NW Native Leader Elected to National Post

Brian Cladoosby was elected Oct. 17 as the first Seventh-day Adventist president of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI). Cladoosby is an elder in the Ferndale, Wash., district and a member of the Lummi Adventist Company. He is now the 21st elected president of the NCAI and the first person from his tribe to head up the organization. He has served as the chairman of the Swinomish Indian Senate — the official governing body of the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community — since 1985. In 2012 he was the top honoree for Ecotrust’s Indigenous Leadership Award. Read more about this post.
Washington Conference Education

Leadership to Change

Kelly Bock, Washington Conference vice president for education (pictured on left), has announced that he will retire from his post at the end of the year. Bock, who came out of retirement to fill the Washington role, will be replaced by Archie Harris (pictured on right) who is Bock’s current associate. A graduate of Walla Walla University, Harris has more than 25 years of educational experience throughout the Northwest in Upper Columbia and Montana conferences. Read more from the Washington Conference.

Roberts Election is a First

The Southeastern California Conference (SECC) reports that 72 percent of its delegates during the conference constituency session on Sun., Oct. 27, voted to elect Sandra Roberts as president. She is the first woman to be elected to the level of conference president. Roberts had served since 2004 as executive secretary of SECC. Previously, she worked as a teacher, chaplain, youth director and pastor. The election brought a concerned response from the General Conference which does not recognize the ordination of women pastors — a prerequisite for becoming a conference president. Read more about the election at the SECC website. (Photo by Gerry Chudleigh.)

PACS Goes Dental

Well, not quite yet, actually. But the well-established and growing Portland Adventist Community Services (PACS) outreach has stepped out in faith to raise $500,000 for a new dental clinic to serve needy patients. PACS currently operates a medical clinic, food pantry and thrift store as a service to the greater Portland, Ore., metro area. They have currently raised nearly 20 percent of the $500,000 goal for the dental project. Read more about this new opportunity online.

GLEANER Wins Three Awards

The North Pacific Union Conference GLEANER received two Best in Class awards and one Honorable Mention during the 2013 Society of Adventist Communicators convention held Oct. 24–26 in Salt Lake City, Utah. These awards, selected by peer review from all entries submitted across North America, gave special recognition to the
Another View of WWU

Whether or not they are graduates of Walla Walla University (WWU), many Northwest Adventists look on it as their own. But what do those who aren't members think? What is their view of our university? Recently The Pioneer, a student publication of neighboring Whitman College in Walla Walla, Wash., included a lengthy article about WWU. You might be surprised at what they saw and what they found as they interviewed Paddy McCoy (pictured here), WWU campus chaplain. Read it online.

Looking Ahead

November

8: Frontier Missions Speaker at Stone Tower Church
Since 1977, International Children’s Care, based in Vancouver, Wash., has provided safety, security and hope to young lives around the world. In the November GLEANER read how their unique village concept is radically different from average orphanages. Read more in the November GLEANER.
Brian Cladoosby Is President National Congress of American Indians

Courtesy Ecotrust

Brian Cladoosby, chairman of the Swinomish Tribal Community, was named NCAI president at the organization's 70th annual convention recently.

Harlan McKosato
10/23/13

The general assembly hall was packed as the National Congress of American Indians lined up to elect a new executive committee at the convention center in downtown Tulsa, Oklahoma. The offices of President, First Vice President, Treasurer and Recording Secretary were up for grabs. The reigning NCAI President Jefferson Keel of the Chickasaw Nation had served his two-term limit of four years and the big question was “who would succeed him?”

The four candidates for NCAI President were Brian Cladoosby, chairman of the Swinomish Tribal Community out of Washington State; Joe Garcia, former NCAI President from the Pueblo of Ohkay Owingeh in New Mexico; Juana Majel-Dixon of the Pauma Band of Mission Indians in California; and George Tiger, Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in Oklahoma.

With all four contenders being more than viable, the stage was set for a runoff. According to NCAI protocol, to win the office a candidate must receive more than 50 percent of the vote. Anticipation was running high as the automated voting system spat out the first numbers for the new president. No candidate received a majority so that meant the two highest vote getters, Cladoosby and Garcia, would go head-to-head in a runoff.

Out of more than 18,000 votes Cladoosby nipped Garcia by a mere 25 votes. Each member tribe receives 100-185 votes depending on their total tribal membership. Had one tribe voted for Garcia instead of Cladoosby the Pueblo leader would have been back in office after sitting out two terms. The Swinomish leader was thankful and humble in victory.

“My initial reaction was ‘thank you Creator’” said Cladoosby in a post-election interview. “He chooses leaders. I’m a firm believer in that. I give Him the credit for allowing me to have an opportunity to do this. The second thing I did was kiss my beautiful wife of 35 years – Nina.

“I will hit the ground running,” said Cladoosby, who would be sworn in less than 24 hours later. “I’m just blessed that NCAI has an infrastructure that is second to none. We have professionals that are a lot smarter than me and I’m a firm believer that I need to surround myself with people smarter than me. One of the first things I’m going to do is sit down with my newly elected board. We will be doing an immediate retreat on this conference. That’s first and foremost.

“It will definitely put Swinomish on the map,” said Cladoosby about being the first person from his tribe to be elected to head up NCAI. “I know my people back home are very happy right now.”

The interview was then interrupted by a call from one of the newly elected president’s biggest supporters – his 80-year-old father. “Hey Dad, we did it,” beamed Cladoosby during this touching moment between father and son.

Garcia, the man who served as NCAI President from 2005-2009, was visibly disappointed with the narrow defeat. He had finished second in the initial vote and closed the gap in the runoff, but not enough to pull out the win.

“We gave it a good run,” said Garcia. “I didn’t believe (the vote count) at first and I said ‘recount, recount’ but I figured people did their
jobs and we have to let the process go. I’m not going to make any excuses. The vote went the way it did and we lost by 25 votes.

“I just want to congratulate Brian,” added Garcia. “I think that’s what it’s all about, respect. He did suggest that I make myself available, because I stand for Indian country. Most likely, I will not disappear like some of my colleagues. One good thing that will happen because of this (loss) is that I’ll get to spend more time at home.”

The Northwest tribes made it a clean sweep of the top two NCAI leadership posts because Michael Finley, chairman of the Colville Confederated Tribes ran unopposed for the office of First Vice-President. Dennis Welsh Jr., a tribal council member for the Colorado River Indian Tribes ran unopposed and was elected NCAI Treasurer.

Robert Shepherd, chairman of the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation in South Dakota, was elected as NCAI Secretary. He served two years as the Great Plains Regional vice-president for NCAI.

“I feel I have a lot to offer NCAI and Indian country with my military background and my education,” Shepherd said. I understand all tribes are different, they’re at different stages of developing their governments. My main goal is to communicate with everybody, not just the tribal leaders. Using the modern media and technology we can advance NCAI to the next level by creating synergy with effective communication and information that we obtain and distribute.”

After the elections were over outgoing President Jefferson Keel of the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma said he felt Cladoosby was well qualified to lead the National Congress of American Indians. He also stated he had not “given any thought” about whether he would run or not in two years.

**POST A COMMENT**

**Related Stories**
Washington Education Leaders Prepare for Transition

Kelly Bock will be retiring from education leadership at the end of 2013 and Archie Harris will become Washington Conference's new vice president for education in January 2014.

The Office of Education for Washington Conference will be transitioning leaders at the end of 2013.

Dr. Kelly Bock will be retiring (for the second time) from the ministry of education leadership. Bock’s retirement will be effective December 31, 2013, and he plans to spent additional time with his family in Yakima, Wash.

“Kelly came out of retirement to serve as education leader in Washington Conference and went above and beyond the call of duty in caring for both the vice president for education job as well as serving as interim principal at Auburn Adventist Academy,” says Doug Bing, Washington Conference vice president for administration. “We are very grateful for his service and wish him the best as he retires for the second time.”

Washington Conference Executive Committee, the governing body of the conference between constituency sessions, accepted a recommendation from conference administration to elect Archie Harris, associate superintendent, as the new vice president for education. This recommendation received unanimous support. Harris accepted the position and will transition into this new role on January 1, 2014.

Bock will assist Harris in education leadership on a part-time basis until a new associate superintendent is selected.

Harris came to western Washington in November 2012 after teaching and providing ministry leadership in Montana Conference for 18 ½ years. Harris served the last six and a half years in Montana as director of education, youth, communication and health. Prior to his time in Montana, Harris spent six years in Upper Columbia Conference where he taught at elementary and secondary levels.

Harris represents the North Pacific Union Conference on the North American Division Technology and Distance Education K-12 Committee. Washington Conference teachers enjoy the technology ideas and gadgets he shares at in-service training sessions.

Harris is no stranger to the Pacific Northwest. He was raised in Montana by parents who are life-time educators, and graduated from Mount Ellis Academy and Walla Walla College (now University). Harris and
his high school sweetheart, Deanna, have two college-age daughters.

Washington Conference of Seventh-day Adventists operates 20 faith-based elementary and high schools plus 11 early childhood education centers in western Washington. These programs provide whole person education (mental, physical, spiritual) for 1,305 students in grades kindergarten through 12. Learn more about Adventist Christian Education at www.education4eternity.org.
Adventist officers release statement regarding a local conference’s recent election of president

The Seventh-day Adventist world church headquarters is located in Silver Spring, Maryland, United States.

Statement urges working together to fulfill church’s mission

October 31, 2013 | Silver Spring, Maryland, United States | Author: ANN staff

Seventh-day Adventist world church officials today released a statement regarding a local conference that recently elected as president a person who is not recognized by the world church as an ordained minister. Ordination is one of the criteria for being a conference president. The statement, in its entirety, follows:

Moving Forward Together

A response from the General Conference to recent actions in North America

The Seventh-day Adventist Church has been called by God as an urgent, end-time voice proclaiming God’s love and last day message to the world. He has commissioned us to proclaim the three angels’ messages of Revelation 14:6-12 to people worldwide desperately looking for hope. The message and mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is unique and is heaven-sent. Our top priority as a church is knowing Jesus ourselves and sharing His message of redemption. Nothing is to stand in the way of this proclamation as we unite to reach every “nation, kindred, tongue and people” with the “everlasting gospel.”

The Seventh-day Adventist Church is a fellowship of believers bound together by a common commitment to Christ, the truths of the Bible, a worldwide church organization and a mission to the world. Each of these elements is vitally important in preserving the unity of the church and keeping it from fracturing. The Seventh-day Adventist Church is not organized as a collection of independent units. Although each Conference/Mission, Union and the General Conference (which includes the divisions) have their own constituencies, they are also united by common commitments, mutual trust and agreed upon policies. The Church, the body of Christ, is inter-related. Actions that affect one part of the body affect the whole. The Apostle Paul stated it succinctly in these words, “For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ.” (1 Corinthians 12:12)

Working Policy, which is the recording of our agreements as to how we will work together to do the Lord’s work and mission, serves as one of the practical unifying agents that the Holy Spirit uses to bind the church together. Policy is not inflexible. It can be changed but it reflects the understanding of the collective group, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. When personal convictions are placed ahead of the collective policy decisions of the worldwide church, troubling precedents are set. God works in an orderly way and wishes His church to exemplify this sanctified behavior through the power of the Holy Spirit. Humility and submission to God for the good of the church body as outlined in the Word of God and the Spirit of Prophecy are fundamental Biblical principles for the benefit of the church.

At the 2012 Annual Council in a voted action entitled, “Statement on Church Polity, Procedures, and Resolution of Disagreements in the Light of Recent Union Actions on Ministerial Ordination,” the world church strongly indicated that it does not recognize as ordained ministers individuals who do not meet the criteria outlined in policy. It deeply concerns the world leadership of the church that recently a local conference constituency elected as a conference president an individual who is not recognized by the world church as an ordained minister. Ordination to the ministry is one of the criteria set forth for being a conference president. General Conference administration is working with the North American Division administration as they deal with the implications of this local conference action, which is contrary to the 2012 Annual Council action.
The world church is currently working together in a Theology of Ordination Study Committee with participation by all divisions to better understand the functions of ordination as well as the role of women in relation to ordination to the gospel ministry. A careful process is functioning and reports will be given to the 2014 Annual Council with the expectation that this subject will go to the 2015 General Conference Session for a decision under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

We have every confidence in the Lord’s leading of His precious remnant church. By God’s grace and through the Holy Spirit’s guidance, the church will find its way through this challenging time as we move forward with the unique message and mission entrusted to the Seventh-day Adventist movement. It is God’s plan that we proclaim His end-time, prophetic truth to every corner of the globe and especially the enormous metropolitan centers of the world through “Mission to the Cities” utilizing every form of comprehensive urban evangelism including comprehensive health ministry and many other methods. We urge all church members and leaders to pray that the Holy Spirit will unite us to fulfill Christ’s promise that “this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all nations and then the end will come.” (Matthew 24:14) United in Christ’s love, bound together in a common Biblical message, linked through a common church organization and committed to one another with mutual respect and trust through the power of the Holy Spirit, we are confident this church will triumph at last and proclaim Christ’s eternal message of truth to the ends of the earth in anticipation of Jesus’ soon second coming.

—The General Conference Executive Officers
Southeastern California Conference - News: News Release

secc.adventistfaith.org/news_entries/7151

Back to News

News Release

PRESS STATEMENT

For Immediate Release

Southeastern California Conference
October 27, 2013

For more information contact:

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Sandra Roberts Elected President of Southeastern California Conference

On Sunday, October 27, 2013, delegates voted (72%-28%) to elect Sandra Roberts as president of the Southeastern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Roberts had served since 2004 as executive secretary of SECC. Previously, she worked as a teacher, chaplain, youth director, and pastor. She received her masters degree from Andrews University in 1984, and received a Doctor of Ministry degree in 2006 from Claremont School of Theology.

In her new role, Roberts took the opportunity to recognize the new conference officers and to thank the delegates for their involvement in the constituency session. In her address, she expressed her desire and challenged the audience to follow Jesus in the work that needs to be done throughout the territory of SECC.

Referring to the dusty feet that Jesus had during His time on earth, she said, “Following Him means that we are going to get our feet dirty with the dust of Southern California…We must do this without fear that differences will pull us apart. Christ will always be our anchor point.”

Delegates also elected five other key administrators. These included Jonathan Park, executive secretary; Verlon Strauss, treasurer; Elizer Sacay, vice president for Asian/Pacific Ministries; George King, vice president for Black Ministries; and Alberto Ingleton, vice president for Hispanic Ministries.

Prior to the election of Roberts, delegates had the opportunity to speak to the motion on the floor. Many delegates lined up to share their views. There were some opposing opinions, but most people expressed their support for Roberts as president.

Ricardo Graham, president of the Pacific Union Conference, reminded delegates that the General Conference does not endorse women’s ordination, and he passed on a message from Ted N. C. Wilson, president of the world church, clarifying that the election of a woman as president would not be recognized by the General Conference.

But Graham continued by stating that because delegates to the Pacific Union Special Session voted in 2012 to authorize the ordination of women, that the recommendation of the SECC nominating committee is in harmony with conference and union bylaws and policies.

Before dedicating the new officers, former President Gerald Penick was thanked for his years of service and received a standing ovation from delegates. Penick spoke to the delegates and gave farewell thoughts.
“May God bless us under this new leadership,” he said.

The Constituency Session began with worship. After music, prayer, and scripture, John Brunt, senior pastor of Azure Hills church, delivered a homily.

“God doesn’t play favorites,” he said. He challenged the attendees to trust God to lead the way.

Fifteen new churches and companies were voted into fellowship, members of the executive and bylaws committee were affirmed, and changes to the bylaws were brought into effect.

For one of the session reports, Rudy Carrillo, youth ministries director introduced Carmen Ibanez, director of Pine Springs Ranch. They presented the Pines Springs Ranch report with images of the damage caused by fire earlier this year, as well as a plan to rebuild the camp. Delegates approved a spending request to begin the rebuilding process.

After the officers affirmed that they would listen to their constituency, the session was closed with a benediction.

Photo 1: Sandra Roberts, president of Southeastern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Photo 2: Sandra Roberts speaks to delegates after being elected president of the Southeastern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Behind her are the other elected administrators (l-r): George King, VP Black Ministries; Alberto Ingleton, VP Hispanic Ministries; Elizer Sacay, VP Asian/Pacific Ministries; Verlon Strauss, treasurer; and Jonathan Park, executive secretary.
Credit: Gerry Chudleigh
The Need for Dental Access

PACS is a private, not-for-profit service organization that addresses the needs of low-income families and individuals. In 2012 our agency distributed over 1.3 million pounds of food through our food pantry, provided over 370,000 household articles (clothing, shoes, furniture and kitchenware) through our low-cost thrift store, and provided primary care to 1,709 uninsured patients through our health clinic. PACS also provided advocacy and referral services for housing and medical help.

PACS is located on 11020 NE Halsey St., Portland, OR 97220. Our health care service area includes over 136,000 individuals. It is estimated that one in five residents (20%) in the service area lives at or below the poverty line with some neighborhoods in our community exceeding a 34% poverty rate. Based on the available data, the most conservative calculation of need suggests that there are over 21,000 uninsured adults in the PACS service area.

To address these unmet health needs, PACS has operated a health clinic staffed by a small staff and a team of volunteer health care professionals including doctors, nurses, nurse practitioners, medical assistants, and a pharmacist. Volunteer opportunities are also extended to students studying at three local colleges and universities. In 2012, 1,709 client visits were provided to approximately 560 patients that receive care through PACS. As noted, PACS does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political persuasion, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, or age for its services.

The clinic provides services exclusively to the population of uninsured adults due to improved insurance resources for children. PACS does not accept insurance, focusing exclusively on providing affordable care to those who have no insurance. Primary care accounts for the bulk of the services provided. As a member of the Coalition of Community Health Clinics PACS links its services with other agencies to give clients complete care.

The clinic has achieved a stable client base and an effective service delivery model. PACS has since identified within its client population a need to expand services to include comprehensive dental health care.

Dental and oral diseases are a chronic condition that affects almost everyone at some point in their lives. For many, oral disease is a lifelong condition that compromises the quality of their entire lives. A 2006 report by the Oregon department of Human Services suggests that most Oregonians suffer from oral disease that compromises the quality of life and costs millions of dollars in treatment. The same report suggests that, “it remains critically important that all Oregonians access preventive dental care throughout the lifespan,” and concludes that increased access to care is a component of a statewide infrastructure to reduce the burden of oral and dental diseases.

It is undisputed that there are significant gaps in dental health system for those lacking dental insurance. The unmet needs for dental care span all age groups. The Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the uninsured estimates that one in four non-elderly adults has untreated tooth decay. The rate among low-income adults is twice that for adults with more income (41% versus 19%). For every adult without health insurance, an estimated three lack dental insurance. In 2010, 22% of low-income adults had gone five years or more without a dental visit, or had never had a visit. The US Department of Health and Human Services reports that employed adults lose more than 164 million hours of work each year due to dental disease or dental visits. For the unemployed, untreated dental health issues can be barriers to employment.

In addition to the startling statistics related to dental health needs, an assessment of the low-cost dental options available in PACS service area yielded few options. In all of Multnomah County there are only nine low cost dental service providers that serve adults. Six of the low cost clinics are operated by the County Health Department. Virtually all of the clinics have waiting lists and provide limited services.

Earlier this year the American Dental Association President Robert A. Faiella, D.M.D., M.M.Sc. stated that “there’s still a dangerous divide in America between those with good dental health and those without.” His comments were made as part of a national call to action to close that divide, concluding, “Good oral health isn’t a luxury. It’s essential.”

Please consider joining us by making a donation today; as we seek to be part of a solution that will help bring a smile to many in our
community.
SALT LAKE CITY, Utah (October 28, 2013) - The Society of Adventist Communicators entered a new chapter of its development and growth at its annual convention in October by welcoming the Inter-American Division chapter.

"Our vision is to expand from a regional to a vigorous international organization," says George Johnson, Jr., SAC executive director. "The addition of an international chapter helps us meet our organizational goal to expand."

The Society voted to accept the IAD chapter on Friday, October 25, during a lunchtime business session. The following morning, IAD hosted breakfast and introduced society members to their ministry region. In all, IAD brought nine representatives this year.

"We are very happy that SAC has welcomed us as an Inter-American chapter," says Libna Stevens, IAD chapter liaison. "We attended for years and found inspiration and wished we could take this home."

Benjamin Garcia, IAD chapter president, spoke through translation. "By establishing this chapter in Inter-America, the vision of SAC is becoming a reality," he says. "We have a lot of professionals who were waiting for something like this. Now we can begin to fulfill the dream."

Two more chapters are preparing to launch in European Union Division and South America Division.

Interfaith Communication

The communication convention, held this year on October 24-26, is structured to include media tours, professional development classes, keynote presentations, networking time and social activities.
Kurt Kennedy, CEO and executive creative director of Kennedy Communication Global, presented the keynote presentation about aligning an organization behind a brand. He discussed components of internal-external brand alignment.

"Attract and engage the right audiences and inspire them to participate with you," Kennedy says. Kennedy explained a six-part model of alignment including: 1) brand promise, 2) leader alignment, 3) business results, 4) cultural pillars, 5) business functions, and 6) tools and tactics.

“Content can’t be more powerful than the context allows,” says Bryant Taylor, Allegheny West Conference communication director, after listening to Kennedy’s keynote. “Context opens the ears so the listener can hear the content.”

The three-day convention convened in Salt Lake City, Utah. This location allowed Adventist communicators to talk about faith-based communication with leaders from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. This interfaith interaction included tours of Humanitarian Center, Welfare Square, LDS Conference Center and Temple Square; attendance at a rehearsal session for the Mormon Tabernacle Choir; and four workshop sessions lead by Mormon communicators on advertising, public affairs, multimedia marketing and media relations.

Additional workshops on crisis communication, social media, communication education, graphic arts, broadcast media, fundraising and community relations rounded out the training topics for Adventist communicators.

“The crisis seminar was worth the trip,” says Charles Ed Aguilar, II, British Columbia Conference communication director. “Then the branding seminar by Kennedy was like the protein of the whole convention. Learning from our Mormon brethren was the icing.”

**Media Productions**

Adventist communicators previewed three media productions during the convention. Martin Doblmeier, filmmaker and friend of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, presented a viewing session of The Adventists 2. This documentary for PBS highlights the medical missionary work of the Adventist church in Haiti, the Amazon, Malawi, China, Peru and the Dominican Republic.

The six chapters of the documentary feature heart-warming stories, missionary profiles, expert interviews on medical missionary work, and examples of how medical missionaries are seeking to provide preventative care. The documentary's soundtrack brings in musical interludes of "We Have This Hope."
The first documentary, The Adventists, began airing on PBS four years ago. The two-part series is now often featured back-to-back. Recently, The Adventists was accepted to the PSB world network for international viewing.

"It's been a humbling year to document this story," says Doblmeier. "The stories we tell as communicators have impact and transform lives."

Doblmeier is working on a third and final documentary about Adventists. The final documentary is called "Blueprint: the story of Adventist Christian Education." This documentary was just accepted by PBS and will be coming to public television in 2014.

Another production team, led by Jason Satterland and Garrett Caldwell, showed trailers, clips and experiences from producing The Record Keeper. This multi-part web series tells the story of the Great Controversy through a steam-punk filter to reach a new audience with an age-old story.

Satterland and Caldwell placed their presentation in the context of being faithful to God. They discussed three threats to faithfulness: fear, pride and disbelief.

"Producing The Record Keeper from beginning to end has been a spiritual journey," says Caldwell. "We saw God leading us from the beginning. We desire to reach people [with the message of the Great Controversy] who otherwise would not be interested."

The Record Keeper is scheduled to be debuted in February 2014.

**Awarding Excellence**

The Society of Adventist Communicators convention features awards for "best in class" projects and recognition for communication leaders. The "best in class" projects are eligible for the society's Award of Excellence. ▶ See a list of award winners.

Ron Quick, Carolina Conference communication director, received the Lifetime Achievement Award for his decades of dedicated, mission-driven service as an army medical photographer, newspaperman, literature evangelists, and church communication leader. Quick accepted the award amid a standing ovation.

"Quickly speaking, thank you," he says. Quick plans to retire in July 2014.

David Franklin, co-host of the Hope Channel's Let's Pray program and assistant pastor of the Berea Temple Adventist church, received the Young Professional Award that is designed to recognize the achievements of communication professionals under the age of 35. Franklin is noted for his natural communication abilities and high standard of excellence.

Southern Adventist University student, Rebecca Anderson, received the Student Award. Anderson is a proactive student who pursued two internships in religious and corporate communication. She plans to work in corporate communication for the Volkswagen plant in Chattanooga, Tenn.
"I encourage all students to pursue internships," Anderson said in her acceptance speech.

The project-based awards were rounded out with the Award of Excellence picked up by Oakwood University for their social media campaign to Retool Your School, a grant competition funded by The Home Depot. The Reger Smith Jr. Cutting Edge Award went to "Hopey to the Rescue," a light-hearted and creative animation clip submitted by The Hope Channel for a grant to obtain a new production van and $10,000.

**ELECTING LEADERS**

The Society of Adventist Communicators transitioned to a new group of leaders during the Salt Lake convention. Kimberly Maran, outgoing SAC president and Adventist Review assistant editor, welcomed Kevin Krueger as the new president. Krueger is the general manager of WGTS radio station in Washington, D.C.

Additional new leaders joining the team are: Tamara Fisher, general vice president; Brian Weed, vice president for web and membership services; and Heidi Baumgartner, vice president for communication.

Representatives are elected in alternating years to give continuity. New representatives this year are: Victoria Miller, broadcast/radio representative; Costin Jordache, broadcast/TV representative; Beth Michaels, print media representative; and Jimmy Phillips, social media representative. Suzanne Ocsai was appointed as assistant to the vice president of communication.

Three creative and passionate student representatives are also joining the team (versus the traditional two student reps). Steven Foster from Union College, Carlton Hanks, from Walla Walla University, and David Rumsey from Southern Adventist University will be contributing their creative ideas to the board.
"Communicating Christ in the Chaos," the theme of this year's Society of Adventist Communicators convention, addressed the chaos of our communication culture.

Chris Oberg, La Sierra University church senior pastor, brought clarity to this challenge during the church service and called communicators to sharpen the story in today's cultural context.

"Let me be clear: the gospel does not need sharpening. It is clear," Oberg says. "We need to sharpen the telling of the story. We need to be residents of our communities and united in sharing the gospel."

The next convention of the Society of Adventist Communicators is planned for October 16-18, 2014, in Jacksonville, Fla. The 2014 convention will mark the 25th anniversary of the society.

"The convention is a great opportunity to connect with fellow Adventist professionals," says Natalia Lopez-Thismon, ADRA communication specialist. "It is a good way for all of us to be inspired to continue to move in unison toward best practices in communication."

Follow the Society of Adventist Communicators on Facebook and Twitter (@AdventistComm), plus visit the newly redesigned www.adventistcommunicator.org.

_Suzanne Ocsai, SAC assistant to the vice president of communication, contributed to this report. Gerry Chudleigh is the official photographer for the Society of Adventist Communicators._
**Sound Bites**

“To me, the conference was a well-timed dose of medicine for the generations of yesterday and today. The times have changed, but the edition of our story has remained the same, and today, few have the palate to taste the gospel the way we’ve been telling it. SAC convicted me to fine-tune my faith and share the gospel without fear or dilution.” - Elroy Byam, Hope Channel production assistant

“This conference, in my opinion, was definitely the best. I was inspired by the workshops and I can’t wait to go back and implement things I learned. I enjoyed learning about the Mormon faith and the communication/public relations facet of their church.” - Whitney Jordan, South Atlantic Conference communication assistant

“The Society of Adventist Communicators convention gives me my yearly dose of professional sanity.” - Kortnye Hurst, Indiana Conference communication consultant

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Walla Walla University Creates Spiritual Environment for Students

Isabel Mills

Walla Walla University is just a quick car ride from Whitman College, but so many of us seem to be unaware of what the university is really about. Most of us know it is a private university affiliated with the Seventh-day Adventist Church, but what does that mean?

According to the WWU website, one of the university’s most basic goals is creating an environment in which students can understand and further develop their spiritual beliefs by taking religion classes, doing volunteer missions and community service, attending worship services and working in small groups.

Campus Chaplain Paddy McCoy helps students through their personal religious discoveries and in their community outreach projects.

“One of our core elements at the university is that we are committed to faith in God, so part of my job is to provide opportunities for the campus to worship, to connect with God and to challenge them to go deeper into that journey. I’m really there to be a care provider and a teacher,” said McCoy.

Building a personal relationship with God

An important part of students’ personal relationships with their faith is observation of the Sabbath day every Saturday. On the Sabbath, believers are supposed to refrain from all secular work.

“It’s just a way to spend the day differently than we do the other days and kind of [to] unplug from the business of the week and plug in to community, time together, time to worship, time to rest and sleep,” said McCoy.

WWU senior theology major Jesse Churchill explained how he observes the Sabbath in his own way.

“I’ve come to my own view of what the Sabbath is. I believe that there are radically different ways to think about it. You don’t really watch secular TV or listen to secular music. When I thought why that is, I realized that Sabbath is a time not to just keep yourself from doing the things you normally do, but rather a time to focus on God. So I’ve come to the point where I participate because I want to do it, not just because it’s expected of me,” he said.

WWU students are not thinking of their spirituality only on the Sabbath, however. They try to incorporate their faith into everyday life. Part of that project is blending fairly conservative Adventist beliefs with the freedoms available to students in college.

Unlike some college students, senior English major Rachael Coon avoids drugs and alcohol in an effort to keep a close relationship with
God. According to her, some WWU students do drink alcohol, but partying is not the norm.

“A lot of the things we put in our body cloud your mind, especially things like smoking or alcohol, and something God has given us is the ability to think and to reason, so when you put things in that hinder that, you’re also hindering a gift God gave you and your ability to listen to God,” she said.

Churchill believes that different generations approach this balance between religion and everyday life in very different ways. He cites feelings about tattoos as an example.

“There are people who have tattoos, but it’s just not really flaunted. There’s a potential for it not being accepted. People my age are usually OK with it. But if you walk into church, there will be older people judging you,” he said.

He said Adventist beliefs could definitely change in the future.

“Church in general is dying. I want to have a church that can actually reach people where they are, here in this culture, rather than try to revert back to the ‘60s. The religion of our parents and grandparents tended to accept the beliefs a little more, whereas our generation questions everything,” he said.

**Bringing faith into the wider community**

WWU students often explore their faith within the community through mission trips. There are opportunities to help out all over the world and here in Walla Walla.

Jeanne Vories, the director of student missions, is in charge of sending students to countries in need. Sometimes they need teachers, and other times they need someone to work in an orphanage or in a medical setting.

While on a mission, students sometimes have to get creative in order to fulfill themselves spiritually.

“Sometimes [the students] might be the church. Sometimes they might have to organize story hours and times where they invite the children, and so there’s often not really church per se for them because they’re it. Either that, or church is in another language. When they’re alone and in another culture, God is their friend,” said Vories.

The students on these missions accomplish a lot while they’re gone, but they also face challenges while abroad.

“Some of them will have reverse culture shock. Some of them go down to Walmart and just cry because there’s so much stuff, and for the last year they were in a place where there just wasn’t anything,” said McCoy.

In spite of this, the students come back to the supportive community at WWU where Vories and McCoy are there to help them readjust. Sharing stories about their mission experiences with friends helps too.

Coon had a great time on her year-long mission trip this past year.
“I took this last year off and I worked in an orphanage in Belize. That was an incredible life experience. Life is raw there. It is what it is. There’s no fluff. There’s no mask to put on,” she said.

Churchill has been on four short mission trips to Mexico, Honduras, Fiji and Mozambique. Each trip was just a few weeks long, but they inspired him to change his major from engineering to theology.

**More than a religion**

Although being Christian is an important part of the identity of WWU, the students there get a liberal arts education. In other words, the university is not the type of school McCoy called a “bible college,” and students learn much more than religion. In fact, some of the most popular majors are nursing, business and engineering.

Coon talked about the value of the experience students receive at WWU.

“My parents say they’re investing in more than [my] education … in [my] future, spouse, spiritual life, eternity, in a sense. So to them the money is worth it, because they’re looking at a bigger picture, which I think is what a lot of parents do,” she said.

While religion obviously plays a big part in the lives of students like Churchill and Coon, it doesn’t necessarily have to.

“If you’re looking for something else in life not religiously based, you’re going to find it. That’s how it is all around the world,” said Coon.

McCoy aims to help the students get the experience that they want, whatever that may be.

“My hope is that Walla Walla University is a good neighbor not only to the schools, but to our community, and that our students have a positive experience that leads them to go from here to be a change agent in our world,” he said. “And to go in and make a difference.”
Upcoming Events | GleanerOnline.org

November 2013

**CBFM Presents Uniting Our Voices**

Center for Bible, Faith and Mission (CBFM) presents Uniting Our Voices: Conservatives and Liberals, Living and Working Together for a Common Mission. Presenters include by Dr. Dave Thomas, Dr. Alden Thompson, and Adventist Young Adults in Response. Friday night, Nov. 1 at 7 p.m. Sabbath, Nov. 2 at 8:45 and 11:15 a.m., followed by a potluck lunch, then finally at 2–4:30 p.m.

Find out more »

**WWU OPS Weekend**

OPS Weekend, men’s residence hall club, presents Amateur Hour. More details at www.wallawalla.edu.

Find out more »

**From Loss to Hope and Healing Seminar**

Journey Adventist Church presents From Loss to Hope and Healing by Donald and Barbara Bigger. These four sessions begin Friday night and continue through Saturday with a potluck lunch between church and the afternoon session. The session titles are “Coping with Tragedy,” “Hope for Then and Now,” What We Learned from Inmate $263818” and “The Bible’s View of Forgiving.”

Find out more »

**Frontier Missions Speaker at Stone Tower Church**

Laurence Burn of Frontier Missions will speak at the Stone Tower Church, 3010 N.E. Holladay St., Portland, OR 97232. Presentations include: Invitation to the Discipleship Adventure, Friday at 7 p.m.; Lessons Learned from the Frontier, Sabbath at 10 a.m.; The Great Commission, Sabbath at 11 a.m.; Implementing a Discipleship Ministry and Cross Cultural Ministries, Sabbath at 2:30 p.m., followed by a closing discussion titled “Now What? Strategies for Implementation.” For more information, contact the Stone Tower Church at 503-232-6018.

Find out more »

**SAGE – LeMay Car Museum**

SAGE will ride down memory lane at the new LeMay — America’s Car Museum in Tacoma, on Sunday, at 1:30 p.m. Over 350 vehicles are displayed at one time. The new museum campus is located adjacent to the Tacoma Dome alongside Interstate 5. Group tickets are $10 each. SAGE will meet as a group at 1:30 p.m. at the group check-in counter.

Find out more »

**Wind Symphony Concert**


Find out more »

**Auburn Adventist Academy Family Weekend**
Family Weekend is a time for families to join their students at Auburn Adventist Academy for special musical programs, spiritual moments, and good food of course. Visit Auburn’s website for more details.

Find out more »  
December 2013

**Simply Cooking**

Last “Simply Cooking” class at 6:30 p.m. This year of monthly plant-based cooking classes led by Ronni Reinecke has been fun and a wonderful learning experience. December topic is “Great Cakes” and the end of class potluck to share favorite vegan recipes and exchange recipes. Please call Wanda to reserve your place, at 360-967-2165.

Find out more »

**Kirkland Concert Series**

Second-annual concert presented at the Kirkland Church, Kirkland, Wash., at 4 p.m. A Christmas theme featuring an all men’s chorus, “Impact Ladies” of Puget Sound Adventist Academy, and full orchestra under the direction of Estyn Goss. In the spring, a full choral Easter concert, and finally a guest concert in the summer will finalize our concert series with the third and fourth concerts. For more information, call 425-828-7888.

Find out more »

**Holiday Concert**

A holiday concert featuring Craig King, Carl Parker and other local musicians. Call 503-232-6018 for more information.