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## FROM THE DEPARTMENT CHAIR *Robson Marinho, PhD*

Congratulations, Dr. Ledesma!





On March 1, the Andrews University community gathered for the Annual Faculty and Staff Awards Celebration, held at the Howard Performing Arts Center on campus. Faculty members and staff from different departments across campus were recognized for their service and contribution to the mission of the university. This annual celebration “is one of the very few times we gather as an entire University family to acknowledge the calling we all have to work at this good university,” says Dr. Andreasen, AU President. “Sharing good food and the warm fellowship contribute to making it a pleasant evening of recognition.”

The Leadership Department was very proud this year to join the Andrews community in honoring Dr. Janet Ledesma with the Augsburger Excellence in Teaching Award, in recognition of her commitment to high-quality teaching and her contribution to online teaching, assessment, mentoring and spiritual influence on students. At the same time, Dr. Ledesma was just granted advancement to the rank of Full Professor, which added to the occasion as a double celebration for her achievements. Congratulations, Janet!

## DEPARTMENT NEWS

### Mark your Calendar

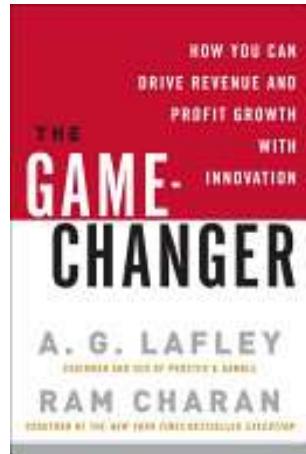
**Leadership Conference: June 28 to July 1, 2015**



## **Leadership Conference and Roundtable 2015**

The countdown for Roundtable 2015 has begun: we have three months left. Addressing the theme of ***Leadership and Innovation***, Leadership Conference 2015 features keynote speaker Ram Charan, named by *Fortune* magazine as the most influential consultant alive. Ram Charan will address the implications of innovation and change for leadership in different areas.

**Conference and Roundtable Date:** June 28 to July 1, 2015



*The Game Changer*, which Charan co-authored with A. G. Lafley, former CEO of Proctor and Gamble, is the book that will be discussed at this year's conference. *Business Week* magazine selected this book as the best book on innovation. There will be a book signing ceremony by the author (Ram Charan) for those who would like to get his autograph!

## **LEADERSHIP PROGRAM NEWS**

### **Beth Armstrong Defends Dissertation**





On Tuesday, March 10, Beth Armstrong successfully defended her dissertation, "The Use of Fantasy Theme Analysis to Describe the Group Communication and Creative Problem-Solving Skills of University-Level Students as They Prepare for Destination Imagination Global Finals Competition." This was a communication study; Beth masterfully showed how three different teams communicated to solve the required problems to present in competition. One of the teams she studied placed first, while another one didn't place at all. And their communication patterns were very different. If you are trying to solve problems in your world today, you might want to start by listening to communication patterns. We all learned from Beth! Her dissertation committee was Shirley Freed (chair), Delyse Steyn and Duane Covrig (members), and H. Peter Swanson (external examiner).

**Congratulations, Beth Armstrong, PhD!**





On Friday, March 13, Beth Armstrong successfully presented her portfolio by demonstrating Leadership competencies in the context of her Scottish heritage. She said, "About ten years ago I picked up an album entitled 'Bravehearts; the music of New Scotland.' The first drumbeats on the album took me right back to Antigonish, and the pipe-bands I loved so much as a little girl. But it was the haunting Gaidhlig songs that went straight to my Celtic roots." Beth presented each of the competencies with songs and sayings from her McKay heritage. The presentation was a powerful reminder of how leaders are shaped and the importance of remembering "who we are." Now, Beth is Dr. Elizabeth Armstrong. And now she'll have more time to spend on the things she loves! Congratulations!

### Zech Hoyt Defends Dissertation







On Monday, March 16, Zech Hoyt successfully defended his dissertation, "The Induction Process of Newly Hired Teachers Into the Existing School Culture of Niles Community Schools." In the presence of about 15 family members, friends, work associates, and LLG members, Zech very comfortably responded to questions from his committee, which consisted of Shirley Freed (chair), Dan Applegate and Duane Covrig (members), and Bradley Sheppard (external examiner).

It was gratifying to have two Leadership graduates participate in Zech's dissertation defense: Dan Applegate (grad 2005) and Bradley Sheppard (grad 2012). It's a gentle reminder that our program remains strong because of the continued support of those who have graduated! Also, two members of Zech's LLG, Beth Marchant and Eileen Kooreman, asked good questions and celebrated the completion of his dissertation. We're confident the support will continue as Zech focuses on his portfolio completion in the next few months. Congratulations, Zech, on reaching this milestone!

### **Leadership Graduates Participate in the National Prayer Breakfast**



Three Leadership PhD graduates and another AU graduate participated in the 62<sup>nd</sup> National Prayer Breakfast hosted by the U.S. Congress. Activities of the week of the National Prayer Breakfast brought over 3,200 people together from all 50 states and 140 countries. The event was highlighted by several guest speakers, including U.S. President Barack Obama. This gathering is an opportunity for leaders from across the United States and all over the globe to gather in the name of Jesus to pray and exchange ideas about a better world.

The Texas delegation had the opportunity to meet with Chaplain and Admiral Barry Black, the 62<sup>nd</sup> Chaplain of the Senate and also an AU alumnus. Thom Wolf was visiting from India, Michelle Chin hosted the group at Senator Cornyn's office, Albert Reyes led the delegation from Texas, and Debbie Potter was part of the delegation from Texas along with her husband Robert and other guests from Dallas. Andrews University is proud of its alumni and their current service to society as follows: Thom Wolf, President, University Institute, New Delhi, India; Michelle Chin, Legislative Coordinator, Senator John Cornyn's Office, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC; Albert Reyes, President and CEO, Buckner International, Dallas; and Debbie Potter, Children's Pastor, Trinity Baptist Church, San Antonio, Texas.

## Jay Brand Presents Scholarly Paper

On Friday, March 13, Dr. Jay Brand presented a paper to the Philosophy track at the annual Michigan Academy of Science, Arts and Letters (MASAL), entitled, "Dependent Interactive (Integrative?) Dualism: Monism with Face Validity." A consortium of universities and colleges throughout the state of Michigan support and participate in this conference, which rotates among their campuses. This year it was held at Andrews University.

## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### International Leadership Association Conference (ILA)

The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual ILA Global Conference, on the theme of ***Leading Across Borders and Generations***, will take place October 14-17, 2015, in Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain. Learn more about the conference online at <http://www.ila-net.org/Conferences/2015/cfp.html>

### LEAD Newsletter Editorial Team

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