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FROM THE DEPARTMENT CHAIR Robson Marinho, PhD

**New Department Chair and Two Faculty Positions** 





On Saturday, April 25, the faculty and staff of the Leadership Department gathered together for a potluck and celebration of the department's achievements as we anticipate a new academic year with significant changes for the Leadership Department and for the School of Education! First, let's welcome Dr. Duane Covrig to his new position as Chair of the Leadership Department, beginning July 1, 2015. The department is excited about the new ideas and energy Duane will bring to the Leadership family! Duane will replace Dr. Robson Marinho, who will become the new Dean of the School of Education, replacing Dr. Jim Jeffery after his retirement on June 30. Dr. Jeffery has been a major supporter of the Leadership Department, and we will miss his contribution. We will share more in future newsletters about these changes and about Duane's vision for the Leadership Department!

Though there is still much that Dr. Sylvia Gonzalez has to contribute to the Leadership Department, she has just announced her plans to retire in January 2016! We will make sure to take advantage of Sylvia's contribution in the next two semesters before she retires!

As a result of those changes, the department is announcing two new faculty positions, and we welcome applications and references. Those who may be interested or may know potential qualified candidates, please feel free to submit applications available at <a href="https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty">https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty</a>. Thanks for spreading the word to potential applicants!

#### **DEPARTMENT NEWS**

# Mark your Calendar

Leadership Conference: June 28 to July 1, 2015

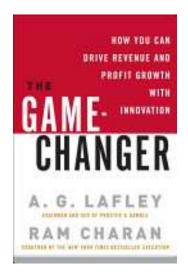


# **Leadership Conference and Roundtable 2015**

We are pleased to inform you that the Leadership Conference 2015 will be held in partnership with the Whirlpool Corporation and Lakeland Healthcare, who will join the event with their audiences. This year's theme is *Leadership and Innovation*, and we will approach different professional areas. The keynote speaker will be Ram Charan, named by *Fortune* magazine as the most influential consultant alive. Ram Charan will address the implications of innovation and change for leadership in different areas.

**Conference and Roundtable Date:** June 28 to July 1, 2015

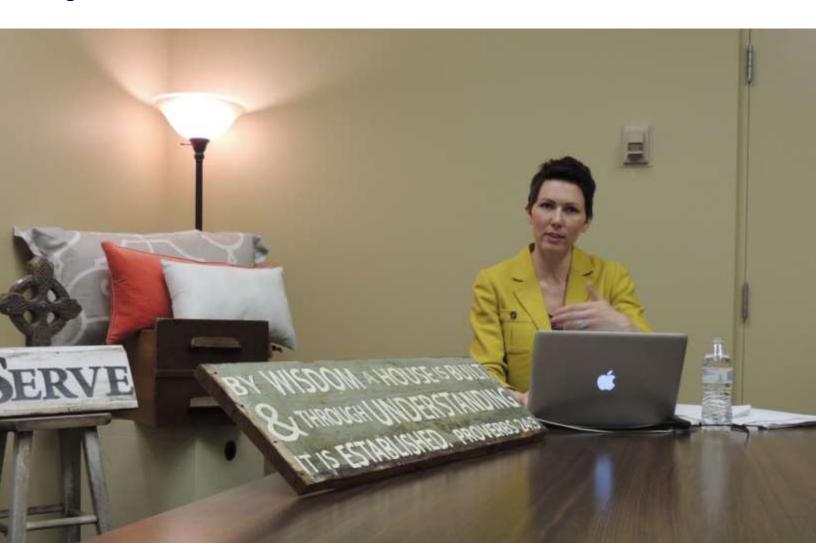
**Note:** Due to schedule issues, the next Spiritual Leadership Conference will be held in 2016, not this year.



The Game Changer is the book that will be discussed at this year's conference. Co-authored with A.G. Lafley, former Procter & Gamble CEO, this book was selected as the best book on innovation by *Business Week* magazine. There will be a book signing ceremony by the author for those who want an autograph!

### **LEADERSHIP PROGRAM NEWS**

## Congratulations, Rachel Swartzendruber, PhD!

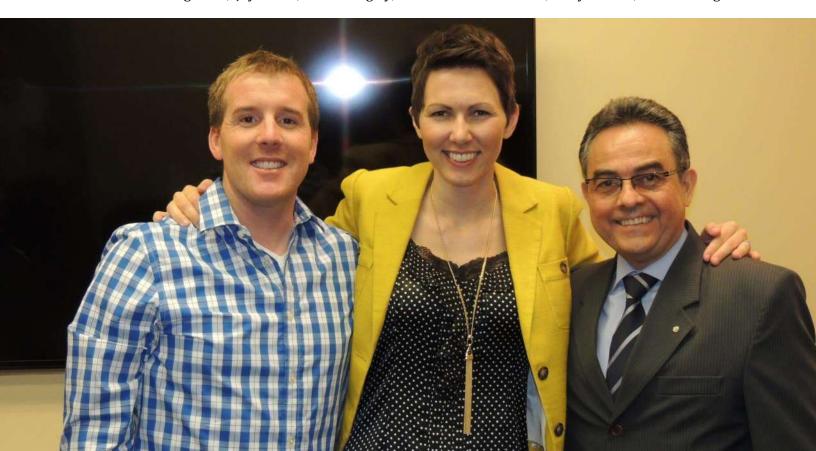








From left: Gustavo Gregorutti, Jay Brand, Dave Weigley, Rachel Swartzendruber, Stacy Horner, Erich Baumgartner



From left: Tyson Swartzendruber (Rachel's husband), Rachel Swartzendruber, Robson Marinho



On April 20, Rachel Miller Swartzendruber and her husband arrived for her unique portfolio presentation with a carload of painted boards and drawers full of symbolic items to highlight the metaphor of her leadership journey: building and decorating a house and making it a home. Complete with architect's renderings, foundation, rooms, landscaping and decoration, Rachel linked to the learning and knowledge base she has gained over the past seven years in the Andrews program as she moved in her career from youth ministry and convention planning for the Mennonite Church USA to her current position as Vice President of Admissions and Financial Aid at Hesston College in Hesston, Kansas. One impressive feature of the presentation was the way Rachel was able to weave theory and practice together to demonstrate how her learning has impacted her practice as a leader. This was the last step for Rachel in her program. The faculty panel consisted of Erich Baumgartner (advisor), Gus Gregorutti, Jay Brand, and Robson Marinho. She was also joined by Dr. Stacy Horner (Leadership, 2014) from her first LLG, and Dave Weigley (PhD, Leadership candidate) from her current LLG. Congratulations, Dr. Miller Swartzendruber!

### **Wendy Keough Presents Portfolio**





From left: Wendy Keough, Sylvia Gonzales, Duane Covrig

Wendy Keough successfully presented her MA in Leadership portfolio with research on April 14. Wendy has been teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) at Asia-Pacific International University (APIU) in Thailand, having moved there last year after working many years at Ruth Murdoch Elementary school in Berrien Springs, Michigan. Her research was titled "The Use of Social Media to Increase ESL Speaking Proficiency of Undergraduate Students at a Private Thailand University." It explored the role of social media in one of her classrooms and compared results to another class that didn't have the same social media assignments. Findings were not what she expected. The group using social media did not improve as much as she thought they would, and not as much as the control group did. She explored various reasons for this. She plans to use the research to improve evaluation processes of English speaking in ESL programs (a by-product of her research).

Wendy reports loving Thailand and its people and thoroughly enjoys teaching ESL, but acknowledges that the heat takes getting used to. The day she talked with her advisors, Duane Covrig and Sylvia Gonzalez, it was 40 degrees Fahrenheit in Berrien but 110 with humidity in Thailand! "We expect great things from Wendy," notes Duane. "She is one of the most positive students I have ever worked with and continues to respond to difficulties with courage and gratitude. She will serve the people of Thailand very well!"

### **Bill Morelan Takes New Position**



Bill Morelan (Leadership 2009) has just been appointed Curriculum Director for Jasper Public Schools in Arkansas. The Jasper District includes three K-12 campuses that serve the towns of Jasper, Kingston, and Oark. Previously Bill taught at Oark High School, and recently he and his students were featured on an episode of "Exploring Arkansas" as part of the Mulberry River Rendezvous. In addition, Bill just completed three years as the Publications Chair for the Arkansas Reading Association, and is a finalist for the 2015 Arkansas Teacher of the Year. This new position will allow Bill to use his education and experience to serve as a vital resource for teachers and students in the Ozark highlands region.

### **NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## June Roundtable, July Research

As you all know, this year we have shifted to a June Orientation and Roundtable. This was done for several reasons. First, it is a better time for school leaders who get off in June and can transition to our orientation. Second, it allows some of our participants and faculty to be at a large Seventh-day Adventist event in July. Third, the change is allowing us to have participants present dissertations and portfolios while on campus for Roundtable and beat the deadlines for August graduation. This promises to cut down on that stress. We already have 3 portfolios or dissertation presentations planned for this June in time for an August graduation. Finally, this change also allows faculty to take July as a month for research projects. The demanding schedule of year-round teaching has often made it hard for faculty have a block of uninterrupted time to finish up a major project. July will become, if they want it to be, their uninterrupted time to read books, collect data, explore new research, write grants, or finish that undone article/book.

While we will face some challenges as we transition to this new "normal," I hope that you can work with your advisor and committees to accommodate their July research schedules. I want to applaud Robson for making this difficult transition possible. I think it was a great idea, and I want to help in its implementation. --Duane

# International Leadership Association Conference (ILA)

The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual ILA Global Conference, on the theme of *Leading Across Borders and Generations*, will take place October 14-17, 2015, in Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain. Learn more about the conference online at <a href="http://www.ila-net.org/Conferences/2015/cfp.html">http://www.ila-net.org/Conferences/2015/cfp.html</a>

#### **Summer 2015 Stats Course**

### EDRM611 Research Methods for Education & Psychology, Summer Intensive (3 credits)

This intensive Stats course, taught by Dr. Jimmy Kijai, is scheduled for June 15-26, 2015. Registration is now open. Please use these dates as you begin your summer travel plans.

#### **LEAD Newsletter Editorial Team**

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