

their own religion faculties were published in the spring of 1982. Heated and highly varied reaction from constituents, faculty members, and students came as a result of the *Campus Chronicle's* publication of side-by-side pro and con reviews of Lewis Walton's book *Omega*.

Andrews' *Student Movement* received criticism for its sale of a half-page ad for local meetings featuring former seminary professor Smuts Van Rooyen and Desmond Ford (as did the *Campus Chronicle* for a similar ad for Van Rooyen meetings.) (This school year the *Student Movement* reported an administrative ban on advertising for the Ford-Van Rooyen meetings, but that did not stop the paper's coverage of the meetings in a feature, "Ford and Van Rooyen return to Andrews," by Keith Lockhart.)

Freedom of the press and a denominationally controversial issue also came head-to-head with Southern College *Southern Accent's* sale of a full-page army recruitment ad which led to a series of letters to the editor regarding the propriety of the ad and the issue of bearing arms. A subsequent editorial titled "Studying War Some More" advocated either complete conscientious objection or the bearing of arms.

Reporting of controversial issues and the resulting counter-opinion and objection from readers has led to an examination of the proper role of the Adventist student newspaper. Some reference to this issue has surfaced in nearly all the papers.

A letter from Andrews' *Student Movement* printing manager David Burgess (May 6, 1982) described the situation there:

I have watched with alarm as the *SM* staff has received pressure from the AU administration over the content of the paper. Apparently, administrators feel that the *SM* gives a view of Andrews which is damaging to its image. The paper is now to blame for a prospective decline in enrollment.

As a result of pressure from key officials, the editors—in all their wisdom—produced two remarkably bland and boring issues of the *SM* . . . What I fail to see is how an article contributing facts and thoughts on particular subjects can damage the image of a university. After all, isn't a university the place where facts are discussed in the hope of coming to the correct conclusion?

Andrews' *Student Movement* has been thorough in its news coverage of denomination-wide events; this paper was unique in its "outside" news reporting and analysis of the problems at Pacific Union College and Southern College.

Mention of church-wide news and controversial issues though not totally absent has come with markedly less frequency in Union College's *Clocktower*, Walla College's *Collegian*, Columbia Union College's *Columbia Journal*, Canadian Union College's *Aurora*, and Southwestern Adventist College's *Southwesterner*. Today's collegiate editors are aware of the vital position Adventist colleges hold for the future of the denomination. Their varying editorial decisions reflect a struggle to act responsibly during a turbulent period in the church's history.

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How Two College Presidents Were Chosen

by Kent Daniels Seltman

John Wagner and Malcolm Maxwell are the new presidents of Southern College and Pacific Union College, respectively. Both campuses were besieged by conservative attacks for many months prior to the September 1982 announcements by their presidents, Frank Knittle and John Cassell, that they would leave office June 30, 1983.*

The two college boards, in selecting the new presidents, followed the recommendations of board-appointed presidential search committees. The new appointments appear to have strong support from the faculties and constituencies of the institutions.

*"Adventist Colleges Under Siege," *Spectrum*, Vol. 13, No. 2, p. 4.

Knittle's resignation in September led to the creation of a 16-member Presidential Search Committee by the Southern College Board of Trustees. Membership included seven members of the board (the four Union Conference officers and three members-at-large), three faculty members selected by the faculty, three representatives from non-faculty college employees (one each from administration, student services, and college industries), the Student Association president, the Alumni Association president, and a member of the Committee of 100.

After two meetings, this committee presented three names to the December meeting of the full college board. Norman Woods, vice president for Academic Affairs at Loma Linda University, was first invited. Woods declined the invitation after a few days of consideration. This set the full selection process at work again with another meeting of the search committee and another meeting of the full college board in January.

John Wagner, vice president for Academic Affairs at Union College, was invited at this meeting. After some hesitation, Wagner accepted the presidency which he will assume July 1.

The situation at Pacific Union College was similar. The Presidential Search Committee at Pacific Union College was, much smaller. Its nine members included the chairman and vice chairman of the board, three board members-at-large, two faculty members selected by the faculty, one student selected by the student association senate, and the president of the Alumni Association.

In an attempt to solicit as much input as possible, Walter Blehm, president of the Pacific Union and chairman of the college board, scheduled two public meetings of the search committee, one on the Pacific Union College campus and one at the San Jose offices of the Central California Conference. Furthermore, all pastors in the union were also invited by mail to suggest possible candidates, and they were encouraged to have their members do the same.

Out of the approximately 60 names gathered in this process, the search committee identified several leading candidates, most of whom were interviewed by Blehm in early February. In February the search committee submitted five names to the board.

Clifford Sorenson, president of Walla Walla College, was invited to be president of Pacific Union College. After about a week's consideration, Sorenson declined the invitation. Blehm then polled board members by mail to seek final approval to invite their clear second choice in earlier deliberations. As a result, Malcolm Maxwell, vice president for academic affairs at Walla Walla College, was formally invited to be president.

Maxwell accepted the presidency after a special meeting of the full college board (which only eight of the 30 members attended) in March. At that meeting, the board responded favorably to 10 areas of concern that Maxwell raised.

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