Adventist Church, PAHO formalize collaboration with memo of understanding
Church leaders call for more local church, community health partnerships

Bible study is second phase of Inter-American Division's revival initiative

10,000 members witness launch of Heeding the Word

AUC to lay off all staff as partnership with WAU delayed
Arrangements made for Mass. students to attend WAU, other schools

Remembrance: Hale, 84, championed diversity in higher education
Funded minority scholarships at Ohio State, served as Oakwood president in 1960s

Remembrance: Communicator Roth, 84, reported church news during Vietnam War
Former world church associate secretary also aided evacuation at Saigon Adventist Hospital

Adventist Church, PAHO formalize collaboration with memo of understanding

Church leaders call for more local church, community health partnerships

27 Jul 2011, Silver Spring, Maryland, United States
Ansel Oliver/ANN

Seventh-day Adventist Church leaders yesterday called on members and local congregations to increase collaboration with local governments and health officials when conducting public health outreach.
Adventist Church President Ted N. C. Wilson and Pan American Health Director Mirta Roses Periago sign a memorandum of understanding that will formalize collaboration as the two organizations continue public health initiatives. The signing ceremony took place Tuesday, July 26 in the executive conference room at the Adventist Church's world headquarters. [photo: Ansel Oliver]

The request came during a ceremony in which top officials from the church and the Pan American Health Organization signed a memorandum of understanding that formalizes collaboration of implementing health projects throughout the Americas.

The memorandum outlines shared goals of improving promotion of health, strengthening disease prevention and control strategies at the local level, and contributing to the achievement of the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals.

The move follows several years of church leaders seeking to increase the global denomination's health outreach, as well as PAHO's goal of strengthening faith-based partnerships for more effective health awareness and education in local communities. The Adventist Church has historically emphasized healthful practices as part of living a life of Christian faith and service.

"It will be a great privilege for us to cooperate in whatever way we can according to our abilities and our use of health applications that will truly help the quality of life improve for many thousands of people," said Ted Wilson, president of the Adventist world church.

PAHO Director Dr. Mirta Roses Periago also addressed the small press conference in the executive conference room at the Adventist Church's world headquarters, saying, "I think this kind of formal agreement will really make an impact."

Periago said the organization has informally partnered for decades with local Adventist organizations, including the Adventist Development and Relief Agency in member countries, nursing schools and church member health volunteers.

Part of the UN system, PAHO is the regional arm of the World Health Organization and serves 35 countries in the western hemisphere.

Adventist health leaders said yesterday's ceremony demonstrates that the church is committed to work with agencies of health outside the church for the good of the community.

"I hope the church and its members will rally to this call and will work with both PAHO and local governments," said Dr. Allan Handysides, Health Ministries director for the Adventist world church. "If so, I think it will see our church take its place in the public health sphere. We'll be doing a service for our communities and receive recognition for doing so."
Bible study is second phase of Inter-American Division's revival initiative

10,000 members witness launch of Heeding the Word

2 Aug 2011, San Salvador, El Salvador
Libna Stevens/IAD/ANN

Leaders of the Seventh-day Adventist Church's Inter-American Division are publicly committing to promote Bible study throughout their territory.

A spiritual revival ceremony last month launched the Heeding the Word initiative, the second of the division's three-phase implementation of the denomination's Revival and Reformation focus.

"Heeding the Word is a clarion call to the Inter-American church to spend time with the Bible, listen to what God has to say in His word, understand the significance of His message, and be willing to follow His instructions as they appear in the Bible," Israel Leito, president of the division, told some 10,000 members gathered at the International Center for Fairs and Conventions in San Salvador, El Salvador on July 23.

During the program, top church leaders from each of the 21 division territories signed a covenant document committing to be faithful to God in promoting the study, practice and teaching of the Bible in each of their regions.

The live event was carried through the church's two radio stations, and the program was rebroadcast hours later on El Salvador's national television Channel 33.

Earlier this year, the church in Inter-America embarked on a 160-day prayer initiative, titled "Constant in Prayer," promoting prayer revival for children and young people, students and teachers in schools and university campuses, as well as the church's pastoral workforce. In addition, some 100,000 families throughout the territory opened their homes to worship, praise and prayer for their neighbors and friends.

Several local pastors said they are excited about Heeding the Word.

"This initiative launch has made me recommit to studying more diligently the Word of God and motivate my members to seek a spiritual revival through prayer, the Bible and the study of the prophetic books of Ellen G. White," said Marcos Gamaliel Herrera, a district pastor in the Central region in El Salvador. Herrera, 26, oversees nine congregations and two groups.
As the church in Inter-America moves into its second phase of spiritual revival during the next six months, activities are already in place to blend in all three phases for the next launch in February 2012. The third phase, So the World May Know, is designed to motive church members active in spiritual revival to share the good news of salvation.

Upcoming Heeding the World revival activities include a virtual ministerial council, a Bible quiz competition for young people, a Bible-focus week in schools and institutions, study of the Adventist doctrines throughout churches, massive distribution of the book The Great Controversy written by church co-founder Ellen G. White, and disciple training of 1 million members.

There are nearly 3.4 million members in the Inter-America Division, which includes the Caribbean, Mexico, Central America and the five most northern countries in South America.

---

**AUC to lay off all staff as partnership with WAU delayed**

*Arrangements made for Mass. students to attend WAU, other schools*

26 Jul 2011, Silver Spring, Maryland, United States

ANN staff

The Seventh-day Adventist Church's oldest educational institution, Atlantic Union College, plans to lay off its entire staff of 97 full-time employees on July 31 because of a delay in a partnership proposal of the institution with church-run Washington Adventist University in Maryland.

Leaders of both institutions have been working to secure permission from Massachusetts' education authorities to operate AUC as a satellite campus of WAU following the loss of its accreditation from a regional accrediting agency effective July 31. The New England Association of Schools and Colleges cited financial reasons in its decision.

Meanwhile, plans are in place to enable the current and prospective AUC students to attend WAU during fall semester. About 450 current AUC students were affected, said William Jackson, director of marketing and recruitment at WAU.

In March, both Adventist-owned institutions signed a "memorandum of understanding" meant to allow WAU to establish a satellite location on the South Lancaster, Massachusetts campus.

In a July 14 press release, WAU officials said that the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education has not processed the university's application to establish a satellite campus at AUC as school officials had planned. The proposal could take "up to a year," said Katy Abel, associate commissioner for external affairs for the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education.

"We're working through the process and are optimistic that we'll be able to operate soon after permission is granted by the commonwealth," WAU President Weymouth Spence said in the release.

"Fortunately, WAU has already been working with our students to provide a smooth transition to the Takoma Park campus," AUC President Norman Wendth said in the release.
Remembrance: Hale, 84, championed diversity in higher education

Funded minority scholarships at Ohio State, served as Oakwood president in 1960s

28 Jul 2011, Silver Spring, Maryland, United States
Ansel Oliver/ANN

Frank W. Hale Jr. mentored thousands of students as a professor, and his promotion of scholarships for minorities helped The Ohio State University become the top producer of black Ph.D.s in the 1970s.

Frank W. Hale Jr. served as president of Oakwood University from 1966 to 1971 and later helped grant nearly $15 million to minority graduate students at Ohio State University. He died yesterday at age 84. [photo courtesy OSU]

Hale, who died yesterday at age 84, was also the first black dean at the Ohio State Graduate School and the first non-clergy to serve as president of Oakwood University, an historically black college directly affiliated with the Seventh-day Adventist Church's world headquarters and located in Huntsville, Alabama.

"He brought to leadership a broader base for Christian education, not simply religion, but also religion and pure education," said Mervyn Warren, Oakwood provost, professor of religion and former interim president.

Hale taught a class each year he served as Oakwood president, and he established the school's department of public relations. Under his tenure, Oakwood joined the United Negro College Fund. He served as president from 1966 to 1971, before accepting the position at Ohio State as associate dean of the graduate school, chair of the fellowship committee and professor of communication.

As the fellowship committee chair, Hale helped grant nearly $15 million to some 1,200 minority graduate students. He also initiated a minority scholars program for high school graduating seniors.

Hale served as a professor at Ohio State from 1971 to 1988, before his appointment as vice provost. A campus building is named after him -- Hale Hall, which also houses the Frank W. Hale, Jr. Black Cultural Center.

"Dr. Hale was a pioneer in the educational field for this nation and for the Seventh-day Adventist Church," said Ella Simmons, a vice president of the Adventist world church, who also served in executive posts at Oakwood,
La Sierra University and the University of Louisville in Kentucky.

"He made the right connections to bridge the divide between public and private schools. I have learned a lot from him," Simmons said.

A native of Kansas City, Missouri, Hale attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, earning bachelor's and master's degrees in communication and political science in 1950 and 1951. He earned a Ph.D. in communication and political science from Ohio State in 1955.

Hale was also awarded a post-doctoral fellowship in English Literature from the University of London in 1960.

Hale served as a professor at Oakwood from 1951 to 1959 and chaired the department of English at Central State University from 1959 to 1966. He lectured at more than 300 colleges and universities.

He later received honorary doctoral degrees from Wilberforce University, Shaw University, University of Nebraska, Capital University, La Sierra and Andrews University.

The first two of his three retirement attempts were unsuccessful. Hale served as executive assistant for the president at Kenyon College from 1989 to 1992 and as distinguished university representative and consultant in the office of the president at Ohio State from 1999-2005.

"We have lost one of the true giants of the Ohio State community," Ohio State President E. Gordon Gee said in a statement yesterday.

"Dr. Frank Hale was a scholar, teacher, researcher, administrator, a civil rights pioneer. More than that, he was a force to be reckoned with who opened the doors of opportunity to underserved students through sheer force of his intellect and determination," Gee said.

Hale was inducted in the Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame in October.

He is survived by his wife Mignon Scott-Hale, a retired school teacher. His first wife, Ruth, preceded him in death in 2001.

Ifeoma Kwesi, one of his three children, is an assistant professor at Oakwood.

---

Remembrance: Communicator Roth, 84, reported church news during Vietnam War

*Former world church associate secretary also aided evacuation at Saigon Adventist Hospital*

29 Jul 2011, Riverside, California, United States
Jocelyn Fay/ANN staff

Don Roth, 84, a veteran Seventh-day Adventist communicator, pastor, and advocate for retired denominational workers, died at his home in Loma Linda, California, on July 26 following a brief illness.
Roth, a former associate secretary at the church's world headquarters, also played a major role in evacuating national employees of the Saigon Adventist Hospital during the fall of South Vietnam in April of 1975.

During the Vietnam War, Roth was the primary source of Adventist news in the region, covering events ranging from a visit of the Loma Linda University heart surgery team to the end of church work in Vietnam and eventual evacuation of personnel.

Much of Roth's legacy as an Adventist communicator is the record of actions, events, news, and human-interest stories published in the journals and newsletters he edited.

The Adventist Periodical Index lists more than 420 articles published under his byline, primarily in the Adventist Review.

Daniel Andrew Roth was born in Norwood, Ohio, on April 14, 1927, the fifth of six children of German immigrant parents. His father was a minister and the family moved frequently.

Roth graduated from Greater New York Academy in Queens. In 1948, while attending Washington Missionary College -- now Washington Adventist University -- in Takoma Park, Maryland, he married fellow student Doris Ann Behringer. They graduated together in 1950.

Later that year he began denominational work in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, serving as a departmental secretary of the former East Pennsylvania Conference.

In 1954, he accepted the position of public relations and radio-TV secretary of the Columbia Union Conference, the church administrative unit for the Mid-Atlantic United States. He also served as editor of the Columbia Union Visitor, then the church's weekly paper.

Roth was ordained as an Adventist minister in 1959.

In 1965, the Roth's accepted a position in Singapore, where he served as the assistant secretary of the Far Eastern Division, which then covered 17 nations of Asia.

Roth's personal relationship with United States news agencies stationed in Saigon provided him access to evacuation procedures when South Vietnam fell to Hanoi. Roth personally helped 36 individuals safely retreat to Guam.

At the church's 1975 General Conference Session, held in Vienna, Austria, Roth was elected as an associate secretary at the Adventist Church's world headquarters. In that role he recruited missionaries for the church's Far Eastern and Southern Asia territories. He continued in the post until September 1990, when he retired from
full-time service and moved to Yucaipa, California.

He worked part time from 1991 to 2011 as a representative of the General Conference Secretariat on the campus of Loma Linda University. In this role, he maintained contact with retired Adventist workers in the region and often supplied information on their lives and careers to church media, including Adventist Review magazine and Adventist News Network.

He also contributed to city newspapers, including the Yucaipa News Mirror and the Loma Linda City News.

In 2009, Roth received a Lifetime Achievement Award at the annual meeting of the Society of Adventist Communicators. He was also recognized by the Loma Linda University School of Medicine for his ongoing work with alumni projects and recruitment of physicians for overseas mission service.

In May, Roth received an award from Adventist world church Secretary G. T. Ng for his lifetime of denominational service.

He is survived by his wife, three children, seven grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.