The current public discussion about education in America is focusing upon access and quality. President Obama restarted that conversation already during his run for election. He observed then that for America to be competitive in the world economy its children and young adults would need access to good quality education, also at the college level. Only with a good education will the next generation be able to take full advantage of the rapid developments in high technology that impact all areas of our life. And at the individual level, a young adult with a college degree is likely to earn $1 million more over a lifetime than someone with a high school diploma. Clearly the cost of falling behind in education will be high to individuals, our Church and society at large.

Adventist educators and leaders understood the importance of access to a good quality education almost from the time our Church began. They called it true education, now Christian education. For example, during the 30 years between 1874 when Andrews University was founded and 1905 when Loma Linda University was founded, 11 Adventist colleges were established in North America. That represents one new college every third year on average, or one new Adventist college for every 10,000 new church members on average. Each of those schools, except LLU, generally included elementary, secondary and college levels. And such an institution was co-educational from the beginning, usually with a college building in the center and residences for boys/men on one side and girls/women on the other. From a front office in the central building the principal/vice president could keep a watchful eye on the students! This represented an enormous commitment by our Church to provide access to education for all, men and women alike, as the Church spread across the country from the northwest to the west and south. The plan was to provide a place in school and college for every young adult Adventist. The result of those initiatives was impressive. By 1960 when Andrews and Loma Linda universities were formed, one student attended an Adventist school for every four church members worldwide.

In our time that once impressive ratio has slipped so that now we enroll one student for every ten church members worldwide. That does not necessarily mean Adventist parents and church leaders have retreated from their commitment to education, but for whatever reason our Church membership is growing faster than our education enrollment. Clearly, new strategies will have to be employed in order for Adventists to keep their commitment to education strong. One of those strategies is the newly formed alliance between Andrews and Griggs universities. That alliance was voted by the General Conference Executive Committee, the Griggs board and the Andrews board last fall, and the move of Griggs to Andrews will take place this summer. A few Griggs staff persons will be integrated directly into Andrews service and support departments, such as Admissions, Academic Records and Student Financial Services. Most other Griggs people will have their offices in part of the Lake Union Conference Executive Office.

The Andrews University Magazine
President
Niels-Erik Andreasen (MA '65, BD '68)
Provost
Andrew Larson (MA '78)
Vice President for University Advancement
David A. Faehner (BA '72)
Vice President for Student Life
Frances Faehner (BSW '76, BEd '87)
Vice President for Financial Administration
Lawrence E. Schaal (BS '64, MBA '71)
Vice President for Enrollment Management and Integrated Marketing & Communication
Stephan Payne
FOCUS 3380 W. College Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-0950 or e-mail alumni@andrews.edu.
FOCUS is published quarterly free of charge, for alumni and friends of Andrews University; an institution owned and operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The Maggie Adams address is FOCUS, Office of Integrated Marketing & Communication, Andrews University, 3380 W. College Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-0950. Reproduction in whole or part without permission is prohibited. Printed by The Hamblin Company, Tecumseh MI. Periodicals postage paid at Berrien Springs MI and additional mailing offices.
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FOCUS, Office of Integrated Marketing & Communication, Andrews University, 3380 W. College Court, Berrien Springs MI 49104-0950 or e-mail alumni@andrews.edu.

Editor
Patricia Spangler (BS '94)
focus@andrews.edu | 269-471-3315
Contributing Editors
Tami Condon (BS '91)
Keri Suarez (BA '01)
Designer
Matt Hennel (BF '10)
Writers
Peggy Dudley (BA '91, MA '93, PhD '98)
Samantha Snelley
Photographers
Darrin Welply (BA '10)
Austin Ho
Martin Lee
Sarah Lee (BT '02)
JASON LEMON
Katalin Mitchell (BA '11)
Esther Noreen

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From Fireside Correspondence School to Home Study Institute to Home Study International to GEG University/International Academy, the mission of distance education is expanding around the globe.
An excellent teacher

I was saddened yet blessed by the notice of the passing of Hans K. Laflondelle in the winter issue of Focus magazine. I was a seminary student from the fall of 1970 through the winter of 1972, graduating in 1973. Four professors were especially engaging to me during that time—Raycl Doderen, Gertha Hasel, Mervyn Maxwell and Hans K. Laflondelle (my favorite).

Every lecture in every class from Dr. Laflondelle was like a sermon—mostly on righteousness by faith. Sometimes he would become so passionate on the subject that his face would redden and he would almost lose his voice. I remember his humble, shy smile and his friendly chuckle that would come at times of interaction with his students. Dr. Laflondelle, through his lectures and books, provided significant information to his students concerning the rise and fallacies of Dispensationalism and Zionism, which have become increasingly popular. I still think of him when reflecting on the Secret Rapture, etc.

Laflondelle’s excellence in teaching and preaching helped me to make my three long and cold winters in Michigan more tolerable! May God bless his family and his memory.

Erlis L. Johnson (MDiv ’73)

Priority on research

In these few words, I wish to express my appreciation to President Niels-Erik Andreasen for his well-balanced and creative article profiling the significance of a university in the global community it serves. Any university that fails to put a priority on research not only lacks vision, but minimizes its role and importance thereby making it insular and irrelevant. In my opinion, the study of jazz and its performance should at least be an integral part of the curriculum and where the expertise exists, should also be an ensemble experience option since jazz is very much a player’s art. It is interesting that the 1972 revised edition of A History of Western Music by D.J. Groos has only a few passing minor references about jazz, whereas the 2010 edition of the Concise History of Western Music by B.R. Hanning (which is based on A History of Western Music) includes a much more detailed discussion of the music of African Americans and vernacular styles.

This includes the historical development of jazz, its precursors, and the significant influence of jazz on the Western canon of music. Jazz should be a part of the listening/performance curriculum for several reasons:

Firstly, though it is a relatively recent 20th-Century American phenomenon, jazz artists and styles are recognized worldwide, and jazz includes widely divergent styles ranging from entertainment music to art music. It is a dynamic, ever-changing genre that is worthy of study and performance, as evidenced by the voluminous space given its study in music appreciation, major music history texts and anthologies.

Secondly, the study of jazz and its performance allows one to experience a vernacular style that is quintessentially African-American and whose roots can be traced back to Africa—with characteristics such as improvisation based on formulas that allows wide-ranging variation, syncopation and multiple rhythmic layers, bending or sliding pitches, anticipate beats, uneven rendering of successions of equal note values, and enriched harmonies.

Thirdly, the significance of jazz is seen its influence in the works of major composers of the Western musical canon. For example, Maurice Ravel’s Piano Concerto for the Left Hand, Kurt Weill’s Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny (opera), Igor Stravinsky’s Ebony Concerto, Gunther Schuller’s Concertino for Jazz Quartet and Orchestra, and George Gershwin’s piano concerto, Rhapsody in Blue.

Finally, most jazz today is not considered pop music, commercial music or music created for the sole purpose of entertaining; rather, for many musicians, jazz is a genuine form of art music. In striking parallel to the rise of the classical concert repertoire over a century earlier, by 1970 the jazz world had developed its own roster of classics that were treasured on recordings and kept alive in performance, and jazz critics and historians began to describe jazz as a kind of classical music. With jazz ensembles now a regular part of most schools of music and jazz studies and jazz history a part of the curriculum, jazz is now respected as art music—to be listened to for its own sake, and where possible, experienced in ensemble playing.

Mervyn Joseph (BME ’78, MA ’77)

Evolution of jazz music

Lyde Hamel [in the winter 2011 issue of Focus] indicated that he was taught at EMC that jazz was not an acceptable type of music to be listened to or to be a part of Seventh-day Adventist education curriculum. As a music educator, jazz in our institutions should at least be an integral part of the listening curriculum and where the expertise exists, should also be an ensemble experience option since jazz is very much a player’s art. It is interesting that the 1972 revised edition of A History of Western Music by D.J. Groos has only a few passing minor references about jazz, whereas the 2010 edition of the Concise History of Western Music by B.R. Hanning (which is based on A History of Western Music) includes a much more detailed discussion of the music of African Americans and vernacular styles.

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Spring graduation 2011
444 students become alumni of Andrews University

It’s not uncommon for a student to attend their parent’s alma mater. Members of the Johnston family have been graduating from Andrews University since its early days in Battle Creek. At the spring 2011 Commencement, Laura Johnston, who graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Business Administration, represented the fourth generation of Johnstons to graduate from Andrews University.

All in the family
Fourth-generation student graduates

“Measure your success by the lives you change for the better,” was just one tidbit of wisdom imparted to the graduating class of 2011 by John R. Nix, U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Suriname, at the graduate Commencement on Sunday, May 1, 2011, in Pioneer Memorial Church. Just a short while later, Pardon K. Msansa, vice president for the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, addressed the undergraduate graduating class. Msansa encouraged young people to be wise with their finances with a simple three-part piece of advice: “Be content with what you have. Spend only what you have. Save for the day that you don’t know.” On that day, 444 students became alumni of Andrews University.

Commencement weekend began Thursday evening with a picnic for graduating students hosted by the Office of Alumni Services. L. Monique Pittman, professor of English and director of the J.N. Andrews Honors Program at Andrews University, presented “The Work of Love” for Consecration on Friday evening.

Sabbath morning, Ángel M. Rodríguez, director, Biblical Research Institute, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, presented both the graduate and undergraduate Baccalaureate addresses at Pioneer Memorial Church. His sermon was entitled, “All You Need is a Biscuit.”

Later that day, several departmental certification and dedication services were held across campus including a teacher dedication, Department of Nursing pinning, Seminary dedication service, Department of Religion senior dedication, Department of Nutrition & Wellness dedication service and recognition, Department of Social Work recognition service and School of Architecture graduation reception.

During Commencement on Sunday, May 1, John R. Nay, the Graduate Commencement speaker, was presented with an honorary Doctor of Laws and Ángel M. Rodríguez, the Baccalaureate speaker, was presented with an honorary Doctor of Divinity.

Laura’s great-grandmother, Eva Aldrich Thomason, graduated from Battle Creek College in 1898 and later married George Thomason, who served as John Harvey Kellogg’s secretary. The couple served as missionaries in South Africa. Their grandchildren, Madeline (MA ‘77) and Robert (PhD ’81) Johnston, both graduated from Andrews. Robert earned not one but two degrees from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. All four of their children are Andrews alumni, and Robert Johnston (PhD ’91), was the first Andrews student to be accepted at Dow Chemical in Midland, Mich., where he has remained as a research chemist. Laura’s older brother went to a different Adventist institution, but “I suspect some others will come this way over the next few years,” says their grandmother, Madeline Johnston.

Additionally, Laura’s relatives on her mother’s side are no strangers to Andrews. Her mother, Karen Conner Johnston, and three aunts all received degrees from Andrews. And Laura’s grandparents, Paul Chapin (BS ’61) and Laura Penrod, also met at Andrews.

7th Annual Ellen G. White & Current Issues Symposium
Unique Story of Captain Norman shared by James Nix, director of the Ellen G. White Estate

Held at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary on Monday, March 28, 2011, guest speakers included Dwight K. Nelson, senior pastor of Pioneer Memorial Church, Republic of Singapore, and the Ellen G. White Estate at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Merlin Burt, director of the Center for Adventist Research, has been the primary organizer for this event since it began in 2006. “Since its inception, the purpose of the Ellen G. White and Current Issues Symposium is to break new ground in research on Ellen G. White and issues related to her from a scholarly, but respectful, context,” says Burt.

The symposium opened with Nelson’s presentation entitled, “The Gift.” Then Nix shared “The Story of Captain Norman,” a narrative about a man who was introduced to Seventh-day Adventism around the time of the 33rd session of the General Conference in February of 1899 in South Lancaster, Mass. After spending time with some of his new Adventist friends, and upon learning there was great financial need in the church, Norman pledged to give $40,000 (approximately $36.5 million today) of his inheritance money, a yacht and access to his ships for the work of the General Conference and other missions.

The unexpected and generous donations caused quite a stir in the Church. As the story of Captain Norman continued to unfold, it took more than a few twists and turns.

When after a few months, Captain Norman’s generous donation was never received by the Church, some began to suspect he was a fraud. Not long after announcing his engagement following a rather whirlwind courtship, Norman claimed he had to take care of urgent business in New York. Borrowing money from his betrothed, he left the Battle Creek area in late April of 1899 never to be heard from again.

At the conclusion of the story of Captain Norman, Nix shared several “lessons to be learned,” including “a person reacts to disappointment and embarrassments in life demonstrates much about the individual. “God does not reveal everything to his messengers,” said Nix. “Ellen White knew nothing more regarding Captain Norman than that God had showed her or that Church leaders had told her. The fact that God did not reveal Captain Norman’s true intentions to Mrs. White apparently caused some to question her prophetic calling…”Apparently God wanted church leaders and members to learn important lessons from this situation that could not have been learned had Ellen White been shown ahead of time the Captain’s true character and intentions.”

Three more presentations followed Nix’s, including “Gift of Prophecy and the Church: A Biblical Perspective” by Ranko Stefanovic; “The Early Translation of Ellen G. White Books into Spanish” by Glaude Quiroa; and “The Phenomenon of Prophecy and Role of Prophets in the Old Testament Compared with the Ministry of Ellen G. White” by Jiří Moskala. Each lecture was followed by a response and question-and-answer period.

The symposium was sponsored by Andrews University, the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, the Department of Church History, the Center for Adventist Research and the Ellen G. White Estate, Inc.

President surprised with new regalia
Graduation weekend held more than one surprise for President Niels-Erik Andreasen. On April 30, at the graduation vesper, Andreasen was presented with Vanderbilt University regalia and a garment bag to use when carrying the regalia to the many commencement ceremonies he attends around the world. It was some time ago during a conversation with Chaplain Tim Nixon when Andreasen shared that he didn’t participate in his graduation from Vanderbilt University and never bought Vanderbilt regalia. Nixon worked with Demeta Andreasen and the president’s administrative assistant, Daisy Payne, to obtain mounts and degree information for the president. Then he collaborated with a few student organizations to raise the necessary funds to purchase the regalia. Nixon shared this story at the Sabbath vesper program and student representatives presented the regalia to Andreasen. The congregation gave Andreasen a standing ovation.

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“The fact that God did not reveal Captain Norman’s true intentions to Mrs. White apparently caused some to question her prophetic calling.”
High school seniors in the BEST Early Research Program presented their research projects on Wednesday, April 27, 2011, at the first BEST Organization Research Symposium. With complete confidence, the students described their projects in the field of organic chemistry—a subject not usually covered until the second or third year of college.

This first symposium was “a milestone on the path to universal adoption of early research participation,” says Desmond Murray, assistant professor of chemistry and the founder and CEO of the Building Excellence in Science and Technology (BEST) Organization. These students attended the Math and Science Center at Andrews University for four years and participated in an independent research period (IRP) their senior year.

In 1998, Desmond Murray began incorporating independent research periods into organic chemistry classes. In 2001, two high school students joined him to perform research over the summer. Six years later, 12th graders were regularly involved in research and BEST officially became a nonprofit organization. To date over 650 students have been involved in early research projects through the BEST Organization. Murray and the students participating in BEST Early Research have garnered national recognition, in the form of over $370,000 in grant monies from the National Science Foundation, American Chemical Society, the State of Michigan, and other foundations. Earlier graduates from the BEST program who continued in scientific disciplines have discovered the advantage of participating in early research. Look for a complete story of this event in the upcoming research insert in the summer 2011 issue of Focus.

Andrews hosts Hispanic College Day

Hundreds of local Hispanic students gathered at Andrews University for Hispanic College Day on Friday, May 6. The event brought together Hispanic students from four area counties to explore college options, register for college, attend career seminars, and hear a keynote speaker.

The students attending represented schools in Berrien, Cass, Kalamazoo and Van Buren Counties. William Navalón, director of recruitment services and coordinator of this year’s event, says, “This was a wonderful opportunity for students to get exposure to careers and mentors they would otherwise never meet. They got to see other Latinos who have walked in their shoes, yet have made it through school and have successful careers.”

The day began with a college fair at the Howard Performing Arts Center, followed by the keynote speech delivered by Edwin I. Hernández, a senior program officer for the Center for the Study of Latino Religion at the Institute for Latino Studies at the University of Notre Dame and a published author. His research has focused on Latino religious experience, theological education, congregational studies, and the role of religious leaders in sustaining the life and commitment of socially-engaged congregations.

Following the keynote, students attended seminars geared to their age group, including career options and how to pay for college. Hispanic College Day began in 1984, and grew from a need to ensure Hispanic students, who are traditionally most at risk for not being able to attend college, had access to a source of information regarding college and career options. It was first hosted by the Van Buren Technology Center. Due to increased participation and an interest for more exposure to a college campus, local colleges and universities now host the hosting. Last year it was held at Western Michigan University.

BEST Organization hosts first research symposium

Providing opportunities for high school students to participate in hands-on research

F O C U S  S P R I N G  2 0 1 1

CAMPUS UPDATE

SPRING 2011 AT THE HOWARD CENTER

Focus 2011–2012 Season Award, Thursday, April 14
Violinist Aaron Berofsky and pianist Phillip Bush performed a guest artist Festival, Monday, April 11
performed with the University Wind Symphony, Sunday, April 17
in their spring concert, Saturday, April 16
Korngold during the Opera Arias and Songs, Sunday, April 10

Howard Happenings



University Forum speaker John Lee, a counseling psychologist at
Claudio Gonzalez conducts the University Symphony Orchestra
Guest alto saxophone soloist Henning Schroeder
Cristina Piccardi performed by Erich

Research insert in the summer

Research have garnered national recognition, in the form of over $370,000 in grant monies from the National Science Foundation, American Chemical Society, the State of Michigan, and other foundations.

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Claudio Gonzalez conducts the University Symphony Orchestra
Guest alto saxophone soloist Henning Schroeder
Cristina Piccardi performed by Erich
Summer study tours underway
During the summer months of 2010, there are 12 international and one domestic Andrews University-sponsored study tours.

Study tours are more than just trips to exotic places around the world—they broaden the life experience and cultural knowledge of everyone who participates. This summer hundreds of Andrews students and faculty are seeking knowledge on distant mountaintops, ancient ruins and savannahs.

May 1–June 2
Study tour to Europe sponsored by the School of Architecture and directed by Andrew van Maur, associate professor of architecture

May 2–27
Study tour to Spain, Italy and Greece sponsored by the Department of International Language Studies and directed by Pedro Navia, professor of Spanish

May 5–20
Study tour to Hong Kong sponsored by the Department of Educational Counseling & Psychology and directed by Carole Woolford-Hunt, associate professor of counseling psychology

May 5–June 1
Study tour to Jordan (field school) sponsored by the Department of Behavioral Sciences and directed by Bytistén Lallasiana, professor of anthropology

May 5–June 6
Study tour to Hong Kong sponsored by the Department of Accounting, Economics & Finance and directed by Kim L. Chau, professor of economics

May 5–June 15
Study tour to Jordan sponsored by the Institute for Archaeology and directed by Randall Yunker, professor of Old Testament and biblical archaeology

May 9–31
Study tour to Lebanon and Jordan sponsored by the Department of Religion & Biblical Languages and directed by Glenn Russell, assistant professor of religion

May 15–31
General education study tour to Tanzania, directed by Doreen Mag, associate dean for the College of Arts & Sciences

May 15–21
Study tour to Israel, Turkey and Greece sponsored by the Department of New Testament and directed by Thomas Shepherd, professor of New Testament

May 16–June 9
Study tour to Namibia sponsored by the Department of Behavioral Sciences and directed by Miros Dzicamu, assistant professor of physical therapy

June 1–10
Study tour to Italy sponsored by the School of Architecture and directed by Kathy Dempsey, associate professor of library science

July 28–August 15
Study tour to Bolivia sponsored by the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary and directed by Martin Smith, associate professor of architecture

August 7–14
Department of Religion & Biblical Languages study tour to Tanzania, directed by Doreen Mag, associate dean for the College of Arts & Sciences

Summer 2011 board report
Updates on transfer of Griggs University and sales of Andrews Study Bible; beginning discussion of forming two new schools

The Andrews University Board of Trustees continued for their summer meetings June 5–6, using, for the first time, the boardroom of the Lake Union Conference building. Andrews is purchasing the building and, according to President Niels Erik Andreasen, it will be the new headquarters for the Board of Trustees meetings.

The first Board action taken was the re-election of officers of the University and the Board of Trustees. Bylaws require the elections take place within 90 days following the meeting of the constituency; the constituency met in March 2011.

The Board also voted a capital request of $150,000 for windows in Louns Hall, which is included in the University’s capital budget plan.

Larry Schalk, vice president for Financial Administration, reported on operations. The Griggs University transfer is coming along nicely. There has been $1.25 million allocated to cover the cost of the transition. To date, approximately $500,000 of those funds has either been spent or allocated.

Andreasen said, “So far, it looks to be going well and we aren’t draining University resources to bring Griggs here.”

The budget for the past fiscal year, which ended April 30, was scheduled to end with an increase in net assets of $3.1 million. The preliminary draft is $4.2 million, a shortfall of approximately $1.9 million. “There is still a gap, but a smaller gap than what was budgeted,” said Andreasen. Undergraduate tuition was stable while graduate tuition fell behind. Other expenses ran ahead in certain areas including Student Life, plant operations, Human Resources—legal support for incoming international faculty, interest and depreciation.

The line credit the University uses to raise $2.5 million less than last year in part because revenue—generating services and sales were up. A large portion of the increased revenue is attributed to the Andrews University Press sales of the Andrews Study Bible, which has exceeded $1 million. Less than a year following its release, a second printing of 25,000 copies of the Bible has been procured. A third printing of an inexpensive edition, to be distributed widely by evangelists, is also underway. Andreasen said contracts have been signed to translate the Andrews Study Bible into Spanish and Portuguese; another contract has been signed to digitize the Andrews Study Bible into a digital medium for use on Smart phones and Pads. Andreasen concluded by saying, “The Andrews Study Bible has done very well and is blessing many people.”

Andreasen shared a report on construction and fund raising with the Board. The fund-raising initiative for the Undergraduate Learning Center has raised $2.2 million; there is still about $400,000 needed to reach the goal. Donations for Buller Hall, part of the Andrews Undergraduate Learning Center, received during this past fiscal year total $79,000. Those monies will be used to buy back bonds that were issued to borrow money to pay for Buller’s construction. University administration expects to have Nethery Hall, the second half of construction for the Undergraduate Learning Center, ready in time for classes resuming in August 2011.

Andreasen shared a report on enrollment projections from Stephen Payne, vice president for Enrollment Management. Some highlights include freshmen admissions are up 7% and overall, applications are up 34%. Andreasen noted that these numbers could be deceiving because electronic applications make it easier to apply to multiple institutions. Transfers are down slightly and first-time graduate applications are up 29%. Overall, the net for next fall is a 6% enrollment increase.

There was a report from the President’s Council feeling engineering should be given to establishing a School of Engineering. Andreasen shared encouraging news from North Central Association. They have given a recommendation to the Higher Learning Commission Board to authorize Andrews to assume ownership of Griggs at the HLC’s June meeting.

The Board also discussed the five health professions in the College of Arts & Sciences—medical laboratory sciences, nursing, nutrition & wellness, physical therapy and speech-language pathology & audiology. Each department is doing well, reported Andreasen, but the challenge is each one is working very independently. The Board discussed the possibility of forming a School of Health Professions, which would initially house those five departments. Additional consultation and consideration will take place, and the Board will revisit the issue at a future meeting.

The second recommendation was in regards to the engineering program. The President’s Council felt engineering should hold a strong place in the University’s strategic plan and that consideration should be given to establishing a School of Engineering.

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Meeting Jesus at the Easter Passion Play
A life-changing experience for a little girl named Claire and the volunteers who met her

As the annual Andrews University Easter Passion Play rotations drew to a close, hospitality tent volunteers had been watching live every change all morning. Late that afternoon, a six-year-old girl named Claire visited the Easter Passion Play with her family. She smiled at the baby goats jumping around in the marketplace and stared in awe at the Roman soldiers with their large spears. But most of all, she wanted to meet Jesus. Her request was about to remind the entire 700-member volunteer cast why they had signed up.

Claire watched the reenactment of Jesus’ death on the cross and his resurrection. When she arrived in the hospitality tent, she asked volunteer Naomi Best if she could meet Jesus. She wanted to ask him in person the prayer she’d been praying every night—if she could take away her (inoperable) brain tumor. But Jesus was nowhere to be found.

Claire was novitiate to be found. In fact, all of the eight actors portraying Jesus were in another rotation. While volunteers looked for a Jesus, Claire met an angel by the name of ‘Christian,” you take on the ‘Christ’ part too.”

The philosophy of higher education and philanthropy was instilled in the Damazo family at an early age. Frank and his nine siblings were born and raised during the Great Depression by uneducated but very wise parents who taught each to develop an individual voice—rational, philosophical, and spiritual. Their support has led to a generous gift for Damazo Hall named

Frank and Anna Damazo believe in giving back

Five finalists awarded at International Music Competition
Winners’ home countries include Venezuela, Canada, U.S. and Mexico

The fourth annual International Music Competition at Andrews University took place on Sunday, March 27, 2011, in the Howard Performing Arts Center. The event was sponsored and organized by the Andrews University Department of Music and featured a different area each year (piano, strings, voice or winds).

This year’s focus areas were wind, brass and percussion. A group of five musicians selected from a pool of national and international applicants were chosen to perform for the event based on submissions of recorded performance. Finalists in this year’s competition, including their instrument, home country and current university, were:

- Ricardo Flores, trumpet, United States/Mexico, Andrews University alum; Daniel Mendosa, clarinet, Venezuela, Andrews University; Tyler Rand, oboe, United States, Southern Adventist University; Debra Rosengren, flute, Canada, Andrews University; and Paige Wright, flute, United States, Southern Adventist University.

Participants performed two movements of contrasting styles at the competition and were awarded based on decisions by the judge’s panel. First prize ($3,000 plus a solo performance with the Andrews University Wind Orchestra or Wind Symphony) was shared between Daniel Mendosa and Tyler Rand. Third prize ($100) was awarded to Debra Rosengren. Fourth prize ($200) was awarded to Ricardo Flores, and fifth prize ($100) was awarded to Paige Wright.

“The best course of action that Andrews moving through the musical world as an institution that promotes students’ excellence and competitiveness,” says Claudia Gonzalez, conductor of the Andrews University Orchestra and Sinfonia.

Considering previous experiences, we have had higher ranked artists playing concerts as winners with the Andrews University Orchestra... In my opinion, that is one of the benefits for our music department and for Andrews at large.”

Safety & Security Conference held at Andrews
First meeting of what is planned to be an annual event

The first Seventh-day Adventist Safety & Security Conference was held on the campus of Andrews University, May 23–24, 2011. Safety and security officers from several sister institutions and the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, joined together to discuss a variety of topics impacting their work including policies, citation and vehicle regulations, and campus access control to name a few.

Second row L-R: Steve Filorico, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists; Kevin Panco, Southern Adventist University; James Vines, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists; Jerrett Palo, Andrews University; Ben Pangest, Andrews University; Bob Brand, Atlantic Union College.

First row, L-R: Karen Banner, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists; Milton Montague, Atlantic Union College; Dale Holges, Andrews University; Lewis Exline, Dakev University; Rayoia Caillit, Andrews University.

The 2011-2012 International Music Competition will feature performers from the area of piano. To request application forms or additional information, contact Carlos A. Flores, Andrews University International Music Competition director at +1-269-471-3555 or via email at cflows@andrews.edu.
During spring semester, a group of undergraduate religion students under the direction of Paul Petersen, chair of the Department of Religion & Biblical Languages, conducted two evangelistic series in Michigan City, Ind. These evangelistic series were the first held in Michigan City in over 25 years, and were largely student-run.

Nate Skafe was one of these students. Since arriving at Andrews three years ago, Skafe has been very involved in all of the evangelistic programs the department has sponsored. “After each year is over, Pastors Skip McCarty, Glenn Russell, and Dr. Petersen have talked about what we would do for evangelism the following school year,” says Skafe.

His first year, they did a Mark Finley series; the following year, the religion students were instrumental in the spring Week of Spiritual Emphasis. This year, Skip McCarty met Bill Payne, the pastor of the Ohio Street Church, and “that led to the beginning of the Ohio Street and Voice of Hope churches [Ohio Street and Voice of Hope] as we tried to reach the people of Michigan City.”

The project began in April of 2009, when a group met with the Ohio Street Church and the Voice of Hope Church to discuss the approach they would take. Skafe worked at the Ohio Street Church over the summer doing Bible studies and Flag Camp. That fall, Bill Payne conducted a set of evangelistic meetings, and the Andrews group decided to follow this initiative with a series of Daniel and Revelation meetings. Jacob Gibbs led the evangelistic meetings at the Voice of Hope Church, and Nate led the Ohio Street Church group. After the services, the groups went door-to-door to pray for individuals and offer Bible studies. Some followed up on previous Bible studies while others canvased for new interests.

“The students worked very hard,” says Skafe. “Other students that participated in the evangelistic series were Nathaniel Gibbs, Tala Uta, Douglas Hill, Jirhony Mole, Eduardo Carreras, Orville Bulgin and Eser Edmond, all of whom took a Daniel and Revelation class with Paul Petersen, chair of the department of religion.”

“I got involved in this project because I believe in evangelism and have seen how God has changed lives through it,” says Skafe. “Everyone was able to help in some way regardless of their skills, ability or experience. It is awesome to see how God uses people and how he transforms lives, including our own.”

In a report to Indiana pastors, Skafe related that attendance at the meetings increased as the week drew to a close, and that church members were more enthusiastic about long-term evangelism in their community.

What was your educational path? My mother is a very skilled artist. As a child I’d play with her art supplies, which isn’t unusual for kids, but the unusual part is that I kept going. I had doubts about choosing a career in fine art; I knew it would be a tough road to follow. I spent a couple years at different schools, trying out different majors. But when I finally decided to commit to art I returned to Andrews University. Greg Constantine was the best painting professor anyone could ask for. In 2001, I completed a Bachelor of Fine Art with an emphasis in painting. Today, I am a self-employed fine artist.

From student to self-employed artist—how did you get to where you are today? After graduating, I worked as a junior high art school teacher for awhile. In 2003, my husband, James and I moved to Chicago, Ill., where I worked as a florist and product designer while James attended law school. In my free time, I continued focusing on fine art by exhibiting my galleries and alternative spaces while living in Chicago. In 2006, when James finished school, rather than settling into the suburbs of Chicago we headed west to Loveland, Colo., a small art town nestled on the edge of the Rocky Mountains. This change created the opportunity for me to focus solely on fine art again.

Your capstone artwork is of cancer cells. How did this particular interest of yours evolve? In June 2001, my dad succumbed to cancer. I decided the best way to overcome my new “enemy” was by embracing it through my art. I think the hardest thing about grief is moving on with life while trying to comprehend life without the person you love dearly. It’s my way of remembering him and what he struggled with while also trying to find a glimmer of hope for the living. My dad always saw the best in every situation, I feel that I am embodying his spirit in my mission.

Your artwork has been featured in some major journals. What has this meant to you? Being published gives me the opportunity to reach more people with my message. My art has been featured in the Journal of Oncology Navigation & Survivorship and will soon be featured in Wavelength, a clinical journal for treatment of cancer and brain disorders, as well as several local newspapers and magazines. Through this, I hope people can literally envision cancer in a different respect—no matter if they themselves are fighting cancer, a doctor treating a patient with cancer, or a scientist developing a cure.

What does the future hold for you? Often people feel defeated and overwhelmed by their illness. I am confident that being surrounded by art will promote healing. Therefore, it is my goal to bring my art to wellness centers, hospitals and medical facilities around the world to improve the overall experience of patients. Even though I’m not an art therapist, I’d like to share what I know with patients who are sick and who could use the therapeutic benefits art has to offer. I’d also like to see my art used as a fundraising tool for cancer research and to aid in paying for families’ medical bills. As far as the direction of my paintings, I will keep creating art but I’d like to inspire people to think about prevention too. Cancer is not 100% preventable but we can do our part by taking care of the body we live in.
Fernando Ortiz is the new director of the Master of Divinity (MDiv) program at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University. He is replacing J. Michael Harris.

Ortiz himself is a graduate of the MDiv program. Following completion of his BTh from Central American Adventist University in 1999, Ortiz studied at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary in San-Paulo, Brazil, before coming to Andrews University. In 1995, he completed his MDiv at Andrews and in 1997, his Doctor of Ministry.

During his 21 years of ministry, Ortiz has worked in a variety of pastoral roles in Honduras and Brazil in addition to the many years spent in Berrien Springs, Mich. From 1995–2000, he served first as the youth pastor and then as senior pastor at the Berrien Springs Spanish Church. In 2000, he relocated to serve as youth pastor and later interim senior pastor at the Battle Creek Tabernacle in Battle Creek, Mich. Since 2004, Ortiz has served as a district pastor for Bloomington and Bedford, Ind.

Ortiz has a wealth of experience in creating and growing new initiatives in a ministry setting. His work as a youth and young adult pastor led to the creation of several new programs. Most recently, Ortiz developed a church-led campus ministries program at Indiana University and established a senior youth ministry.

He says, “My goal is to equip, encourage and empower our students to pursue their academic and ministerial goals while experiencing a deeper relationship with Jesus. We have almost 400 students in the MDiv program representing virtually every division of the world church. What a solemn opportunity and responsibility to impact the world for Christ as we train pastors and missionaries to finish his work.”

Fernando is married to Daniela, a foreign language teacher. They have one son, Daniel Fernando. They enjoy organizing mission trips to different parts of the world, combining their love for travel, languages, preaching and serving God.

New director named for MDiv program

Fernando Ortiz will lead the program.
May 16, 2011, was Awards Day at Andrews Academy, and the television cameras hovering in the back of the auditorium caused a bit of a stir, but no one seemed to know why they were there. As White finished presenting the awards, Sari Butler, guidance counselor, stepped on stage with a WNDU microphone and announced that there was one more award left to give.

When Sloma walked in carrying a large bouquet of balloons and announced to the school Mr. White had won the award, the auditorium erupted into cheers. Sloma then related that she was impressed by the volume of emails she’d received nominating White. White was “a little wary eyes,” said science teacher Steven Atkins, after receiving the award. He stepped up to the podium and thanked the students for their nominations.

Then, he thanked God for the strength to do what he does, “as he naturally does in so many other situations,” said Atkins. The festivities didn’t end there, however; Mr. White was due to appear on WNDU two days later. The story aired on 16 Morning News and students throughout the area woke up early to watch it.

Sloma presented White with an oversized check for $1,000 for the school’s use. Surprised yet characteristically humble, he expressed his gratitude and once again thanked the students, parents and God. “I am pleased that we have been able to attract two of the best and brightest music educators in the nation to come to Benton Springs,” says Brent Geraty, Andrews Academy Board chair. “Both Andrews Academy and Ruth Murdoch Elementary School have invested more resources in the music programs than in recent years and are committed to providing a high-quality music education for our students. Our students, our schools and our community are going to benefit from Mr. Flores and Mr. Graves’ musicianship.”

This will be a homecoming for Hector Flores, who brings 32 years of teaching and conducting experience to this new role. Flores holds a Bachelor of Music and Master of Music, both from Andrews University. He has taught at Monemoresco University in Mexico, Antillean Adventist University in Puerto Rico and, most recently, Blue Mountain Academy in Pennsylvania. He has conducted a number of orchestras, including the San German Symphony Orchestra and the Mayaro Symphony Orchestra, both in Puerto Rico, to name a few. In addition, Flores has either led or participated in dozens of music festivals, both domestic and international.

Reinvented music education at AA and RMES

Hector Flores of Blue Mountain and Byron Graves of Great Lakes will lead new integrated program

Byron Graves will be returning to schools, both Andrews Academy and Ruth Murdoch Elementary School, where he already has previous teaching experience. Most recently, Graves has worked as the band director for Cedar Lake Elementary School in Cedar Lake, Mich. while concurrently working as chair of the Music Department and a director/instructor for Great Lakes Adventist Academy, also located in Cedar Lake, Mich.

His professional background includes expertise in teaching music theory, history and appreciation courses, as well as years of experience providing private music lessons. He is an accomplished clarinet player.

“Music education in elementary school develops students’ minds and abilities, and puts students on a path towards success in high school and college,” says David Waller, principal of Ruth Murdoch Elementary School. “This new collaboration with Andrews Academy and Andrews University makes use of the combined resources of both institutions to give added strength to our program at RMES. I am looking forward to a great year next year as we continually look to improve our students’ education and experience.”

Buckley earns doctorate

From Syracuse University’s School of Education

On May 24, 2011, Paul Buckley, associate dean for Student Life, participated in commencement ceremonies for Syracuse University’s School of Education, where he earned his Doctor of Philosophy in cultural foundations of education. Frances Fuehrer, vice-president for Student Life, attended in support of her colleague.
La Ronda Curtis Forsey has been appointed associate dean for Griggs University and principal of Griggs International Academy, and Janine Lim, associate dean for higher education for Griggs University.

“As we build Griggs University on the campus of Andrews University, we have looked for three characteristics in all candidates—first, a dedication to God and a commitment to Adventist education; second, the skills and experience necessary to build excellent distance education programs on a number of platforms; and third, the vision to see how distance education can serve the world Church by using technology to promote collaboration,” says Alayne Thorpe, interim president of Griggs.

La Ronda Forsey brings 26 years of teaching and educational administration to her role at Griggs. She previously served as the principal at Atlanta Adventist Academy (AAA) in Atlanta, Ga.

"The thing that intrigues me about joining Andrews University is the opportunity to be innovative in a global setting...”

“The thing that intrigues me about joining Andrews University is the opportunity to be innovative in a global setting—using my background experiences to reach out to a wide range of students,” says Forsey.

Forsey has worked as a teacher at the alternative Horizon Preparatory School in Chattanooga, Tenn.; Southern Adventist University in Ooltewah, Tenn.; and Forest Lake Academy in Apopka, Fla. Her years of experience in administration began in 1996 with a six-year stint as vice principal, as well as English and ESL teacher, at Mansfield Adventist Academy in Nairobi, Kenya. In 2002, she moved back to the U.S. where she served for three years as vice-principal of marketing and recruiting for Campion Academy in Loveland, Colo., before spending six years at Atlanta Adventist Academy. During her time at AAA, enrollment doubled and it became an innovative multi-campus school. Three metro Atlanta sites and five partner schools now use interactive simultaneous videoconferencing technology.

Forsey holds a BA in English from Southern Adventist University and MS in educational administration from Scranton University.

Janine Lim says, “I look forward to serving Adventist education worldwide through the use of a variety of innovative technologies. I hope to bring enthusiasm for Adventist education and a passion for using technology to bring learning opportunities to students wherever they may be.

Lim has served as instructional technology consultant for the Berrien Regional Education Service Agency (RESA) since 1998. She coordinates distance learning for 20 school districts, teaches online graduate-level technology classes, and helps train teachers for technology integration. Lim began her career as a language arts and Bible teacher at Griswold Christian Academy in Ohio.

In 1997, she was appointed as an instructional technologist for the Berrien County Intermediate School District (now Berrien RESA). She has also served as adjunct faculty in distance education courses for the Berrien RESA; the Adventist Virtual Learning Network serving La Sierra University and Andrews University; and classes offered through Central Michigan University and Western Michigan University. Lim received an Educator of the Year award in 2010 from the Michigan Association of Computer Users in Learning, an Outstanding Leadership Award in 2008 from the United States Distance Learning Association, and a number of other professional awards.

Lim is a triple alumnus of Andrews University, earning a BA in communication in 1995, MAT in 1996, and PhD in leadership in 2010.

In the weeks before spring break, Andrews University students could be heard talking about their plans for the week. Most were going home to visit family and shop as much as possible. Others were headed for warmer climes, or planned road trips with their friends. But every now and then, someone said, “I’m going to Africa!”

The Andrews University Department of Agriculture took over 20 students to the African countries of Lesotho and Swaziland for two weeks. The trip included several mission projects as well as some sightseeing.

The study tour group spent their first week in Swaziland, where they distributed clothes and toiletries at the Mlondeni Care Center in partnership with Seeds of Hope Outreach (SOHO). The students also put on worship programs for the children at the center, many of whom are orphans whose parents have died of HIV/AIDS or are teenagers responsible for their younger siblings.

Ashley Boyko, a sophomore pre-vet major, recalls that the children were “happy just to sit next to you or hold your hand; just to have attention.” Later that weekend, the group visited the Hlutho farm, owned by the Manzini Central Church but leased to SOHO. For several years, Thomas Chattrick, chair of the Department of Agriculture, and Verdyn Benson, dean of the College of Technology, have been traveling to this farm, developing it and providing technical expertise. The students planted three acres of corn by hand in subzero temperatures...Our students were troopers,” says Stanley Beikmann, assistant professor of agriculture, “knowing that this can help the locals become more self-sufficient in growing food and creating a market.”

The next week, the tour went south to Lesotho and spent two days at Emmanuel Mission School. Founded in the early nineteenth century as a school for lepers, it now functions as a primary and secondary school and currently houses 700 students. Early in the semester, the Department of Agriculture sponsored a book drive to start a library at Emmanuel Mission School, which gathered over 1,000 books to ship to Lesotho.

Emmanuel Mission School has fallen into disrepair, says Ashley Boyko. “The school suffers from overcrowding, has irregular electricity, and until recently, no running water. When the students arrived, a permanent well was being drilled, which was completed before the group left. The Emmanuel Mission students put on a cultural program to welcome the Andrews group, and very quickly found laps to sit on and hands to hold. Some took the Andrews visitors on a tour of their “sister school.” Ashley was one of these students. She peeked in the boys’ dorm, and saw that a room with 25 beds housed between 50 and 100 boys. The girls’ dorm was slightly less crowded.

Despite their minimal possessions and impoverished circumstances, the students are overjoyed to be attending school. The day Andrews students arrived, EMS canceled school to welcome them with songs and a worship service. Although the school has no instruments, says Beikmann, “They are masters of singing a capella. Their songs arise out of nowhere without the direction of a choir director. One stands up and begins to sing a solo introductory bar, and then a crescendo of voices rises low and soft, and then builds into a joyous three-part harmony. It is absolutely breathtaking to hear in a tiny little church with all the windows open and a sea of humanity to crowd into one tiny space.” As the Andrews group looked on, the students’ voices took over the song, and they began to sway and wave their hands in one mass expression of happiness.

Many of the Andrews students on the trip were surprised by the students’ contentment. One girl, a junior in high school, spoke about her experience at Emmanuel Mission School.

“She was so thrilled just to be there and have the opportunity to get a Christian education,” says Ashley. “The story was the same for many of the other students. “This is a second chance for many of them,” says Ashley. “They’re happy despite the conditions. I was amazed by how little they had and how content they were. These kids were four and five, and content just to hold your hand and sit along a wall.”

Although their educational resources are limited, the children at EMS have high hopes: “They want to be doctors or nurses or businessmen. But they study from 15-20 year old biology books. They can hold no labs because they have no equipment—no microscopes, not even magnifying glasses—and they still want to become doctors.

In Africa, “we have only scratched the surface,” says Beikmann. Based on the enthusiastic response from this trip, the Department of Agriculture has already begun talking about another trip of this nature, to India in 2013.
What a change in environment—from a 120-acre farm in Wisconsin to Emmanuel Missionary College! It was 1941 and World War II was in progress. Ruth Kaiser had come to Berrien Springs with the academic goal of becoming a Bible worker. There were no grants or loans in those days so she worked many hours to finance her education. Nevertheless, she managed 10 hours of academic work each semester. During the summer she worked as a colporteur (literature evangelist) in Wisconsin. She walked from farm to farm—one day it was 20 miles—to sell books. Ruth was dependent on the kindness of the farm families for a place to sleep and for food to eat, as was the custom expected to board around (this meant to take turns sleeping and eating in the homes of the students). After four years the superintendent of education again approached her with a need in Milwaukee for a teacher to teach grades 3-4 with 36 students. This offer was appealing because she realized she preferred working with younger students and, on the plus side, no more building fires at 5:30 a.m! On her first day she was surprised to find a whole row of mothers sitting in the back row of the schoolroom. They were there to check out the new teacher. She must have passed their test because she stayed for 3½ years until the death of her father. Then she was suddenly given the opportunity to teach during the summer in preparation for this urgent need—to teach 15 students in all eight grades! She took a Methods Class from Mabel Cassell that helped her steer through church politics (namely churches with serious internal strife)—to never take sides. How thankful she was to have learned this before beginning her teaching career.

Listen up, teachers. Can you imagine getting up at 5:30 in the morning and waking a mile and a half to school to build a fire in the wood stove so the schoolroom would be warm when the students arrived? Furthermore, Ruth was expected to board around (this meant to take turns sleeping and eating in the homes of the different students during the school year). Another challenge—there were no answer books, so she needed to keep up with the students on every assignment every day. All her life Ruth had been taught by her mother that helped her steer through church politics (namely churches with serious internal strife)—to never take sides. How thankful she was to have learned this before beginning her teaching career.

She was given the opportunity to teach at Ruth Murdoch Elementary School, from which she retired 23 years later. But did this mean that Ruth retired from her heart’s passion of ministering to those around her? No! God continues to lead in every phase of her life, God again provided for both Ruth and her mother when they found themselves in this predicament.

Ruth graduated in 1965 and began teaching at the Village School. While teaching she also took classes and received her master’s degree. Then Ruth was given the opportunity to teach at Ruth Murdoch Elementary School, from which she retired 23 years later. But did this mean that Ruth retired from ministry? Not in the least. God continues to lead in every phase of her life, and a changed life! She now lives in a Quonset Hut (student housing in those days), and Ruth had been promised a job in the bindery. Alas, when they arrived, neither the Quonset Hut nor the job was available. But as had been evident throughout Ruth’s life, God again provided for both Ruth and her mother when they found themselves in this predicament.

Ruth graduated in 1995 and began teaching at the Village School. While teaching she also took classes and received her master’s degree. Then Ruth was given the opportunity to teach at Ruth Murdoch Elementary School, from which she retired 23 years later. But did this mean that Ruth retired from ministry? Not in the least. God continues to lead in every phase of her life. The same love of God that filled her life continued to spill over into the lives of those around her—caring for her precious mother until she passed away and then ministering to those around her. Her biggest passion in life now continues to be students who need a helping hand. Since 1968 she has conducted a porch ministry. Un-sponsored international student families who are struggling to get their education have been finding help on Ruth’s porch. Ruth is a gifted shopper who knows how to get the most from every dollar. From time-to-time she has received monetary donations from people who are interested in this ministry. She buys items (food and laundry supplies) when they are on sale at various stores, she shops yard sales for clothing and bedding, and she distributes produce from gardeners who want to share the excess. A few students with no place to live have found a temporary haven in her spare bedroom.

All this happens from the porch of her little house on Walnut Street (where she and her mother moved in 1954) in the shadow of the Howard Performing Arts Center. Here in her own words to how it began: “One summer day I went to Eau Claire to visit my former classmates and friends, Otto and Manfell Stebner. During our conversation Manfell said, I have so much bread I don’t know what to do with it.” I said, ‘I know what to do with it. There are plenty of Andrews students who would be delighted to have some good Brownberry bread.’ Manfell and Otto proceeded to load up the trunk and the back seat with as many loaves as the car could hold. I had no trouble giving them away and that was the beginning of my porch ministry.”

What has really been heartwarming is to see how many students from hygiene years still remember her with phone calls, visits, cards and occasional flowers. These students who came to Andrews to seek and affirm, are now changing the world in many capacities. And they share the same love for God that spilled from Ruth’s heart into theirs.
Correspondence School, “to fill in the gaps that the resident schools could not.” Within two years, the school offered 11 secondary and nine college courses in subjects from “Physiology and hygiene” to “Pedagogy and school management” to Greek and Latin, in addition to traditional history, literature, mathematics and composition courses. 

Griggs had a vision for making Adventist education available around the world as well as bringing that same quality education to those unable to attend traditional schools. The Fireside Correspondence School group in Huichou, Guang Dong province, China, c. 1923

In September 1909, a notice appeared in the Review and Herald, proclaiming, “This is not the announcement of a new correspondence school. It is merely the naming” of a collection of correspondence schools scattered throughout the country. This new school took the name “Fireside Correspondence School,” to suggest not only the home but also the historic figures who educated themselves. “It was around the fireside that Abraham Lincoln laid the foundation for his great and useful career,” read the Review and Herald article. “It was there that Whitman caught the inspiration that ripened into the purest and best literature in defense of pure and perseverance, guided by qualified teachers, even if circumstances have all seemed against any means of self-improvement in the past,” wrote W.E. Howell, the school’s principal, in the Review and Herald. One student’s determination to get an education was so fierce that it made headlines. At the 1922 General Conference Session, C.C. Lewis told an interesting story: “A young man up in Canada found himself forty miles from a station, and could get no paper on which to prepare his lesson, so he went out into the woods and made use of the city of Hiawatha—"Give me of thy bark, O birch tree"—and upon this bark, he wrote his lesson and sent it in.”

The Fireside Correspondence School promoted in its early years: “[A correspondence education] might become the first rung in the ladder of upward progress, for a young person to learn that he can actually accomplish something worthwhile through his own application and perseverance, guided by qualified teachers, even if circumstances have all seemed against any means of self-improvement in the past,” wrote W.E. Howell, the school’s principal, in the Review and Herald.

Determination and the value of hard work were values that the Fireside Correspondence School promoted in its early years: “[A correspondence education] might become the first rung in the ladder of upward progress, for a young person to learn that he can actually accomplish something worthwhile through his own application and perseverance, guided by qualified teachers, even if circumstances have all seemed against any means of self-improvement in the past,” wrote W.E. Howell, the school’s principal, in the Review and Herald. One student’s determination to get an education was so fierce that it made headlines. At the 1922 General Conference Session, C.C. Lewis told an interesting story: “A young man up in Canada found himself forty miles from a station, and could get no paper on which to prepare his lesson, so he went out into the woods and made use of the city of Hiawatha—"Give me of thy bark, O birch tree"—and upon this bark, he wrote his lesson and sent it in.”

The Fireside Correspondence School group in Huichou, Guang Dong province, China, c. 1923

One night at prayer meeting, she heard a visitor speak of typewriting and stenography classes from Fireside Correspondence School. Ruth thought this might be a way to earn money toward her education, and enrolled in the classes that night. “Send the first lessons right away,” she said, “so I wish to begin study as soon as possible.” However, the visitor said, she would need a typewriter of her own to practice on. Determined to help her sister succeed, her brother promised to find her one.

Lawrence found a typewriter the very next day, and for the next few months, Ruth spent all her spare time practicing. One day, Lawrence mentioned that his boss’s stenographer was ill, and asked Ruth if she was able to fill in for her. This led to a full-time position with Mr. Jenison, her brother’s employer, and a salary she saved for her education. Within a few months, Mr. Jenison had requested she take a course in bookkeeping to oversee the store’s finances. 

Her bank account was growing daily, but she still could not afford to attend academy. One day, Lawrence pointed out a four-year academic course in the Fireside catalog. The siblings realized they could gain a high school education by correspondence, and would be ready for college in three years, while still
The leaders of the Fireside Correspondence School changed the name to the Home Study Institute at the 1930 General Conference Session, as a way to not only broaden the school’s reach but to more plainly describe the institution’s mission. “It was the policy from the beginning,” wrote M.E. Olsen, current principal, “that our denominational Correspondence School should carry on educational work of the same quality as our best resident schools and colleges. The Fireside Correspondence School started out with the intention of doing the extension work, not of one college, but of all the colleges and academies of the denomination.”

Until the age of computers, the Home Study Institute remained a humble organization. In the late 1940s it was located in an old house across the street from the General Conference. Betty Gray began working part-time at the Home Study Institute around 1947 as a college student. An office worker, she typed mailing labels and envelopes, filed, and sometimes helped assemble the lessons for the packages. Once the lessons were printed at the Review & Herald, the entire process of sending out and receiving lessons was hand-done by a small office staff, including tying the lesson packages up with string. Much of the staff was composed of students at Washington Missionary College (later to become Columbia Union College/ Washington Adventist University).

When the institution’s mission was to provide education to all who were unable to attain it. In the United States, one year studying at Seminar Schloss Bogenhofen in Austria. She went on to attend Southern Adventist University (then Southern College), “I’ve never regretted taking two years of high school by correspondence,” she said. “College is much more rewarding because now I really can appreciate my teachers and classmates.”

The Home Study Institute continued to grow. By 1930, the school offered courses not only in academic subjects, but also in missionary and witnessing work as well as language instruction. Entire families would enroll in correspondence courses, such as the Oswald family of Pennsylvania. While their daughter, Marian, was taking three courses from the school, both Mr. and Mrs. Oswald held Adventist faith to which they had recently converted by taking Bible courses.

It was a humbling way, and so did we,” J.C. Oswald wrote.42 Only 20 years after its formation, the Correspondence School had grown from 200 students to 1,000 enrollees spread across the globe. The School office sent their lessons to more than 50 countries, from Iceland to Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) to Peru. There was a Far Eastern Division, and newly formed Australasian and South American Divisions. In Europe and in America, the home study method was being hailed as “one of the outstanding developments of the twentieth century,” according to President Theodore Roosevelt.23

A conversation with Alayne Thorpe, interim president of Griggs University

Ask Alayne Thorpe to tell you stories about Griggs University International Academy, and her stories span the globe. She bounced from MBA programs in Vietnam to degree completion programs in Cameroon to vocational training in the United States. Quite a few of her stories have a similar theme: Griggs University was involved in a lot of “firsts.” Much of its work in the last three decades has been to establish degree programs “in places where there was no educational solution, says Thorpe. One such place was South Africa in the early 1990s. In the homeland of Transkei, where Bethel College was located, many pastors were unable to continue their education. The newly created Griggs University division provided high school completion services and adminstered baccalaureate religion degree to over 100 pastors in five years. The pastors were able to obtain the education they needed to further their ministry and also receive a much-needed pay raise. Years later, one pastor asked Thorpe, “Why aren’t you offering a PhD? If you did, we would take it.”

Part of Griggs’ mission from the start was to provide education to all who were unable to attain it. In the United States, this meant students who could not complete a high school degree. Griggs partnered with the government program JobCorps to install these students in vocational training and apprenticeships. Thorpe remembers several Sudanese “Lost Boys” relocated into vocational jobs in the Southern states. Through Griggs and JobCorps, “we now hold high school degrees. ‘Some have gone back to Sudan, some have gone on to college, and some remain here, says Thorpe. In Vietnam, Griggs has developed a Master of Business Administration program. Many of its graduates have gone on to work in high-ranking positions in the banking industry and the Vietnamese government. One graduate told her, ‘You don’t realize what an impact Griggs has made on the leadership of Vietnam.’ Thorpe adds, ‘And the Adventist Church through Griggs.’

Now, Griggs has affiliates in countries across the globe, and partners with both Adventist and non-Adventist organizations, as well as independent ministries. Many of Griggs’ non-SDA affiliates are business and language schools in Hong Kong, Korea and Taiwan, although Griggs has partnered with three different colleges in the United Arab Emirates, as well as the Center for Education Technology and Career Development in Vietnam mentioned above. Griggs also offers programs through Adventist colleges, universities, and elementary and secondary schools worldwide, from Ghana and Cote d’Ivoire to the Russian Federation to Saudi Arabia and many more.

Griggs’ move to Andrews not only situates it in the most diverse Adventist educational community, but provides the added resources the rapidly growing institution needs. Alayne Thorpe is involved in a number of resources, “but now the General Conference is giving us that. Now, the future is limitless and the possibilities are endless.”
Many courses are now electronically enhanced.
Would you be interested in serving as a local host for an alumni gathering? Or maybe you’d be willing to sponsor an event in your area? How about serving on our Alumni Board of Directors? Connecting with students as a mentor? We’d love to hear from you! Email alumni@andrews.edu or call 269-471-3591.

June
18 Michigan Alumni Gathering 5 p.m. Fellowship Hall, Cedar Lake Church Cedar Lake, Mich.
18 Indiana Alumni Gathering 5 p.m. Home Ec Room, Indiana Academy Cicero, Ind.
18 Wisconsin Alumni Gathering 5 p.m. Andrews University Cabin Camp Wakonda, Westfield, Wisc.
23 PSI/Indiana Alumni Gathering 6 p.m. The Old Spaghetti Factory 210 S Meridian St., Indianapolis, Ind. We look forward to meeting with local alumni and those attending PSI.
25 Lake Region Alumni Gathering 5 p.m. Picnic Table Area, Camp Wagner Cassopolis, Mich.

July
13 Alumni Board of Directors Meeting 4:30 p.m. Alumni House, Andrews University
29 Buller Hall Ribbon Cutting Ceremony 11 a.m.—1 p.m. Buller Hall main entrance Andrews Univ, Berrien Springs, Mich.
31 Summer Commencement 9 a.m.—Graduate/Undergraduate Pioneer Memorial Church Andrews Univ, Berrien Springs, Mich.

August
4 ASI/Sacramento Alumni Gathering 6 p.m. Sacramento Convention Center 1050 15th St., Sacramento, Calif. We look forward to meeting with local alumni and those who will be attending the ASI Conference.
10 Alumni Board of Directors Meeting 4:30 p.m. Alumni House, Andrews University

September
14 Alumni Board of Directors Meeting 4:30 p.m. Alumni House, Andrews University
29–October 2 Alumni Homecoming Weekend See full-page feature on page 35 for further details.

October
16 Tennessee Alumni Gathering Chattanooga, Tenn.
17 North Carolina Alumni Gathering Asheville, N.C.

 RSVP for an event
RSVP for the above gatherings online at AU&ME, our alumni community: www.andrews.edu/alumni.

Visit AU&ME today!
www.andrews.edu/alumni

Alumni events
Alumni picnic for spring grads Thursday, April 28, 2011

Along with spring graduation comes the unavoidable tradition of April showers. However, we made the best of it with a festive fiesta under the big white Homecoming tent. Alumni board members hosted over 300 graduates, presenting each with an Andrews University luggage tag as they entered the celebration. Before students left for rehearsal, everyone surprised President Nielis-Erik Andreason with sparklers and cake in honor of his upcoming 70th birthday on May 14. It was a perfect start to a busy graduation weekend.

Homecoming: Now Mobile

With the new Andrews University Homecoming 2011 app, you can:
> View the Homecoming media gallery
> Access the Homecoming 2011 program when it becomes available.
> Register for Homecoming 2011
> View details on alumni.andrews.edu/homecoming

Who are alumni?
If you’ve attended, worked or taught at Andrews University we consider you alumni! And if you’re a parent or a potential student considering Andrews, you’re invited to be our honored guest at any of the above alumni gatherings.

L–R: Andre Morgan (BT ’07), Jane Thayer (FF), Aaron Koleda (BSELED ’09), Arlyn Drew (MDiv ’97), Sean Porras (MA ’08, MDiv ’10)

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Would you be interested in serving as a local host for an alumni gathering? Or maybe you’d be willing to sponsor an event in your area? How about serving on our Alumni Board of Directors? Connecting with students as a mentor? We’d love to hear from you! Email alumni@andrews.edu or call 269-471-3591.
1940s
Duane Cronk (att.) was recently inducted into the Construction Writers Association “Hall of Fame” after a long career in that field. He attended Emmanuel Missionary College from 1946–1949 and was editor of the Student Movement for a year.

1970s
Lakeland HealthCare recently announced that Lynn Gray (BS ‘79, board member), has accepted a part-time position as medical director of diversity at Lakeland HealthCare. Gray is employed by Emergency Physicians Medical Group (EPMG) of Ann Arbor, Mich., which provides Emergency Medicine physicians to the emergency departments at Lakeland’s three acute inpatient facilities. He has spent more than 30 years practicing medicine in Southwest Michigan. From 1978 to 1979, Gray taught an assistant professor in the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health at Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tenn. He opened a practice of family medicine in Benton Harbor in 1979. Gray transitioned to full-time emergency medicine in 1995. He has held medical director positions for Orchard Grove Extended Care Facility, the Berrien County Jail, and Planned Parenthood. He has served as a consultant to the Michigan Peer Review Organization and to Lakeland’s Case Management and Performance Improvement departments. Gray has provided leadership as past president and as a current member of the board to the Michigan Academy of Family Practice, and is also serving on the Boards of the Michigan State Medical Society, Andrews University, and the Lakeland Specialty Hospital.

Roland Studley Tuitt (BS ‘79, MBA ‘81) currently lives in Netherlands Antilles. Since he left Andrews, he has served as the commissioner of Finance for St. Maarten and as a member of parliament for St. Maarten from 1998-2002. He was appointed by HM the Queen as a member of the Financial Supervisory Board CFT from 2008-2010. Since 2010 he has been the chairman of the Audit Chamber of St. Maarten. Besides these positions, he maintained a successful accounting practice from 1986-2010. He is also a certified public accountant and registered accountant.

Margaret Solomon (MA ’79) was given the Fulbright Visiting Scholar Award this year. Her Fulbright project was on the topic, “The Education of the Slum Children in India.” She spent four months doing lectures and conducting an exploratory study of the education of the poorest of the poor children in seven cities—New Delhi, Roodee, Banaras, Bangalore, Pune, Chennai and Tanjore. She will be publishing articles and a book on the project. Margaret is currently a professor at La Sierra University in the Educational Leadership Department. She is married to Poovelingam Solomon (MA ’79, DMA ’94).

1980s
John Williams (BAlt ’81, PhD ’97) received admission to the Academy of Fellows at the 73rd International Technology and Engineering Education Association conference in Minneapolis. This is the highest award the association offers, and only the second time it has been given to a non-American. He writes, “My professional journey really began at Andrews, and I have my excellent supervisors and professors to thank for that.”

John Rattenburg (BA ’82) is professor and head of the English Department at the American University of Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates. He is currently on a leave of absence as director of international education from California Polytechnic State University. His wife, Miranda is resident director for CEEE Study Abroad at the American University of Sharjah. They have three children.

Kevin Erich (MBA ’94) has been named president and CEO of Feather River Hospital, according to Larry Dodd, executive vice president and COO of Adventist Health. Erich will assume his new role on May 16, when current president, Wayne Ferc, transitions to his new position as president and CEO of the Central Valley Network.

Kevin Erich

“Kevin has been with Adventist Health for over 19 years,” stated Dodd, “and has a great track record of strong leadership. We are very pleased to have dedicated leaders like Kevin within our system.” For the past 15 years, Erich has served as president and CEO of HMH. In 2002 HMH became a Critical Access Hospital. Erich was instrumental in making this change and a key player in helping to promote and develop the new California Critical Access Hospital Network, comprising all 31 California Critical Access Hospitals. He served as president and CEO of Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Hopper, Oregon from 1992-1997. Prior to joining Adventist Health, Erich was with Adventist Living Centers for six years—four years as a nursing home administrator. He also taught algebra and was the bookkeeper at Broadview Academy in LaFox, Ill., for two years.

Erich holds a BBA from Pacific Union College and an MBA, with emphasis in healthcare administration, from Andrews. In addition, Erich obtained his Certified Financial Planner™ certification in 1991 and in 2005 became a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives. Erich and his wife, Shari, (att.) have three children, Robert, Stephen and Kayleen.

Terri L. Fivash (BA ’94, MA ’98) writes, “I am now writing full time, and am continuing publication of the Dahveed series, in spite of the fact that the Review and Herald had to cancel the series. Until another publisher can be found, the books will come out as e-books from Amazon and Barnes & Noble. See www.terrilfivash.com for details. My husband and I have two sons. The oldest attends Andrews University and the youngest just graduated from high school.”

Edwin Hernandez (MDV ’86), member of the Andrews University Board of Trustees, has been elected to serve on In Trust’s Board of Directors. In Trust is an association of boards in theological education. Hernandez has been a member of the Andrews University Board of Trustees since 2005. He is also the senior program officer for research, education and congregational initiatives for the DeVos Family Foundation and a research fellow at the University of Notre Dame’s Center for the Study of Latino Religion.

Matthew Lee Gibson (MDV ’99) graduated with a Doctor of Ministry from Erskine Theological Seminary located in Due West, S.C. on May 14, 2011.

1990s
Pete Job (MSP ’91) is working as regional manager for HCR ManorCare for Southern Ohio. He has been married for 11 years and has three boys, Tyler (7), Mitchell (5), and Carter (1).

Tangi Pergram Sisler (MPT ’98) was remarried in September 2010 and currently works in a SNF with long-term and short-term rehab. She has an 11-year-old daughter, Courtney, who is in fifth grade. Tangi writes, “She [Courtney] is a major portion of my life besides connecting with the love of my life, Kelly, and getting married.”

Norman Singh (BS ’98, MSP ’00) is employed at Lakeland Hospital as a clinical specialist doing acute-care physical therapy. He is married and has four daughters.

Jeff Whinery (MPT ’98) is working in outpatient orthopedic therapy in a rural area and he enjoys a good balance of work and family/play time. He “would love to hear from anybody from our class.”

2000s
Donald McKinnin Jr. (MAV ’06) and Lahai McKinnin (MSW ’07) are happy to announce the latest addition to their family, Nathan Donald McKinnin. Nathan was born on April 5, 2010, and recently celebrated his first birthday. They live in Delaware, where Donald serves as assistant pastor at Sharon Temple Seventh-day Adventist Church in Wilmington, Del. Most recently, Lahai worked as a mental health case manager before becoming a full-time home mom. They write, “We are thankful for God’s blessings in our lives!”
Keep us informed

Were you recently married? Have you rejoiced in the birth of a new child? Celebrated the life of a loved one who passed away? Share your recent life stories with alumni friends. Class notes provide an opportunity to include news about achievements, professional development, additional degrees or certificates, travel, hobbies, volunteer work or anything else interesting about you, or your family. If possible, please include a high-resolution digital photo or original print for publication in class notes. Thank you for keeping your alumni family up-to-date with your life.

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E-mail: focus@andrews.edu

We would love for you to join us.

Homecoming is the perfect time to come home for a visit.

Highlights of the weekend will include:
• Spirit of Philanthropy Homecoming Banquet
• FLAG Camp (for children ages 5–14)
• Wes Christiansen Memorial Golf Outing
• 24th Annual Homecoming Parade
• International Flag Raising Ceremony
• Tours of the new Undergraduate Learning Center
• BSCF Alumni Reunion
• Harvest Picnic
• Homecoming Gala Concert
• Basketball Game
• 5K, 10K & 10K and Beach 2 Bank
• Ride for AU motorcycle ride
• … and much more, including departmental programming

2011 HONORED ALUMNI:
Gary Case (BS ’91), Lynn Gray (BS ’71), Jeff Supak (BBA ’91), Ella Simmons (MA ’91), Dale Twomley (BS ’61)

HONOR CLASSES:
Please visit alumni.andrews.edu/homecoming to update your information and review the missing classmate lists.

To make arrangements for lodging, contact Guest Services at 269-471-3295 or visitors@andrews.edu. For up-to-date information, schedule of events, and to RSVP and access forms, please visit alumni.andrews.edu/homecoming.
Melvin Rosen Jr. (BA '45) died at the Life Care Center in Evergreen, Colo., on April 16, 2011, at the age of 88. A memoration service honoring his life was held at Porter Place Chapel in Denver, Colo., and he was buried in Rose Hill Cemetery in Berrien Springs, Mich. Melvin Jr. was born to Melvin Rosen Sr. and Alice Scott on February 20, 1923 in Cheektowaga, N.Y., and he spent his childhood in Clear Lake, Iowa, and he graduated from Bethel Academy in 1941. He graduated from Emmanuel Missionary College (now Andrews University) in 1945, receiving a degree in Education. Melvin attended graduate school at Western Michigan University, receiving a master’s degree in education and administration in 1952. In 1958, Melvin married Joyce Allen Durham, and they shared 53 years of marriage. He was previously married to Marian Wrey.

During his career, which spanned 43 years from his marriage to Joyce until his death, he was a member of the Denver South Adventist Church. Melvin is survived by his wife, Joyce Rosen; two daughters: Marcia Rosen Jones (BBA ’72) and Patryc Rosen Middaugh; three sons: Larry Durham; Bob Durham (BA ’73); and Terry Durham; and one granddaughter, Bisueger. Melvin is further survived by seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Melvin enjoyed all aspects of his life and family. In his leisure time, he especially enjoyed gardening, woodwork, juggling, singing and reading. At his retirement from education, he moved to Colorado where he resided for 23 years. At the time of his death, he was a member of the Denver South Adventist Church.

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Richard (BBA ’68) and Cynthia Wallace Forrester (BS ’66, MFP ’77) are proud to announce the birth of a baby girl, Sophia Alexandria Grace, born on April 20, 2011, in Atlanta, Ga.

Jennifer Gossen (BSc ’96) is the proud parent ofillian Faith Gossen, born on March 19, 2011, in Westchester, Ill.

Sandra Pauline Cruz (BA ’72), 64, died April 11, 2011, at her home in Lubbock, Texas. Sandra was born February 25, 1947 in Bad Creek, Michigan to Sylvester and Ruby Cruz. She graduated from Battle Creek Academy in 1965, and from Andrews University in 1972 with a degree in English and Spanish. While at Andrews, she met her husband of 45 years, Daniel Cruz (BA ’67, MDiv ’72, MA ’84).

Sandra lived a life devoted to God and to service. She had a passion for mission work, spending seven years as a missionary in the Philippines with her husband in Korea. In 2001, she started the Philippine Project Mission, which has since built four churches, and has begun building an elementary school. Sandra devoted much of her time and energy to fund-raising, training Philippine missionaries in ESL to teach in China, and planning short-term mission trips.

A lifelong learner herself, Sandra dedicated her life to teaching others, teaching everything from English to law classes. She jumped at any chance to preach or tell stories, everything from English to law classes. She was an expert at puzzles, logic games, and scrabble, regularly beating the computer!

Sandra has been a remarkable woman who lived life fully. Her love for God, expressed through her mission work and her love for people, has made an impact on so many lives that will not soon be forgotten.

Sandra is survived by her husband, Daniel Cruz; her children, Daniel Cruz, Nathan cruz, and Shanda Calbrite; two sisters; Shirley Smith and Lorraine Wellman; and four grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her older sister Sylvia Atkins of Fredericksburg, Texas.

Jayne, born on Feb. 25, 2011, in Westchester, Ill. is the proud parent of Marius Asaftei (BA ’10, MD ’14) and Jeff was preceded in death by his wife, Janet, and his parents, Philip and Laura Jeffreys.

On May 22, 2011, Douglas Kitchler (BMin ’69, former faculty) passed away in his home with his family by his side, after nearly four years of battling the blood cancer, multiple myeloma.

Doug began his ministry in 1969 as an intern evangelist in the Southern California Conference where he went on to become a full-time pastor. He later served as an administrator in the Northern New England Conference and Upper Colombia Conferences. Afterwards, he served as an administrator in the Northern New England Conference before moving to the Andrews University Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary and, in 1974, he chaired the Department of Christian Ministry. He later served in the Mid-America Union as ministerial director before going to the Texas Conference where he served as conference secretary until October 2010.

Perhaps a crowning passion of Doug’s personal calling was his commitment to the success of pastors. He was ever sensitive to the importance of appropriate training, professional development, family support and a continuing experience of spiritual and personal growth and renewal. Doug knew the value of balance in the life and ministry of the pastor. He consistently encouraged pastors to be intentional in maintaining a clear focus on the important matters, even in the face of urgent issues that are constantly present.

For this reason, the Doug Kitchler Fund for Pastoral Renewal has been set up and will be administered by the Texas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists as the Kitchler family. The benefits will not be limited to just the Texas Conference. The fund is intended to extend his legacy of ministry and provide the opportunity for people to honor him and express their appreciation for his life and ministry. All contributions will be used to benefit pastors and their families.

Survivors include his wife Carole (Lake) Kitchler (BS ’68, MA ’80, former faculty) and Kevin (att.) and daughter, Krissi.
Looking back, it’s easy to wonder about choices, and how one’s life might have been different, but I must say that going to Andrews worked out well for me. I have been both blessed and lucky—I believe in both—and coming to Andrews made a huge difference in my life. As a senior at Battle Creek Academy it was exciting to consider colleges ranging from Michigan State and Hope College to Tulane University. A “good option. One early December week found me taking part in a Foreign Service brochure in the Placement Office, the Foreign Service sounded like a good option. I immediately joined the Foreign Service in early 1977.”

**Journeys still lead back**

When people ask me how I became interested in the Foreign Service, however, the cite was the year I spent in Japan as a student missionary teaching English. I am grateful that friends urged me to consider it, and to Andrews for the chance to do so. During my year in Japan I also traveled as much as possible, from Okinawa to Hiroshima to climbing Mt. Fuji and visiting Korea. Upon my return from Japan, I immediately joined Pearson’s geography program and my assignment to Suriname. In 2009, as I began my assignment to Suriname, I met several General Conference officials, courtesy of another friend and former Andrews professor, Eugene Hin. My pitch to them that completing a student missionary program has a remarkable influence for good on those who take part, and the program should be strengthened and broadened. When I returned to Andrews for my senior year, I felt much more confident about navigating the world, so when I spotted a Foreign Service brochure in the Placement Office, I knew I had to apply. I immediately joined the Foreign Service program. I have been both blessed and lucky coming to Andrews made a huge difference in my life.”
Paul Hamel (left), who helped with the move into the original Griggs Hall in 1938, stopped by to help move items into the new Buller Hall, which now stands where Griggs once stood. Andrews University student Jenner Becerra (right) and Ante Jeronic, assistant professor of theology (center), gave Hamel a helping hand.