Trinity Alps in Northern California to mention a few. Bob cherished his relationships with his colleagues such as Ralph Scorpio, Peter Wong and David Steen, to mention just a few.

On June 21, 1979, Bob experienced a sudden loss when his wife, Beth, died unexpectedly.

Some time after Beth’s death, Bob married Jean Fisher who had recently joined the Seventh-day Adventist church. Jean’s two teenage daughters, Karen and Mary, also lived with them. Bob and Jean were together for nearly 10 years.

In 1991, while attending Singles Club events, he met Fran Watkinson. They were married on March 17, 1992 and celebrated their 26th wedding anniversary this year. They loved to travel together and participated in many volunteer projects. They traveled to Prague Czechoslovakia, Germany, Austria, Netherlands, Poland, Estonia, Russia, Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Australia, New Zealand and Fiji. They enjoyed warm winters in Florida, in western Mexico helping to construct an orphanage, and in Arizona. Bob also served on the board of Reach International and traveled to Romania to assist with caring and nurturing the orphans. In 2009 they traveled to Jordan to participate in a “dig” at Tall Jalul after which they enjoyed a Mediterranean cruise. He often volunteered as a docent at the Horn Museum.

Bob was a dedicated Christian, a great mentor and an esteemed professor. He influenced the lives of thousands of students during his career. His greatest reward was staying connected with his former students.

Survivors include his wife, Fran Watkinson (AA ’76); sister, Jean (Kent) Bermingham; niece, Susan (Nico) Franano; nephew, Kent Bermingham Jr. (BBA ’91); great-nephews and nieces: Aaron, Andrew, Catherine Grace and Enzo; and stepdaughter, Jackie Hilderbrandt (BET ’77, BArch ’84).

He was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Beth May Foster Wilkins (BA ’62, MA ’75, EdD ’79); and niece, Kellie Susan Bermingham.

William (Bill) Herman Hessel (BA ’56, MA ’61, BD ’66), 85, died June 10, 2018, in Montrose, Colorado.

Hessel was born April 3, 1933, in Menomonie, Wisconsin. He graduated high school in Rice Lake, Wisconsin, and went on to earn master’s degrees in ancient history and theology from Emmanuel Missionary College and a master’s degree in library science from the University of Michigan.

He worked as a minister, teacher, librarian and book dealer. His many interests included reading, birding, gardening, music and ballroom dancing. After retiring, Bill was especially proud of his volunteer work in the community, most recently in teaching ballcards, especially the Cleveland Indians. This became a lifelong hobby.

He returned to Andrews University in 1971 (before completing his doctorate) and was chair of the chemistry department from 1971–1988, when he resumed full-time teaching until retirement July 1, 2002 and was given the distinction of professor of chemistry, emeritus.

He received the Faculty Award for Teaching Excellence several times and was also selected as Teacher of the Year numerous times. Bob and Beth were very generous to students and each year had two students live with them.

While at Andrews, a young chemistry major by the name of Bill Mutch had Bob for a professor and in 1973 Bob hired Mutch to be a fellow professor. Bob, Beth, Bill and Pat were neighbors and planned several summer vacations together, backpacking and hiking in Teton National Park, Glacier National Park and the Trinity Alps in Northern California to mention a few. Bob cherished his relationships with his colleagues such as Ralph Scorpio, Peter Wong and David Steen, to mention just a few.

On June 21, 1979, Bob experienced a sudden loss when his wife, Beth, died unexpectedly.

Some time after Beth’s death, Bob married Jean Fisher who had recently joined the Seventh-day Adventist church. Jean’s two teenage daughters, Karen and Mary, also lived with them. Bob and Jean were together for nearly 10 years.

In 1991, while attending Singles Club events, he met Fran Watkinson. They were married on March 17, 1992 and celebrated their 26th wedding anniversary this year. They loved to travel together and participated in many volunteer projects. They traveled to Prague Czechoslovakia, Germany, Austria, Netherlands, Poland, Estonia, Russia, Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Australia, New Zealand and Fiji. They enjoyed warm winters in Florida, in western Mexico helping to construct an orphanage, and in Arizona. Bob also served on the board of Reach International and traveled to Romania to assist with caring and nurturing the orphans. In 2009 they traveled to Jordan to participate in a “dig” at Tall Jalul after which they enjoyed a Mediterranean cruise. He often volunteered as a docent at the Horn Museum.

Bob was a dedicated Christian, a great mentor and an esteemed professor. He influenced the lives of thousands of students during his career. His greatest reward was staying connected with his former students.

Survivors include his wife, Fran Watkinson (AA ’76); sister, Jean (Kent) Bermingham; niece, Susan (Nico) Franano; nephew, Kent Bermingham Jr. (BBA ’91); great-nephews and nieces: Aaron, Andrew, Catherine Grace and Enzo; and stepdaughter, Jackie Hilderbrandt (BET ’77, BArch ’84).

He was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Beth May Foster Wilkins (BA ’62, MA ’75, EdD ’79); and niece, Kellie Susan Bermingham.

Janet was born May 31, 1955, in Chicago and graduated from South Shore High School in 1971. She excelled scholastically and entered Andrews University just after turning 16 years old. At Andrews, Janet participated as an active leader in the Black Students Christian Forum (BSCF) and it remained a major part of her life. Although pre-med studies were her initial focus, she found her success in business. She received her BA in management from National-Louis University and her MBA from University of Phoenix.

She began her professional career in 1980, working for the City of Chicago Department of Human Resources and then the Chicago Park District. In 1992 Janet established J.K. Williams and Associates, a consulting firm where she provided services including planning and coordinating conferences, workshops and political events.

She rejoined the corporate workforce from 1995 to 2013, with a short two-year hiatus from business to teach second-grade students.

Janet's final step on the corporate ladder was in 2013 as the CEO of Sosoya Foods, from which she retired in 2016.

She is survived by her mother, Faye Williams, brother Deophas M. Williams Jr. and a host of other family and friends.

E. Wayne Shepperd Jr. (att., former staff) died on Feb. 6, 2018, in Austin, Texas.

Wayne was born June 20, 1935, in Los Angeles, California. He graduated from Los Angeles Academy in 1953 and earned bachelor's degrees in history and theology from Oakwood College in 1957. He attended the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary and was ordained in 1967. On July 19, 1958, he married Joyce Montgomery. The couple had three boys: Wayne, Eric (BA ‘82) and Tony.

Shepperd began working for the Adventist church in 1961 as a principal and teacher at Ephesus Junior Academy in New Orleans, Louisiana. He then pastored in Tyler, Texas, before becoming the Southwest Region Conference's education director in 1967. In 1973, Shepperd became chaplain for Andrews University and in 1975 he became the youth director for the Lake Union Conference.

In 1979 he returned to the Southwestern Union as the youth director. In 1982 the position of association secretary was added, and in 1985 he became vice president.

Throughout his career, Shepperd was noted for his kindness, infectious smile, and authentic concern for others, as well as an enthusiasm for colorful neckties and his vintage Ford Mustang.

In his retirement, Shepperd and his wife, Joyce, lived near family in Austin, Texas, where he was an active member of the Alpha Seventh-day Adventist Church in Round Rock, Texas.

Paul Allen Koch (BA ’69), 71, of Lake Havasu City, Arizona, passed away Jan. 21, 2018.

He was born March 29, 1946 in Buffalo, New York, the son of Allen and Jane Koch.

Paul was raised in Buffalo from 1946–1967. In 1967, Paul and Caroline were united in marriage in Dinuba, California, on June 4.

Paul set his goal toward attending Andrews University, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in political science. While there he served as vice president of the student association for a year. He continued his college career and attended the University of Notre Dame where he received a master's degree in political science. At Georgetown University, he earned his PhD in political science. He accepted a job offer as a professor at Columbia Union College and was there from 1970 to 1980.

In 1980, he began working at Lunsford Law where he was part of the legal research team. In 1988, he became a professor at Mohave Community College's Lake Havasu City campus until he retired in 2013.

Paul resided in many different places around the U.S., including New York, Indiana, Maryland and California, and finally Lake Havasu City, where he and wife Caroline became permanent residents.

Paul enjoyed playing paintball, watching and reading about military history, traveling, model soldiers, and watching his favorite John Wayne movies. He was president of the Republican Men's Club in Havasu 2009–2016, founded the Potomac Wargamers club and was a "patched" member of Headhunters Tournament Paintball team.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Allen and Jane Koch and brother Bruce Koch.

Paul is survived by his beloved wife of 50 years, Caroline Koch, son David Koch, daughter Gillian Gomez and four grandchildren.
Whether they’re cruising around town or touring the country with friends, David and Lynn Steen know how to enjoy the adventure ahead. That’s why they chose to support Adventist education at Andrews University as part of their estate plan. It’s a simple way for them to help make a lasting difference down the road while continuing to do the things they love today.

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

Phone: 269-471-3613
Email: plannedgiving@andrews.edu
Web: andrews.edu/plannedgiving
Seek Knowledge.
Affirm Faith.
Change the World.

New students getting to know each other as mentoring groups form on the lawn of the Howard Performing Arts Center on Tuesday of Orientation Week 2018.

Photo credit: Heidi Ramirez, University Communication student photographer