From the Editor

Dear Colleagues and friends of the White Estate,

As we enter another new year, I am reminded of our mission to the world. 2014 reminds us that we are a step closer to seeing Jesus coming again. And what a privilege it is to serve as White Estate colleagues in this important work around the globe by “keeping the vision alive.” May God bless you in your work for Him throughout this New Year.

In this issue you will read the 2013 annual reports from the Main Office of the Ellen G. White Estate and many of the White Estate Centers around the world. Note that there are two new Branch Offices that were inaugurated during the past year. We want to welcome Dr. Anna Galeniece as the Director of the new White Estate Branch Office at the Adventist University of Africa in Kenya. The Research Center at AIIAS in the Philippines has been also upgraded to a Branch Office. Dr. Reuel U. Almocera continues to serve as its Director.

We are also grateful that Jim Nix, our Director, is doing great after his surgery this past December. We pray that God will bless him with a quick and full recovery. As you will see from his report he has traveled a lot during the past year and his leadership worldwide has blessed us all. We are also grateful to Elder Don Schneider, who served as the chair of the White Estate Board of Trustees for the past six years. Elder Schneider has announced his decision to step down as the chairman of the Board and we wish him and his family well. We want to welcome Dr. G. T. Ng, Secretary of the General Conference, who has been elected as the new chairperson of the White Estate Board. We look forward to his leadership of the Board and the work of the White Estate.

On a more personal note, Trish Chapman, the Heritage Research Center secretary, decided to retire after 17 years of service in the Center. Trish was a tremendous help to me since I joined the team at Loma Linda. We will definitely miss her, but we wish her God’s blessings in her retirement and wish to express our gratitude for all that she did during her many years of service. I am grateful to Lori Curtis, the chair of Archives and Special Collections, and to Michael Olivarez, our archives assistant, for stepping in and helping me with the preparation of this issue.

Please note that the Newsnotes will be coming to you only in electronic format from now on. You can print your own copies as needed. Thank you for your contribution and your ministry for the Ellen G. White Estate.

James R. Nix

From the White Estate Director

Before formally starting my report, I want to express my appreciation to Elder Don Schneider who has served the past several years as chair of the White Estate Board of Trustees. His commitment to Ellen White and the work of the Estate are both greatly appreciated. Following his recent resignation, I want to wish both he and Marti God’s continued richest blessings in the next phase of their lives.

The second half of 2013 completed the busiest year yet for me at the White Estate. During those months I spoke on six continents. (I didn’t plan it that way and only came to realize it as I was flying home following my final speaking appointment on the sixth continent.) I was in 27 countries, though admittedly a few were merely in airport transit lounges as I was traveling from one appointment to another. And I logged well over 150,000 flying miles. Needless to say, by the end of my last trip I was vowing, never again! The situation was compounded by my needing to have a hip replacement which I felt had to be put off until after I had met the appointments I had committed myself to many months earlier. On my last trip, Alberto Timm accompanied me. I have no idea how I would have made it through that trip without his help maneuvering my suitcases, etc...
Vice Director’s Report

We made a significant push this summer toward fulfilling our commitment to place online in 2015 all of Ellen White’s letters and manuscripts, together with her incoming and family correspondence. We employed four students full time to complete the task of scanning the more than 30,000 letters in the received correspondence, while additional contract workers are currently working on processing and indexing the images. This includes all the letters that are on the 100+ reels of microfilm, which we will no longer need to refer to (thankfully!) once the collection is on our website.

Digitization of the 40+ W. C. White letterbooks is also underway with our recent acquisition of a book scanner which permits bound volumes to be scanned without cutting the pages. Our Branch Office at Andrews University started the project using their book scanner, but now we are able to complete the scanning at the home office without having to transport the letterbooks to Michigan and back.

Additionally, when the Ellen White manuscripts are placed online, we want to be sure that anything not previously transcribed from her diaries is also made available. I am systematically going through the diary/journals and verifying her writings against the current database. This is a time-consuming and tedious work that I try to make progress on when not in meetings or responding to daily email inquiries. I am aiming to complete it by the end of 2014.

In brief, between July and December I had appointments (listed chronologically) in Maryland, Australia, Papua New Guinea, Thailand, Brazil, Austria, Florida, Michigan, Tennessee, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, New York State, Kenya, South Africa, Nigeria, Ivory Coast, and California. In a few instances, I had repeat visits to some countries/states, though I only listed them once in the order of my first appointment there. In addition, I continued to work with our consultants on the new White Estate visitor center, served on several boards and committees, and chaired the Adventist Heritage Ministry Board. In short, as mentioned, these six months have been a rewarding, but very busy time.

On Monday morning, December 16, I finally had my hip replacement operation. The surgery went well and I was sent home the following Wednesday. However, by Friday night I was back in the hospital with blood clots in my lungs. That is where I remained until again discharged on December 27. Given what one of my doctors told me was a very close touch with death when I came down with the blood clots, I am doubly grateful to God for His healing power in my life. After getting home, I was soon walking without a walker, only with a cane, with further advances coming along during the early days of 2014.

As I look back over 2013, in addition to being thankful to God for sparing my life, I am also grateful to Him for the wonderful White Estate team that I am privileged to work with, both at the main office as well as in our centers around the world. I get to work regularly with the main office team, and this year I also was fortunate to be able to interact with many of our worldwide team members. The challenges faced by the White Estate are immense, but the opportunities to address those challenges are equally large, with the addition that God has promised to multiply and bless our feeble human efforts. I pray that 2014 will see us accomplishing even more for God, though I hope to do more of my part from the home office!

“I am doubly grateful to God for His healing power in my life.”

On an earlier trip, Bill Fagal had helped the same way. In fact, everyone at the main office, as well as my hosts in the countries I visited, all went out of their way to help as my walking became increasingly painful with each passing month.

Timothy Poirier talks about the digitization efforts of the White Estate.
The 200 specially-printed sets of the *Ellen White Periodical Resource Collection*, volumes 3 & 4, were delivered to our office this summer and all the pre-orders have been filled. We still have a limited quantity on hand for future needs. It’s wonderful to finally have this set complete after a 23-year interruption!

The Review and Herald decided to publish the *Ellen G. White Encyclopedia* ahead of our annotated Ellen White letters and manuscripts volume, so now we’re told to expect it in Spring 2014. As I mentioned in my previous report, upon Dr. Karlman’s retirement the Board employed Stanley Hickerson as chief annotator for our second volume (1860-1863). He and his assistant, Denise Kaiser, have been working aggressively on identifying names, verifying dates, and analyzing the context for the approximately 115 documents from this period.

In July I met with the Theology of Ordination Study Committee, along with my fellow White Estate directors. The upcoming meeting in January, which will be hearing reports from each world division, should be a most interesting one as the members seek to find consensus on what recommendations to make to the world church.

As I resolved to keep my report to one page, I will conclude by expressing my appreciation for the privilege of serving the White Estate another year, and for the gifted team of co-workers at our Centers around the world who share in supporting its mission.

**Associate Directors’ Report**

The second half of 2013 went by quickly, probably because it was filled with so much to do. There are, of course, always the usual things that need attention. The incoming email with questions for the White Estate is relentless. I put considerable time into keeping up with that, though sometimes it is not enough. But I try to help people with their questions if I can.

There is committee work, too. I serve on the committee for the Adult Bible Study Guides, and this means giving a critical reading to the manuscripts two years or more before the world church uses them. With most of our other Directors here at the main office, I serve on the Theology of Ordination Study Committee (TOSC), which met nearby for several days in July, but I am also on the Steering Committee for TOSC, and this involves half-day or full-day meetings several times in between the general meetings. For one of these I traveled to Andrews in October. As a member of the General Conference Worship Committee, I was responsible for arranging the morning worships here for the month of December, carrying over into early January. I am also a member of the Revival and Reformation Committee, which is working to encourage prayer, Bible study, and genuine spiritual renewal across the denomination. I also serve on the committee that looks at how the church should respond to the challenges of the culture today regarding alternative sexual practices such as homosexuality.

I am on the writing subcommittee as well for that one. This whole topic is a challenge, since it involves not just making theological statements but preparing guidelines for our churches and institutions while keeping in mind the legal situations in various places. In March there will be an international gathering for church leaders in regard to these matters, happening in Capetown, South Africa, to which I will be going. Our committee is organizing that conference. Further, I serve as Secretary of Adventist Heritage Ministry.
Recently the Review and Herald told us they were preparing to reprint The Publishing Ministry, and they asked about revising some of the footnotes in the book, which needed updating after 30 years.

This involves some travel to Board Meeting sites; in August we met near the William Miller Farm in New York State.

Editing is a part of my work for the White Estate, as is serving as a contact person with the publishing houses. When we have corrections that need to be made in the Ellen White books (such as for typographical errors), I prepare the notice of those and send them to the publishing house. Recently the Review and Herald told us they were preparing to reprint The Publishing Ministry, and they asked about revising some of the footnotes in the book, which needed updating after 30 years. This proved to be more challenging than it seemed at first glance, but with the help of my colleagues here we got it done. We also have some final things to accomplish for the devotional book for 2016. In addition, my colleagues call on me for editing some of their materials.

I have done some traveling during this half of the year. Along with Jim Nix, at the end of August I left directly from the AHM Board Meeting in New York to travel to the Bogenhofen Seminary in Austria for a Spirit of Prophecy Advisory for the Inter-European Division, the first such Advisory ever for that Division. We had a profitable time together. Many thanks to Gabriel Maurer, the Division Spirit of Prophecy Coordinator, for arranging it and leading it so capably.

In the first week of October, I was in the East Indonesian Union for an International Bible and Mission Conference on the island of Sulawesi, giving several presentations there. A few days after returning, I went to Oshawa, Ontario, for weekend speaking appointments in the College Park Church. In November, I traveled all the way to Baltimore (about 25 miles away) for the annual meetings of the Adventist Theological Society and the Evangelical Theological Society. Usually these require travel to distant places, but this year they were close to home. In early December I traveled back in time (so to speak) to the campus of Atlantic Union College in Massachusetts, where I had taught for four years before joining the White Estate 30 years ago. I was invited to speak for two days to the students attending the evangelism training school that operates there now. It was an enjoyable experience that brought back many memories. A few days later, my wife and I attended a retreat for the members of the Revival and Reformation Committee, which was an enriching time of spiritual fellowship and nurture.

To mention a few personal items, on October 19 I spoke at the church in Norwich, Connecticut, that I had pastored many years ago as part of my first pastoral district after internship. The congregation had just started building a church when I was assigned there, and we completed that building a couple of years later. Now it was 40 years since the opening of the church, and they invited me and others who had pastored there to come back for the anniversary. I gave the Sabbath sermon, an adapted version of the same sermon I had preached 40 years ago at the opening. It was a delight to my wife and me to see people we had known and loved and worked with, people I had pastored, baptized, married, etc. Later that month, I participated again in the Marine Corps Marathon in Washington, D.C., and nearby Virginia. It is the sixth marathon I have completed (26.2 miles [42+ km], which I do at a fast walk) over the last seven years, and it was my fastest time ever. A few weeks later, I took a class here at the General Conference in giving CPR, learning to help people who may be having a life-threatening heart attack.

I am grateful for the opportunity of serving the Lord in the work of the White Estate, and for the opportunity to know and work with each of you.

Chantal Klingbeil
Associate Director

My first year at the White Estate has slipped by quickly. I think that like most of you it was full of speaking appointments and trips to various places. We have continued keeping a presence in KidsView – a monthly insert in the Adventist Review, which reaches a large number of Seventh-day Adventist schooled children. We have reorganized the relationship with Guide Magazine and look forward to beginning a blog on their website. I am also involved in two exciting ventures that I would like to share with you.
As part of a drive to better reach our young people we have begun working on what will be about 50 short video clips on the most frequently asked questions about Ellen White’s writings.

The latest statistics indicate that we are not reaching our SDA teens as we would like to and despite the excellent books that we have produced we are not engaging them in a medium that they can understand. As part of a drive to better reach our young people we have begun working on what will be about 50 short (2 minute) video clips on the most frequently asked questions about Ellen White’s writings. The videos will be fast moving in order to get and retain attention and give answers while also encouraging the viewer to go to the White Estate website and follow up on these topics. The short clips will be very versatile and can be used on our websites, YouTube and other social media, as well as in the advertising slots on TV. Hopefully, they can also be used in schools, Sabbath schools, and seminars.

In August 2014 a projected 40,000 teens from over 100 countries will merge on Oshkosh for the International Pathfinder Camporee. This represents a unique opportunity to reach these teens, as most will not be in Pathfinders the next time this event will be held in 2019. Apart from the thousands at Oshkosh Camporee the evening programs will also be transmitted around the world on all Hope Channels. The White Estate is producing 5 well-crafted short videos. These dramatized videos revolve around Ellen White’s interaction with several of our young pioneers as she encourages them to be “Forever Faithful.”

We have the go ahead from the Pathfinder leadership and are working on a brand new honor that will be launched at the Camporee. The new honor would concentrate on the Gift of Prophecy and will be called “God’s Messenger.” This honor consists of 4 parts: a) a brief history of the life and times of Ellen White; b) the biblical basis for the gift of prophecy, the Biblical tests of a true prophet, as well as the relationship between the Bible and EGW writings; c) a brief introduction to her writings underlining their relevance; and, d) the design of a personal reading plan.

We are hoping to make the honor unique in content as well as presentation. We have begun work on an app for this honor. Hopefully the app will be web-based and usable on both iPhone and Android smartphones. The requirements and manual for this honor will also be available as PDFs and in printed version for those areas of the world that do not have ready access to the Internet. The app will enable the teens to do the honor anywhere in the world. We also hope to add additional learning opportunities and have resources such as e-books and access to all of Ellen White’s writings.

The new honor will not be able to reach all of the 40,000 participants at the Oshkosh Camporee but every evening all of the teens will be present for the evening program and the play, which will focus on the life of Daniel under the theme “Forever Faithful.” These evening programs will also be transmitted internationally on all Hope Channels. The White Estate will be able to secure a 60-second slot every evening during this prime time. In keeping with the Camporee theme the White Estate is producing 5 well-crafted short videos. These dramatized videos revolve around Ellen White’s interaction with several of our young pioneers as she encourages them to be “Forever Faithful.” Hopefully these videos will enjoy an afterlife on our websites, YouTube and other sites and create a positive awareness of the work and life of Ellen White.

KidsView is the Adventist Review’s full-color, eight-page edition just for children. Geared toward kids ages 8-12, it’s packed each month with news, devotionals, interesting church history, stories, puzzles, and student writing samples from Adventist elementary campuses around the world.

Visit, http://kidsviewmag.org/ today!
Major projects and strategic planning

- Global Network of EGW Centers (White Estate, Branch Offices, Research Centers, Study Centers, and Mini-centers)
- Online SDA Encyclopedias (by countries)
- Spirit of Prophecy Teaching in Seventh-day Adventist Universities and Colleges (survey)
- Battle Creek 150th Anniversary Book (editor)
- 2015 Spirit of Prophecy Symposium – Andrews University (Oct. 15-18), etc.
- Spirit of Prophecy Textbook (BRI – Frank M. Hasel)
- Development of the Theological Training in the Seventh-day Adventist Church (editor)

Symposia, advisories, and other events

- Theology of Ordination Study Committee (TOSC), Laurel, MD, Jan. 15-17.
- Council of Pastors and Church Elders of the West Sao Paulo Conference, Engenheiro Coelho, SP, Brazil, Feb. 2-4.
- SOP Seminar in the Ponce 4 SDA Church, Ponce, Puerto Rico, Feb. 8-9.
- A A A e v a l u a t i o n o f Inter-American Adventist Theological Seminary, Antillean Adventist University, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, Feb. 11-13.
- Inauguration of a White Mini-center at the Washington Brazilian SDA Church, College Park, MD, Mar. 2.
- Symposium on Welfare Ministries (ADRA-SAD), Brasilia, DF, Brazil, May 13-16.
- 150th Anniversary of SDA Church Organization, UNASP-EC, Engenheiro Coelho, SP, Brazil, May 18. – Sabbath morning sermon and afternoon your program.
- First Encounter of Brazilian White Mini-Center Directors, UNASP-EC, Engenheiro Coelho, SP, Brazil, May 19.
- Institute of Word Mission, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI, July 8-27.
- Theology of Ordination Study Committee (TOSC), Linthicum Heights, MD, July 22-24.
- SOP Advisory for the SSD, Hua Hin, Thailand, Aug. 7-10.
- 10th South American Biblical-Theological Symposium, Chile Adventist University, Chillan, Chile, Aug. 14-18.
- SOP Advisory for the SAD, Brasilia, DF, Brazil, Aug. 20-21.
- AHM Meetings, Fair Haven, VT, Aug. 24-25.
- BRC-EUD Meetings, Bern, Switzerland, Sept. 16-17.
- Filming the SS Lessons in Portuguese and Spanish for the SAD, GC Communication Department Studies, Silver Spring, MD, Sept. 23-24, Oct. 17.
- SOP Symposium and preaching in various local churches, Central Mexico Union Mission, Mexico City and Metepec, Mexico, Sept. 27-Oct. 5.
- BRICOM Meetings, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI, Oct. 21-22.
- Visit to the EGW-SDA Research Center of the University of East Africa Baraton, Eldoret, Kenya, Oct. 30-31.
- Visit to the EGW-SDA Research Center of the University of East Africa Baraton, Eldoret, Kenya, Oct. 30-31.
- Visit to the EGW-SDA Research Center of Heldberg College and SOP Symposium, Cape, South Africa, Nov. 2-3.
- Visit to the EGW-SDA Research Center of Babcock University, Ikeja, Lagos State, Nigeria, Nov. 5-6.
- SOP Advisory for the WAD and SOP Symposium, Abidjan, Ivory Cost, Nov. 8-10.
- SOP Symposium and inauguration of the White Estate Branch Office of the Adventist University of Africa, Nairobi, Kenya, Nov. 11-12.
Inauguration of the EGW-SDA Study Center of the Parana Adventist College, Ivatuba, PR, Brazil, Nov. 22-23.

Theological Lectures and First Graduation in Theology Ceremony of the Amazonia Adventist College, Benevides, PA, Brazil, Nov. 26-Dec. 1.

ATS Symposium, Fellbach-Schmiden, Germany, Dec. 6-8.


Doctoral dissertations


Publications


The Role of Ellen G. White in the Life of the Adventist Church.” In Ángel M. Rodríguez, ed., Message, Mission, and Unity of the Church (Silver Spring, MD: Biblical Research Institute, 2013), 345-360.

“Ivan Leigh Warden
Associate Director

It is important to reflect on what Ellen G. White wrote in Education, "Our ideas of education take too narrow and too low a range. There is need of a broader scope, a higher aim. True education means more than the perusal of a certain course of study. It means more than a preparation for the life that now is. It has to do with the whole being and with the whole period of existence possible to man."
It is the harmonious development of the physical, the mental, and the spiritual powers. It prepares the student for the joy of service in this world and for the higher joy of wider service in the world to come" (p. 13).

As I reflect on the above quote, I realize even more that this year was a year whereby I challenged myself to experience the "harmonious development of the physical, the mental, and the spiritual powers" that Mrs. White talks about. At the same time, I wanted to ensure that others were impacted about the vital importance of Ellen G. White in the twenty-first century. Below, please find a truncated synopsis of my ministry engagements:

**Women's Ordination Committee**
- I was selected to serve on this important committee. I am one of 100 members and have been active in the meetings.
- We met twice in 2013 and will have two more meetings prior to the 2015 GC meetings in Texas.
- It is important that we have representation of the White Estate on this committee and I am honored to serve.

**Wrote Articles for our Periodicals**
- I have written articles that have been published in *Message Magazine*, *Adventist World*, and *Ministry* to be published in 2014.
- The articles highlight the importance of ministering in and to the cities.
- I also wrote an essay on the importance of servant leadership. It is published in a new leadership book entitled ...*As I Follow Christ*, Dwain N. Esmond, ed. The book is published by the Review and Herald Publishing Association.

**Peaching and Teaching**

I conducted several seminars on Ellen G. White throughout the various states. I also preached at many churches on the importance of Mrs. White and ministering to the cities. Some of the locations include NY, PA, Allegheny East Camp Meeting and Southwest Regional Conference Camp Meeting.

At the Camp Meetings I conducted several training workshops—these ministry engagements were a tremendous blessing. One major highlight of 2013 was speaking for chapel at Union College for students, faculty, staff and administration, in Lincoln, NE in October. A truly significant moment occurred on October 22, 2013, as I stood on this memorable day in Seventh-day Adventist History. A pithy review of October 22, 1844 had been done, and as I looked in the faces of students, faculty, staff and administration a special chapel, at Union College, I could not help but feel very much moved.

Chapel is voluntary, and yet the attendance was strong. All in attendance listened and responded appropriately as I moved into my presentation on Ellen G. White and the City. Rural and country folk listened intently. Why would people come whose background and daily context was not urban? The college journey exposes you to a variety of thinking, environments, as well as choices. On this day, October 22, the Holy Spirit’s presence enabled us to understand this day—historically, biblically and theologically, in its context and its meaning for people today. God’s love for the urbanite is active. God has not given up on the city. Why should we?

Union College was extremely appreciative; in fact, days later a letter with commendations came to me. Union College, what a center of great resources! Why not invest time, talent and finances to creatively train an army of Kingdom builders, determined to be difference makers in the city? I thanked our heavenly Father, Jesus our brother, and the Holy Spirit our guide, for the time I was able to spend at Union College. Since this historic presentation at Union College, I have been active with the leadership of the college and beyond. It is important to note that on the opposite end of the spectrum, is an urban congregation with an illlustrious history, but currently on the endangered list for survival. This intensive care condition caused the conference leadership to bring a demographic company to confirm what was visually disconcerting. The report confirmed what was known. The hunch was right. This urban church would cease to exist, unless radical surgery was performed now, and a change in congregational lifestyle began immediately.

After talking with the Ministerial Director for the Northeastern Conference, NYC, and the Pastor, I mapped out a redemptive strategy. Time and space will not allow me to lay out all the information. But know this, years of being a commuter church, finally caught up with congregation. It was now surrounded by a fast growing Latino community with no ongoing ministry to the community.
Using Biblical, Theological and Spirit of Prophecy rationale, it must be noted, that prayer, Bible study and fasting are foundational.

One immediate strategy that came to my mind was to have them implement an English as a second language (ESL) Ministry. This has proven to be very effective in numerous places. I went on to ask the leadership a series of important questions, such as: what are the environment issues - the response was we are not aware of any. I found that the major reason for their response was due to the fact that few members actually live in the community where the church is located.

As the conversation continued, it was clear the congregation was out of touch with the community. The juggling act of church and community was too much for an aging congregation. I am committed to continuing to work with this church and others around the world in similar or worse conditions.

Churches do not implement Ellen White’s counsel on city evangelism – although this is very often frustrating to this writer as stated above; I will continue nurture some selected urban congregations and help foster a shift for the better so that the needs of the community and the membership can truly be met.

I look forward to the gospel ministry work in 2014.

Also, we’re currently in development of a Study Center for egwwritings.org. This will allow users to create and share topical studies of Ellen G. White’s writings with notes, highlights, bookmarks, and tagging. It will also allow users to sync their study center across multiple computers and mobile devices.

Our team has also been working hard on developing a completely new Main Website for the Ellen G. White Estate. We will be using the ellenwhite.org domain name exclusively. Please note that when we release our new ellenwhite.org website, (which we hope to do in February or March 2014) our old whiteestate.org Website will forward all traffic to the new site. We have used Drupal as our content managing system for the new Website. We hope to expand to China this year, placing a server in Hong Kong to serve the exploding demand there. The main reason for this is that demand for content served on EGWWritings.org has doubled this year to 20 Terabytes per month. We need to expand our network of servers for better global coverage.

The website has had two version updates this year. We’ve added many more sharing features and made available to all directors via login the Unpublished Ellen G. White Writings, and a new electronic publishing export interface that allows us to maintain up-to-date editions of all books in our database for our Website and apps in all languages.

Also, the EGW Writings app for Android and iOS has also doubled its reach this past year to 280,000 iOS and 246,000 Android users respectively.

This year has been very busy for our White Estate development team. Ellen G. White’s writings Website www.egwwritings.org has increased the total number of available languages to 77. Visitors to the site have also increased as we’re now averaging 92,000 unique visitors per month. The Website is currently hosted on three server clusters in the USA and Europe. We have had to quadruple available bandwidth to meet demand, and we still have outages in South America, Asia, and Africa because we’re not able to meet demand. We hope to expand to China this year, placing a server in Hong Kong to serve the exploding demand there. The main reason for this is that demand for content served on EGWWritings.org has doubled this year to 20 Terabytes per month. We need to expand our network of servers for better global coverage.

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Darryl Thompson, assistant director of the Ellen G. White Estate, says the estate’s newly upgraded iOS application makes Mrs. White’s complete published writings available to iPhone/iPad users.
Ellen G. White Writings app for Android and iOS has also doubled its reach this past year to 280,000 iOS and 246,000 Android users respectively. In November we released a new Android EGW Writings app that included the ability for a user to sync their study center with Google Drive, allowing synchronization of personal content between multiple devices such as a phone or tablet. We are also developing a new EGW Writings app for iOS7. The app needs to be updated to support more languages, study center iCloud sync, audiobook streaming, and to work with our online book store. We’re also working on a Windows 8 app for release this year for computers, tablets, and smartphones.

This past summer we had 5 students working on scanning all of the White Estate's incoming correspondence, our photograph collections, James White's letters, and William C. White letter book correspondence. Over the next year and a half we will be preparing this content for release in 2015 at advertised times on our new website.

Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook 2013

The Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook is the Official Directory of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The Yearbook contains information on entities and institutions that are fully owned and operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church, as well as other general information. The Yearbook is available in both print and digital format.

Visit, http://www.reviewandherald.com/ to order yours today!

Branch Office Reports

Reuel Almoorea
Director
Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies

We begin this report with a loud praise to God. The year 2013 was a monumental year in the life and ministry of our Research Center. We are happy to report that our Center has officially become a White Estate Branch Office. Glory be to God and many thanks and appreciation to the White Estate Board. We do not know what this new status would bring to us, but one thing is for sure: this will provide us with heightened opportunities to be of service towards the fulfillment of the Lord’s work and the mission of the church here.

In this year-end report we provide you with an overview of the work done in the research center for the past year.

In House Activities

You might have noticed from our previous reports that we have now an expanded facility to accommodate collections on Asian Mission studies and Adventist heritage materials with particular attention to Asia-Pacific Region. The expansion is basically complete and we are happy with its progress. As a result we have doubled our daily resident researchers although some topics for research are not directly related to Ellen White or Adventist Studies. We have now an average of about eight serious researchers using our facility and resources per working day. We do begin to worry about space as we contemplate future expansions.
The researchers are not only students but also seminary professors. Most of the research is done from primary sources available only in our Center.

We also have seen an increase to our “tourist” visitors this year. One particular Sabbath School class of around 60 juniors, for example, spent the whole Sabbath morning inside the Center for their Sabbath School activity learning about Adventist history and the life and work of Ellen White.

Responding to Leadership’s initiatives from the main office, we have established more mini-study centers this year. We did have study centers in the past but they were confined mostly to educational institutions such as colleges and academies. This time, we have began working towards establishing mini-centers at local churches and conference missions. One of our dreams is to have certified Ellen White mini-study centers at all local conference mission headquarters by the end of 2015.

Outreach

One of the major functions of our center is to serve as resource in the promotion of Spirit of Prophecy among the churches in SSD territory. This is accomplished mainly by the work of the Director (working together with the Spirit of Prophecy Coordinators in the SSD territory) through teachings, presentations, giving seminars and workshops.

The following list outlines the outreach activities during the past year:

The director’s teaching activity should not be counted as outreach for the center because most of the courses he teaches are in the practical theology area not Adventist History or Theology. However, some of this year’s teaching activities relates slightly with his function as director of the Branch Office. Aside from the five courses he taught for AIIAS Theological Seminary, he was invited to teach two courses in the continent of Africa for the University of Africa’s (AUA) DMin Program. Hence, during his teaching assignment in July he was able to visit/consult with Research Centers at Babcock University, Nigeria: the Ellen G. White Estate Branch Office at AUA campus in Kenya, and a very fine study center at Solusi University in Zimbabwe.

Jan. 7 – 13 Week of Prayer Speaker and Lead Revival Convenor for Negros Oriental Mission Workers at Dumaguete City, Philippines.

Feb. 18 – 22 Visited Big 4 students supervising projects at Dhaka City, for Bangladesh Union.

April 1 – 5 Visited Big 4 AIIAS students supervising program culmination projects, Palawan province, Philippines.

April 19 – May 3 Taught a course and visited/preached in churches for workers of the two Indonesian Unions, Jakarta City, Indonesia.

May 14 – 15 Conducted meetings for workers Kinabalu, Malaysia.


June 27 – 30 Visited the Ellen G. White Estate Branch Office at the Adventist University of Africa Campus, Nairobi, Kenya.

July 1 – 31 Taught courses for Adventist University of Africa for their DMin Program at Babcock University, Nigeria; AUA main campus in Kenya and Solusi University in Zimbabwe.

Aug 7 – 11 Participated and presented topics for a Spirit of Prophecy forum/convention for SOP coordinators of SSD held in Hua Hin City, Thailand. Jim Nix and Alberto Timm were the featured guest during these meetings. The convention was organized by Pastor Bermudez of SSD Publishing Department, Director.

Sept 6 – 8 Presented topics for Church Elders convention organized by Ministerial Department of Central Philippine Union Mission. The meetings were held at the campus of East Visayan Academy, Cebu City, Philippines.

Sept 20 – 22 Presented topics for an SOP Seminar/Workshop for pastors and elders at Jogjakarta City, Indonesia. These meetings were organized by West Indonesia, Union Conference.

Sept 23 -26 Taped for Hope TV Philippines 13 presentations of 45 minutes each reviewing the Sabbath School Lessons on the Adventist doctrine of the Sanctuary. These TV presentations were aired, uploaded via youtube during the last quarter of 2013.

Sept 27 – 29 Presented topics for Elders convention organized by South Philippine Union Mission held at Davao Mission headquarters, Davao City, Philippines.

“We thank God for the privilege of serving Him through the ministry of the White Estate.”
Oct 4 – 13  Organized and presented an Evangelistic series for two districts in Sablayan, Mindoro, Philippines. The activity was held with AIIAS MDiv students and five AIIAS Theological Seminary professors. Held simultaneously at five locations, resulted in baptism of 160 people.

Nov 12 -13  Participated and presented discussion on the theology of ordination for SSD Biblical Research Committee.

Nov. 28 – 30  Presented topics for Elders convention for South Philippine Union Conference held at Valencia City, Philippines. These meetings were organized by the Ministerial Department of SSD.

Nov 12 – 13

Participated and presented discussion on the theology of ordination for SSD Biblical Research Committee.

Nov. 28 – 30

Presented topics for Elders convention for South Philippine Union Conference held at Valencia City, Philippines. These meetings were organized by the Ministerial Department of SSD.

We thank God for the privilege of serving Him through the ministry of the White Estate. We are looking forward to a very fruitful 2014 year and ultimately to His glorious return.

“We are praising God that the new Branch Office will be a place to help such students in their academic advancement.”

Anna Galeniece
Director Adventist University of Africa

Greetings to the Ellen G. White Estate, all Ellen G. White Branch Offices, Research Centers, and Spirit of Prophecy coordinators around the world. As the newest addition to this large family, the EGW Branch Office at Adventist University of Africa (AUA) officially started its ministry on November 12, 2013. At the opening ceremony, Elder Jim Nix gave an encouraging and thought-provoking discourse challenging us to think about our calling and mission here.

Prior to this inauguration, a lot of work had been done to prepare the office, the vault, and to put in order the few resources that we got. For me this adventure was (and is) an exiting step into the unknown. Yet, a see a promising journey ahead. As the university continues to grow, so does the need to help students, faculty, and researches in general. The new academic program, MA in Biblical and Theological Studies, that is about to begin in 2014, for example, will require its students to do a lot of research. Part of it will include studies in the writings of Ellen White and Adventist history. We are praising God that the new Branch Office will be a place to help such students in their academic advancement.

We are working hard to expand and increase the number of resources that we have. Thus far our collection consists of mainly the Spirit of Prophecy and few related books, Ellen G. White letters and manuscripts, biographical entries, microfiche and microfilms. My dream is to collect as many materials as possible related to Ellen G. White, Adventist church heritage, and materials related to the Adventist development in the African continent. These resources could comprise even books in some of the local languages. On my recent trip to Solusi University in Zimbabwe, I was generously given a precious gift of two books and a number of pamphlets about their history. This was our first donation as we begin our collection of the church’s heritage on this continent.

Concurrently with the inauguration, we started to publish a newsletter The Highlights. The goal for this paper is to promote the Spirit of Prophecy and the life and ministry of Ellen G. White among the Africans in the context of the 21st century issues and challenges. My hope is to expand the circle of the readers and, consequently, their desire to change their lifestyle, give full allegiance to God and get ready for Christ’s soon return.
In addition, we started our website (http://www.aua.ae/ index.php/2013-06-12-06-55-02/ellen-white-estate-branch-office) through which we plan to reach our students on the extension campuses and the general population in Africa (and maybe other parts of the world). Understandably, the current website needs a lot of addition work, including a shorter web address.

After reading this report, any reader will notice that my ministry and work at AUA is just beginning. I feel like being a small child who needs to grow and develop. Therefore, I eagerly request for your prayers and support in any possible way. Thank you and God bless!

James Nix and Anna Galeniece just before the ribbon-cutting ceremony

Merlin D. Burt
Director
Andrews University

We have had a very busy year as has been true in past years. I will list some of the areas of activity. If anyone is interested in a more complete report, I can provide a copy of our 35-page annual report for 2013.

Exhibits:

Several new displays were constructed in the Center’s exhibit area. In the spring, in conjunction with the 150th anniversary of the formation of the General Conference in 1863, an exhibit was mounted in the large hall display case outside of the Center, showing the organization of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and some aspects of its growth over the years. In the summer, an exhibit on Uriah Smith, early church leader, was mounted. In late September two new exhibits were mounted. One is called The Bible Through the Ages and shows the development of the Bible from the earliest days of writing to the present day. The other exhibit, called Andrews Treasures, was put up in conjunction with the campus-wide celebration of the many treasures squirreled away across campus. This one focuses on a number of the very significant items in the Center’s collection that don’t usually get seen due to their rarity and fragility.

Outreach Activities:

The Center, in cooperation with the Seminary leadership, sponsors the annual Seminary Heritage Sabbath that is held at the Adventist Historic Village in Battle Creek, Michigan. It has become an integral part of the Seminary’s annual calendar as an important part of the spiritual development of pastors and church workers in training. On September 7, 2013 the church at the Adventist Historic Village was filled with students, spouses, and faculty for the 12th annual Heritage Sabbath. This year, James Nix, director of the Ellen G. White Estate, was the featured speaker.
The Ellen White Issues Symposium, held annually in the spring, is for the purpose of presenting formal papers on topics that provide a new understanding of Ellen White, her ministry, and the prophetic gift from a faith perspective. The Center publishes an annual journal containing the presented papers. The ninth annual symposium was held on March 25, 2013. Attendees included students, pastors, scholars, and community members. The ninth journal volume containing the papers presented in March 2013, is in process and will be available by the time of the next symposium on March 24, 2014. Past volumes continue to be in demand and some have been reprinted several times.

I led 53 seminary students and spouses on an eight-day New England Adventist History study tour from August 4 to 11, 2013. This has been a regular part of our ministry to seminary students, which also supports the academic and spiritual goals of the University.

I have had a busy year of teaching and travel. I taught three classes during the Spring semester at the SDA Theological Seminary: GSEM534 Issues in Ellen G. White Studies; CHIS674 Development of Seventh-day Adventist Theology (this class was videotaped for use in distance education); and CHIS940 Seminar on Ellen G. White Issues. I also continue to serve on various masters and doctoral committees.

Travels included speaking at the Michigan Conference Teen Bible Camp with my son Jonathan. That was both spiritually and personally rewarding. I gave two talks for the General Conference spring meetings in Battle Creek. During May and early June of 2013 I was at IAENE in Cachoeira, Brazil, to speak to the students and faculty. Also in June and July, I was keynote speaker for the Ohio Conference Camp Meeting and the William Miller Convocation for the New York Conference. I presented a series for the Buchanan Seventh-day Adventist Church Barn Conference in August, and in October I traveled to Peru for a widely advertised conference at the Peru Union University outside of Lima. The Peru appointment included the publication of a book commemorating the event with articles by former doctoral student Gluder Quespe (also editor and host of the event), Alberto Timm, and myself.

**Digitization:**

Much is happening in this area. Julie Johnson continues to give excellent leadership to this aspect of our operation. We have digitized about 20% of the books in our vault at this point and the work moves forward steadily. We are also digitizing out White Document File with the plan to include them within the White Estate Digital Resource Center. We have scanned several thousand more photographs this last year as well as beginning to work on scanning our over 300 collections and various periodicals that are not on the General Conference Archives Internet site. The Adventist Digital Library project is in the active planning and preparation phase as our organization along with the Main Office of the White Estate and General Conference Archives work together.

**Other Developments:**

We continue to work on making archive storage boxes for our rare materials and do other preservation work with our materials. Space is at a premium as we continue to grow rapidly. The university is planning to install new compact shelving for us during 2015. As an interim measure we have installed additional shelving behind our present compact unit. We have added a number of new collections this year including the Madison College Alumni resources, Alan Collins artwork, Lake Union Conference education records, Adventist Heritage Ministry official records, New York and Michigan Conference records and their collections of local church records, and the papers of Louis B. Reynolds.

Stan Hickerson and his assistant Denis Kaiser continue to work at our office on the next volume of the annotated EGW Letters and Manuscripts. Stan has been a great addition to the team at the Center even though his responsibilities are focused on the annotation work. Heidi Magesa joined the Center as our new administrative assistant replacing Angelica Kaiser who has begun full-time doctoral studies.

All together we added over 1,000 units (items and groupings of materials) to our collections during 2013. We served thousands of patrons, answered hundreds of e-mail questions, conducted dozens of tours (including local tours of the Center), and coordinated various events and publications.

“A kind, courteous Christian is the most powerful argument that can be produced in favor of Christianity.”

*Ellen White, Reflecting Christ*
Greetings from the Heritage Research Center at Loma Linda University. This report outlines the main activities of the White Estate Branch Office during the year 2013. As usual, my main undertakings were centered on doing seminars, teaching, research and writings.

In January, I took part in two seminars held locally at the Loma Linda University. First, I gave a two-day seminar for the Pathfinder Master Guide leaders of the Southeastern California Conference on Adventist History. Since the meetings were held at the Heritage Research Center, the attendees were also able to get a tour and see some original artifacts related to our history. That seemed to impact their appreciation of our heritage even further.

Then, on January 25 and 26, I was a part of a conference that celebrated the 150 years of the Adventist health message entitled “Mind and Spirit in Dialogue: The Adventist Health Message Then and Now, 1863-2013.” I had the privilege to give the Sabbath morning sermon at the Loma Linda University Church. My message related the past and the future of Adventist health. I gave a short historical overview of how Adventists became involved in health and health promotion and then pointed ways of how our health message is still relevant for the world today.

In March, I attended the Adventist Historical Society meetings at Union College. Then I travelled to Andrews University for the annual Ellen G. White Issues Symposium where I gave a paper, “The Development of the Seventh-day Adventist Understanding of Ellen G. White’s Prophetic Gift from 1844 to 1889,” highlighting some major points from my dissertation research.

In the spring quarter, I taught two courses. One was my usual class, “Adventist Heritage and Health,” outlining the development of the Adventist health message. My second class, “Reading Through the Book Ministry of Healing” was co-taught with Dr. Jon Paulien, the Dean of the School of Religion at Loma Linda University. This class was for graduate level medical students and was mostly interactive. It involved discussions of principles found in the book the Ministry of Healing and their application to health science and medical practices in the 21 Century, including the unique mission of Loma Linda University. Because of the many positive responses from the students who took this class, we are planning to teach the course again during the winter quarter of 2014. I am anticipating another great class experience.

In addition I also taught two intensive classes. In April, I travelled to Bulgaria and taught a one-week intensive on the history of the Seventh-day Adventist Church for the students of the Bulgarian Adventist Seminary. Then in June, I taught the same course as a two-week intensive for the Divinity School of Religion at La Sierra University.

“On December 2nd, we also organized a one-day “symposium” for the pastors of the Southern California and the Southeastern California Conferences on the topic of the Trinity, an issue that had become controversial in many local churches.”

Missed the Trinity Doctrine Pastoral Conference? Head over to http://myllu.llu.edu/blogs/hrcnews/ to download speakers presentations and to keep up to date with happenings at the Heritage Research Center.
On June 14, I spoke at the Doctoral Hooding ceremony for the School of Public Health at Loma Linda University. In July, I had the devotional for the University Faculty Council where we explored ways of how to keep the history of Loma Linda alive for students and faculty. I also made several presentations on Ellen White and her writings for local Sabbath school classes during the summer months.

In September, I travelled to the Bronte Seventh-day Adventist Church in Ontario, Canada where I gave a four-part seminar on Ellen White. More than 200 people attended the meetings and I was once again convinced that there is a great interest in the topic of Ellen White and her ministry among church members. At the end we had an hour-long session of questions and answers, which I thought was very beneficial.

In October, I gave a lecture entitled, “Visions of Healing: Back to the Future-1800s,” for the Ontario Clergy Interfaith Convocation meetings. Clergies of various denominations explored ways of how to make their churches become mini-health-centers helping people in their communities in Ontario, California. My presentation showed an example of how Seventh-day Adventists became involved in health and health promotion and what this had done for the denomination and its mission in the past 150 years of our history.

Another exciting experience in October was my invitation to the General Conference Annual Council where I gave one of the devotionals to the Adventist leadership from around the world. The theme of this year’s Annual Council was “Revival and Prophetic Truth.” Using Ellen White’s famous statement: “A REVIVAL of true godliness among us is the greatest and most urgent of all our needs,” my talk centered on how Ellen White connected the concepts of revival and truth.

In November I travelled to Frisco, Texas for a seminar on Ellen White. Some other involvements towards the end of the year included teaching Sabbath School for the Campus Hill Church, preaching at several local churches, devotionals for numerous Loma Linda departments and others.

On December 2nd, we also organized a one-day “symposium” for the pastors of the Southern California and the Southeastern California Conferences on the topic of the Trinity, an issue that had become controversial in many local churches. The seminar was attended by nearly 100 pastors who listened to presentations exploring the Trinity question from historical, theological, and Adventist perspectives. The positive response was overwhelming. We are planning to work with the two conferences to see if we can make such a “symposium” become an annual event for the education and enrichment of local pastors.

I also spent many hours of doing research and writings on various topics. These included two articles and several chapters for upcoming books. Here is a partial list of my writings:

- Book chapter: “Ellen White and Vegetarianism,” for an upcoming book that will deal with issues related to Ellen White and her writings.

The Department of Archives and Special Collections has also continued its work of acquiring, collecting, and enlarging our depository of Adventist materials. Among the many things, Lori N. Curtis, the chair of the department, was offered a beautiful photograph album of the Olsen’s family with a total of 78 images. The album was a birthday gift from E. G. Olsen to L. E. Olsen, dated July 24, 1890. The bulk of the images are of members of the Olsen extended family, but also includes photographs of W. C. White, Uriah Smith, J. N. Andrews, and individuals that were active in the Scandinavian work of Seventh-day Adventists. This photograph album has already helped us make familial connections among many of our Scandinavian Adventist pioneers.

![Pictured above, the Olsen’s family album, new a acquisition to the Department of Archives and Special Collections, Loma Linda University.](image-url)
Our Noon Day Prayer services for students, staff, faculty and community continue. This service, which is conducted Monday through Thursday, has been an uplifting experience for office workers, students, staff, community, and visitors just passing through. It consists of a Bible promise, praise reports on answers received, current prayer requests and a Spirit of Prophecy hookup (quote). Although requests are diverse ranging from grades and important upcoming meetings to a new house and a husband, we’ve maintained an eighty-five to ninety-five percent answer rate. While the designated time is fifteen minutes (a corner of the lunch break), at times we’ve been held hostage to a serious need for a few extra minutes.

Our research focus has been on viewing the writings of Ellen White through the lens of relevant contemporary issues. Last year was single parenthood and ethnic disparities in children of single parent homes. Considering that the family is under attack in political, secular and church arenas, “Affirming the Family”, seemed like an appropriate follow-up theme.

A campus-wide invitation was extended to sophomore, junior and senior students to write a five page research paper on the topic, “Marriage: Foundational or Optional?” In addition to the writings of Ellen White, other relevant sources were used. Thirty-two students entered the contest with a small scholarship serving as an incentive. A panel of independent judges will announce the top five researchers this semester.

A partnership was formed with BAYDA, the Regional Conference youth organization, to establish a platform for our students to present their research findings. Two of the top five students will go to Youth federations, representing Oakwood University and the White Estate Branch Office, to testify that biblical marriage is foundational to the family, to the church and to society. This is one way the Oakwood Branch Office is helping uphold our motto, “Keeping the Vision Alive”.

Greetings from the Ellen G. White Research Center-UNADECA. This report presents the main activities undertaken by the Center during the year of 2013.

Website:

With the aim of providing a better service in Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, Belize, and Panama, the White Research Center-UNADECA successfully launched its website (www.unadeca.net/cwhite). This website includes information on a variety of topics such as the life, ministry, and writings of Ellen G. White. A particular feature of this web page is that it includes the daily Bible plan, "Revived by His Word."
This aim of this plan is to encourage the reading of a chapter of the Bible each day. The White Research Center-UNADECA contribution to this plan consists of analyzing one verse from the chapter that corresponds to the date. This analysis includes quotes from Ellen G. White that help people obtain a clearer understanding of the message of the Bible.

Seminars for Pastors and Laymen:

The director of the White Research Center-UNADECA visited some associations in the countries of Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Panama to teach seminars on the "life and contribution of Ellen White to the Seventh-day Adventist Church" and "how to use technology to investigate topics of Ellen White." The participants were enriched and strengthened in their faith. Seminar attendees also thanked the White Research Center-UNADECA for having developed the web page.

Day of The Spirit of Prophecy:

On October 5th, 2013 from 7 a.m to 8 a.m. a sermón, “The Importance of the Gift of Prophecy for the Seventh-day Adventist Church” was transmitted live by the Adventist radio stations of Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Panama.

Tours to the White Research Center-UNADECA:

With the purpose of increasing visits to the White Research Center-UNADECA, the sabbath program titled "Visit the White Center-UNADECA" was created. With the tour planned in advance, the Director of the Ellen G. White Center went to local churches and preached a sermon about the Spirit of Prophecy. After a meal, buses transported the church members to the White Research Center-UNADECA to carry out the following activities: Attend a seminar on the Gift of Prophecy, tour the facilities, and engage in a session of questions and answers.

I thank God for giving me the privilege of serving in the White Research Center of the Adventist University of Central America.

Like four concentric circles, this relatively brief report will be in four parts. Going from the innermost to the outermost circle, the Report will focus on: 1) the Institutional (NCU); 2) the National (the Jamaica Union [JAMU] and the Atlantic Caribbean Union [ATCU]); 3) the Regional (The Caribbean as a whole); and 4) the Divisional (IAD).

The Institutional (NCU)

In keeping with the mission and mandate of the Center, concerted effort was made to serve and minister to NCU and its related feeder academic institutions, namely: a) the university community itself; b) the nearby Victor Dixon Secondary School and c) the West Indies College (WIC) Preparatory (Prep) School.

In terms of the NCU community, we continued not only to work closely with the Department of Spiritual Affairs and the School of Religion and Theology but also to open our doors so that students and staff from across the university could make use of our facilities either in terms of our students preparing their academic assignments or students and staff attending our daily noon-hour Prayer Sessions and the Bible Studies which the Center and the Chaplaincies Office conducted each week. In addition, the Center organized and executed a SOP Sabbath under the Theme, “The Servant of the Lord: The Inspired and Inspiring Legacy of Mrs. EG White.” The Director was the Preacher for the Divine Service.
The Center at Northern Caribbean University, for the first time, sought to reach out to the larger Caribbean Region.

It began to distribute its bi-monthly Newsletter to the President of the South Caribbean Union Conference…”

The title of his sermon (which was streamed through the Church website): “Living with Loss: The Inspiring Life and Legacy of Mrs. EG White.” To help lift the profile of the Centre, the Director and his staff also mounted, for the first time, a SOP Booth (featuring some of Mrs. White’s relevant health-related writings) during NCU’s annual Health and Wellness Week. We also mounted a colorful Display Board for both the Geo-Science Research Institute Team, which paid the Center a visit, and for the first time ever, for the Alumni Homecoming Weekend. We were also visited by a teacher and his students from the Victor Dixon Secondary School. The Secretary gave them a tour of the Center and acquainted them with what the Center has to offer. In terms of the WIC Prep School, we were able, for the first time in its history and with the full support of the Principal, to conduct a 30-minute SOP -promotion Program at the School during their General Assembly.

The Nation

The Center continued to be of service to its two sponsoring Unions, namely, the Jamaica Union (JAMU) and the Atlantic Caribbean Union (ATCU). It did so by, among other things, distributing its bi-monthly electronic SOP Newsletter to Pastors and others throughout the Unions, and hosting various visits of Church Groups to the Center. In addition, the Director accepted various official requests to make SOP Presentations from time to time. Examples include the following: the first West Jamaica Conference and SOP Weekend Symposium (Oct. 4-6, 2013); the East Jamaica Conference Laymen’s Association Meeting (Oct. 27, 2013); the East Jamaica Conference Campmeeting (December 12, 2013); and the Central Jamaica Conference Campmeeting (December 18, 2013).

In addition, the Director also worked closely with the Principal at the Willowdene Group of Schools in exploring the possibility of establishing a “Reading Centers” of the SOP at secondary schools. The Director also sought to remain abreast of other SOP -related developments in the Nation. One such prime example was the public and malicious attack on, and later the competent defense of, the authenticity of Mrs. White’s writings, which aired on one of the more popular Jamaican Radio Talk shows (i.e., “Religious Hard Talk”). The Director, with the full support of the SOP Coordinator for the IAD (Elder Leon Wellington), tracked down the presenter, a competent and confident Lay Adventist Apologist (Mr. Derrick Gillespie—a Teacher by profession). We invited him to the Centre for the first time, talked to him, gave him a tour, and invited him to serve as a “public champion” of the Center from henceforth. He gladly agreed.

The Regional

Being the only Research Center which seeks to serve the English-and the French-speaking Sectors of the Caribbean (alongside the other three Centers which are based in Costa Rica, Mexico and Puerto Rico and are meant to serve the Spanish-speaking Sector of the IAD), the Center at NCU, for the first time, sought to reach out to the larger Caribbean Region. It began, for example, to distribute its bi-monthly Newsletter to the President of the South Caribbean Union Conference (Trinidad), the Chair of the Religion Department and Vice-President for Spiritual affairs at USC (Trinidad), as well as to the Chair of the Religion Department at our university in Haiti.

In addition, attempts are being made to mount a jointly-sponsored (NCU/ USC) peer-reviewed and multidisciplinary journal which will be buttressed by the SOP Writings. Tentative title of the journal: The Journal of Adventist Thought in the Anglophone Caribbean (JAT/AC).” The Director hopes to serve as the Editor-in-Chief.

The Divisional

The Director has been serving as a Member of the IAD BRICOM tasked with debating the merits and demerits of ordaining women to the Gospel Ministry in anticipation of the Vote to be taken at the next GC Session in 2015. As part of the process, he was also asked to serve as a member of the Three-Member Drafting Committee on behalf of the larger Committee alongside his other two Colleagues from Columbia and Mexico. Thanks to Elder Wellington, the Director was also able to meet, for the first time, his counterparts from Mexico, Costa Rica and Puerto Rico at the IAD headquarters during his first BRICOM Meetings there in October 2013.
This year (2013) our Center turned 35 and we celebrated our anniversary as follows:

Exhibition related to the history of the medical work in Montemorelos. The exhibit included photographs, videos, murals, personal items and important historical documents that helped remember those from other countries and domestic workers who contributed significantly to the establishment of the medical work in Montemorelos. The exhibit was opened to the public on November 12, 2013 and stayed open for two weeks. Over 500 visitors to the University viewed the exhibit.

On Thursday, November 14, 2013, the Research Center presented a program at the University Church in which the origin and development of the Adventist health message was represented through narrated historical vignettes and music. Starting with the environment and social conditions prevailing within the United States at the time that Ellen White received her first vision on health, the story wound its way through how the pioneers adopted the inspired counsel, the emergence of our first health institutions, the expansion of this blessed message and its arrival in our country with the establishment of the first Adventist hospital outside the United State, the Sanitarium Guadalajara, ending with the foundation of the Hospital and Sanatorium Montemorelos. The attendees were inspired to appreciate the wonderful health message and how we already incorporate into our lives the distinctive Adventist health principles.

The Research Center placed signs around campus containing selections from the writings of Ellen G. White. These gems created an environment of reflection among students and teachers walking the campus, and those pausing to read them could be positively inspired.
“The Adventists have been here, I believe, only six or seven years,” Brown reported in 1904, “but all about the little village are the marks of a vigorous, intelligent, successful industry.” Somehow the sight of cleared land, thoroughly cultivated fields, and modest but sturdy structures managed to leave a lasting good impression of the Adventists. “A thriftier little community I never saw. And all is the work of people whose chief aim in this world is to be ready to leave it at a moment’s notice,” he quipped.

Without a doubt, he saw more of that diligence in the residents of Keene. “Their faces showed not merely intelligence, but culture,” he wrote. In his eyes, Keene was an archetype of the evolving work values of the American South at the turn of the century, and he could not help wondering what the relationship was between the industriousness and the religion of that community.

The other article is a brief history of Southwestern, which marks its 120th anniversary on January 7, 2014. The school, originally named Keene Industrial Academy had a humble beginning for sure. Three teachers, 56 students, one repurposed building. In the words of an early graduate, it “was founded in poverty, supported by toil, sanctified by prayer.”

In a godly venture at a time when accumulated wisdom did not stand in the way of enterprising spirits as much as today, the school’s founders planned its opening amid the worst economic depression experienced in the nation until then. Once the purchase of a large tract of land in the vicinity of Cleburne was ratified by the General Conference, and effectively made by local church leaders, an Adventist migration wave to Keene was set off.

The Academy rode a wave of ensuing prosperity. Rapid growth in enrollment, staff and facilities during its first decade of existence led to its turning into Southwestern Junior College in 1916. However, challenges loomed in the horizon. The following decades would see America involved in two world wars that included military drafts, a period of accelerated urbanization and secularization, and an even greater economic depression.

The school emerged from the first half of the 20th century battered but poised to expand its academic programs. By 1963 Southwestern started offering four-year college degrees. The school’s name changed to Southwestern Union College. Then again in 1977 the name changed to Southwestern Adventist College.

Steady progress accompanied the next few years, but a concern over surplus capacity in Adventist higher education in North America once threatened a possible consolidation with another campus. Local opposition was strong. In the words of then Southwestern Union Conference President Ben Leach, anyone pursuing that idea in higher church hierarchy would have had to fight him and others “right down to the last tumbleweed.”

Expansion and growth continued. By the early 1990s Southwestern was already offering graduate-level degrees, and in 1995 the name changed to Southwestern Adventist University. Enrollment peaked at the turn the century and athletic programs thrived. Today, Southwestern remains the only four-year college in Johnson County, Texas.
It is notable for its highly diverse student body, its comparable affordability, a remarkable dinosaur excavation research project in the Lance Formation of eastern Wyoming, and an active research center of the Ellen G. White Estate.

Another area of activity has been further development of the electronic indexes to Ellen G. White’s letters and manuscripts. Following the deployment of the Topical Index, access has been provided for the White Estate headquarters, Andrew’s Center for Adventist Research and the Research Center at the Universidad Adventista del Plata. There has been a delay in our workflow, but the Addressee Index should be up on our website by the end of March, and it will be automatically available to registered users.

Research Center Tours:

More than 100 freshman students, together with their professors, visited the Center to learn about Ellen G. White and her writings. Approximately 50% of these students were not Adventist. We gave the students a tour of the Center and the got to know who Ellen G. White was and the mission of our Center. Also, Our Center translated Ellen G. White and Seventh-day Adventist related books and are in the process of getting these translations published.

Northern Asia-Pacific Division

*Un Bae Kim*

**Director**

**Sahmyook University**

**Korea**

In 2013, the Ellen G. White Research Center at Sahmyook University, South Korea, held numerous Spirit of Prophecy seminars, in cooperation with the Spirit of Prophecy Department of the Korean Union Conference. We continuously conducted tours of the Research Center and acquired many new books and doctoral dissertations written by Adventist scholars.

**Spirit of Prophecy Seminars:**

During the course of the year, I visited numerous churches, speaking about the Spirit of Prophecy. The purpose of these seminars was to promote the reading and appreciation of Ellen G. White and her writings. I also made PowerPoint files for my presentations and made them available to anyone who want them. In my presentations, I talked about the life, theology, and achievements of Ellen G. White; her justification to be called a prophet; her dealings with churches; and her views of the Bible. I provided a picture of the Seventh-day Adventist movement during her time and its impact on today. The PowerPoint slides are very thorough and detailed, thus a tremendous resource for those who want to learn more about Ellen G. White. Many church members attended the seminars and were blessed.

Southwestern Adventist University, originally named Keene Industrial Academy had a humble beginning with only three teachers, 56 students and one repurposed building.
The report that follows presents the principal activities performed in the second half of the year 2013.

**Activities completed by the White Research Center/Spirit of Prophecy**

**Approximately a total of 4,000 people attended these events.**

**Courses on the gift of prophecy in Argentina**

- Churches of Gualeguaychú, Entre Ríos, August 2-3
- Adventist Institute of Rosario, Santa Fe, August 24
- Churches of Posadas, Misiones, August 30-31
- Churches of La Plata, Buenos Aires, October 4-5
- Superior Adventist Institute of Misiones, November 1-3, directed by Dr. Néstor Alberro

**Sermons and conferences on the gift of prophecy and related topics**

- Church of River Plate Adventist University, July 26
- Churches of Posadas, Misiones, September 31
- Churches of Liberator San Martín, Entre Ríos, October 28 and December 14
- Church of Liniers, Buenos Aires, November 23
- Church of Viale, Entre Rios, November 30

**Other national events**

- Meeting with Spirit of Prophecy Coordinators, Misiones, August 27
- Planning Meeting of the Argentine Union, Misiones, August 26-28
- National Campaign of Evangelism, Resistencia, Chaco, September 14-21

**Participation in international events**

- South American Biblical Theological Symposium, Adventist University of Chile, August 14-18
- Quinquennial Spirit of Prophecy Congress, South American Division, Brazil, August 20-21
- International Theological Symposium, Adventist University of Bolivia, October 18-20
- Biblical Research Committee, South American Division, Brazil, November 13-14
- Spirit of Prophecy Symposium, Metropolitan Conference of Chile, November 15-16

**Activities completed by the Adventist Heritage Center**

**Historical Meeting Series of 2013 (a total of 220 people attended)**

- Adventism in Paraguay, July 22 / Presenters: Mario and Nilda Utz
- The Church of Buenos Aires, August 26 / Presenter: Eugenio Di Dionisio
- 20th Anniversary of Student Radio UAP, October 2 / Presenter: Néstor De Petris
- The First Adventist Schools of Argentina, November 18 / Presenter: René R. Smith
- The pioneer Francisco Ramos Mejía, December 9 / Presenter: Juan Carlos Priora
Other actions of interest for Adventist history

- Guided Visits to the Adventist Historical Tour, Visitors from Argentina, Chile, and the United States
- Course for guides of the Adventist History Tour, 18 participants of the UAP and Libertador San Martín
- Historical Conference: “I Will Go 2.0” Congress, Delegates to the Congress
- Conference on the pioneers of comporting, Week of Student Comporting in the UAP
- Visit to historic place: Las Tunas, Santa Fe, Students, staff, and neighbors of the UAP

Publication of articles and books

- Book: Tribute to Hope, By the author (2013)
- Six articles: Adventist Review, South American Publishing House
- One article: Adventist Ministry, South American Publishing House
- One book review: University Notes, Peruvian Union University Editorial

Mini-Centers, Study Centers, Support Ministry, Historical Society

- Visit and support to the White Research Center, Adventist University of Chile, August 16, etc.
- Visit and support to the White Research Center, Adventist University of Bolivia, October 20
- Initial Contact with Mini White Centers, Thirty Centers in Schools and High Schools in Argentina
- Recognition of members in Support Ministry, Completion of 10 years, along with 12 new members whom retired
- Activities of the Adventist Historical Society, Historical Seminars, History Tours, Encyclopedia

Office, Library, and Museum Activities

- Reconstruction and update of the White Center website, Address: www.uapar.edu/centrowhite
- Creation of the White Center Facebook page, Address: www.facebook.com/CentroWhiteArgentina
- Completion of various collections, La Voz, Sabbath School Quarterlies, Morning Devotional Books, Revista Adventista, Ministerio Adventista, Revista del Anciano, Adventist World, and Davar/Logos
- Attending visitors, consultations, sending of materials, reports, and inventories, Students, visitors, information sent by e-mail, etc.
- Conservation and digitalization of photograph files of the UAP and the White Research Center, Photographs of the UAP and slides of the White Research Center
- Coordination of student workers and student missionary, Daiana Glonze, Johanna Sánchez and Debbie-Ann Francis. Under the direction of the secretary
- Planning of the budget and activities for 2014, Staff of the White Research Center
- Receiving and organizing of donated materials, Donators: the Geisse Family, Liernur Family, Pereyra Family, Treiyer Family, etc.
- Classification and archiving of new materials, DF, Q&A, Photographs, Adventist Heritage
- The beginning of the South American Encyclopedia of Adventist History, Search of materials with persons in charge of the project

As you can see, this has been a semester filled with activities, and at the same time, filled with blessings from the Lord.
Greetings from Brazil to all of our friends at the EGW Research Centers all over the world. We’re thankful for the countless blessing that our Lord has poured upon us and for the achievements that we’ve reached so far. As usual, it has been a very challenging semester, yet very productive with the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy (Psalms 126:3). By His grace and wisdom we’ve come to the end of 2013 which was a very blessed and productive year for the Brazilian Ellen G. White Research Center.

During the second semester we had the opportunity to visit different churches and institutions of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Brazil, South America and Europe. From 14th to the 18th of August we participated in the 10th Theological Seminar of the South American Division which was held in the Chilean Adventist University. The main theme of the Seminar was the book of Revelation. On that occasion we had the chance to exchange some experiences, ideas and several materials with Pr. Daniel Veras who is in charge of the Chilean Adventist University EGW Study Center. This contact has helped us to better serve the Lord in our different geographies and contexts.

Right after this event, we had the South American Division (SAD) Quinquennial Spirit of Prophecy meeting, which was organized by Pr. Almir Marroni, Spirit of Prophecy (SOP) Coordinator of the SAD and with the special participation of James Nix and Alberto Timm who brought relevant and important information to the participants.

September was a blessed month where we had two special SOP events in Sao Paulo. The first one was a seminar which was held in the Vila Maria SDA Church and the second was a congress for five hundred people from several different districts from the east side of the city.

On the 5th of September we opened our first exhibit on Brazilian SDA Pioneers. The exhibit was based upon the life and works of Isolina Avelino Waldvogel. The opening was marked by the presence of the General Conference Vice President Dr. Ella Simmons and Pr. Almir Marroni from the South American Division.

Isolina was a poet, translator, writer and text reviser of the Brazilian Publishing House (CPB). She graduated in the first class of the Brazilian Adventist Theological Seminary in 1922 and later married Luiz Waldvogel. Isolina is considered one of the best translators of Mrs. White’s books into Portuguese. She died in 1980, at the age of 88. The exhibition displays Isolina’s literary works, family pictures and personal belongings. She left a precious literary legacy to the Brazilian Adventist Church.

During the month of September, we inaugurated two other EGW Mini-Centers, one in Sao Borja – RS and another in Vila Galvao, Guarulhos – SP. Also in September I went to Manaus – AM for a very blessed and remarkable weekend program, entitled “Reviving our History”. At that occasion another EGW Mini-Center was inaugurated in the Amazonas Roraima Conference. In addition, I went to Santa Maria - RS, Curitiba - PR and Sao Paulo - SP.

From the 11th to 13th of October we had a very blessed Spirit of Prophecy Seminar and the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the SDA Church organization at the Brazilian Church of Amsterdam, Holland. The program was organized by Suzanne Portela, a former student of the Brazilian Theological Seminary. During the event we had the chance to inaugurate an EGW Mini-center at the SDA Church where they meet every Sabbath.

On October 25 and 26, we conducted the 2nd Symposium of the Spirit of Prophecy at the North Chilean Mission, in the city of Iquique, Chile. The symposium’s theme was The Remnant Identity. The event was organized by Pr. Luis Contreras, the Spirit of Prophecy director of the Mission who invited some other speakers such as Dr. Ricardo González and Pr. Daniel Veras. All leaders of the field and pastors of the surrounding districts were present in order to give a special support to the event.

On the 31st of October Pr. Renato presented a lecture to the Biblical Research Committee of the South American Division on the topic of Ellen G. White and Women’s Ordination.
On the 2th of November we had a special Sabbath program in the Moema SDA Church in Sao Paulo. On the 16th of November we had a Spirit of Prophecy Seminar in the city of Governador Valadares in the State of Minas Gerais. The program was organized by Pr. Ronidalber, coordinator of that field. There were people from six different districts in attendance and they were very excited about the topics presented.

In the beginning of December we launched eight eBooks in Portuguese on our new website. These materials have the purpose to help the Church membership, especially young people, get acquainted with new content in digital format.

Our Research Center is constantly working on the insertion of new materials in its library and archives. Valuable items were donated by the families of Prs. Jerônimo Granero Garcia and Roberto Cezar de Azevedo. We have also worked on digitizing 409 rolls of 16mm films, which were recorded during the 60s to the 80s by the SDA in Brazil. These images were sent to the General Conference, South American Division, Central Brazilian Union and the SDA Television Network (Hope Channel).

Concerning the printed materials, we are preparing two books: a) Spirit of Prophecy – Guidance to the Remnant Church and b) The World is our Field – Life and Work of Pr. Moyses S. Nigri. Both books were published this year. In addition, we are translating three new numbers of the Visionary for Kids Magazine.

The year was finished on the 20th of December with a farewell party with the entire Brazilian Research Center group. To God be the Glory!!

Greetings from IAENE in the Northeast of Brazil. I thank God for all the blessings during this busy semester.

I spent last summer in the United States conducting research for my dissertation. I also took time to take my family and visit some places including the White Estate in Silver Spring and the home of William Miller. This was the first time I had the opportunity to take my three sons to Miller’s farm.

While I was in the U.S., the Center was very busy as the students of the Masters program in theology were taking classes and researching for their theses. Our secretary, Diana Molina (a missionary from Costa Rica), like James White had “the work of three persons upon” her.

On August 20-21, I attended meetings at the South America Division headquarters along with all the Spirit of Prophecy leaders from the Unions and the Research and Study Center directors from South America. We were blessed with the presence and messages of Elders Nix and Timm.

This semester I taught Adventist Church History and Doctrines. Our students were involved in writing the history of the church where they were doing their pastoral practice. Most of the papers presented for the first time the history of those churches.

On September 26, during both morning and afternoon chapels, I presented a summary of Ellen White’s ministry to the theology students (about 470) at IAENE. On the same day I presented the “History of the Youth Department and Pathfinders in America and Brazil” to a group of students that were taking classes in youth and pathfinder leadership.

“Our activities are growing and I am glad that the number of students interested in researching topics involving Adventist History…”

An exhibit display on the Brazilian Seventh-day Adventist Pioneers.
During the weekend of October 4-5, we had IAENE’s Annual Camp Meeting. The theme this year was “Knowing Our History,” and was organized by the senior theology undergraduate students. During Sabbath afternoon we opened our Center and received approximately 500 visitors.

On October 28 our school promoted a “Seminary Scholarship Symposium.” I coordinated the group who researched on Adventist history and doctrines, and made two presentations on “James White and the Health Reform.”

Outside our campus I participated in the program of theological training in Caruaru, State of Pernambuco. This training was organized by the local Conference, and I taught Church History to a group of about 100 local church leaders (October 26-27). In November (8-9) I went to Campina Grande, in the State of Paraíba, and presented the “Spirit of Prophecy Day” and a Church History Seminar in the church district of São José da Mata. The district is composed of 10 churches and during that weekend they gathered together for the seminar. A group of 10 students, led by one of our Research Center graduated assistants, Késio Bezerra, visited a nearby city, Dias D’ávila (known for its mineral springs), for their “Spirit of Prophecy Day.” Professor Natan Silva and I joined the group. We all preached on that Sabbath morning (Nov 23) the sermon from the White Estate, “Remember, and Do Not Forget,” and in the afternoon we had an Adventist History Program, which I concluded with a presentation about the biblical prophetic roots, identity and message of the Adventist movement.

I was also involved in two Master thesis defense in December, three research projects for the undergraduate conclusion projects about Adventist Lifestyle and doctrines, and two research projects done by several students for their classes about the relationship of James and Ellen White, and Ellen White’s views on grandparents and her own experience. I am also advising two Master students who intend to defend their theses by May next year.

Our activities are growing and I am glad that the number of students interested in researching topics involving Adventist History, doctrines and the Spirit of Prophecy is growing as well.

Our greeting from Peru to all of the Ellen G. White Research Centers around the world. I would like to divide this report in the following four parts: personal Activities, personal writings, Center events, and Center productions.

**Personal Activities**

In July, I had two seminars on the history of Young Adventist Ministry. The first one was for the East Central Peruvian Conference and was attended of more than 600 young people. The second was for the Central Peruvian Mission and the attendance was about 250. Then in August, from 7 to 11, I was invited to preach at the camp meeting in Cajamarca, Northern part of Peru. I preached on King David’s to more than 800 people who attended the five-days meetings.

Another two important event that I was involved with were the X Simposio Bíblico Teológico Sudamericano (X South American Biblical-Theological Symposium) that was held at the Adventist University of Chile, located in Chillán, Republic of Chile. The theme of the meeting was: Revelation: “The End-time Gospel.” Hundreds of theology professors, administrators, pastors, editors and lay brothers of the whole territory of the South American Division met for this important event.

“In September, my book entitled *The Apocalypse in the Seventh-day Adventist Interpretation* was launched.”
Among the presenters were people from the Biblical Research Institute of the General Conference, the White Estate Main Office, Andrews University and others. I was invited to present a lecture on the “Apocalypse in the Seventh-day Adventist Interpretation from 1862 to 2013: A Historical View.” Then, between 21 and 22 of August, I attended the “Five-Year Council of the Spirit of Prophecy” and met with Union Spirit of Prophecy coordinators and Directors of Ellen G. White Research and Study Centers from eight South American Countries. James R. Nix and Alberto R. Timm from the Main Office of the White Estate also attended the meetings and gave presentations.

In November, I attended the annual meetings of the Adventist Theological Society and Adventist Society for Religious Study in Baltimore, Maryland. I also attended some of the meetings of the Evangelical Theological Society and Society of Biblical Literature.

In December, I was involved in preaching or lecturing almost every Sabbath invited by different churches and Conferences: Mision Andina Central, Mision Peruana del Norte and Asociacion Peruana Central Sur. My topic for these meetings was on “The two Axes to Interpret the Book of Revelation.”

During the fall semester, I also taught four courses for the School of Theology at the Peruvian Union University: “Exegetical and Theological of the Book of Revelation;” “Spirit of Prophecy;” “Theological Research;” and “Doctrine of the Sanctuary.” In the middle of the semester, I was also appointed to be the Director of the Graduate Theological Studies.

Personal Writings


In September, my book entitled The Apocalypse in the Seventh-day Adventist Interpretation was launched. The book was introduced by Alberto R. Timm during the X South American Biblical-Theological Symposium in Chile.

It was also a privilege to participate in writing of a book together with Merlin Burt and Alberto R. Timm entitled Legado Adventista: Un panorama histórico y teológico del adventismo (Adventist Legacy: A Historical and Theological Panorama of Adventism). The purpose of this book was to remind readers of our Adventist identity as we celebrated 150 years of the official organization of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Center Events

Here are some major activities of our center done by our whole team:

♦ The inauguration of the Ellen G. White Study Center at Peruvian Union University, campus Chullinquian-Juliaca (Lake Titicaca Mission). The meeting was attended by Orlando Ramos, President of North Peruvian Union, Abimael Obando, President of South Peruvian Union, Elard Cabrera, President of South Peruvian Mission, and Ramiro Díaz, President of South East Peru Mission, Keby Rodriguez was appointed as a Director of the new study Center. Each one of the Unions gave a donation of 13,000 nuevos to help for the buying books and other materials for the Center.

♦ Organizing a seminar entitled: 150 years of Adventist Legacy. We had the privilege to have with us Merlin Burt, Director of Center for Adventist Research, for this event. The nearly 2000 participants of this event were leaders of the church, pastors, students and general public.

♦ Cataloging of articles published in our Adventist magazines in Spanish.

♦ Attention to our patrons. Our center was visited by 1823 patrons this semester.

Center Productions

In this second semester our center produced three new timelines on “History and Development of the Youth Ministry in the Seventh-day Adventist Church;” “History of the Life and Work of Ellen G. White;” and “History Development of the 150 Years of Seventh-day Adventist Church.” Moreover, we produced the book Adventist Legacy.

Finally, I would like to say thanks to my whole team (Carmen, Rocio, Miguel, Emerson, Jorge, Johnatan, and Anderson) for being part of this wonderful ministry.
“Ellen White directs our mind to the heart of the matter, associating identity with a faith-oriented relationship with Jesus.”

I am writing this report on Christmas day, a time for contemplative reflections about God’s greatest gift and the incomprehensible to the human mind expression of His love. In the later part of this year, one Conference asked me to share a brief article on Ellen White’s perspective on identity. It became evident that she directs our mind to the heart of the matter, associating identity with a faith-oriented relationship with Jesus. Further Ellen White linked identity with the “religion of Christ”, by which she meant the reflection of the Spirit of Christ’s life. I concluded that in the depth of such spiritual space, the relational and faith-oriented attachment to God and Jesus anchors identity in the hands of the Potter who shapes its beauty. On the pathway of life’s journey, the question of identity moves beyond the exercise of definitions. Rather, it involves a re-creative contextualization, a metamorphosis of values, feelings and emotions relevant to the complex needs of our contemporary society.

This contemplative theme motivates my busy life and especially it inspired my work during the last six months of 2013. In August, during the Homecoming Program at Avondale College of Higher Education, I was asked to present the Murdoch Lecture. I entitled it “Our Heritage: Sources of information about the past or a therapy for people uncertain who they are?” I have argued the importance of heritage in shaping a community’s identity and its sense of purpose and meaning. More so, I pointed out that heritage is not just information about the past but a source of inspiration and passion for the present and for the future. The theme is the subject of my ongoing research and publications.

A pleasant surprise was positive reaction to my paper presented at an international conference in Portugal (July 23-26). “The Significance of the Place-Historical Narratives in the Context of Spatial Perspective: Case Study”, ed. Sergio Lira, Rogerio Amoeda, Cristina Pinheiro, Proceedings of the 3rd International Conference on Intangible Heritage, Aveiro, Portugal, 2013. In this paper, I have explored the story of Avondale College and Ellen White’s contribution to the development of this educational institution. Just recently, I have submitted an abstract for the conference in 2014 “Cultural Heritage: Transformational and Inspirational Framework for Future Education”. Further, the paper “The Lord has ordained me”: Ellen White’s Perspective” written for the South Pacific Division is now available on http://record.net.au/items/ordination-study-papers-released. I have also completed a paper entitled, “The Heart of the Seventh-day Adventist Health Message” in which I explore why Ellen White received the health vision on Friday evening during her opening Sabbath prayer.

In addition, my administrative assistant Marian de Berg prepares a regular short articles relating to Ellen White’s time in Australia.
Beside the regular teaching responsibilities, the second part of 2013 kept me busy with a number of speaking appointments in New Zealand, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea, Victoria, Adelaide, Northern Australia, Greater Sydney and North NSW. I was pleased so pleased to present a topic on the Seventh-day Adventist Perspective on Wellbeing at the Tertiary Chaplains and Minister's Association Newcastle University. Further, the two highlights of my work this semester was, one, a series sixteen presentations on Seventh-day Adventist church history and Ellen White’s ministry at the Church Leadership workshops in Vanuatu (September 12-18). Sixty local church leaders, pastors and administrators, attended the program. However, the crown of my 2013 experience was the “Youth for Christ” Seminars in Goroka, Papua New Guinea where I was a guest speaker. The program entitled “History & Values: Your Compass in Life” gathered over three hundred young people from the local districts. It was a thrilling experience to share with them the exciting life stories of God’s leading in the lives of people such as William Miller, Joseph Bates, Ellen White and James White. After each session, they had an opportunity to ask questions or seek clarifications. Indeed, I was blessed. The morning session were followed by an evangelistic program in the open cultural park in the centre of Goroka. The theme of my presentations was “Who is this man?” The topics such as “We have found Him!”; “His Presence Surprises”; “His Openness Challenges”; “His Love Heals” and “His Kindness Provides” explored people’s encounter with Jesus. The Sabbath morning, during which I presented the Hope of the Second Coming program, gathered over five thousand people. The response to the appeal was overwhelming. I was touched seeing how God’s Spirit leads and guides people who long of hope and security.

In her last letter, Ellen White wrote this challenging, yet comforting message for those who are troubled with doubts and fears. “It is our privilege to trust in the love of Jesus and salvation.” Here, identity flows from the reassuring conviction of personal worth. “He loves me, He receives me, I will trust Him for He gave His life for me.” Ellen White’s understanding of identity was deeply anchored in her personal attachment to Jesus, her Saviour and friend. What a legacy and what a privilege to share the stories of our heritage with the world and to explore what it means to be a Seventh-day Adventist Christian in 21st century. My year ended with a thrilling highlight, the best Christmas present I could have ever wished. I am so thankful to God for such opportunities.

Southern Africa-Indian Division

Michael Sokupa
Director
Helderberg College
Republic of South Africa

This last half of the year 2013 has been filled with a number of activities. The teaching experience at Helderberg College always yields fulfillment as one sees students gaining interest, skills and competence in handling the writings of E.G. White. In June I was privileged to be invited as a guest lecturer at Zucher Adventist University where I also taught among other things a course on Life and Teachings of Ellen G. White.

The inauguration of two research centers, at Solusi, Zimbabwe, and Zucher, Madagascar brought exciting developments in these areas. Solusi University has already a vibrant study center and there are plans to publish a book on local heritage. Zucher, on the other hand are planning on having a study center as part of their construction of a new library building.

I had also the privilege of conducting a crusade in Ntazinduna, West district near Bulawayo Zimbabwe. While there, I collected some information about the early developments of the Seventh-day Adventist church in that part of the world that goes back to the time of Cecil John Rhodes in the early 1890s.

One of the challenges that we face in the development of study centers is the accessibility of E.G. White books in local languages. Since this is one of the requirements for the establishment of such centers and in order to meet this challenge our Research Center is developing an online translation of Ellen White books in local languages.
There will be a systematic approach to this plan for the entire division. These translation projects will be run in support of, and in cooperation with the office of the SOP coordinator of the Division and the local conferences and unions.

The center has also started a collection of books that were part of Ellen G. White’s personal and office library. The E.G. White estate has compiled a list of these books. We will do our best to build up the full collection in the coming years.

The digitization project has started. We are currently using our photocopy machine to digitize material. We have explored other possibilities for equipment in partnership with other departments. The secretariat department of SID has already initiated plans in this direction. We will also have a team from the GC Archives department coming to our center in May 2014.

This year was crowned by the visit of the Director of the E.G. White Estate Elder Jim Nix and his associate Elder Alberto Timm to our center in November 2013. We had planned to connect with the study centers via internet for a live discussion. Although there were set backs the future plan is to have such media based meetings at least twice a year before the SID E.G. White Board meeting. On Sabbath, November 2, we had a rally in the Cape Town area where about 16 churches converged. Both Elders Nix and Timm preached for the divine service to the adults and the youth respectively. In the afternoon there were seminars on Ellen White. On November 3 we had a heritage tour. We went to the main heritage sites in the area. We visited the first Seventh-day Adventist church in Cape Town with Dr. Birkenstock, the former director of the White Estate Center telling the stories. Sadly, the building is no longer owned by the Seventh-day Adventists. We also visited the first colored church in South Africa with Mrs. Ivy Petersen leading out. Next we saw the first black church in Cape Town. We hope to make this an annual event and also have an official inauguration of these heritage sites. We hope to encourage every union in SID to have at least one official tour per year of all the heritage sites in their territory.

There is a growing interest in the local conferences to have a Spirit of Prophecy feature in the camp meeting programs. Consequently, in September, I was invited to Umtata, a city in the east part of South Africa near Durban and Butterworth for a camp meeting. This provided an opportunity to meet people representing the entire area. People in these areas would like Ellen G. White books in their language. In Butterworth we have a college that has now been reduced to a high school with a rich heritage of the beginnings of the training of black teachers and ministers locally. There are plans underway to set up a mini-center in this town.

Every year I make a point of planning to visit a center of Branch office. In the past couple of years it was part of my BRICOM trips, which made things much easier on the budget. But this year there was a deliberate plan to visit the center in Brazil at UNASP University. Our division has three unions and an attached field that are Portuguese speaking. We discussed possibilities of cooperation with my colleague in Brazil Dr. Stencel. I look forward to working with them in partnership as we develop the work in our territory.

I thank the E.G. White Estate and SID for providing means to support the operation of the center. I also thank Helderberg College for the support they have given to the center. I also want to thank Pastor Moesi the SID Coordinator for his support.

I am currently teaching the course “Adventist Heritage.” It traces the history of the Seventh-day Adventist Church with special emphasis on the prophetic ministry of Ellen G. White. The total enrolment for this course has exceeded 130 students. In addition to teaching the course “Adventist Heritage,” I also teach six New Testament courses for undergraduate and graduate students.

I am also working as the research committee chairperson for Master level students with emphasis on biblical-theological studies. Every Sabbath I also conduct youth Bible study / baptismal class for high school and college students. Last September four of the students were baptized.
There are a number of students who are getting ready to be baptized this coming January 2014. I also lead a Sabbath School class every Sabbath morning. In the past six months I was invited to preach a number of times. Some of the invitations included:

- Vespers at Mizo Conference headquarters, Mizoram
- Divine service and AY service at Samtlang church, Mizoram
- Divine service at Tamil church, Maharashtra
- Divine services at Spicer Church, Maharashtra,
- Mizo fellowship meeting, Spicer College, etc.

October 11-12 weekend was set aside for Spirit of Prophecy emphasis weekend at Spicer College Church. Student workers of the Ellen G White Research Centre, along with students of the Theology Department took part of the weekend services. The vesper included a skit entitled: “So Near, yet So Far.” It was based on the experience of the children of Israel who failed to enter the Promised Land because of unbelief. This was followed by a sermon emphasizing the same theme. I preached for the divine service on Sabbath and we had the privilege to listen to the choir of the Theology Department. AY service was another skit retelling the beginnings of the Seventh-day Adventist church.

The year 2013 was, for me, extremely busy but also full of opportunities as I participated in various activities of Newbold College and the Seventh-day Adventist Church at large. In addition to the regular lecturing at the College, this year I had to supervise a large number of extended essays, MA dissertations and one PhD dissertation. To introduce students into the world of academia is an exciting but also often painful path. However, when everything is finished successfully at the end, there is sincere joy and friendships developed for life.

When it comes to the Ellen White Centre itself, I had exciting but also demanding time. Although I have come to the point where I think that I know something about the writings of Ellen White, there are constantly new questions, new challenges, or new dilemmas that I never thought of previously. On a regular basis we received letters, e-mail messages from pastors, church administrators and church members with various questions that needed to be answered. At the same time I was constantly involved in speaking appointments at local churches throughout the Trans European Division, at Biblical conferences and scholarly meetings.

“God has blessed us abundantly!”
On January 26 I was invited to present a lecture on the meaning of prayer at the Russian church located in Binfield. On Sunday, February 3, I was speaking at the Symposium on Perfection organized by the South England Conference, held at the Stanborough Secondary School near London. The president of South England Conference told me that it was the “burning theological issue” for the Conference and that he would invite all those who had been struggling with this subject. However, only a few turned up for the meetings and we were basically talking to the converted ones. Curiously, during the next few weeks I received several reactions from church members living in different parts of the United Kingdom because they had watched the recorded material online.

On February 9, I was asked to present the same topic in the Seventh-day Adventist church in Bracknell. Some church members watched the presentations at Stanborough School and they were eager to hear some further clarifications. We were especially blessed during the afternoon time when we had a question and answer period.

On February 9, I was asked to present the same topic in the Seventh-day Adventist church in Bracknell. Some church members watched the presentations at Stanborough School and they were eager to hear some further clarifications. We were especially blessed during the afternoon time when we had a question and answer period.

Two weeks later I had the privilege of taking part in the special heritage Sabbath organized in Beckton church in London. Then, one week later I spoke at the Fulham church in London on the issue of revelation and inspiration.

Saturday, March 9, was a special day for Newbold College. Church members from all around the British Union were invited to come and participate in a Bible Conference. Several lecturers from Newbold presented relevant topics for the theology and the life of the church. I spoke on the issue of the “Second Coming” which I believe is one of the burning subjects for Adventism today. Next Sabbath, 17 March, I travelled to Leeds, port of the North England Conference, where I gave two presentations on the issue of Hermeneutics. Many people, especially the young in our church, are well educated and they follow the theological discourses in our church. Because of that I found that the question and answer period is the most stimulating.

On April 6 I spoke at the London Central church. At the end of April I travelled to Loma Linda University for the Biblical Research meetings. The Sabbath before the meetings I presented a theological reflection in the Valley Seventh-day Adventist Church in Los Angeles.

Back to United Kingdom, on 18 May I spoke at Ilford church in North London at their Spirit of Prophecy day. We spent the whole day discussing different issues related to the role and ministry of Ellen White in the Adventist Church. On 25 May I travelled to the North England Conference, to Sutton in Ashfield. It was another busy Sabbath day of study and worship.

For the last several years I have had also the opportunity to give Bible studies to young people at Newbold College. One result of these studies was the baptism of Misha that I was asked to do on June 8 at the Stanborough Seventh-day Adventist church in Watford. The whole service and experience can hardly be described by words. After the ceremony more than one hundred people were invited for a special meal at Misha’s parents’ home. It was such a blessing to be part of the baptism of Misha’s baptism.

From June 17 to 28, I was teaching an intensive post-graduate class, Issues in Contemporary Theology, at Belgrade Theological Seminary. Students came from different countries of the Trans European Division. It was extremely exhausting but at the same time rewarding.

From July 23 to August 9, I travelled to the Philippines where I spoke at three Bible conferences organized by the Biblical Research Committee. Together with several other teachers from Andrews University and the General Conferences, we spoke at three different locations, Bacolod, Manila and Cebu, to the ministers from the three Unions. It was rainy season in the Philippines and humidity was so high that at times it was difficult to breathe. However, the cheerful and happy faces of the ministers from the Philippines will stay with me for the rest of my life.

On August 30, I travelled to Norway. On Friday evening I had the opportunity to visit and speak at the Matteson Mission School. It was an interesting experience. The day after, on Sabbath morning, I spoke in the beautiful newly-built church in Drammen in the outskirts of Oslo. I enjoyed meeting a good group of church members.

“We spent the whole day discussing different issues related to the role and ministry of Ellen White in the Adventist Church”
The next Sabbath I was back speaking in the North Wembley Community Church in London. From the Sabbath school until six o’clock in the afternoon I was behind the pulpit. Exhausting, but at the same time rewarding to see such great interest among our members for spiritual matters. The Sabbath after I travelled to Portsmouth Seventh-day Adventist church. This church consists mainly of members who came to the United Kingdom from Africa and because of that their concerns and questions had that background.

On September 21 I spoke at the Seventh-day Adventist church in Apeldoorn, Holland. The passion for biblical truth was the same there as anywhere else. On that Sabbath I met Antoinette, a member of that church and a famous anchor of the Dutch national television. For the last 16 years she has had an average of 1.5 million viewers per week. Her husband is a member of the Dutch parliament. I was happy to see such people being faithful members of our church. On October 19 I spoke in the South Slav Adventist church in Chicago and later in the week I participated in the Biblical Research Committee meetings at Andrews University.

From 8 to 16 November I had a series of presentations (nine evenings) to secular people in Belgrade, Serbia. It was great challenge and joy to look at the faces of non-Adventist people who kept coming night after night (some of them one hour in advance to be sure of a seat). The first evening around hundred people were turned away because there were not enough seats available. The meetings were held in one of the most well-known hotels in the centre of the city. God has blessed us abundantly! Finally, I travelled to Italy to the city of Padova on November 29 and 30. From Friday evening to Saturday afternoon we discussed different issues related to Ellen White.

Soli Deo Gloria!

“I was happy to see such people being faithful members of our church.”

West-Central Africa Division

Adelowo Felix Adetunji
Director
Babcock University
Nigeria

“The assignment is challenging, but God is more than sufficient”

REDEPLOYMENT OF FORMER DIRECTOR AND APPOINTMENT OF A NEW DIRECTOR

On July 1, 2013, the former Director, who had whole-heartedly led the Research Centre for eleven years and one month, was reassigned to serve as the Dean of the School of Education and Humanities. At that time, I, Pastor (Dr.) Adelowo Felix Adetunji was nominated through the Division as the new Director for the Research Centre. Action for the appointment was taken by the Ellen G. White Estate Board of Trustees on November 14, 2013. To me, the appointment is a call to service. The assignment is challenging, but God is more than sufficient.

WEEKLY PUBLICATIONS

A weekly write-up of inspiring quotes on various themes selected from Ellen G. White writings tagged, “From the Pen of Inspiration”, was introduced as soon as I assumed the office. Copies of these are pasted on strategic locations on our campus. Copies are also sent on weekly basis to individuals and some of the church institutions around the world, to an ever-expanding email list. This is in addition to the existing weekly Newsflash which, for some years, has been sent to different parts of the world from our Research Centre.
RESEARCH TRIP TO GHANA UNION

During the period under review, the Research Assistant for the Centre, Mrs. Abimbola Fagbe, paid a research visit to Ghana Union from August 16 – 30, 2013. She conducted interviews with some of the pioneers in the Union and also returned with some useful and relevant documents. The outcome of the visit shall be featured in our future “Pioneer of the Month” series.

ELDERS JIM NIX AND TIMM ALBERTO’S VIST

The Director, Ellen G. White Estate, Elder Jim Nix and his Associate, Elder Alberto Timm visited our Research Centre from November 4 - 6, 2013. During the visit, our Supervisory Committee Meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Pastor John N. Enang, the Spirit of Prophecy (SOP) Coordinator for the West-Central Africa Division.

Our guests also paid a visit to the proposed building into which the Research Centre will soon relocate. The proposed facilities in the Old Cafeteria consist of the pioneer building, guest café (on the ground floor) and part of the guest house in the first floor of the same building. We are grateful to the University Administration under the Leadership of Prof. J. A. Kayode Makinde.

Between November 8 - 10, 2013, the West-Central Africa Division (WAD) SOP Advisory Meeting was held in Abidjan with some Union SOP Coordinators in attendance. The Sabbath was made special with SOP Seminars/Presentations by Elders Jim Nix and Alberto Timm.

FUTURE PLAN

By God’s special grace, we are about to begin a Radio Program tentatively tagged, “Counsels from Ellen G. White” on Babcock University FM Radio Station. This, apart from the University Community, will also enrich the spirituality of the neighboring towns and villages.

CONCLUSION

We thank God for how He led in all the activities that took place during the remaining part of the period under review. We pray that He will continue to lead us in the coming years as we “Keep the Flame Alive.”

 Statistical Report of Activities from July to December 2013

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<th>July to December 2013</th>
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</table>

A group photograph taken during the visit of Ellen G. White Research Centre, Babcock University, Ilishan-Remo in Nigeria.

Elders Nix and Alberto in tour of the Research Centre’s Vault.
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**Loma Linda University**  
(Research Center 1976; Branch Office 1985)

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**Oakwood University (1999)**

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Divisions and Research Centers
East Central Africa Division (2003)

Kenya Research Center (2001)

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Euro-Asia Division (Organized 1990; reorganized 1994)

Russia Research Center (1995)

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Divisions and Research Centers Continued
Inter-American Division (1922)

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Mexico Research Center (1978)

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Puerto Rico Research Center (2011)

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Inter-European Division (2012)
France Research Center (2002)

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North American Division (1913)

Texas Research Center (2004)

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Northern Asia-Pacific Division (1997)

Korea Research Center (1992)

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South American Division (1916)

Argentina Research Center (1979)

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### Northeast Brazil Research Center (2011)

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### Peru Research Center (2009)

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**South American Division Spirit of Prophecy Coordinator**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Office Phone</th>
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<tr>
<td>Almir Marroni, SOP Coordinator</td>
<td>55 61 3701 1818</td>
<td>55 61 3345 7778</td>
<td><a href="mailto:almir.marroni@adventistas.org.br">almir.marroni@adventistas.org.br</a></td>
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**South Pacific Division (1922)**

**Australia Research Center (1976)**

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<tr>
<td>John Skrzypaszek, Director</td>
<td>61 2 4980 2138</td>
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**South Pacific Division Spirit of Prophecy Coordinator**

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<tr>
<td>David Tasker, SOP Coordinator</td>
<td>61 2 9847 3333</td>
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Southern Africa-Indian Division (1922)

South Africa Research Center (1983)

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West-Central Africa Division (2003)

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