
The assembly program on Tuesday, February 22, was given by Integrated Marketing and Communication at Andrews University. Mr. Randy Graves was here to present three departments, Architecture, Biology, and Speech–Language Pathology and Audiology. Before their presentations he introduced someone very special to him, Pastor Keren Toms, who is to be his future daughter-in-law. Pastor Keren, a part of the Pioneer Memorial Church pastoral team, gave a brief devotional thought regarding what you hope to do in life. She said when she was younger, she dreamed of being a Spanish Tour Guide. However, “God did not have that in mind for me,” she said. In scripture there are many stories telling us of important men like Moses, Joseph and Daniel who were not anxious for certain events to occur in their life. She gave the illustration of David whose desire it was to build the temple, but whose work was completed by his son Solomon and named in his honor. We do not always know or understand what work God has for us, but we need to be faithful to the promise that he will see us through if we trust in Him.

Associate Professor Carey Carsallen, Dean of the School of Architecture, told the students that everyone needs to have buildings. An architect takes ideas that other people have and designs the structure to meet the needs of those who will spend large portions of their time there. The technicians who work on these drawings at some point are able to see them in 3-D and actually see exactly what things are to look like after the construction is complete. After doing the drawing, the architect will spend a portion of his/her time on the job site attempting to discover if the construction is proceeding according to the given design. Prior to licensing, a candidate for the position of architect will spend 5 years in academic work toward a Master’s degree and then an additional 3-year internship. The goals of an architect are to build a structure that is functional, durable and as cost effective manner as possible. As we begin to emerge from the recession, people will once again start to build and so the prognosis is that this type of work will have more and more demand in the future.

Dr. David Steen, Chair of the Biology department, noted that there are many careers that are directly or indirectly related to biology. He said that because God has given you special talents and skills, you should never work a day in your life. You should enjoy your passion everyday. There are a number of sources that can be utilized in discovering job opportunities including Jobs Rated Almanac, 100 Best Careers, Best Jobs for your Personality, and Best Rated Jobs for the 21st Century. The following lists some of the possibilities existing for those with biology majors: research, health care, veterinary medicine, dentistry, environment management and conservation, biotechnology, biomimetics, forensic science, politics and policy, business and industry, economics, mathematics, bioinformatics, science writing and communication, graphic arts, and biological animation. If you enjoy puzzle solving, this deserves further study.

Dr. Darah Regal, Assistant Professor of Audiology, was excited about the possibilities that exist for students with a desire to have relationships with people from birth to senior citizens. She stated that technology has increased so much that just hours after a baby is born, we can now tell whether the baby can hear. It is exciting to be able to take a newborn, work with them until they are able to deal with their physical challenges while they are young and grow into nearly normal human beings. She said it simply does not come better than that! Dr. Regal’s husband works with audiology, her older son is learning about that area and her younger son, David, a graduating senior, also intends to work in that discipline. She encouraged students to job shadow their interests in order to better determine what they might desire to do for their life work. She admitted to being easily bored, but she said that when you can get up and have “structured play” every day, then life is not so boring.

Mrs. Butler had the morning devotions on Monday, February 28. She told of an Indian village called San Juan Chamula in southern Mexico that had been converted to Catholicism many years ago. In the meantime, the town had taken on paganism and had accepted various forms of spiritualism. When the locals went to the church, they would kneel down near a candle of their choosing after they had first placed a Coca Cola can in front of the candle. They perceived the contents of the Coca Cola can to be one of their gods. There was chanting along with several groups playing weird music simultaneously inside the church. We were not allowed to take pictures to show but it was indeed a very strange form of worship that made it very difficult for our American mind to comprehend. Because of this strange connection of Catholicism with spiritualism and materialism, those who were in the SOW touring group had been warned to not identify themselves as Christians.

We slipped into some of the shops nearby to do some bartering and shopping while at this little town and to
the amazement of Mrs. Butler, there was gospel music playing on the radio in the background. Through her broken Spanish, Mrs. Butler was able to communicate sufficiently to understand that the one tending the store was a Seventh-day Adventist who had to travel ten miles in order to attend church with other members. Both of the ladies broke down in tears just to realize that they were of the same philosophy and religion who just happened to meet on planet Earth. They agreed that they would meet again in heaven since in all likelihood they would never meet here again.

Mrs. Roy and Connie Gane were here on Tuesday and through out the remainder of the week working as a team in presenting the morning devotions thoughts. On Tuesday, they spoke of cause and effect as they focused on Samson, a man on God-given steroids. There are certain things that will happen as a direct result of what one does. Dr. Roy said that when he was about 10-years old, he made a decision to follow God based on a very specific experience that he had at that time. Not everyone has such specific direction, but we all have the ability to pray and allow God to lead. He is so powerful and forgiving that He can give us all that we may need. Samson gave up his eyes and could not see beautiful women anymore, but in the end God gave him one last opportunity to work for Him even though he had been disobedient. May God grant to each of us the trust and obedience to do His will on a daily basis.

Assembly was a presentation of the game Family Feud by the Student Association. They played the game like Andrews University did for their awards night at the Howard Performing Arts Center on Sunday, February 27. Students were selected at random from the audience and had the opportunity to form a family of their own classmates in friendly competition with another class. The game was received with a great deal of energy and enthusiasm. Special thanks go to the SA sponsors and SA President Ray Ulrich along with his officers.

On Wednesday, March 2, the question was “Does anyone want to be happy?” The phrase “pursuit of happiness” appears in the Declaration of Independence. What is that experience? Hollywood has portrayed happiness as an individual having a fine car, home, beautiful clothes on fine women and men who are hunks. However, as we look carefully at Hollywood and what it has to offer, happiness does not appear significant in that setting. As we read in Ecclesiastes, it is apparent that Solomon was not happy even though he had access to 4 times the number of women he had at that time. Not everyone has such specific direction, but we all have the ability to pray and allow God to lead. He is so powerful and forgiving that He can give us all that we may need. Samson gave up his eyes and could not see beautiful women anymore, but in the end God gave him one last opportunity to work for Him even though he had been disobedient. May God grant to each of us the trust and obedience to do His will on a daily basis.

They told the story of when they had just moved to Berrien Springs. It seemed apparent that even though they needed housing, this was not the right time to buy. A realtor approached them and suggested just the perfect place for them, but they resisted because they were following their commission to print, publish, and circulate the book Alter Call. After turning down the opportunity to purchase the house, and working on their project, the owner of the house called and told them that he had decided to sell the property without the additional acre and he would even make the down payment on the place for them. It was too good to be true! Because they had followed God’s plan in circulating the book, He had made it possible for them to own their house. We need to continually remember Matthew 6:33, “Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all of these things shall be added unto you.”

“As you may know, the Satellite programs that are presented here at the school are sponsored by Pioneer Memorial Church. This is an area I have the privilege of being responsible to help the other leaders in. Last Friday we included a video skit presentation about Adam and Eve, put out by some who represent themselves as Christian entertainers. The content of that presentation was completely out of harmony with the high value that Seventh-day Adventists place on the word of God. I have the responsibility for this - and am sorry that this was shared at our worship event. We are already looking forward to our next Satellite vespers and having fun together worshipping God while guarding the high standards we have been called to.” ~Pastor Micheal Goetz

“No wind serves him who has no destined port” – Montaigne

📅 On Thursday, March 10, the faculty will issue midterm grades. Please call 471-3138 to schedule an appointment for Parent/Teacher Conferences on March 28-29, 2011.

📅 Friday, March 11, the seniors will have a Senior Retreat nearby. They will make the preparations for the services that will occur during Commencement Weekend, May 26-29. Every senior needs to be present.

📅 The class vespers Friday, March 11, is a misprint. There will not be vespers due to the Spring Break.

📅 SA Elections Campaign begins on Monday, March 21. The speeches and elections will take place on Tuesday, March 29. Every student who is not on academic or citizenship behavior status is invited and encouraged to run for an office.

📅 The second important event that takes place during the week following spring break is called Courtesy Week. During that week specific days will be set aside to feature and foster courtesy to special groups of people. The week was placed in our calendar to foster a nicer and kinder attitude among students and to give students a gentle entry to the SA banquet that is scheduled for Sunday, March 27.

📅 For the past 35 years, perhaps longer, students at Andrews Academy have had the opportunity to attend the annual Student Association Banquet without cost. Not all schools are able to build such a fine event into their program without charge. Students will be making preparation for the occasion by working Friday afternoon, March 25, Saturday night, March 26, and concluding their preparation early Sunday, March 27. Those attending the event are encouraged to wear nice modest and inexpensive clothing that will appropriately cover their torso and extremities. It is unnecessary to purchase special attire for the evening. The program is to begin at 6:00 pm in the academy commons.