Changing Seasons: Changing Times

Andrea Luxton, president

ONE OF THE PASSAGES OF SCRIPTURE that I am drawn to is Ecclesiastes 3. Here the man of wisdom notes that there is a time and a season for everything, from birth to death, from laughing to mourning, from sowing to reaping. But of course the most important part of this passage is verse 11: “He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.”

Here we have a reason for confidence and yet mystery at the same time. We plan around seasons, dates, times: those have been given us by God. And yet while we do that, God has His own timing, outside our time. He is in control. And there we can have confidence. And yet there is mystery, too, for what He has done nobody can fully understand. We can get glimpses into seeing God’s hand at work in our lives, in our University, in our church, but we cannot begin to comprehend the depth of God’s engagement with us or His plans for the future.

This edition of FOCUS comes out at around Christmas and New Year’s. That is a period of time when we are astonished by the mystery of who God is and His gifts to us, especially the greatest gift of all in Jesus Christ. And yet, as the new begins it also gives us time to express new promises, define new hopes, within the confidence we have that God will continue to be present with us.

This season is also one of change for me. As I enjoy my final year at Andrews University as president, I want you to know that while the external seasons around me have been changing, and while time has been moving on, my experience at Andrews has been overwhelmingly summer. I say that because despite the challenges, and there have been many, I have been working with an unparalleled team of Adventist Christian professionals, from staff to faculty to closer administrative colleagues. I have engaged with thousands of amazing students, whose engaging minds, energy and commitment to service and God speak powerfully for the future of this church and the wider community. And I have been uplifted by many of you as alumni and friends of the University in very valued and personal ways.

Yet even beyond all this, I have had the deep knowledge that all is firmly in God’s hands. That is why I have had six (will be seven) amazing years experiencing God’s presence and leading as president of Andrews University. And that is why I believe the best is still to come. It is also why, as the next few months unfold, we can have continued certainty as a community, for He will truly continue to make everything beautiful in His time.
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Andrews offers new scholarships

Beginning fall 2023

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY IS OFFERING new scholarships for undergraduate freshmen, transfer students and international students.

“Undergraduate students admitted to Andrews have previously received some form of scholarship,” says Tony Yang, vice president for Strategy, Marketing & Enrollment and Chief Communication Officer. “It’s part of our commitment to doing what we can to make Adventist education as affordable as possible. These new scholarships are a continuation of that commitment.”

For freshmen, a new Leadership Scholarship is available to those who show leadership experience while in high school and/or the intent to provide leadership on Andrews University’s main campus. This is a one-time $750 scholarship in addition to the $8,000 to $14,000 Andrews Partnership Scholarship (APS) available to every admitted freshman.

The APS has also been available to transfer students. Previously the amounts were between $3,000 and $9,000. The new amounts will be the same as freshmen: $8,000 to $14,000.

The APS for international students is also increasing. Previously the amount was dependent on academic performance. The new APS will be a flat rate: $14,000 (excluding Canada).

“Every student’s financial picture may be a little different,” says Yang. “So, it’s important to connect with a Student Financial Services counselor to determine what your out-of-pocket costs will be.”

The new scholarships will first be available for fall 2023 students. Learn more about how much can be saved by attending Andrews at andrews.edu/tuition.

SHARE YOUR ANDREWS STORY!

As part of our efforts to retell our institutional saga, we are seeking your participation as part of the research for Volume II in the Andrews Heritage Series, the sequel to “As We Set Forth.” Volume II, which starts with the transition from Emmanuel Missionary College to Andrews University, is in progress—stay tuned for information about a publication date!

We are looking for firsthand lived-experiences that reflect our diversity and the full scope of stories that tell an accurate picture of our history. For this round of stories we are especially interested in hearing from international students who attended Andrews from the 1960s through the 1980s. Send us your funny, painful, life-changing, spiritually uplifting or just everyday stories that especially remind you of your Andrews experience.

Please send your reminiscence (less than 300 words) by the end of February 2023 to meredith@andrews.edu. (Hard copy can be mailed to Meredith Jones Gray, University Communication, Griggs Hall A, 8903 US Hwy 31, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-1000.) And keep checking this space in upcoming FOCUS issues; we will be asking for stories from other specific time periods and perspectives.

We would love to hear from you!
Intramural softball season ran from Sept. 6–Oct. 10.


The Andrews University Student Association Barn Party took place Oct. 29 on the Alumni lawn.

This year’s Almost Anything Goes, on Sept. 17, was the “Glow Edition.”

Students enjoyed ice cream at the Clubs & Organizations Fair on Sept. 18.

On Sept. 28, the School of Architecture & Interior Design hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate their newly renovated building.

Following Proximity Vespers on Oct. 14, an Afterglow was held in the PMC Youth Chapel.

The Office of Student Involvement, Leadership & Activities hosted the “Hello Fall” experience on Oct. 19.

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LIFE ON CAMPUS

Fall 2022 – 5
As is the case each fall semester on its Berrien Springs campus, Andrews University is once again taking the measure of current enrollment trends and reviewing and celebrating some of its remarkable recent national (and Michigan) university rankings.

ENROLLMENT
On the Berrien Springs main campus, an official census was taken this year on Oct. 3, 2022, which showed 3,389 students enrolled at (or through) the main campus—298 students more than last year’s fall enrollment of 3,091.

Those numbers represent an overall undergraduate enrollment of 1,434 students and graduate enrollment of 1,955 students who are studying on or through the Berrien Springs main campus.

The number of international students enrolled on the main campus grew slightly, with 960 international students enrolled this year compared to 950 last year.

An additional 377 students are also studying at international campus partners and programs this fall semester.

“We are carefully evaluating this year’s results, especially in the context of significant increase in applications and acceptances compared to last year,” says Tony Yang, vice president for Strategy, Marketing & Enrollment and Chief Communication Officer. “We’re responding by carefully analyzing both external and internal factors and actively making adjustments, wherever needed, to help ensure strong spring and next fall semesters in 2023.

“Our way forward, I believe, is driven by a common goal as we recruit and welcome each one of our students—whether they are new or returning students in future semesters—and that is to ensure a World Changing Experience. Every Student. Every Time.” says Yang. “I’m convinced that our enrollment strategies and plans will succeed as we work together as an Andrews family to continue to adapt to shifting attitudes toward Adventist higher education, challenges for Adventist families who struggle with affordability, and the dynamic and rapidly changing expectations on how we best communicate with and reach students and families.”

In the most recent IPEDS (Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System) report, Andrews’ 2021–2022 annual unduplicated headcount report showed a total of 4,307 students registered (including online courses), which is up 190 students over the 2020–2021 unduplicated headcount report. This headcount does not include all students who are studying internationally or non-degree students.

RANKINGS
In the 2022–2023 U.S. News Best Colleges rankings released this September, Andrews University continues to be the only Adventist university included in the rankings of nearly 400 national universities. Andrews University was tied (with University of Hawaii-Hilo) for the nation’s #1 most diverse national university campus and was also included in the Top Ten rankings among national universities for the number of international students.

Although the U.S. News Best Colleges report, Andrews also performed well in Niche.com’s 2023 Best Colleges in America rankings. Niche has been ranking universities for 20 years. Its rankings are based on rigorous analysis of academic, admissions, financial and student life data from the U.S. Department of Education along with reviews from students and alumni. More than 1,500 institutions were included in this year’s list.

Niche’s Best Colleges in America 2023 rankings presented a particularly favorable picture, ranking Andrews University as the top private, Christian and small college in Michigan, the 11th top Christian university in America, the only Adventist university to be ranked in the top 100 Christian universities, and ranked Andrews highly in several other categories (including #2 most diverse colleges in America and top 10 percent for best college food).

In the 2023 College Factual Best Colleges rankings, Andrews University moved up nearly 400 spots to #454 out of 2,241 ranked institutions, or the top 20 percent of all schools ranked. This ranking also included Andrews as #11 out of 57 Michigan colleges, in the top 20 percent of all institutions ranked for the state of Michigan.
Telling the story of Andrews

Office of University Culture & Inclusion highlights diversity

THIS FALL, THE OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY Culture & Inclusion recognized the diversity of its campus and community.

During National Hispanic Heritage Month, observed from Sept. 15–Oct. 15, Andrews University’s theme “Vibrante” celebrated the life, vigor and activity that the Hispanic community brings to campus throughout the year. The Andrews University Latino Association (ULA), Genesis Fellowship, Makarios and the Center for Faith Engagement hosted several events for students. These included community service, student forums, worship and chapel services, a Latino Dance Night, Spirit Week and a Noche Latina celebration.

For Filipino American History Month in October, the Filipino American National Historical Society (FANHS) selected a theme marking several milestones in Filipino history: “Celebrating Our History and Legacies: 50 Years of Filipino American Studies, 40 Years of the Filipino American National Historical Society (FANHS), and 30 Years of Filipino American History Month.” The Andrews Filipino International Association (AFIA) leadership planned several events, including educational talks, a worship, a church service, potluck, games and dances.

The Office of University Culture & Inclusion continued a project resulting from the Council of Independent Colleges’ “Reframing the Institutional Saga” grant, which assists Andrews in documenting the University’s history in a more inclusive way. In September, Michael Nixon, vice president for University Culture & Inclusion, with a team of Andrews faculty and staff, interviewed several members of the Black Student Christian Forum (BSCF) from the 1970s. Then, in October, Walter B.T. Douglas, professor of church history and history of religion, emeritus, was interviewed. Both interview recordings will be featured in the future “Retelling the Institutional Saga” documentary, one of the planned outcomes of the CIC grant.

In November, the Office of University Culture & Inclusion, Center for Faith Engagement and School of Population Health, Nutrition & Wellness collaborated to commemorate National Native American Heritage Month at University Forum on Thursday, Nov. 10. Vice President Nixon read the Andrews University Land Acknowledgment Statement publicly for the first time, recognizing that the University’s Berrien Springs campus sits on land once taken from the Pokagon Band of the Potowatomi Tribe without permission. The program also created space for the local Pokagon Band of the Potowatomi Tribe to share stories and musical selections that captured the journey and essence of their people.

Nixon expresses, “We’ve had a great first semester of events and activities. The organic innovation of our students and our leaders across the campus has really helped to do so much in impacting and helping to shape our culture ...”
Annual Research Week

Highlights scholarship and community engagement at Andrews

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY’S ANNUAL Research Week took place from Oct. 17–21. The program included three main events that together demonstrate the University’s dedication to seeking knowledge and engaging communities to create a better world.

Carlisle Sutton, research services coordinator, states, “We are pleased to be able to partner with the English and STEM departments, the James White Library and the Office of the Provost to co-host Research Week. We are blessed to have students, faculty and staff lend their support to facilitate these opportunities for continuous learning and community building."

The first event of the week, the annual John O. Waller Lectureship for the Arts, took place on Monday, Oct. 17, featuring speaker Louise Geddes, professor of English at Adelphi University. Geddes’ presentation, “How the Musical Became Meta,” was based on her current book-length project of the same title.

On Thursday, Oct. 20, the Celebration of Community Engagement began with a reception and poster presentations by on-campus researchers, followed by a video and plenary session by Michigan Congressman Fred Upton and Sung Kwon, associate professor of leadership and director of the MA in Leadership with a social innovation concentration.

Kwon’s presentation centered on the importance of creating a collective, intentional and sustainable impact on our communities. He highlighted the Christian responsibility to liberate people from whatever binds them or prevents them from flourishing, asking his audience, “How can we be the church for our community with our community?”

The final event of the week, the Celebration of Research & Creative Scholarship, occurred on Friday, Oct. 21. Jay Johnson, professor of engineering, and Petr Činčala, associate professor of world mission and director of the Institute of Church Ministry and the Doctor of Missiology program, gave the plenary presentations.

Gary Burdick, dean of research, notes, “Andrews University continues to make significant strides to the advancement of knowledge through the research of our faculty and students.”

Partnership Grant and Shark Tank Competition

Showcases innovative ideas from across campus

IN A NEW AND INNOVATIVE INITIATIVE TO foster academic enrichment opportunities, Andrews University hosted its first Andrews Partnership Grant and Shark Tank Competition on Sept. 30. The program, modeled after the successful television series, featured four teams of faculty and staff entrepreneurs who presented to a live audience and panel of judges. Each team shared a proposal, which the audience members and judges voted on. A total of $200,000 was distributed between the three winning teams.

Christon Arthur, provost, explains, “This new Andrews University Academic Partnership Grant supports emerging interdisciplinary collaborations on our campus to integrate and energize curricula. Its purpose is to foster creative thinking and planning that will result in revitalization of curricular ideas and strengthen existing programs through initiatives that enrich the academic community and enhance the student experience.” He adds, “The funds will help create space and time to encourage innovative collaboration across disciplines and levels.”

The first funded project, titled “Innovation & Entrepreneurship Transformation of Engineering Curriculum,” received $100,000. Two other projects received $50,000 each: “AU Abroad: An International Partnership for Learning, Research and Internships” and “Trauma-Informed Academic Partnership.”

Although not every proposal received funding from this round of the competition, each one represented the creativity and dedication of Andrews University faculty and staff. In the future, the University plans to host more Shark Tank Competitions, presenting funding opportunities for continued innovation.
“Exploring the Composition of the Pentateuch”

Conference held Sept. 11–13

The third “Exploring the Composition of the Pentateuch” conference at Andrews University was attended by invited scholars, Andrews faculty and PhD students.

Among scholars who currently study the Pentateuch, there is major divergence on how best to approach the question of the composition of the Pentateuch—the former dominant theory is being revised and criticized, and alternative approaches are suggested. Conference attendees, through presentations and discussion, took steps in developing a positive, coherent approach to the composition of the Pentateuch.

On Sept. 11, the Horn Lectureship Series portion of the conference was open to the general public. L.S. Baker Jr., associate director of University Press at Andrews University and archaeologist, spoke on “Wilderness Sanctuary Materials: Can Content Reveal Composition Timing?” Gary A. Rendsburg, distinguished professor of Jewish studies and history and Blanche and Irving Laurie Chair in Jewish History at Rutgers University, shared “A Holistic Reading of the Abraham Narrative.”

The conference was sponsored by a private donor, the Office of Research & Creative Scholarship, and the Siegfried H. Horn Museum, which also sponsored the Horn Lectureship Series.

Adventist Identity Conference

Affirms the centrality of Christ through all Adventist doctrine

ON OCT. 15–19, ANDREWS UNIVERSITY hosted a conference titled “Being the Remnant: Adventist Identity in History and Theology.” The event brought together over 30 scholars for an interdisciplinary conversation about Adventist identity sponsored by the Adventist Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research (ASTR) in collaboration with the Biblical Research Institute, the Ellen G. White Estate and the Department of Church History in the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews.

David Trim, director of the ASTR and a co-planner of the conference, notes, “Conversations about Adventist identity will always be important because there is a trend among Christian churches to gradually suffer ‘mission drift’ and to lose their original focus and passion. Right now is particularly important for a conference on Adventist identity as the church grows rapidly in certain parts of the world. With rapid growth comes the danger of a shift in identity. It’s essential we talk about what it is that makes us distinctly Seventh-day Adventist, and then that we share that with the world church.”

“Be the Remnant” conference at Andrews University was attended by invited scholars, Andrews faculty and PhD students.

The presentations throughout the conference highlighted a series of shared beliefs, practices and stories that remain central to Adventism. Trim found particular value in the centrality of storytelling as a way to form a common identity, stating, “The stories we tell about our Adventist past have a power to bind us together and to inspire.”

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John W. Reeve, associate professor of church history at Andrews University.
This concert schedule is subject to change depending on the state guidelines of the COVID-19 pandemic at that time.

**Howard Center Presents**

**... Rich Aguilera—The Creation Adventure**
Join Rich Aguilera in this exciting, family-friendly show as he teams up with his puppet friends to discover secrets of God’s creation and His love for you!
Saturday, Jan. 21, 7 p.m.

**Howard Center Presents**

**... Charles Reid & Friends: Isn’t It Romantic?**
In anticipation of Valentine’s Day, join internationally renowned tenor Charles Reid and friends from the Andrews University Department of Music in an eclectic and fun evening on the theme of love.
Sunday, Feb. 5, 7 p.m.

**Sunday Music Series ... Andrews University Composers**
Showcasing contemporary works of budding artists from Andrews University, as well as music composed by faculty members and host Max Keller.
Sunday, April 2, 4 p.m.

ON OCT. 15, AT THE SOCIETY OF ADVENTIST COMMUNICATORS’ (SAC) 33rd annual convention in Maryland, Daniel Weber, assistant professor of photography at Andrews University, was awarded the SAC Leadership Award for a decade of outstanding servant leadership.

“Leadership is important to me because it is about providing opportunities for those on your team to grow and be successful in their jobs,” Weber expresses. “When I became a leader, I sought to provide many opportunities for my team to grow and improve because I knew it would benefit our organization.”

Prior to his time at Andrews University, Weber served as communication director of the North American Division (NAD) of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Throughout his experience with the NAD, he provided training for staff and managed communication channels between the 56 conferences and nine unions the NAD supports. He notes, “I had an open-door policy that my team and I were available at any time to support their work.”

Weber also held the role of executive director of the Society of Adventist Communicators, where he worked diligently to increase the participation of college and university students. “I recognized that building relationships between working professionals and students is a win/win situation for the communication field and I sought out partnerships that could make this happen,” he states.

In August 2021, Weber joined the Andrews faculty in the Department of Visual Arts, Communication & Design (VACD). In addition to his role as an academic advisor for students, he develops and teaches classes in photography, film, video, podcasting, crisis communication and cinematography.

T. Lynn Caldwell, associate professor of communication and chair of VACD, affirms, “Professor Weber is one of the most effective networkers I know. Andrews students have already greatly benefited from his professional network.”

ENGLISH PROFESSOR PUBLISHES BOOK

Explores Shakespeare, history and British national identity


“It’s a book about performances on stage, film and screen of Shakespeare’s history plays, which are important documents for articulating British national identity. I was interested in those plays in the context of a variety of political crises in the third millennium,” says Pittman. She argues that the productions exhibit a post-imperial nostalgia that fails to account for the role of women and people of color in building the nation’s story, preventing the re-examination of Britain’s multicultural identity in self-critical and progressive ways.

Performances of Shakespeare’s history plays from 2000–2016 are analyzed in the context of key cultural events, such as the Iraq war, the cultural Olympiad and the Brexit campaign. Starting with the beginning of the millennium, Pittman tracks a movement that initially strove to advance multicultural identities but quickly retrenched as fears of terrorism rose in the early part of the century. “I wanted to see what kind of pressure those political moments and geopolitical developments put onto representation on the stage,” she notes.

Pittman emphasizes Shakespeare’s continued cultural authority and the use of his plays to include or exclude a variety of human identities. “All my research is repeatedly about how art can function to enhance, deepen and strengthen our awareness that we are responsible for one another and that we belong and have a home on this planet,” she expresses.

She is especially indebted to her friends and colleagues Meredith Jones Gray, Vanessa I. Corredera, Kristin Denslow and Gary Burdick who, along with many others, provided time, support and funding resources for her research endeavors.
Thinking outside the box
Dan Cress retires after 40 years of service

Dan valued the varied and team-oriented nature of his work, explaining, “Every day brings new challenges and opportunities, some planned and many unplanned ... the Lord has a way of working in strange ways but will always provide the right answers at the right time.”

One of his favorite parts of the job has been hiring student employees, providing them practical, hands-on learning to complement their classroom studies, then watching the students go on to achieve great things in life. One such student, Timothy Wolfer, started a film company and organized it based on principles Dan had taught many years previously. Since then, Timothy has become an Emmy-award winning producer and director. Dan is proud to have had a substantial impact on many of his student employees’ professional careers.

“My supervisors have always pushed me to be my best and think outside the box.”

Dan’s time with the ITS office also offered many unique on- and off-campus opportunities. Dan has coordinated technology design for all campus building and renovation projects, from the additions to Pioneer Memorial Church, to the completion of the Carscallen Mission Workshop, and including his favorite project, the Howard Performing Arts Center. He and colleague Reginald Swensen also coined the term “Wi-Fi” thus contributing to the grassroots creation of the Wi-Fi Alliance calling for interoperable wireless network equipment from manufacturers and vendors. Andrews University was a very early adopter of wireless networking and ultimately provided a campus-wide Wi-Fi network, fulfilling Dan’s dream of having the flexibility to manage and control the Andrews network from offsite.

In the future, Dan and his wife Cami will stay in the Berrien Springs area, reviving dormant hobbies. He looks forward to building a machine shop to restore vintage tools, creating and repairing model railroad equipment, doing some landscape photography and enjoying his vintage recordings of the University music programs.

Dan Cress began a lifelong commitment of service to the Andrews community when he was just 14 years old. Over his 40 years working full-time on campus, he has been motivated by a drive toward his life goals and a commitment to Ecclesiastes 9:10: “Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might.”

Born in St. Joseph, Michigan, and raised in Berrien Springs, Dan attended Andrews Academy and Andrews University from first grade through college. As a student, his first job on campus was as a caretaker for Pioneer Memorial Church on weekends. While in school, he also worked as a reader and lab assistant, custodial repairman, carpet layer and audiovisual technician.

After graduation, he was employed at the WAUS radio station as director of Studio 91, a tape duplicating business. He had initially dreamed of long-term work in the recording studio business, but his time at WAUS helped him recognize it was not what the Lord had in mind for him.

Dan moved on to work as foreman, engineer and quality control supervisor for Electronic Design Company (EDCO), an enterprise originally owned by the University. One of his most memorable EDCO projects involved his team designing and building a drilling machine used in the fabrication of giant solar panels for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). “My supervisors have always pushed me to be my best and think outside the box,” he affirms.

After EDCO closed down, Dan was hired by Andrews as a full-time employee in Information Technology Services (ITS). Dan appreciated the Christian work environment as well as the ability to think, experiment and have his input accepted and valued. He has served in several roles over the years, including computer hardware engineer, acting director of academic computing, assistant director, director, emerging technologies coordinator, and director of storage systems and networks.
When Glenn Russell first arrived at Andrews University as a Master of Divinity student in 1977, he was greeted by a Michigan blizzard. He persevered through the winter storms and completed his degree in 1979. Just six years later, he was called back to Berrien Springs to teach and has since fulfilled a nearly 40-year career within the Andrews community.

Early in life, Glenn made a core commitment to God: “In joyful response to all that God has done for me, I dedicate my life as a pastor and teacher to a special ministry of bringing individuals to Christ and equipping young people for a lifetime of mission and service to their Creator and Redeemer.”

Before his work at Andrews, he pastored in Virginia and Maryland for the Potomac Conference. When he returned to Michigan in 1985, he taught Bible classes at Andrews Academy for 15 years and says, “During those years, many students became friends for life.”

In 1997, Glenn was asked to host Scriptural Pursuit, a weekly media ministry that has spanned 25 years and more than 1,300 programs. “Most of the guests on the program are Andrews University faculty,” he notes. “They have shared such insights and life applications from scripture and from their academic perspectives.”

He joined the Andrews University Department of Religion & Biblical Languages in 2000. “It is an awesome joy and responsibility to teach and mentor young adults,” he conveys. “Students have challenged me with their questions and insights in class, they have provoked deeper study with their research papers, and have blessed me with their passion for God’s work on our mission trips.”

Glenn has developed new classes and curriculum, including mission and world religions courses and the class LOVE 101, which seeks to provide young adults with effective relationship skills based on a foundation of scripture and the social sciences. In his nearly four decades of teaching, he has never missed a day of classes due to sickness. He explains, “I’ve never had a day when I dreaded going to work! God has blessed me with a wonderful wife and family and with good health so far.”

One of his favorite aspects of Andrews has been the international dimension to campus. For over 32 years, he has led students on mission trips, evangelism field schools, and study tours all over the world. He has also had the opportunity to teach, preach and conduct seminars on several different continents. Glenn affirms, “Being a part of the global Seventh-day Adventist Christian family is very important and I’ve been blessed by these international experiences in the classroom and far beyond.”

In retirement, Glenn will miss his daily classes, interactions with students, and faith experiences. Though he’s not sorry to give up grading and committees, he acknowledges his colleagues and coworkers, noting, “It is such a joy to be part of an academic community ... To be a lifelong learner, one needs a community that asks questions, explores scripture, interprets culture and applies truth. And it is such a bonus when colleagues are friends as well!”

Glenn plans to continue his involvement in the Andrews community for as long as he can make a positive contribution, whether through mission trips, teaching classes or assisting in ministry. He will also enjoy visiting family and friends and camping, hiking and biking around the country, affirming, “Retirement is an employment term—but there is still a world to reach with the good news. Jesus is coming soon!”
A Talker and a Doer

David Faehner’s 37-year legacy of making friends for Andrews
Dave grew up in Queens, New York, where his family owned a sawdust company. It was young Dave's job, when he wasn't in school, to ride in the company truck and assist with sawdust deliveries to butcher shops and horse stables. Dave says that his early exposure to his family's strong work ethic provided a guiding principle in his life. Although he says that he didn’t necessarily enjoy school when he was young, he worked hard to be a better student. He recalls his days at Public School #146 in New York and then Greater New York Academy and Blue Mountain Academy. In 1965 he graduated from college with a Bachelor of Arts in history at Columbia Union College (now Washington Adventist University) in Takoma Park, Maryland.

Right out of college, Dave started teaching at Harrisburg Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School in Pennsylvania. “There were only two of us teachers. I was 22 and she was 21. I had a degree and they figured I ought to be the principal. Go figure.” From there he went on to teach social studies and physical education at Spencerville Junior Academy in Silver Spring, Maryland, and later he took up duties as dean of boys at Broadview Academy in Illinois. It was there that his interest—his passion, really—for student life and character development took shape for him professionally.

Dave received a master’s degree in secondary administration from Andrews University in 1972 and completed a doctorate in college student personnel administration and psychology in 1980 at the University of Northern Colorado. During his time in California, Dave was dean of men and assistant dean of students at Loma Linda University. He also served at La Sierra University in Riverside, California, as assistant dean of men as well as director of admissions and recruitment. Dave reflects: “You know, I was quite removed from my roots … doctoral studies, working in higher education … I just kept hearing my mom: ‘Have you tried on your hat lately?’”

Dave’s administrative work with students in the two southern California institutions required attending various in-service sessions and professional conferences, and it was during these meetings that he became acquainted with a young woman by the name of Frances Gibbs who was at that time pursuing a degree in counseling education. Their professional acquaintance developed into a personal friendship and later turned into a commitment for life together: Dave and Frances were married in 1982.

Three years later, then-president Richard Lesher called both the Faehners to serve at Andrews University, Frances as dean of women and David as vice president for University Advancement. At that time, Advancement covered fundraising, planned giving, university relations, alumni services and student recruitment. “The A-team had a lot going for us, a lot of responsibility to juggle,” Dave recalls. “It was a great team.” Students, staff and faculty soon recognized that the friendly man with the “New Yawk City” accent on the third floor of the Administration Building was a talker—and a doer. Donald Bedney, who has succeeded Dave as VP for University Advancement, put it best at the retirement reception in the Howard Center: “Dave doesn’t just talk and then stop—he follows it up with doing—he doesn’t stop with talking.”

That doing—over his 37 years of employment at Andrews—has resulted in a host of tangible results. “Andrews University is the beneficiary of David Faehner’s efforts,” explains current president Andrea Luxton. Under Dave’s leadership in Advancement, approximately $200 million dollars were raised for the institution, including pledges and estate plans. During Faehner’s tenure the University’s endowment grew from $2.1 million to $27.2 million, with an accrued growth of over $70 million and with the commensurate increase of endowments from 92 to 460. Dave is quick to add that these gains are due in large part to Andrews’ accomplished Development team efforts as well.

The campus realized numerous building projects under the Advancement team headed by David Faehner. These projects include Chan Shun Hall, Harrigan Hall, the Seminary addition, Howard Performing Arts Center, remodeling of Dining Services and the Dairy, the new entrance, Buller Hall, remodeling of Nethery Hall, Damazo Hall, Advent Prayer Center and the Andreasen Center for Wellness.

by Douglas Jones

be sure your hat still fits. My mom always said that to me. And if she were here today, I’m sure she would say it again.” David Faehner explained to the crowd of well-wishers at his retirement reception Sept. 21 in the Howard Performing Arts Center lobby that his mother, while he was growing up, always admonished him to remember where he came from, to work hard, to be honest and to stay humble.
Alumni Services notes that Dave has participated in hundreds of alumni meetings around the world and supported many alumni functions on campus. Under his leadership, the Office of University Relations launched the official University website as well as the publication of “As We Set Forth,” a history of the institution from 1874–1960, in addition to the office’s routine duties of keeping the community informed about Andrews University through press releases and the publication of FOCUS.

Looking back at his earlier responsibilities in student recruitment, Dave reflected on his team’s successful efforts in bringing more students from Asia and South America to campus, establishing the Single-Parent Program on the undergraduate level and maintaining a freshman class enrollment averaging 409. “One more thing,” Dave adds, “at least 18 of my department directors over the years have gone on to serve as vice presidents at various other Adventist institutions of higher learning. I’m pretty proud of that.”

Most recently, Dave’s responsibilities have zeroed in on raising money for the University. Donald Bedney lists a number of qualities that make Dave a successful fundraiser: “He’s optimistic. He’s positive. He’s caring. He’s transparent.” Bedney points out that Dave has developed a life skill of sowing and planting. “He has a memory for people and past connections.” Bedney explains that the donations that have boosted the endowment and provided funds for buildings, scholarships and projects have been realized because Dave doesn’t let go once a contact has been made; he forges a friendship with donors—no matter the size or potential of a gift to Andrews University—and he nurtures the friendship, keeping in touch and visiting alumni and prospective donors to the University. President Emeritus Niels-Erik Andreasen chuckles and says, “Dave’s a bulldog. He’s persistent. He’ll go back over and over to visit a potential donor.”

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President Luxton speaks of Dave’s passion and commitment to Andrews University: “He has a genuine love for this school and a genuine love for its students. He is a very real person. No pretense. That’s what makes his friendships and connections so powerful.” Undoubtedly, Dave’s caring for students is in large part what has driven his persistence and dedication to improve campus life through scholarships and improved facilities like the Howard Performing Arts Center and the Andreasen Center for Wellness. His early positions as a teacher, residence hall dean, and student life administrator have conditioned him to keep the needs of students central in his pursuit of goodwill and monetary gifts.

It would be easy for a university administrator to miss out on being actively involved with students; an office on the third floor can be an isolating factor from the ebb and flow of student life. But Dave has been actively apparent among students in a number of ways. First, for many years he and Frances lived in a small apartment adjoining Lamson Hall. That close proximity made it easy to be a part of campus life 24/7. Many students recall seeing Dave striding across campus on his way to the Administration Building—or playing intramural basketball in Johnson Gym. Dave’s two sons—Joshua, who is now pursuing doctoral studies at Wayne State University, and Jeremy, who is a business analyst in Southern California—note that sports and health have always been a part of their father’s life. Josh points
to his dad’s tenacity in sports: “It’s always on display when he plays. ... He’s maintained his athleticism and drive to win.”

Dave recently turned 80. Jeremy says that his dad is “obsessed with pickleball and swims three times a week at the Andreasen Center in addition to walking the track, stretching and lifting weights.”

As a part of Frances’ involvement with students—she is now vice president for Campus & Student Life—she and Dave often host groups of students in their home for a meal or vespers. The Faehners no longer live on campus but in a large country home south of Berrien Springs. “We built this house so we could have lots of kids over,” Dave says. This fall they hosted the entire freshman class for vespers and supper; they estimate they have entertained over 10,000 students in their home during their time at Andrews.

At the beginning of fall semester each academic year, students attend an opening University Convocation in the campus church where the faculty, staff and various administrators are introduced in a general way. Academic regalia is on display, and students hear various speeches. As a part of Convocation, returning students always look forward to David Faehner’s "Top Ten Reasons to Come to Andrews," a light-hearted, tongue-in-cheek video inventory depicting reasons students attend Andrews. Perennial favorites—perennial groaners, really—include the classic weather joke where all the images for each season—except summer—highlight the campus buried under snowdrifts. Dave deflects credit for coming up with the annual list: “When I started the Top Ten, two of my younger Advancement team members—Chris Carey and Jack Stenger—collaborated with me and got it rolling. Now I rely on student leaders to come up with fresh angles.”

Perhaps Dave’s greatest—possibly most enthusiastically enduring—legacy among students is his creation of Almost Anything Goes (AAG), a fall-term Saturday night event in Johnson Gym that actively pits classes in friendly competition with each other through eight different games—feats of agility, teamwork and silliness. Since the Faehners arrived on campus in 1985, Dave has led out in organizing and hosting this event, assisted by a variety of students and employees. One of those students, Philip DeLeon, a 2003 alumnus, is now associate dean for Student Involvement, Leadership & Activities and continues to work closely with Dave on AAG: “Dr. Faehner is meticulous in his planning! One must have the stamina to keep up with him. I barely did! His focus is always on the Andrews student. ... No wonder AAG has been the singular annual Andrews University student event since 1985.” Dave estimates that over the years 30,000 students have participated in AAG.

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Douglas Jones (MA ’80) is a professor emeritus of English. He was editor of FOCUS from 1995 to 2000.
Andrews University
2022–2025
Strategic Plan

by Andrea Luxton

Our Story
In this strategic plan for 2022–2025, we share the outline of our new and yet ongoing narrative. We seek to grow by expanding our access to current and prospective students. We hope to deepen our commitment to shared values and broaden our opportunities to understand how to serve even better. And we recognize to do this, we must strengthen our resilience. As we seek to expand our revenue base, we will find new resourcing to allow us to do what we do well, even better!

Storyline Three:
Resilience and Change

Glenn is the CEO of a manufacturing industry that wants to test some new product lines. The new Innovation Center at Andrews University is a great fit as students become partners in building and testing the product.

Edith knows she wants to use her artistic skills and yet also choose a career that helps individuals in need. The Career Center established through external grant funding helps her look at options. She decides on art therapy!

Chris is a pastor. He wants to develop some community projects to increase the depth of the church’s presence in his city. He hears of the Lilly Endowment received by the Seminary to help him do just that.

Sabrina is an amazingly talented violinist. She longs for that new space where her own practice is not punc-
tuated by the drums being practiced next door. The percussionist next door agrees.

Our third storyline is firmly rooted in the present but invites the campus and all of us who support the University to help imagine and then realize the possibilities of the future. But this is not just a hoped-for dream. Storyline Three says, “We will intentionally increase our resilience to bring rich and innovative planning to our future.” This is a storyline that is an essential part of the University’s future. The plans are quite specific; the reality may mean some of the details of these plans will change. However, the trajectory forward, of thoughtful innovative planning and change, must happen for the University to be strengthened and continue to serve its students well beyond its 150th birthday.

Some of the intended ways of deepening and broadening our revenue streams are very familiar to Andrews, and we have seen success already. Over the last two years the University has succeeded in submitting and receiving grants of over $12 million. While these are targeted at research or specific in-house projects, they both provide increased income for administrative functions and allow the University to expand its mission through the projects that are supported. For example, funds from the government have allowed us to open our Career Center in 2022. That allowed us to significantly increase support for students as a result. Our success in some Lilly Endowment applications will also allow the Seminary to position itself to bring mentoring and some financial support to pastors and other leaders who want to develop community-based projects in their areas.

Additionally, while the current markets are not favorable to endowments, Andrews University takes the long-term look and has been receiving an average of around 8 percent on endowment returns over the last 10 years. The total investment pool has also grown, with new endowments for the last five years averaging $1.5 million a year. New endowments, additions to existing endowments and the return to the principal of some of the annual interest returns to the principal figure means we are currently at around $70 million in endowment funds. This provides over $2 million of return to the campus operations each year through various funds. Our goal over the next three years is to add $3 million per year to our total funds and increase the return to campus operations as a result.

Another revenue stream that has been growing at Andrews University is the development of graduate continuing education courses for educators, in cooperation with external partners. This program currently reaches around 2,000 students annually with a net return to the University of close to $1 million. This is an area of expansion in many universities in 2022, as there is increasing call for courses and certif-
upcoming Innovation Center for growth. We have been blessed so far by the introduction of a director of Innovation & Entrepreneurship to the campus. Matías Soto has significantly expanded the institutional culture in this area and is now leading in the conversation on the development of a physical innovation space. This will not just serve us internally but will encourage engagement with community businesses and industries, for example, research and develop new products.

Partnerships and potential patents would not just fund our innovation efforts, but they could also provide life-changing opportunities for our students while providing additional support to the University as a whole.

The second direction we are looking at for new revenue streams is from businesses that may start from within a department or school. Andrews University is full of many innovative individuals, and our intent is to both help provide opportunities for innovation to happen and then also to provide support so that ideas can be strengthened, with a business plan attached. The University anticipates that such initiatives will bring strength to those campus areas and the University as a whole. Wait for a later edition of FOCUS that will highlight some of these ideas.

So far, I have looked at some current revenue streams and how these are supporting the University already and will do so increasingly in the future. However, this storyline is also about imagining new revenue opportunities. What are the business opportunities for higher education in the future? Our strategy identifies two initial pathways to meet this expectation.

First of all, we are looking to our
particularly Lamson Hall and some of our graduate residences, built many years ago, there is need for renewal. Those needs we understand; there are several ways of imagining the options; funding them is going to be an important challenge for us to engage with as an extended campus community. We are not yet ready to report on the solutions here. But please note that our strategic plan clearly identifies our intent and that student housing is seen as a priority.

In conclusion, as I have noted throughout these three articles on our new strategic plan, higher education is at a critical and yet exciting point in time. We are embracing the new opportunities with enthusiasm. We believe that Andrews University has many strong years ahead. And as we continue to move forward with confidence and with faith, we thank you for your ongoing engagement with us in making the future as strong and mission-driven as it can be.

Thank you.

View the entire strategic plan at andrews.edu/president/strategicplan.

Storyline One: We will grow by increasing access for more students to engage in a world-changing education.

Andrews University is committed to providing a high quality, accessible, world-changing education to eligible students at all levels of higher education, through on-campus and remote experiences, dependent on mission, market and need. By the beginning of the 2025–2026 academic year, the University intends to grow to 1,800 undergraduate students and 1,800 graduate students studying on or through the main campus, with a first to second year retention rate of 87 percent and an overall persistence rate for undergraduates of 90 percent and graduates of 85 percent. These figures exclude continuing education/certificate students studying through the Adult Education Center and students studying at international locations.

Storyline Two: We will deepen and sharpen our community culture and sense of belonging to further enrich our world-changing experience and commitment.

Andrews University is committed to a community culture where faith is active in service, evidenced in calling, and where institutional values are experienced in the University’s commitment to diversity and inclusion, building leadership, encouraging holistic wellness and nurturing innovation. A robust liberal arts program, particularly as experienced in ACE or the J.N. Andrews Honors Program, and intentional graduate programming will bridge the students’ academic experience with the community experience, and shared values will together increase the sense of belonging of all campus demographics. Together these become world changing.

Storyline Three: We will intentionally increase our resilience to bring rich and innovative planning to our future.

Andrews University’s mission is to educate students to be World Changers for the Seventh-day Adventist Church and the wider community. To continue effectively with this core mission, it will be critical for the University to increase its financial resilience and be committed to thoughtful innovative planning and change. This will strengthen the University at all levels as it continues to serve its students and constituents well beyond its 150th birthday.
Seasons of Change
Our Stories Continue

ALUMNI HOMECOMING | SEPTEMBER 22–25, 2022

FROM TOP, CLOCKWISE:
Spirit of Philanthropy & Homecoming Banquet
Desmond Murray presents at the Dwain Ford Memorial Symposium
Women’s Scholarship Brunch, Heather Thompson Day, guest speaker
Tambunan Reception
Registration
Career Center Opening
Retirement Celebration for David Faehner
FROM TOP, CLOCKWISE:
35th Annual Homecoming Parade  ▪ President Andrea Luxton  ▪ International Flag Raising Ceremony  ▪ Homecoming Classic Car Show  ▪ Group from Papua New Guinea at the International Flag Raising Ceremony  ▪ Innovation Open House  ▪ Wes Christiansen Memorial Golf Outing
ALUMNI HOMECOMING | SEPTEMBER 22–25, 2022

FROM TOP, CLOCKWISE
New Life Fellowship & BSCF Alumni Worship Service
Proximity Vespers
BSCF Alumni Impact Vespers
Alumni vs. Students Basketball Game
Dilys Brooks, guest speaker, New Life Fellowship & BSCF Alumni Worship Service
Harvest Picnic
Harvest Tours
Andrews University Chorale and President Emeritus Niels-Erik Andreasen, speaker, PMC Worship Service • Gymnics Half-time Performance at Alumni vs. Students Basketball Game • Alumni Homecoming Gala • Bradley Family Harvest Run • Made@Andrews Art Exhibit & Sale • SPHNW International Cuisine Potluck
THE 85TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JAMES White Library and the current building’s 60th are significant achievements and milestones for the Andrews University community and the Seventh-day Adventist higher education system. The celebration was planned to coincide with the Alumni Homecoming Weekend of Sept. 22–25, 2022, to get alums involved and reminisce about their experiences in the James White Library (JWL). The celebration offered alums the opportunity to market the library among their social and professional networks, spreading the word about the library and making connections that can lead to lasting friendships and support for the library. The anniversary committee organized programs to celebrate the library’s extensive past and exciting future through events that captured the essence of the library and its place in the Andrews University learning community. One such was the invitation of a guest speaker, Meredith Jones Gray, a researcher and writer of Andrews University history. Her research activities demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of the library timeline development.

The opening event was on Friday, Sept. 23, when Jones Gray, professor of English and author of “As We Set Forth: Battle Creek College and Emmanuel Missionary College,” presented her historical research on “The James White Library: A History” at the library’s gallery. In the presence of campus community members, friends, patrons, retired and current library staff, and leaders of Adventist education, Jones Gray presented a depiction of the evolution of the James White Library. Her compelling description of the library’s development using graphics, photographs of the construction, library floor plans, photographs of patrons, students and workers of all ages from 1937 to the present evoked joyful memories of the past and how the Lord led the library to its present time. It was a reminiscing time, especially for those who witnessed the early days of library services and the development of its resources. This presentation is available online at https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/pubs/4433/.

The venue was memory-provoking. Tamara Karr, librarian and director of the Architecture Resource Center, professionally crafted historical timeline exhibits in the gallery that highlighted photographs, milestones, pioneering library staff, and founders of the institution, all communicat-
Margaret Adeogun, professor of library science, is head of the Andrews University learning community. The essence of the library and its place in the exciting future through events that celebrate the library's achievements and impressed they were with the size of the old library to the new one, and how exciting, of moving loads of books in carts from the library's beginnings in the current building to its 45,000 square feet were intended to house up to 280,000 volumes. Construction of an additional section was completed in 1976. Today, the extension houses most book stacks, while the older part holds most of the administrative offices, doctoral carrels and reference areas. When the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary moved from Washington, D.C., to Berrien Springs in 1962, the James White Memorial Library merged with the Theological Seminary collection. It was reborn as the James White Library.

In 1992, the card catalog was replaced by the online computer catalog called JeWeL. Books were barcoded then, making circulation and inventory functions much easier. Several renovations were completed, including the Center for Adventist Research (CAR, 2000), the Lobby (2010), and the Multimedia Center (2012). Also, compact shelving was installed for the University Archives housed in CAR. During the last decade, investments in information technology and James White Library digital initiatives have advanced Andrews University’s knowledge creation and discovery. For example, the Digital Commons @ Andrews University (2015) hosts publications by Andrews University faculty and students, making Andrews University scholarship accessible globally. To date, it has over 5 million downloads worldwide. The integrated Discovery platform (2020) simplifies searching for resources, and the chat reference service provides ready communication between patrons and library personnel.

Future plans include a library renovation that would provide varied modern spaces for current and emerging library services. The James White Library is a jewel of Andrews University, where global scholars are made. We invite you to make it your home away from home.

The Stafford Collection

This celebration also showcased the Stafford Collection, recently acquired from Atlantic Union College. On Sabbath, Sept. 24, the library organized a guided tour for alums, guests and campus community members to explore the James White Library and browse the Stafford Collection. The Stafford Collection comprises approximately 1,400 works of literature, previously housed at Atlantic Union College’s G. Eric Jones Library. Some American poets, A.R. Ammons, Langston Hughes and Carlos Williams, and British poets, W.H. Auden, Gerard Manley and William Butler Yeats, are featured. The poets’ works (some signed editions), biographies, criticism, theses, dissertations, bibliographies and other reference sources make up this unique collection. The collection is named in honor of the late Ottillie Frank Stafford (1921–2006), a distinguished professor of English who served at Atlantic Union College for 50 years. The collection focused on 20th-century American and British poets and was established on April 21, 1991.

Stafford’s husband of 58 years, Homer Stafford, and friends of the Staffords contributed financially to the growth of this special collection that memorializes her exceptional teaching and outstanding leadership over five decades at Atlantic Union College. The JWL is fortunate to inherit this highly valuable and rare collection. Its addition to other special collections will enhance students’ learning experience and boost the teaching, learning and research activities of the Andrews University teaching and learning community.

A Brief History of the James White Library

In 1937, the first brick academic building on the Andrews University campus was erected to house the James White Memorial Library (JWML). Previously housed in the Administration Building of the then Emmanuel Missionary College for some 30 years, this library collection had grown and expanded from its small start in Battle Creek College. By 1956, the JWML had outgrown its facility. Designed to accommodate some 30,000 books, it housed 50,000! When students left for summer breaks, books were stacked on the floor, in the hallways, and overflowed into staff offices, wherever there was space.

A new facility was built in 1962, and its 45,000 square feet were intended to house up to 280,000 volumes. Construction of an additional section was completed in 1976. Today, the extension houses most book stacks, while the older part holds most of the administrative offices, doctoral carrels and reference areas. When the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary moved from Washington, D.C., to Berrien Springs in 1962, the James White Memorial Library merged with the Theological Seminary collection. It was reborn as the James White Library.

The anniversary committee is organizing more programs for the spring semester to celebrate the library’s achievements and exciting future through events that capture the essence of the library and its place in the Andrews University learning community. Margaret Adeogun, professor of library science, is head of patron services/marketing for James White Library.

Top: Meredith Jones Gray presented a historical research presentation about the James White Library. Bottom: Paulette Johnson, dean of libraries, talked with alumni during a guided tour of the JWL on Saturday, Sept. 24.
John C. Banks  
(BA ‘72, MA ‘81)

BORN IN GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN, John Banks greatly enjoyed his undergraduate years at Andrews, studying biology, playing intramurals, and dating wife-to-be Patricia Hays all four years. After graduating in 1972, John and Pat spent three years in Buffalo, New York, teaching Grades 1–8 before moving to Adelphian Academy in Holly, Michigan, for the next six years. John earned an MA in biology at Andrews in 1981 and a doctorate in biology with an emphasis in anatomy from Loma Linda in 1984.

John was invited to be the coordinator of the Basic Science program in Andrews University’s new Master of Science in Physical Therapy program. He accepted the offer and taught in the Department of Physical Therapy for the next 28 years. The PT program grew from a master’s degree to a clinical doctorate (DPT).

John has published multiple research articles, but his most significant group publication was the “Atlas of Clinical Gross Anatomy” in 2005. The textbook was revised for a second edition in 2013 and has been translated into Russian, French and Portuguese.

During his time at Andrews, John chaired the Rank and Continuous Appointment committee and received the Daniel A. Augsburger Excellence in Teaching Award in April 2010.

John has since moved back to California, where he is currently associate professor of anatomy for the Loma Linda University School of Medicine.

Karen Gray  
(BA ‘92)

KAREN GRAY, ESQ., IS THE GENERAL Counsel for Government Accountability Project, GAP: a non-profit, nonpartisan public interest organization that promotes government and corporate accountability by advancing occupational free speech and ethical conduct, defending whistleblowers, and empowering citizen activists.

Born in Birmingham, England, Karen emigrated to Canada with her family as an infant. She graduated from Andrews with a BS in psychology and earned a JD from Howard University School of Law.

As a law student, she volunteered with the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, helping domestic violence victims transition to lives of peace and safety. Karen served as legal director of the Family Crisis Center of Prince George’s County before joining the Law Offices of Joseph A. Trevino as an associate attorney. While there, Karen became a Disaster Relief volunteer attorney for the Maryland State Bar Association and volunteered as a pro bono attorney for the Lawyer Referral Service for Prince George’s County, Maryland.

Beginning in 2003, Karen served as a trial attorney and deputy general counsel for GAP, representing clients in the nuclear, public safety, pharmaceutical and healthcare industries. Today, in addition to assisting with litigation strategy, Karen provides education, advice and ethical guidance to the company. She also enjoys mentoring student interns. For five years, she served as a supervisor for the GAP Whistleblower Clinic.

Karen is a longstanding member of the Community Praise Seventh-day Adventist Church and a founding member of S.A.F.E. @ 7, a virtual intercessory prayer group.
William Kirlew
(MDiv ’70)

BEFORE WILLIAM KIRLEW’S BIRTH ON Nov. 29, 1920, his mother dreamed God wanted him to be a preacher. Now looking forward to his 102nd birthday, he still sees pastoring as a calling from God. Before 1955, William was an active layman working for the Jamaican government. He started a church with three people under a mango tree, riding his bicycle 10 miles twice a week to hold services. For the next ten years, he served as a pastor evangelist in the West Jamaica Conference, baptizing over 100 people each year.

William arrived at Andrews with five children and worked to pay for tuition and expenses. When the family ran out of money, they fasted and prayed that God would make a way. He recalls, “God answered our prayers, and the faculty granted me a full tuition scholarship. I am forever grateful to Andrews faculty ... for their support during this time.”

After earning his MDiv from Andrews in 1970, he pastored the Sharon SDA Church in Tucson, Arizona, before returning to the West Jamaica Conference, where he pastored up to 13 churches and planted and built new ones.

In 1976, William established the Maranatha SDA Church in Miami Gardens, Florida. He pioneered Men’s and Women’s Ministry programs and ministries addressing the imprisoned and inner city homeless.

William retired to Naples, Florida, in 1997, where he established the Bethesda Corkscrew Church. He has supported thousands of young people financially and spiritually, encouraging them to pursue higher education and Christian service.

Dennis Tidwell
(BA ’72)

DENNIS TIDWELL SPENT MANY OF HIS formative years in India as part of a missionary family. The rest of his life has also been dedicated to international work.

In 1972, Dennis received a BA in theology from Andrews University. Following graduation, Dennis obtained a master’s degree in urban and overseas English from Indiana University. He worked as director of Hilltribe Work for the Thailand Adventist Mission until 1988, simultaneously pursuing and acquiring an MPH in primary healthcare management from Mahidol University.

Afterward, he worked with the Adventist Development and Relief Agency, ADRA, serving as director and country director consecutively in Indochina, Vietnam and India for 13 years. Dennis also provided volunteer services in Laos and Myanmar through ADRA. In his hands, the newly minted programs flourished.

From 2003–2004, Dennis served as Habitat for Humanity’s regional program manager for Southeast Asia. He then took on the role of diplomat in several countries for the U.S. Department of State including Myanmar, India, Thailand and Afghanistan.

Ten years later, Dennis became senior editor for the Annual Human Rights Reports. He edited and published written reports for the U.S. Department of State over the course of several years and continued his service work through volunteer missions. In 2015, he traveled to Nepal following the devastating earthquake in April, working with the Harvard University Disaster Medical Team to provide relief. Although now retired, Dennis’ missionary mindset and faithful practice has changed the world for the better.
2022 Honored Classes

Class of 1952
F. Mario Ruf

Class of 1962
FRONT ROW (L–R):
Virginia (Halenz) Meseraull, Sandra Stickle, Eileen (O’Brien) Brown, Henry Kuhlman, Patricia Wotring Kuhlman

BACK ROW (L–R):
John Youngberg, Janet (Wildman) Schlunt, Charles Schlunt, James Slater, Charles Cutting, Janie (Wiesner) Cutting

Class of 1972
FRONT ROW (L–R):
Ruth Ann Plue, Jeanette Snorrason, Diane Taber, Debbie (Hartson) Jamieson, Gene Platt, Eurydice Osterman, Marilyn Sanders, Carolyn (Zima) Howson, Ruby Jackson

MIDDLE ROW (L–R):
Christine (Hyde) Herr, David Forsythe, Gordon Doss, Cheryl (Brown) Doss, Bill Jamieson, Calvin Hill, Susan (Robinson) Smith, Dennis Dean Tidwell, Stan Detweiler

BACK ROW (L–R):
Ron Herr, Jerry Wagner, Vance Birmingham, Marvin E. Budd, Donald Jensen, John C. Banks, John Hughson, Roger Ruether
Seasons of Change
Our Stories Continue

Class of 1982
FRONT ROW (L–R): Sari (Onjukka) Butler, Karen (Johnston) Gotshall
BACK ROW (L–R): Keith Calkins, Devin Zimmerman, Larry D. Burton

Class of 1992
FRONT ROW (L–R): Jessica Mack, Rebecca Kelin, John Glass, Valerie (Knowles) Combie
BACK ROW (L–R): Morris Mattson, Karen (Zimmerman) Titcomb, Mark Titcomb, Terence Teat, Rhonda Gager

Class of 1997
L–R: Sandra Pena-Edington, Fernando Ortiz, Pam Burton

Class of 2002
L–R: Shelley Kennedy, Charles LeBlanc, Keith Calkins

Class of 2012
L–R: Lizzie (Dias) Valencourt, Ivan LaBlanca, Rodrigo Galiza, Cecilia (Dias) Marcellino

Class of 2017
L–R: Allison Trine, Peter Trine, Daron Raynor, Dana Swann

Class of 2022
Joshua Rotich
AdventHealth has named Tim Cook (MA ’89) as senior vice president and chief mission integration officer for the health system, effective Nov. 20. Cook has over 30 years of leadership experience in church, community and healthcare settings, with more than 25 of those years dedicated to AdventHealth.

Cook and his wife Vivian (BS ’89) live in Longwood, Florida. They have three adult children: Julia, Jacob and Justin. Jacob and his wife Giselle most recently welcomed a baby, Ely, the first grandchild of the family.

Class Notes

1950s

Larry Lee Davis (BS ’58) was employed by the Adventist Church for 49½ years, serving in various treasury departments until 2008.

At the age of 70, Larry began participating in Senior Olympic events [basketball & softball], at the district, state and national levels. For the next 15 years, he competed in 65 basketball events, including 3-on-3 teams play, free throw and 3-point competitions in Tennessee, Florida, Texas, Ohio, Alabama and New Mexico. In May 2022, he competed for the fifth time in the National Senior (Olympic) Game, in the age 85+ basketball team play. The games are a 20-sport biennial event for men and women, ages 50+, with more than 12,000 athletes. Larry has three sons: Steven, Kevin (BArch ’89) and K. Robin. He has been married to Elsie Blair-Davis for 23 years, and they reside in Tavares, Florida.

1960s

Glenn Owen Phillips (MA ’69) received an honorary doctorate from the University of the Southern Caribbean at its 2022 Commencement graduation ceremony on June 26, 2022.

Neville Clouten (former faculty) recently published “A Plan Larger Than I Could Draw: Stories and Perspectives from the Mind and Heart,” a book of eight essays reflecting on his life experiences as an architect, academ- ic, administrator and artist.

1970s

1980s

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Cook and his wife Vivian (BS ’89) live in Longwood, Florida. They have three adult children: Julia, Jacob and Justin. Jacob and his wife Giselle most recently welcomed a baby, Ely, the first grandchild of the family.
Harry Elburton Rice (BA ’51), 93, died peacefully at home on Sept. 6, 2022. He was born on May 21, 1929, in Florence, Alabama. He spent his childhood in Missouri and California, graduating from college in 1951 from Emmanuel Missionary College (now Andrews University) in Berrien Springs, Michigan, and then graduated from Loma Linda University School of Medicine in 1955.

He did his internship and residency (internal medicine) at White Memorial Hospital in Los Angeles before being inducted into the Navy as a naval physician from 1957–1959. After his discharge he worked as a physician at White Memorial and in private practice, working most of his professional life as a physician at Rancho Los Amigos in Downey, California. He resided in Los Angeles County for 69 years and in Long Beach for the majority of those years.

He is survived by his daughter, Karin Alisa Rice; his son, Kevin Eric Rice (Teresa); and two granddaughters.

Peggy Joan (Lane) Wildman (DIP2YR ’51) died Aug. 28, 2022, at her home in Allendale, Michigan. 

Joan was born on Oct. 10, 1934, while her parents, Jakob and Eliza Klotz, and her brothers and sisters were in persons camps, immigrating through German displaced persons camps, arriving during this period. 

Joan was an avid puzzlemaker, enjoyed bicycling and flower gardens, and walked daily well into her 90s. Joan was preceded in death by her husband Durward (BA ’52). She is survived by her brother, Richard Lane; her children: Joni (att.) (Mike) Baker, Patti (BS ’80) and her husband Tim (BS ’80, MS ’84) Carlson, and Greg (att.) (Dineen) Wildman; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Helena Klotz Stout (BA ’77, former staff) went to her rest on Aug. 14, 2022, at home in Loma Linda, California.

Born in Poland on March 12, 1934, Helena transitioned through German displaced persons camps, immigrating to the U.S. with her parents in 1949. While studying at Columbia Union College, she met and married John (Jack) Stout (former faculty). Always the supporting partner, she left college and worked so Jack could complete his doctoral studies. Their two children, Ron (BS ’82) and then Lynn (BS ’84), arrived during this period.

Jack joined the biology faculty at Walla Walla College, and Helena focused on her most cherished roles—mother and wife. They then moved to Andrews University via Cologne, Germany, where Jack pursued postdoctoral studies and research. Early in the family’s 43-year service to Andrews University students, Helena completed her degree at Andrews, specializing in office management and business. She worked with the Lake Union Conference supporting literature evangelism, then joined Andrews University’s Student Success Center.

She loved serving students and also found fulfillment in coordinating volunteers for Pioneer Memorial Church’s guest ministries and volunteering at Neighbor to Neighbor. She shared her generous spirit and welcoming gift of hospitality with everyone.

In 2017, Helena and Jack followed Lynn and husband Dan Reichert (BS ’84) to Loma Linda, California, where she enjoyed more time with her children and grandchildren.

She is survived by her husband John, son Ron and his wife Pam (BS ’82) Stout, daughter Lynn Reichert (Dan) and grandchildren John Stout II, Elisabeth Mauro (Steven), Zachary Reichert (BS ’16) (Allie) and Ashley (BS ’16) and her husband Robbie (BSE ’16) Polski; as well as her sister Lydia Bojanek.

Helena was predeceased by her parents, Jakob and Elizabeth Klotz, and her brothers Marian and Jacob.

Herald Allen Habenicht (BA ’54, former faculty) passed quietly to his rest on July 29, 2022, five weeks after losing his precious Donna Lugenea (BA ’54, MA ’74, EDD ’77), life partner for the last 68 years. 

Herald was born in Berrien Springs, Michigan, on Feb. 23, 1933, while his parents Kathryn A. (Kilpatrick) (DIP2YR ’29, BA ’34) and Herald Ambrose Habenicht (DIP2YR ’30, BA ’34) were students.
For the last six years Herald assumed care of things as Donna developed progressive dementia. They enjoyed their lakeside home as long as they could but transitioned to assisted living earlier this year.

Herald is survived by one brother, C. William Habenicht; two children, Larry Habenicht (BA ‘76) (Debbie (BA ‘75)) and Nancy Schilling (BA ‘80) (Bruce (BS ‘81)); four grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Larry Yeagley (former faculty) died unexpectedly at his home in Gentry, Arkansas, on July 15, 2022.

Born Sept. 5, 1933, to Pennsylvania sharecroppers, his humble roots laid the foundation for a career offering hope and healing.

Married to Roberta Anne Brackett in 1955, Larry graduated from Washington Missionary College (Washington Adventist University). Though his dream was to be a pastor, he first taught, serving Adventist schools from 1957 to 1962. Larry next received pastoral appointments in Ohio. In 1966, he and Roberta and their family of four boys moved to churches in Connecticut, then Massachusetts.

Larry was also drawn to hospital chaplaincy, leading him to Battle Creek (Michigan) Sanitarium and Hospital in 1976. Learning from the pain of patients and their families, Larry created Grief Recovery, a support program that touched thousands of lives and inspired several books and many speaking engagements.

Following the death of their eldest son, Jeff, the Yeagleys moved to Texas in 1982, where Larry became chaplain at Huguley Memorial Hospital, expanded Grief Recovery and helped start the first hospice in Fort Worth after helping establish a similar program in Battle Creek.

His passion for grief counseling and pastoral ministry provided teaching opportunities at Andrews University and Southwestern Adventist University. In 1989 Larry returned to parish ministry in Michigan. He retired from full-time ministry in 2002.

Larry and Roberta moved to Gentry in 2005, where he continued his love of gardening, woodworking, writing, reading, volunteering and occasionally preaching to support area pastors.

Larry is survived by his wife of 67 years, Roberta; sons Bryan (BS ’83) (Robertata Yegley, Steve (MDiv ’89, DMin ’15) (Manuela) Yeagley and David (MDiv ’91) (Elizabeth) Yeagley; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his son, Jeff Yeagley.

Robert James Berecz (BA ’62), 81, died June 7, 2022, after a battle with Parkinson’s disease.

Bob was born Aug. 12, 1940, in Chicago, Illinois. He graduated from Wisconsin Academy in 1958 as president and valedictorian of his senior class.

In 1966 Bob received his MD from Loma Linda University School of Medicine. At the completion of a surgical internship at University of Wisconsin Medical Center in Madison, he was drafted into the military. He served in the U.S. Navy, was deployed to Vietnam, and served with a Marine unit as the medical officer. During his service, Bob was exposed to Agent Orange, which greatly damaged his health in his later years. He was released from active duty in 1969 and received an Honorable Discharge as a Lt. Commander. He then completed a four-year surgical residency followed by a fellowship in vascular surgery in Long Beach, California.

Bob’s career as a surgeon was spent in several hospitals in Oregon and Washington while raising three daughters. Music was an important part of his life, and he was also actively involved in the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

He retired from his 50-year career in Hermiston, Oregon, on Dec. 31, 2016.

Bob is survived by his wife Carol (Roesel Peterlin) Berecz; brother John (former faculty) and his wife Deborah (BS ’88) Berecz; daughters Kari (Todd) Schroeder, Michelle Berecz and Diane Berecz; stepsons Paul (Martha) Peterlin and Marcus (Jayne) Peterlin; five grandchildren; two step-grandsons; and two great-grandsons.

He was predeceased by his parents Helen and William (DIP2YR ’36) Berecz, brothers Bill and Joe, sisters Helen and Judy, and grandson Fisher Schroeder.

Clair Emery Erickson (BS ’71), 72, of Park Rapids, Minnesota, died on April 27, 2022, after a battle with pancreatic cancer.

Clair was born on July 21, 1949, in Wadena, Minnesota. He married Jana Fillman on Aug. 9, 1970, in Berrien Springs, Michigan. He participated in many musical groups, touring for many years with the “Golden Street Quartet.” He was a charter member of the Park Rapids Seventh-day Adventist Church.

He served for almost 40 years as an administrator at Green Pine Acres Nursing Home, which became Greenwood Connections in Menahga. Clair is survived by his wife, Jana Erickson; children, Lowell (Heidi) Erickson, Karen (Leslie) Franke, Tricia (Thomas) Graham, Toby “TJ” (BS ’74) (Nyla) Imler, and Kevin Erickson; brother Vern (BS ’66) and his wife Sharon (MA ’68) Erickson; and six grandchildren.

He was predeceased by his parents, Emery and Clara Erickson, and brother, Dale.

Bernard (Bernd) Erich Weidling (BA ’68, DMin ’71), died on April 5, 2022, after a brief struggle against intracranial bleeding.

He was born in Hamburg, Germany, on April 21, 1943, and came to the United States as a young man. Bernd attended Atlantic Union College before he came to Andrews. He was married for many years to Joyce Ditmer Weidling (MA ’69), whom he met while attending college. Bernd was an Adventist minister and missionary to Africa. He is survived by Thomas Loughran, his life partner for 34 years.

Allan Willis Robertson (MA ’62) passed away March 27, 2022, in Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada, after a short illness.

Allan graduated from Canadian University College with a BTh in 1961 and from Andrews University with a major in religion. He served the church as a pastor for 33 years and an instructor in the religion department at Canadian University College (now Burman University) for six years.
A Remembrance and Reflection on Dwain Ford’s Teaching Philosophy

by Desmond Hartwell Murray

WHEN DWAIN FORD, PHD, PROFESSOR emeritus of chemistry, first joined the Andrews faculty in 1962, I was a 2-year-old living in Trinidad.

Nineteen years later in September 1981, I arrived at Andrews University as a chemistry major, and among the first classes I took from him was organic chemistry. Ford was returning to the classroom after ten years as dean of the Andrews University College of Arts & Sciences (he chaired the Department of Chemistry before that from 1962–1971).

I was an organic chemistry teaching assistant and grader for Professor Ford in the early 1980s. I did at least two research projects as an undergrad with him, and even today some of my synthetic studies parallel to some degree that research.

After completing a postdoc at Harvard University, I asked him to write a recommendation letter for me as I was looking for a teaching job. I assume he informed William Mutch, then chair of the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry, and that began the process for my hire and tenure at Andrews. Ford retired in 1993 but was called back to teach chemistry in the Andrews University Math & Science Center during the 1994–1995 school year. I joined the faculty in 1995 to teach both high school and college. During my first two years back at Andrews, I again worked closely with him, especially for my high school teaching responsibilities.

In 2015, I led the department’s year-long effort to celebrate two anniversaries: the 75th “diamond” anniversary of its existence and the 50th “golden” anniversary of our seminar program, the latter of which was started by Dwain Ford and which we then named in his honor. Organizing the departmental seminars was one of the early responsibilities assigned to me that continues to the present.

As I reflect on Dwain Ford’s work, I focus on this question: is there value in engaging students—high school and college—in hands-on labs and research?

Imagine the global impact if we, the largest Protestant Christian educational system in the world, turned our philosophy into practice, vision into action and words into living flesh.

In his 1992 Journal of Adventist Education (JAE) article titled “Practical Ways to Improve Your Science Teaching,” Ford offered suggestions and guidance that is still current, relevant and instructive. Here are some of his insights: (a) “Avoid cookbook-type experiments that merely confirm what the students already know. Design discovery labs or labs with some elements of the unknown,” (b) “Make research an integral part of the educational process,” (c) “Seek ways to experiment and collaborate across disciplines,” and (d) “Coordinate your lab experiments with class assignments.”

Over the last 25-plus years, I have tried in my own way to follow these instructions, at both the high school and college levels, using course-based research experiences. In 1998, I began implementing “early research” periods in the spring semester of sophomore organic chemistry. Then in 2006, I began a semester-long research period in grade 12 chemistry, which in collaboration with my biology colleague, Denise Smith, was upgraded to a full academic year of interdisciplinary research in 2015.

Ford’s suggestions attest to his philosophy and practice of engaging students in “hands-on, minds-on” labs and research as part of effective teaching and experiential learning. All of us who were fortunate to have him as our teacher can testify to that. His article speaks to us even today in 2022 about what we are doing here and now to make lab work and research—experiential learning—an educational priority across our elementary to university Adventist education system.

Imagine the global impact if we, the largest Protestant Christian educational system in the world, turned our philosophy into practice, vision into action and words into living flesh.

So, what is our answer, in priority and practice, to the question, “Is there value in engaging students in labs and research?”

I know, I hear, and I see Dwain L. Ford’s answer, in word and in deed, in faith and in works, in living legacy for all time: yes, yes, yes.

Desmond Murray (BS ’85) is an associate professor of chemistry at Andrews University. He shared further thoughts on the work and impact of Dwain Ford during Homecoming Weekend at the Dwain Ford Memorial Symposium.
Golden Hearts Club

.Classes of 1972 and earlier.

FRONT ROW (L–R): Leroy Patterson, Judy (Sharpe) Patterson, Larry Schalk, Christine (Hyde) Herr, Debbie (Hartson) Jamieson, Edith Applegate, Stanley Applegate, Gene Platt, Eurydice Osterman, Carolyn (Zima) Howson, Marilyn Sanders, Sandra Stickle, Patricia Worthing Kuhlman, Henry Kuhlman


BACK ROW (L–R): Ingrid (Reimann) Rogers, James Slater, Marilyn (Wilkinson) Slater, Harry Rogers, David Forsythe, Donald Jensen, Paul W. Perkins, John C. Banks, F. Mario Ruf, Thomas F. Smith, Marvin E. Budd, Herb Stickle

Photo credit: David Sherwin, assistant professor of photography