in focus

Inevitable and immutable

The holiday season seems compressed this year, with Christmas coming even more quickly on the heels of Thanksgiving. In preparation for my annual e-mail missive to family and friends, I’m chronicling in my mind the significant events and memories of 2008. One of the main ones involved my mother. In September my younger brother and I sifted through all her earthly possessions as she prepared to move to Michigan from British Columbia, Canada. Even though the process was difficult for all of us we knew that the end result would be positive and the change was inevitable. She will soon turn 90 and it’s a blessing to have her closer.

From a personal to a global perspective, the significance of world events in the past three months has been nothing short of amazing, some would even say inevitable. In the process of developing an online archive of previous Focus issues I came across David Beckworth’s article, “A World Out of Balance” (Winter 2007). He was particularly prescient in predicting our current economic meltdown. No doubt all of us have been affected, either directly or indirectly, but we can take this as an opportunity to listen to the words of Christ in Matthew 6:19-34. They contain a lot of wisdom about the right attitude we should have toward our money and possessions here on earth.

Then there was the political scene this fall. Ray Suarez, Washington-based senior correspondent for PBS’s “The News Hour,” spoke at a University Forum of the relationship between religion and politics and challenged students to take civil engagement seriously. A thoughtful and well-balanced mock political debate by two student teams drew a crowd who “voted” for either Team McCain or Team Obama. Has the United States electorate ever been so passionately involved in the process of electing the nation’s next president?

The changing of the guard is also taking place at Andrews University. For decades we have benefited from a cadre of dedicated faculty who devoted most of their career to this particular institution. The inevitability of their retirement is upon us and they are moving on, one by one. Professor of English Stella Greig’s shoes will be challenging to fill. She is a community-builder who respects and celebrates diversity and her insightful teaching has influenced hundreds of students across the globe. We honor her unique contributions to Andrews University in this issue.

Along with being thankful for dedicated faculty, we are thankful for another record enrollment of talented young people, ready to learn God’s path for their lives. Even though the financial outcome of the world market is uncertain, our donors have generously given in support of Adventist higher education in 2008. We appreciate their contributions that make a positive difference in many students’ lives and enable the university to operate on a solid footing.

What does God have in store for our future? Only He knows for sure. We can bank on the immutable fact that God is in control and His love never changes. What more could we ask for? May His peace and blessing rest on all of you this holiday season.
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by Andre Weston

If you were unable to attend, or even if you were on campus, experience some of the highlights of this year's reunion through the words and photos from this memorable occasion.

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The life and times of Stella Greig are chronicled in this captivating account of how a little girl from Texas became a pioneer for inclusion and diversity at Andrews and abroad. Though her 40 years of full-time service to Andrews University officially came to an end this fall, she is still a contract teacher for the ESL program in Korea.

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by Shirley C. Iheanacho

Iheanacho revisits the places and memories of 40 years ago when she returns for her class reunion with her husband, daughter and grandson. Though she notices many visible changes at Andrews, there are still many places and touch points that remain the same.

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On the cover
Stella Greig, professor emerita of English, outside of Nethery Hall, her academic home for almost four decades. Photo by Sarah Lee (BT ’02)
Good memories

[Recently] we received the Focus winter issue. My wife, Gertrudis, and I feel a deep emotion when we remember all that Andrews University signified for both of us. I was the headmaster of River Plate College, located in Argentina, when the church decided to send me to Andrews in order to finish my education. I am so grateful for their decision for several reasons: the good and knowledgeable Christian teachers with whom I made strong relationships; the many students from all over the world with whom I had the privilege of friendship and sharing school life, and finally, because I felt the understanding of the teachers in spite of my great difficulties with the English language.

I thank Andrews University for all I have received from her through those several years. The gospel of salvation must reach all the world before Jesus comes with great power and glory. Andrews University trains missionaries to go to all the world, achieving their purpose through the continuous presence of the Holy Spirit of God in all their educational programs.

May God bless now this institution as well as He has done in the past.

Egil Wensell (MA ’76, EdD ’82)

Don’t forget to write

Letters to Focus are always welcome. To ensure a range of viewpoints, we encourage letters of fewer than 300 words. Letters may be edited for content, style and space. Opinions expressed in letters are not necessarily shared by the editors, university employees, officers and administrators.

Write: Editor, Focus Andrews University Berrien Springs MI 49104 E-mail: focus@andrews.edu

Signs of progress

Congratulations on a truly incomparable edition of Focus (summer 2008), regarding the inauguration of the brand new facilities at Andrews. The improvements were beautifully illustrated and reported so effectively. What an inspiration to anyone connected with Andrews! There was not even a breath of triumphalism, only the single concept and purpose of providing the best for young people preparing for service, each in their chosen field.

How beautifully designed, appropriately planned and swiftly expedited! It is very clear that all have pulled together for the permanent enhancement of the University. That one couple’s immeasurable liberality encourages the further generosity of other great-hearted souls. It is like a mighty river, with all its tributaries contributing to its flow. To accomplish so much, by so few, for the blessing of so many, is breathtaking! God bless all those involved with “treasure laid up in heaven.” What more worthwhile investment could be made than in the lives of young people from all nations being educated for lives of service in a Christian environment?

Maynard Lowry (BA ’68)
Another viewpoint

After reading your latest edition, I am writing to express my utter disappointment in the building of the new entrance for Andrews. I have lived at Andrews most of my life and have witnessed how the university administration continuously mishandles its money. Instead of building a new dorm to replace Lamson Hall, or a new building for the pitiful Griggs Hall, which is decaying and falling apart, Andrews again has focused on projecting an external image of success, instead of dealing with the most important internal problems that affect the quality of education in its schools. Instead of raising more money for scholarships (especially for graduate students, where funding in many graduate programs is virtually non-existent) or investing in advanced research (where Andrews lags behind other research institutions of similar size such as Brandeis), Andrews has again decided to invest in another useless project. Were four entrances to our university not sufficient for access? What investments are we going to attract with this new entrance? Having grown up in the southwestern Michigan region, I think the area is renowned more for its rurality and poverty, and there is no need to impress these residents of humble upbringing with bombastic constructions.

In the end, this new entrance will only add to the financial burdens the university has perpetually experienced, calling now for additional yearly maintenance for the preservation of the new entrance road, the increased costs for lighting, mowing, irrigation and so on. I do not think that masses of non-Adventists with high income will now flood onto our campus. Instead, the entrance will serve as an ego boost for native students, faculty and alumni who are patting each other’s backs for yet another financial mistake.

Ernie Medina, Jr. (BS ’89)

Making Andrews visible

I was just reading the latest Focus and note that in the pictures on p. 17 and elsewhere the name of the University is almost nonexistent. The photo on the same page of the old sign being trashed is, however, very readable. How sad that so much is invested and yet does not do what it is supposed to do. We have a similar problem with the new sign at our church. I wonder what can be done. Maybe the architects involved or the university architectural department can help. If this is a recommendation from NAD, perhaps someone there could step up to the plate and offer a solution. A sign that does not inform is like salt still in the shaker—it does not season either.

Edna Mason (wife of an alum)

I was very interested in reading about the new campus entrance for Andrews University. However, I was disappointed in the omission of a small map that details the location of the new entrance in relation to the campus. So while I was able to read about the new entrance, I was unable to picture exactly where it is and where it leads. I believe a small map would be very beneficial to readers like me who have not been on campus in many years.

David Son (BS ’89)

Editor’s Note: A new campus map is available for download at www.andrews.edu/about/visiting/campus_map.html.
A record-setting 2008–2009 school year is underway at Andrews University with numbers and national rankings reaching historic levels. Andrews University has been listed among the “Best National Universities” for 2009, as reported in U.S. News and World Report’s “America’s Best Colleges” issue. The report ranks Andrews University as the 7th most racially diverse national university. Of the approximate 4500 higher education institutions in the United States, 262 are recognized as national universities, schools that provide master’s and doctoral programs as well as undergraduate degrees. Just 98 private institutions meet these requirements. Andrews is the only Seventh-day Adventist institution included as a national university and is one of seven national universities in Michigan.

The Andrews University final fall census report for 2008–2009 shows 3,419 enrolled students, a 6.1% jump since last school year. Additionally, the undergraduate enrollment of 1,760 students and 396 freshmen are the largest since the early 1990s.

“It’s exciting to have a year filled with some remarkable historical achievements,” says Stephen Payne, vice-president of Enrollment Management and Integrated Marketing & Communication. “It’s something that simply reflects God’s blessings, a lot of hard, strategic and coordinated work across our campus, from our enrollment and student financial services teams to teachers and the staff in the residence halls who all helped prepare for students who were joining us, either for the first time, or returning to continue their education at Andrews University.”

The freshman population is up 17.5% and the FTE’s (full-time equivalent) is up 6.5%. Transfers have increased 4.2% and undergraduate enrollment is up 8.3%.

“In terms of our growth, we’re seeing part of a wave of entering freshmen that’s growing nationwide and predicted to hit its peak nationally next year,” says Payne. “…Even so, it’s exciting to experience remarkable growth here in the Midwest.”

“Our retention rate went up nicely,” said Don May, assistant dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and director of general education and student retention. “Last year, our student retention rate (the number of first-year students who return) was at 77.5%. This year we are at 80%…We can be pleased our students are returning and graduation rates remain steady.”

Enrollment is also up 22.5% for first-time graduates and 5.9% for overall graduates, reaching 1,530 students, the highest enrollment in over 10 years. Payne concludes, “Beyond all of these statistics, we realize that we are, in a very real way, talking about young men and women, each of them individuals, who have chosen Andrews University for their own personal and profound reasons, to discover their future and fulfill in their own lives what we describe as our school’s mission: we are a place where students can Seek Knowledge, Affirm Faith and Change the World.”
Engineering receives ABET accreditation

In August, 2008, Andrews University’s Department of Engineering & Computer Science was notified by ABET (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology) of their ABET accreditation achievement, retroactive to 2006, for the engineering program. ABET is the nationally recognized accrediting body for college and university programs in applied science, computing, engineering and technology. This came two years earlier than the original goal and makes Andrews University the second accredited engineering program in the Adventist higher education system in addition to the program at Walla Walla University.

“Our program has always been of the highest quality. ABET accreditation confirms this,” said Bill Wolfer, chair of the Department of Engineering & Computer Science.

In the midst of the accreditation process, the Industrial Partnership Counsel (IPC), made up of education and industrial professionals, was formed to provide input into the program. Members of the IPC, which represents a regional, national and global perspective, include individuals from Western Michigan University, the University of Notre Dame, Grand Valley State University, Premier Tool & Die Cast Corporation, Berrien Regional Education Service Agency, LECO Corporation, American Electric Power and the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers.

The former faculty of the engineering technology program laid the foundation for developing a strong engineering technology and pre-engineering program. “We had a strong two-year pre-engineering program, which gave us a head start and is one of the main reasons we are two years ahead of our goal to achieve ABET accreditation,” says Wolfer.

In 2002, a committee was formed to explore the feasibility of establishing an engineering program at Andrews. In February, 2003, a four-year engineering degree program was approved and the program was officially underway by Fall Semester of 2003. The first students majoring in engineering graduated in 2006.

Bruce Lee (deceased), a former chair of the physics department, and his wife Barbara, stepped in with generous support. Their gifts made it possible to equip labs with cutting-edge technology, helping attract internationally diverse, world-class educators and professionals dedicated to delivering the best engineering education possible.

“The educational and professional experiences of our faculty are amazing. When you see their passion, the cutting-edge equipment and effective student-to-teacher ratio, our students have unprecedented opportunities to learn and grow and be mentored by the best,” says Niels-Erik Andreasen, president of Andrews University. “Our faculty aspire to be socially responsible engineers who prepare our students well for continuing education (grad school) and industry. We hope that they will take our values of social responsibility and service throughout their career.”

Currently, the Andrews University Department of Engineering and Computer Science employs five engineering faculty, three computing faculty and has 100 students.

ABET, Inc., a federation of 28 professional and technical societies, is among the most respected accreditation organizations in the U.S., ABET currently accredits some 2,800 programs at more than 600 colleges and universities nationwide. ABET is recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

Several individuals deserve special recognition for their hard work and contribution to achieving ABET accreditation including Verlyn Benson, dean of the College of Technology; Glenn Johnson, associate professor emeritus; Ronald L. Johnson, associate professor emeritus; Robert Kingman, professor emeritus; Harold Lang, professor emeritus; Bob Ludeman, professor emeritus; Wes Shultz, former dean of the College of Technology; Linda Thorman, consultant; and Willyta Wamack, administrative assistant.

European Tours

Alumni and friends of Andrews University are invited to join one of the following 2009 European tours offered by Merlene Ogden, dean emerita of Andrews University:

Ukraine, Black Sea and Istanbul Cruise
June 11 – 28, 2009
Cruise on the Dnieper River through the Ukraine and on the Black Sea along the coasts of Romania and Bulgaria, and overland by coach to Istanbul. Visit Kiev, Sevastopol, Yalta, and Odessa in the Ukraine, plus Constanta in Romania, and Nessebar in Bulgaria to Istanbul.

Post-Cruise Extension in Turkey
June 28–July 2, 2009
Visit Troy, the Seven Churches of Revelation, and the Isle of Patmos.

European Holiday Markets River Cruise
December 7–16, 2009
Visit Nuremberg, Regensburg, and Passau, Germany, as well as Linz, Durnstein, and Vienna, Austria. The highlight of this cruise will be the festive Christmas Markets in each city, along with holiday music.

Pre-Cruise Extension to Prague, Czech Republic
December 3–7, 2009
For information, please contact:
Merlene A. Ogden
4683 Timberland Drive
Berrien Springs, MI 49103
Phone: 269-471-3781
E-mail: ogden@andrews.edu
Got milk? Andrews does

One hundred and one years after their first cow was milked, the Andrews University Farm and Dairy celebrated the grand opening of a new milking parlor and Visitor’s Center on Friday, Sept. 26, 2008. A sizeable crowd enjoyed refreshments—including cheese made from the milk of Andrews University cows—and tours of the milking parlor and barns.

In the Visitor’s Center, Katherine Koudele, professor of animal science, said, “The visitor center that you see will serve as the education center for the community groups that request tours here.”

Thomas Chittick, chair of the Department of Agriculture, thanked those involved. “It begins with administrators, people that support what we’re doing here, and are happy to see farming and agriculture continue on this campus.”

President Niels-Erik Andreasen acknowledged the farm’s importance to underdeveloped countries. “This farm is the source of work and experience for our students…It’s a university farm and it’s a good one, and it helps the university reach out around the world and support people in need.”

“What you’re doing here is training more and more people to have a concept of what agriculture is really all about…Andrews University, you’ve done a great job!” congratulated Kenneth Nobis, president of the board for Michigan Milk Producers Association Cooperative.

The milk produced at the dairy is marketed by the Michigan Milk Producers Association Cooperative (MMPA). The herd, comprised of approximately 1,250 cows, is housed at both Andrews University and Indiana Academy in Cicero, Ind. Young heifers are sent to Indiana Academy at four months old and return to Andrews at 22 months to be milked.

Obama, McCain and AU

It is unlikely that Barack Obama or John McCain know off the top of their heads where Andrews University is on a map. However, the students of Andrews certainly know where the candidates are—at least as far as their policies go. That was the case on Oct. 7, 2008, when two teams of Andrews students went head to head with each other in a mock presidential debate. The approximately 50-minute event took place in the Howard Performing Arts Center before an audience of nearly 170 students, faculty and community friends.

The two teams prepared for the debate over a two-week period, finding time between homework and social life, and took responsibility for articulating the domestic and foreign policy points of Sens. Obama and McCain. Rhetorical coaching skills were assisted by English professor Ivan Davis, while help with argumentative style was available from lawyer Jason Hines. Brent Geraty, professor of legal studies, helped organize the event.

Team Obama consisted of seven students; Robert Moncrieff, Matthew Rosenhagen and Edwin Hernandez, with Ehren Lichtenwarter, Andrew Gerard, Andre Weston and Ryan Choi debating onstage. Representing team McCain were eight students; Seth Wiedemann, Joshua Sanabria and Tyler Bodi, with Bradley Sica, Jason Miller, Jonathan Koch and Jennifer Thorman debating on stage.

When the debate began, both teams took turns answering questions from student moderators and also took time to rebut the opposition.

Throughout the discourse, the atmosphere remained cordial between the teams who shook hands afterwards and stayed on stage for photo opportunities. Audience polling indicated that 68.8% of registered voters present at the debate sided with the Obama/Biden ticket while 26% backed McCain/Palin. When asked which debate team performed best, 49.3% indicated team Obama while 43.0% indicated team McCain. The debate was a collaborative effort between the Departments of English and History & Political Science and the Andrews University Pre-Law Society.
Detroit Free Press editor speaks about journalism

“I have a job I have a passion for. I have a job that allows me to use my skills and ideals in order to make something—a community, an organization—better.”

These inspiring words serve as a mantra for Caesar Andrews, executive editor for the Detroit Free Press. He addressed Andrews University students for a Department of Communication assembly on Tuesday, Oct. 7. The students came from a variety of disciplines across campus, including journalism, public relations, and marketing and advertising.

A journalist for 29 years, Andrews has “lived in six different states and worked in eight different newsrooms in 14 different positions.” He says of his career, “The driving force behind all of those years, all those jobs, all those locations is one thing: I’ve had a job that I loved.”

Andrews posed the question: What is the state of the news industry? One response focused on print: “Newspapers are dead.” Another student observed, “The news business is becoming more electronic.” Andrews confirmed, “That is central to what is happening to this industry. There is a sense that if [newspapers] aren’t totally dead, we are certainly on our deathbed. The vital signs, from some perspectives, are not very good.”

Andrews attributed this to a single revolutionary factor: the Internet. “The Internet is affecting how radio stations, television stations and newspapers do business.” Why? “Because it is instantaneous,” he confirmed. “If I want to get off of this deathbed and create a business model that will allow us to survive and thrive…we have to do whatever we have to do, in the end, to connect with readers and viewers and listeners.”

Teacher preparation program gets perfect score

Following the Oct. 14, 2008, State Board of Education meeting, the Andrews University Teacher Preparation Program has been declared an exemplary organization. The program received a perfect score of 70 out of 70 based on an examination given by the Michigan Department of Education. Andrews University was the only institution out of 32 to receive a perfect score and it was the highest score in the state for the 2006–07 academic year. Andrews University’s program took top honors over other higher-profile institutions, including the University of Michigan and Michigan State University. Those institutions scored 68 and 66, respectively.

“This is such a positive thing for teacher preparation,” says Jim Jeffery, dean of the School of Education. “I hope this news can really translate into students exploring education as a career.”

Each year, the State of Michigan develops a report card for the 32 teacher preparation colleges and universities in Michigan. Examiners use seven measures, including passing rates and employer satisfaction surveys, to assess how each institution has performed in preparing elementary and secondary teachers to educate students.

“Many have congratulated the department on their number-one ranking. I want everyone to know this is really a university accomplishment, not just a departmental one. Each student has to pass the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification in order to be certified. Our high pass rate is recognition of how well they are prepared by each of the departments on campus,” says Lee Davidson, chair of the Department of Teaching, Learning & Curriculum. “We pray that by God’s grace we can maintain high standards and prepare teachers that will go out and help change the world for the better.”

Gymnastics do half-time show

The Andrews University Gymnastics hit the court in The Palace for a pre-season Detroit Pistons vs. Atlanta Hawks game half-time show on Thursday evening, Oct. 23.

The Gymnastics team of 28 college students and one high school student had seven minutes to set-up their tumbling mats and perform a routine complete with tumbling, pyramids and basket tosses.

The team received a return invitation to perform Jan. 25, when the Detroit Pistons play the Houston Rockets. Coach Christian Lighthall says, “This opportunity showed the team they are good enough to make a national stage. Now that we have our foot in the door, it opens up the opportunity to perform at other national events.”
Focus Fall 2008

Campus Update

PBS correspondent addresses religion and politics

“It’s a joy to be on a Seventh-day Adventist campus. I’ve long admired the church for its steadfast fidelity to its own way of being Christian and its strong defense of the free exercise of minority faith and most especially for the church’s rigorous and consistent defense of the separation of church and state,” began Ray Suarez, an award-winning broadcast journalist and Washington-based senior correspondent for PBS’s “The News Hour.” Suarez addressed Andrews University students during University Forum on Thursday, Oct. 9. The monthly Forum, often presented by noted leaders, focuses on major issues of concern to Christians as they live and work in the world.

Suarez recently authored a book, The Holy Vote, which explores the convergence of faith and politics. He gave an eye-opening look at the current religious climate in the political arena by posing the question: “Just how much will religion matter this time around [presidential election]?” “Having a nationally recognized media professional, like Ray Suarez, visit Andrews created a unique experience,” said Andre Weston, a senior English major. “I am glad the student body was able to have an encounter with him. Essentially his lecture about faith and politics plugged right into our campus’s ongoing discussion about Christianity’s place in a secular world.”

Suarez speaks widely at colleges and says, “I want them to realize this is not simple and not something that yields easily to simple questions and simple answers. If they are kids for whom religion is important, the lives they lead and the civic engagement they model for the rest of their lives will be America’s conclusion about the right relationship between religion and politics.”

Prior to becoming senior correspondent for “The News Hour,” Suarez hosted the nationwide, call-in news program “Talk of the Nation.” Suarez also hosts the monthly public-radio foreign-affairs series “America Abroad” for PRI and is the narrator for American RadioWorks. He has narrated, anchored or reported many documentaries for public radio and television.

Knott emphasizes the importance of study for preachers


Knott began his four-part lecture series, “Preaching Worthy of the Name,” by bringing to light a unique, personal connection to H.M.S. Richards: while working at a coal mining camp in Colorado, Knott’s grandfather was given Bible studies by Richards’ father, H.M. J. Richards. “So there is a kind of symmetry for being here,” he said.

Knott, himself a veteran pastor and graduate of the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, told the story of Hannah More, an early Adventist reformer, missionary and the subject of Knott’s dissertation. Her story is fragmentary, known mainly to Adventists only through some early writings of Ellen G. White. While studying her 150-year-old handwritten letters, the primary source for his research, Knott grew so familiar he could spot her letters while sifting through microfiche files at a high speed. He connected this skill to the importance of studying the word of God: “You get good when you spend time with a text at understanding its internal consistency. You become good at understanding what is essential about it.”

The lectureship is named in honor of H.M.S. Richards, a pioneering Seventh-day Adventist preacher and founder of the broadcast ministry, The Voice of Prophecy. Sponsored by the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, this annual lectureship advances the theory and practice of Bible-based, Christian preaching among seminarians, professional clergy and interested lay persons. H.M.S. Richards, himself, gave the first lectures in 1957.
180° Symposium held at Seminary

The youth of the Seventh-day Adventist Church are slipping out the back door. This paramount concern was the focus of the “180° Symposium: Slipping Out the Back Door—Issues in Ministering to Millennials,” a gathering of ministry professionals from around the world sponsored by the Center for Youth Evangelism at Andrews University.

This three-day symposium, held Oct. 21–23, 2008, started with an open session where many participants presented research papers followed by a Q&A discussion. The opening session began with an alarming statistic: According to Roger Dudley, director of the Institute of Church Ministry at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, who has researched the church-going habits of Seventh-day Adventist youth and young adults for over 30 years, “40%–50% of those who are baptized members in their mid-teens will drop out of the church by the time they are halfway through their twenties.”

Ron Pickell, coordinator of Adventist Christian Fellowship (ACF), a public college campus ministry for the North American Division, researched what he calls a fundamental blind spot in Adventist youth ministry: all of the attention is focused on the Adventist education system. While there are 23,000 Adventist youth attending a system school, there are 50,000 Adventists who are attending school outside of the Adventist system and 19 million students on public college campuses in North America. “I represent a big part of that group that is matriculating out.”

The following day, symposium participants delved deep into the papers through a process of peer review and evaluation. Five critical themes facing Adventist youth were identified: relationships, service, leadership, identity and spirituality. Symposium participants broke up into smaller groups to narrowly target the issues and possible solutions in each of the five categories. The research presentations coupled with the proposed action plans will be compiled into a book. The book will be made available at the January Adventist Ministries Convention.

First John O. Waller Lectureship on the Arts

Remembering an Andrews University scholar by reflecting on the arts was the goal of the evening, Thursday, Oct. 28, as nearly 100 people met in the Seminary Chapel for the first John O. Waller Lectureship on the Arts. Douglas Jones, chair of the Department of English, expressed excitement that a commemorative lectureship for John O. Waller was finally established and noted that the English department had wanted to put together a series in his honor for several years. Delmer Davis, professor emeritus of English, presented Waller’s life and accomplishments to the crowd through a biographical reading. For many faculty in attendance, the words better served as a reintroduction of an old friend—someone who was both scholarly and approachable, a man who was both Dr. Waller and “Jack.”

Waller chaired the Andrews University Department of English from 1963–1979. An active scholar who devoted time to scholarly research, he was published and referenced in scholarly articles.

On August 28, 2008, Elaine Waller handed President Andreasen a check to complete the initial phase of the John O. Waller Lectureship Fund endowment.

Stella Greig, professor emerita of English, introduced the guest speaker, former Andrews University teacher William S. Peterson, professor emeritus of English at the University of Maryland. Peterson was a student of Waller’s at Walla Walla College and a long-time friend. Peterson’s lecture was entitled, “William Morris’s Pocket Cathedral: The Kelmscott Press Chaucer.” The thought-provoking and engaging presentation was an exploration of the publication process and artistic expression of Chaucer, an 1896 product of William Morris’ Kelmscott Press. Peterson carefully outlined the precision, intent and conflicts which arose in the making of what has been hailed as a masterpiece of book production and the zenith of private press publishing.

Those interested in donating to the Fund should contact the Department of English at english@andrews.edu or 269-471-3298.
FOCUS | FALL 2008

National tournament play

After a successful 6-3-1 season, the Andrews University Lady Cardinals soccer team (above) was invited to the United States Collegiate Athletic Association’s (USCAA) National Tournament. The tournament was by invitation only to the top eight USCAA teams. Ranked as the fourth seed, 18 Lady Cardinals left for Burlington, Vt., on Wednesday, Oct. 29, 2008.

The Cardinals won their first game against New Hampshire Institute of Technology with a score of 1–0 with Traci Washington, nursing major and team midfielder, scoring the only goal. The win advanced the team to the second round game on Friday, where they faced off against the number one seed, Southern Virginia University (SVU).

“I was very proud of our girls,” said head coach Mickey Kutzner, research professor of physics, when describing his team’s performance against SVU. “I thought they played a heroically excellent game, even though we came up a little short.” The tough matchup left the Cardinals one goal behind with a final score of 1–0, SVU victory. SVU went on to take the national tournament, winning 3–0 in the final game.

“I feel like we are a young team with a lot of freshmen and underclassmen, so we are looking to continue to improve. We’re really excited about the future of this team,” says Kutzner.

During the event, USCAA tournament directors were fully aware of the Seventh-day Adventist Sabbath-keeping belief of the Cardinals and were more than willing to provide an accommodating schedule that did not conflict or infringe upon the Sabbath.

Third annual science and religion forum

“Religion and science meet at nature,” stated President Niels-Erik Andreasen, while addressing the crowd at the third annual Autumn Conference, held Saturday, Oct. 25, 2008. The conference, hosted by the Andrews University Religion and Science Forum and the Midwest Religion and Science Society (MRSS), was designated to honor the accepted proposal of establishing the Midwest Center of Religion and Consciousness (MCRC). The center will focus on gaining research about current issues revolving around science, religion and the mysteries of consciousness.

Karen K. Abrahamson, managing editor for Andrews University Seminary Studies, and Steve Harnish, professor of mathematics at Bluffton University in Ohio, will be the first research fellows for the center. Both are current steering committee members of MRSS.

Organizers, presenters and conference organizers included an interdenominational group comprised of Seventh-day Adventist, Anabaptist, Church of the Brethren and Catholic backgrounds.

Following the various presentations, panel discussions and breakout sessions, a synthesis session concluded the one-day conference.

Carl Helrich, MRSS director from Goshen College, summed up the day’s events best, saying, “I learned more about Seventh-day Adventist teachings than I knew before. These new thoughts present me with a sense of wonder. There is, indeed, an embodiment of both science and religion in who we are.”

Center for Teaching & Learning Excellence open house

The Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence has a new approach to improving faculty development at Andrews University. On Thursday, Oct. 9, the Center hosted an open house in the Mary Jane Mitchell Multimedia Center of the James White Library. Faculty members were invited to explore the faculty development resource collection, learn more about faculty development opportunities and interact with colleagues.

The Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence strives to help faculty members perfect their teaching duties. By focusing on the scholarship of teaching and learning, faith-learning integration, diversity, assessment and service among others, the Center hopes to bring an enriched learning environment of transformational growth.

The James White Library houses more than 350 faculty development tools which highlight topics such as assessment, diversity, engaging pedagogy, the integration of faith and learning, service learning/civic engagement, and the scholarship of teaching and learning.