The Story of Oakwood University and Home Depot (aka "David vs. Goliath")

Oakwood University (OU) is hoping to receive the top prize of a $50,000 grant for getting the highest number of votes and the most social media activity for the Home Depot® 2013 "Retool Your School" Campus Improvement Grant Program for Historically Black Colleges and Universities. OU is the only Adventist institution and one of the smallest in this program but, by the grace of God and with your help, has a great opportunity to win.

There are only seven days left to vote in this event, which began on February 18, and will continue until April 15.

OU is excited that the competition that has already given several opportunities for witnessing. One witnessing opportunity has been over the voting pattern. The school in second place has been surging ahead from Friday to Saturday night, and then OU regains their lead. OU compares it with the delivering of manna and believes that voting so much during the week is carrying them through the Sabbath.

OU is asking that people remember the Sabbath, and to please do not vote on the Sabbath. Do vote every day, and only before sundown on Friday and after the Sabbath has ended on Sabbath evening.

OU is viewing this as a "David and Goliath" battle. Other schools and contest officials have been asking how OU, which is only half as large as the school in second place, can be winning. This gives OU the chance to tell about how God has gifted us with the the SDA education system - one of the largest in the world - in which we develop many friends we can share with.

One more witnessing story they can tell is how meetings and informal gatherings at OU nearly always begin with prayer. After prayer, everyone is immediately encouraged to pull out their electronic Internet-capable devices and vote.

If they win the top tier prize, ($50,000) OU plans to build an outdoor pavilion with outdoor kitchen appliances, grills and fireplaces for enhancing their outdoor activities. If they win the 2nd tier prize ($25,000), they will use it to install a watering system for their playing fields.

Please share this message on your Facebook, Twitter, and other social media pages, and forward to your friends who are not involved in social media. Vote now, and set a reminder for yourself to vote every day until April 15. And remind your friends to keep voting, every day.

Just go to:
or hashtag #OakwoodRYS2013, and vote.

To learn more, read the article in Adventist Today, the OU? Oh Yes! e-newsletter from Oakwood University, and the Retool Your School Press Release 2013 Program from Home Depot.