

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

DMIN FIELD
RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM
Spring 2016

Petr Cincala, PhD, David Penno, PhD



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DMIN FIELD RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM SPRING 2016 (APRIL 18-19)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Class will be held April 18-19, 2016 at the Seminary, Andrews University.

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT

Instructor: Petr Cincala, PhD (cincala@andrews.edu); 269-471-3589
Instructor: David Penno, PhD (penno@andrews.edu); 269-471-6366
Office location: Cincala-S139 (Institute of Church Growth); Penno-S207
Office hours: As arranged

SYMPOSIUM DESCRIPTION

DMin Field Research Symposium:

This two-day Symposium is designed to introduce research methods and procedures as applied to the field of ministry with an emphasis on field-based quantitative/qualitative research.

Symposium Objectives:

Basic objectives are:

- to understand the basic framework for designing a research project
- to learn the basic qualitative methods of interviewing and focus groups
- to get acquainted with simple descriptive quantitative research and its procedures
- to create a basic demographic profile of the ministry context for the project

SYMPOSIUM GRADING

The information you will receive in this symposium is vital for the effective implementation and evaluation of your project. Since this symposium is not for credit, you will not receive a grade for it. Assignments will not be graded, but must be completed. They are key components for your learning.

You will not be able to submit your final proposal in year three if you have not attended the symposium and completed the assignments to the satisfaction of the professors.

SYMPOSIUM MATERIALS

Turn in all assignments to Dr. Cincala via email.

1. Required Reading (before symposium starts)

- Cameron, Ellen and Catherine Duce. 2013. *Researching Practice in Mission and Ministry: A Companion*. London: SCM Press. ISBN: 9780334046240. **Read chapters 2, 6, 8. DUE: April 18, 2016, 8:00 am.**
<http://site.ebrary.com/lib/andrews/docDetail.action?docID=10868099>
- Sahlin, Monte. 2004. *Understanding Your Community*. Center for Creative Ministry, Lincoln, Nebraska (available in pdf). **DUE: April 18, 2016, 8:00 am.**

2. Short Reflection

You are required to complete a reflection (1-2 pages) based on the required reading of the three chapters in Cameron and Duce's book *Researching Practice in Mission and Ministry*. Write about what you learned from the reading and how can you use it for your research project. Describe one big idea you have discovered and want to apply to your research. **DUE: April 18, 2016, 8 am.**

3. Demographic Profile

Create a demographic profile of the community your local church is part of. Use practical suggestions described in Monte Sahlin's book *Understanding Your Community*. **DUE: July 25, 2016.**

What to Include in the Demographic Profile

It should be a total of about 15 pages, double-spaced, in APA style, and formatted using the latest version of *Andrews Standards for Written Work*. Use Times New Roman font in 12 point.

- a. Introduce the congregation (one or two paragraphs)
What year was it founded?

Where does it meet on Sabbath? (address, brief description of facilities)
Typical Sabbath attendance
Official membership
Total number of participants in all programs and activities
What school(s), institutions and conference is it related to?
When did you become pastor and how many years have you been there?

b. History (one page)

c. Internal statistics and trends (two or three pages)

Membership data over at least 10 years (a table or graph)
Attendance data over at least 10 years (a table or graph)
Giving data over at least 10 years (a table or graph for Tithe, local, other)
Summarize and comment on trends [Why various ups/downs/plateaus?]
How does per capita giving compare to conference per capita? Why?

d. Ministry overview (two or three pages)

Demographic profile of members if you have it or estimates/guesses
What percentage of members are involved in leadership? ... volunteering?
Describe regular ministries (groups, activities, programs)
About how many people currently participate in each?
Number of leaders? Number of others?
Percentage of members and non-members? (estimate)
Purpose and effectiveness of each
How did most of the people you baptized in the last year (or two or three) come into the congregation? How did your people flow relate to the various ministries?
Other analysis or comments on ministries

e. Community context (five to eight pages)

What type of community?
Demographics (get data from census web site)
Summarize: What kind of people live here? What is their culture and values?
Compare demographics of community with demographics of church members
Religious profile (www.thearda.com in the U.S.; census web site in other nations)
What are some of the major human needs in this community? (United Way, Percept, etc.)
What percentage of your members live in the community? Are involved in a civic group?
How well known is your church in the community? What community needs does it meet?
What is the penetration ratio? (Number of population per Adventist member)

f. How does the context relate to your project? (one or two pages)

If you are a department director, chaplain, administrator or director of a specialized ministry: Then define your territory as the “community” above and your constituency as the “congregation” above. For a department director, the focus may be “youth ministry in the Central Conference,” for example. For a chaplain, the institution is the “community” and you can focus on either the pastoral care department (including volunteers, relevant administrators, etc.) as your ministry organization or those who attend chapel as your “congregation,” if you wish.

INSTRUCTOR PROFILES

Born and grown in Czechoslovakia (The Czech Republic since 1993), attended the theological seminary in Prague (1994), completed M.Div. (1997), MSW (2000), PhD. in mission (2002) at Andrews University. Worked as an intern pastor in the Bohemian Conference (2000-03).

Served as volunteer community organizer, lecturer and freelance missionary in the Czech Republic 2003-12, founded and lead nonprofit organization Generations Center, launched and coordinated nation wide Marriage Week campaign, and led Generace Gospel Choir, which has been made mostly of atheists. As a tent-maker, in those years he worked as English teacher, translator, and interpreter. Also taught intensive missiology and church-planting courses in the Czech Theological Seminary, served as a national partner for Natural Church Development in the Czech Republic, was a member of Eurochurch.net board, and a member of European Mission Research Group.



As a student at AU assisted in research for Global Research Center (1996-99), for North American Division Evangelism Institute (2001-03) and the Institute of Church Ministry. While in the Czech mission, worked as research manager for the German Institute for Natural Church Development (2003-08), did research for Office of Assessment at the GC (2008-10), and other organizations.

Since 2013 Petr has been hired as the director of the Institute of Church Ministry where he previously served as freelance statistician, helping with projects such as General Conference Strategic Planning research (2001-02, 2007-09), Forecasting Document for GC Strategic Planning Commission (2002), Interfaith Research Project (2005, 2010, 2015), etc. Presently heads various church related research projects, one of them preparing online directories of human subject research related to the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Petr is married to Daniela and together with their four boys Timothy, Jonathan, Nathanael and Matthew they love ministering to God and other people.

David Penno

After 25 years of pastoral ministry, I served the churches of Georgia-Cumberland as the Evangelism Coordinator for 5 years. I began my ministry in the Iowa-Missouri Conference in 1980, serving there for 13 years. We moved to Georgia-Cumberland in 1993.

I graduated from Southern Adventist University in 1980 with a BA in Theology and a minor in Biblical Languages. In 2000 I received an MA in Religion from Southern with emphasis in Homiletics and Church Growth. In May of 2009 I graduated with a PhD in Leadership from Andrews University, with a focus on cross-cultural and multi-cultural leadership.



Nancy and I have been married for over 39 years. We have two sons, Matthew and Eric. Matthew is a firefighter for Cobb County GA and is married to Heather. Eric is firefighter in the Berrien Springs area, is married to Melody, and they have a daughter Chrissy and a son Bentley.

We enjoy spending time at the beach, reading, and visiting historical sites. The boys and I also like to go backpacking and camping.