
Exodus

by Bonnie Dwyer

During 1984, the regular turnover of personnel at Adventist colleges took a new twist. Rather than simply switching from one school to another, a number of administrators and teachers moved out of Adventist higher education altogether. Two of the Adventist system's youngest college presidents have left to head non-Adventist institutions in American higher education. The Adventist Health Systems took at least seven administrators and faculty this year, including a vice president and a department chairperson from Andrews University, two department chairpeople from Pacific Union College, and faculty from Pacific Union, Southwestern, and Union Colleges. In addition, two senior members of the faculty of the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary left for ministerial posts, and two theology teachers at Southern College were forced out of their positions. While these changes may mark advances in the careers of individuals, the changes also raise questions about the present state of Adventist higher education in North America, particularly about the qualifications currently necessary for career growth within the system and the diminishing pool of talented college administrators.

Presidents Dean Hubbard of Union Col-

Bonnie Dwyer holds a masters degree in journalism from California State University, Fullerton, and is news editor of *Spectrum*.

lege and Donald McAdams of Southwestern Adventist College have taken over the direction of non-Adventist institutions. Hubbard has become the president of Northwestern Missouri State College and McAdams has assumed the post of executive director of the Texas Independent College Fund. Joining the Adventist Health Systems/USA from Pacific Union College are Adrian Zytkoskee, chairperson of the behavioral science department; Kent Seltman, chairperson of the English Department; and Wayne Judd, a popular teacher in the history department. From Andrews University, the Adventist health system is gaining Donald Bauer, vice president for development; and Desmond Cummings, Jr., chairperson of the department of church and ministry in the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. Union College is contributing Jiggs Gallagher, director of college relations; and Southwestern Adventist College contributes John Anderson, a member of the division of business, consumer, and vocational services.

After years in teaching and administration, two distinguished members of the Seminary are returning to the ministry. Fritz Guy, professor of systematic theology, is joining the pastoral staff of the Loma Linda University Church, and James Cox, a professor of New Testament and president of Avondale College, is assuming the directorship of an urban ministry program for the Potomac Conference in the Washington,

D.C., metropolitan area. Ed Zackrison and Lorenzo Grant left Southern College's Division of Theology.

This drain of present and future administrative talent has taken place at a time when over the last two years, two-thirds of the Adventist colleges in North America have had to find new presidents. In addition, an unprecedented situation occurred when Andrews and Loma Linda Universities were looking for presidents at the same time.

Andrews and Loma Linda Universities

Andrews and Loma Linda Universities did break new ground, however, in the processes they followed to select their new presidents. Faculty were included in search/screening committees at both schools and minority candidates and Adventists working at secular institutions were included on at least the initial lists of possible presidential candidates.

At Andrews, tragedy prompted the search for a new president. On Oct. 13, 1983, Joseph Grady Smoot, the president for seven years, was arrested in Maryland and charged with fourth-degree sexual assault, a misdemeanor under Maryland law. He had allegedly solicited a plain clothes policeman that evening, after attending the General Conference Annual Council. Two-and-a-half weeks after his arrest, he announced his resignation. Meanwhile, after plea bargaining, the judge agreed to cancel the impending trial and place Smoot on limited probation. The board of trustees of Andrews voted to accept his resignation Nov. 9. Smoot is now at Pittsburgh State University where he is the vice president in charge of public relations, communications, and development.

At Loma Linda University, the need to find a new president arose in August 1983, when V. Norskov Olsen announced that at

the close of the 1984 school year he would retire after a decade in the presidency. That gave the trustees a whole year to search for a new president, but when Andrews began its search, Loma Linda decided to speed up its process.

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Among the names considered by Loma Linda University were church members holding responsible positions in non-Adventist institutions. These include Benjamin Wygal, president of the 30,000 student Florida Junior College in Jacksonville, Fla.; Frank Hale, vice president of student affairs at Ohio State University; and Alvin Kwiram, chairman of the chemistry department at the University of Washington. In the end, the board of trustees promoted Norman J. Woods, vice president for academic affairs, to the Loma Linda University presidency. His academic background is in educational administration.

At Andrews University, a list of 10 candidates was published: James Cox, president of Avondale College; Fritz Guy, a seminary professor and former acting dean of the seminary; Dean Hubbard, president of Union College; William Johnson, editor of the *Adventist Review*; Sakae Kubo, president of Newbold College; Merlene Ogden, dean of the Andrews College of Arts and Sciences; Humberto Rasi, Pacific Press Editor and former dean of the Andrews Graduate School; Robert Reynolds, of the General Conference Board of Higher Education; Clifford Sorensen, president of Walla Walla College; and Richard Schwarz, Andrews' vice president for academic affairs. The search committee of the board narrowed that list to four by the time of the board meeting of Dec. 22. Clifford Sorensen, the

president of Walla Walla, was then chosen. He declined the post, to the amazement of the board. Charles Hirsch, the chairperson of the board, had already announced his name in the *Adventist Review* as the new president.

Subsequently, the board received three names from the search committee, with no preference listed. W. Richard Leshner, a general conference vice president, was selected. His selection was surprising since his name had not emerged in the search committees, earlier selections.

Union and Southwestern Colleges

The college presidents who have left denominational employ were two of the youngest in the North American Adventist college system and headed two schools whose enrollment increased during a period when other Adventist colleges were struggling for students. During the four years Dean Hubbard was president of Union College, the enrollment climbed from 888 to 1,040.

Not only did enrollment rise during the nine years Don McAdams was president of Southwestern Adventist College, but the worth of the college assets tripled. The development office he opened raised \$1 million in 1983.

Sometimes causing controversy, Hubbard reorganized the college's departments into seven divisions, secured \$2 million in federal aid, and brought a national reputation for computer literacy to the school by installing computer terminals throughout the campus, including the dormitory rooms. The

school he now heads, Northwestern Missouri State College, has some 5,200 students and grants several master's degrees.

In September, the Union College Board elected as president, Benjamin Wygal, the president of Florida Junior college.

Not only did enrollment rise during the nine years Don McAdams was president of Southwestern Adventist College, but with the help of his vice president for finance, Marvin Anderson, the worth of the college assets tripled. The development office he opened raised \$1 million in 1983. McAdams also selected the first woman as academic dean of an Adventist college, Helen Evans, and increased the number of faculty with doctorates from nine to 25. The Texas Independent College Fund, which he now directs, helps raise funds for all private colleges and universities in Texas, including Southern Methodist, Texas Christian, and Baylor Universities. The board of trustees unanimously selected Marvin Anderson, who has a doctorate in business, as McAdams' successor as president of Southwestern.

Southern College

Southern College did not lose its president, but over the summer, two prominent members of its theology department left as a result of continued problems between members of the board of trustees and individuals in the theology department. A call came for Lorenzo Grant from the Columbia Union to serve as chaplain to the Adventist students attending non-Adventist universities in Washington, D.C. (The North American Division shares in the cost of supporting such chaplaincies and the Southern Union agreed to pay for part of his salary, too.) The Lake Union made a similar call to Ed Zackrisson, but he declined it. Southern College then initiated proceedings to terminate him.

He began grievance proceedings within the school's guidelines and a faculty committee of five prepared to hear testimony. Over 30 faculty members were ready to testify in his defense. Then, on July 11, attorneys for the school and for Zackrison worked out a com-

promise in which Zackrison and his wife received a settlement offer reported to be worth over \$200,000. The Zackrisons have moved to Southern California, where he plans to begin postdoctoral studies in marriage and family counseling.

CORRECTION

A line of type was inadvertently omitted from the essay by Roy Branson, "A Church Of, By, and For the People," appearing in the last issue (Vol. 15 No. 2). As a result, the meaning of two sentences on page six were confused. The sentences should have read: "Improving the structure of the church will not by

itself bring a resurgence of the Adventist movement—any more than repairing a house creates a home. More important than institutional frameworks is the quality of life the family of faith embodies—its sacrificial service to others, powerful preaching, and moving theology."