

Ingrid Slikkers

Today, the recipient of the John Nevins Andrews Medallion is Ingrid Slikkers, whose outstanding contributions to the advancement of knowledge and education in the fields of social work and trauma-informed practice have distinguished her among her colleagues.

Slikkers graduated from Andrews University with a Bachelor of Arts in English and a minor in communication in 1993. She went on to earn a master's degree in social work from Western Michigan University in 1997. Slikkers is a Certified Clinical Trauma Professional and part of the International Association of Trauma Professionals.

Coming from an Argentinean and Uruguayan pastoral family and having lived in various places in the United States and abroad, Slikkers has been an advocate for culturally appropriate therapy within multicultural groups, with concentrated work within the Latino community. Since joining Andrews University's School of Social Work as a professor in 2016, she has worked closely with faculty, students and interns to develop a trauma-informed approach throughout the social work curriculum.

Slikkers' extensive experience in the field of social work translates into exceptional teaching in the classroom. Previously, she worked with Bethany Christian Services, developing foster care and educational programs for unaccompanied immigrant and refugee children in Southwest Michigan. As a child and family therapist, Slikkers has focused on the treatment of trauma, loss, and family issues, bringing her clinical and therapeutic skills into many settings.

Most recently, Slikkers has been serving as the executive director of Andrews University's International Center for Trauma Education & Care. The center offers trauma-informed awareness, education and tools to support prevention and healing in organizations, schools, churches and communities. Under her leadership and that of the leadership team, the center has become a go-to resource for the Adventist Church and has partnered with various schools, churches, conferences, unions, divisions and supporting ministries. The center is currently thriving as a direct result of Ingrid's deep trust in God's guidance.

Slikkers is married and has two young adult sons, along with a new daughter-in-law. As an active member of children and family church ministries and education, she deeply appreciates the intersection between faith and science and the hope and healing it brings.

For exemplary teaching, significant research contributions, creative work, and dedicated service to advancing knowledge and education, the faculty of Andrews University are proud to present Ingrid Slikkers with the John Nevins Andrews Medallion.