

Alayne Thorpe

John Nevins Andrews Medallion

May 5, 2019



This morning the recipient of the John Nevins Andrews Medallion is Alayne Thorpe, whose professionalism and skilled leadership during periods of growth and change have distinguished her among her colleagues.

Thorpe earned her BA in English from the University of Maryland in 1977. She then went on to earn her MA in English in 1980 and her PhD in Modern British Literature in 1987 from the same university. Additionally, she did a fellowship at Cambridge University in 1985 and took postdoctoral classes from Georgetown University in 1987.

Throughout her career, Thorpe has dedicated her time and efforts to evaluate and improve education. She has served as a high school teacher, a course developer/editor and director for Home Study International and as an advisory teacher and curriculum committee member at Takoma Academy. Thorpe also spent years working as the senior vice president for education at Griggs University/Griggs International Academy and as an adjunct professor for Washington Adventist University, the University of Maryland and the University of Maryland University College.

In 2011, Thorpe became the interim president of Griggs University and dean of the School of Distance Education at Andrews University. During this time she played an integral part in supervising the relocation and re-establishment of Griggs University/Griggs International Academy at Andrews University. She was the only individual from the leadership team at Griggs to physically move to Andrews University, where she has continued to serve with distinction. Thorpe has served on many boards at the North American Division and General Conference and has served both inside and outside the church in advancing education through input into curriculum, distance education and accreditation. Both in Maryland and at Andrews University, her commitment to excellence and accessibility has impacted many students, faculty and institutions nationally and internationally. That impact has reached from kindergarten through to doctoral students.

For her dedicated service and significant leadership throughout times of change and transition, the faculty of Andrews University is proud to present Alayne Thorpe with the John Nevins Andrews Medallion.