

# Adventist Human-Subject Researchers Association Annual Conference

May 18–21, 2022

*Faith and Wholeness*







## ***Welcome!***

I am pleased to welcome you to our **10th annual Adventist Human-Subject Researchers Association Conference** being held at AdventHealth University. We are grateful for their graciousness and hard work in organizing this conference. This is our first in-person and virtual conference and reflects this new COVID endemic age we are living in.

Our theme this year is **Faith and Wholeness—the Role of Faith in Healing and Thriving**. The Seventh-day Adventist Church has recently increased its focus on the role of faith and spirituality in physical and mental health and a sense of thriving. Our keynote speakers this year include Drs. VanderWeele and Williams from Harvard University who have contributed so much to our understanding of the role of spirituality in wholeness and thriving as well as Dr. Ganu from the Adventist University of Africa who leads the African Adventist Health Study.

I want to thank our sponsors for their support that allows us to have high quality meetings at low costs for attendees. Our sponsors include AdventHealth, AdventHealth University, the General Conference Office of Archives, Statistics and Research, the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists, and the Institute for the Prevention of Addictions.

This is my last year as president of the Adventist Human-Subject Researchers Association. It has been an honor for me to serve in this capacity. Over the ten years we have held this conference our peer reviewers have seen a continuous improvement in quality of the submissions. We have also recently expanded our reach to include research chapters in Africa and East Asia. Over these years I have had a wonderful team of officers to work with and I have appreciated the support of so many colleagues and the consistent support of the G.C. Office of Archives, Statistics and Research under the leadership of Dr. David Trim.

We hope our conference will continue to build a network of Adventist human-subject researchers, our collective research skills and, most important, strengthen our faith.

Sincerely yours,

*Duane C. McBride*

**Duane C. McBride, PhD**

*Senior Research Professor, School of Social & Behavioral Sciences, Andrews University*

*Director, Institute for Prevention of Addictions*

*President, Adventist Human-Subject Researchers Association*



## ***Greetings from the General Conference Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research!***

Welcome to the annual meeting of the Adventist Human-Subject Researchers' Association (AHSRA). This is the first onsite meeting in three years, since the 2019 meeting at Oakwood University, and while last year's virtual meeting was a success, I don't doubt that all of you attending are looking forward to seeing colleagues in person.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the first Adventist Human-Subject Researchers Conference at Andrews University in November 2012. That meeting was launched in hope but turned out to fill a need that led to the establishment of AHSRA at the following year's conference, which coincided with the first General Conference Nurture and Retention Summit.

Now AHSRA is well-established and has proved (and is proving) a blessing to Adventist social scientists. The conference has met at Andrews several times, but also at Oakwood twice, at the world Church headquarters, at Loma Linda University and now, for the first time, at AdventHealth University. Meanwhile, April saw the first conference of a regional chapter of AHSRA with a conference organized by AHSRA-Africa at the Adventist University of Africa in Kenya.

So much has changed over the last ten years, but at the heart of the AHSRA project—and the annual conference—is dedicated Adventist scholars and researchers, pursuing their intellectual interests and also carrying out research that can help make the Church more effective in its ministry and mission.

As you listen to lectures and presentations at this year's AHSRA conference, may you be blessed and may your commitment to high-quality research that benefits the Seventh-day Adventist Church be reinforced.

Cordially yours,

*David Trim*

**David Trim, PhD, FRHistS**

*Director*

*General Conference Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research*



*Dear participants,*

Welcome to our beautiful AdventHealth University campus, where we are pleased to celebrate our 30th year of developing highly skilled individuals who live the healing values of Christ.

After two years of virtual conferences, getting together in person to expand and build community is a welcome reprieve. The last two years have taught us the importance of community. One of the profoundly important communal activities is that of gathering for worship.

The theme of our conference focuses on Faith and Wholeness and will examine the many ways that faith contributes to healing and thriving. It is my hope that our gathering will expand our networks, spur collaborative ventures, and inspire us to advance social scientific study on the topic.

The legacy of our faith and the imperative of our mission call us to be at the cutting edge of research examining the role that faith plays in improving life outcomes and contributing to a flourishing life.

Welcome to AHU!

*Edwin Hernandez*

**Edwin Hernandez, PhD**  
*President & CEO, AdventHealth University*

# 2022 AHSRA Annual Conference at AdventHealth University

Faith and Wholeness—The Role of Faith  
in Healing and Thriving

[Microsoft Teams Link](#)

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2022**

**THEME: Faith's Contribution to Human Flourishing**

**GOAL FOR DAY 1: Understand the best and latest research evidence of  
how and why faith contributes to human flourishing**

<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Title/Location</i>	<i>Presenter</i>
3–5 p.m.	Research Consultation (by invitation only)	Feedback on AdventHealth Wholeness Model, research collaborations, etc.	Tyler VanderWeele & AdventHealth leaders
7–7:15 p.m.	Welcome & Prayer		Petr Činčala, <i>Vice President, AHSRA</i>
	Welcome & Introduction		Edwin Hernandez, <i>President &amp; CEO, AdventHealth University</i>
7:15–8 p.m.	<b>KEYNOTE</b>	“Religious Community and Human Flourishing?”  <a href="#">Livestream Link</a>	Tyler VanderWeele, <i>John L. Loeb and Frances Lehman Loeb Professor of Epidemiology, Harvard University</i>
8:15–9 p.m.	Q&A		Edwin Hernandez and Ken Wetmore, <i>Senior Pastor, WholeLife Church, Orlando</i>

# THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2022

THEME: Research as Mission

## GOAL FOR DAY 2: Review research advancing faith and wholeness

<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Title/Location</i>	<i>Presenter</i>
8:15 a.m.	Welcome & Announcements Graduate Building, Greenlaw Conference Center, Room 116		Petr Činčala, <i>Director, Institute of Church Ministry, Andrews University</i> Galina Stele, <i>Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research, General Conference</i>
8:30–8:50 a.m.	Devotional	“The Human Experiment”	Ted Hamilton, <i>Senior Vice President and Chief Mission Integration Officer, AdventHealth</i>
9–9:45 a.m.	KEYNOTE/Q&A	“Adventist Wholistic Health: The African Perspective”	Daniel Ganu, <i>Professor of Public Health, Adventist University of Africa; Chair, AHSRA-Africa</i>
10–11 a.m.	<b>Paper Presentations</b> Theme: International Research		Mordekai Ongo, <i>Session Host</i>
	“Blooming After the Storm: Transforming Women’s Lives Through Education”		Gianina Petre ( <i>Adventus University, Romania</i> ), Arceli Rosario ( <i>Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies</i> )
	“Lived Experiences of Adventist Humanitarian Service Providers in the Ukraine-Russia Crisis: A Hermeneutic Phenomenological Study”		Arceli Rosario, Pavel Zubkov, David Lumowa, Gracel Ann Saban, Jasmin Tuapin ( <i>Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies</i> )
	“Differences in Practices of Personal Spirituality and Beliefs Concerning Salvation between Adventist Teachers in Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Korea, Philippines, the Solomon Islands, Russia, Ukraine, the United States and Zimbabwe”		Robert McIver, Wendy Jackson ( <i>Avondale University</i> )
11 a.m.–noon	<b>Paper Presentations</b> Theme: Healthcare		Robert McIver, <i>Session Host</i>

<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Title/Location</i>	<i>Presenter</i>
	“Implementing Artificial Intelligence-based Solutions in Adventist Healthcare Institutions: An Extended Technology Acceptance Model”		Kepha Pondi ( <i>Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies</i> ), Kennedy Orwa ( <i>University of Sussex</i> )
	“The Structure of Clinical Ethical Decision-Making: An AdventHealth Needs Assessment Study”		Edwin Hernandez, Leana Araujo, Martin Shaw ( <i>AdventHealth University</i> )
	“What Is the Level of Domestication of The Human Rights to Water and Sanitation in Kenya? Insights From a United Nations University Leave No One Behind (LNOB) in Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Status Report for Kenya”		Japheth Nzioki ( <i>College of Health Sciences of Jumeira University-Dubai, United Arab Emirates</i> )
12–1 p.m.	<b>LUNCH</b> Greenlaw Conference Center		
1–2 p.m.	<b>Paper Presentations</b> Theme: COVID-19		René Drumm, <i>Session Host</i>
	“Vaccine Hesitancy at Andrews University”		Melinda Nwanganga, Janae Mitchell, Jimmy Kijai, Mordekai Ongo, Shawna Henry ( <i>Andrews University</i> )
	“Are You Pro or Against COVID-19 Vaccine? Closer Look at North American Division Members’ Attitudes”		Angeline Brauer ( <i>NAD</i> ) Petr Činčala ( <i>Andrews University</i> ), Injae Son ( <i>Western Michigan University</i> )
	“Lifestyle Factors Focused on Potential Antiviral and Immune-enhancing Herbs and Spices Used Globally to Treat COVID-19”		Padma Tadi Uppala ( <i>Andrews University</i> )
2–2:40 p.m.	<b>Special Session</b> Intimate Partner Violence Panel		Melissa Ponce-Rodas ( <i>Andrews University</i> ), René Drumm ( <i>University of Southern Mississippi</i> ), Tracy Ray ( <i>Safe Haven of Pender</i> ), Erica Jones ( <i>NAD Women’s Ministries</i> )
3–3:20 p.m.	<b>BREAK</b>		
3–4 p.m.	<b>Paper Presentations</b> Theme: Mental Health		Karl Bailey, <i>Session Host</i>



<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Title/Location</i>	<i>Presenter</i>
	“I struggled with depression, self-injury, and was suicidal”: How Religious Practices Help LGBTQ+ Adventist Millennials		Shannon Trecartin, Curt VanderWaal, David Sedlacek ( <i>Andrews University</i> ), René Drumm ( <i>University of Southern Mississippi</i> )
	“The P.E.A.R. Strategy: Addressing Mental Health in Girls”		Leanne Marie Prendergast, Joel Raveloharimisy ( <i>Andrews University</i> )
	“Religious Behaviors and Mental Health of SDA Church Members in East-Central Africa”		Elizabeth M. Role ( <i>University of Eastern Africa</i> )
4–5 p.m.	<b>Paper Presentations</b> Theme: Church Life		Shannon Trecartin, <i>Session Host</i>
	“How Spirituality Intersects with Civic Engagement Following an Emergency Preparedness Interprofessional Collaborative Practice Simulation”		Gary Bradley, Ronda Christman, Faith Laughlin, Liane DeSouza, Laura Racovita ( <i>Southern Adventist University</i> ), Josh Haley ( <i>Heritage Academy</i> ), Jim Ingersoll ( <i>2Serve</i> )
	“It takes a lot of discipline to say, ‘I’m going to walk with God today’: Recognizing and Addressing Barriers to Pastors’ Spiritual Wellbeing”		Petr Činčala ( <i>Andrews University</i> ), René Drumm ( <i>University of Southern Mississippi</i> ), Ivan Williams, Angeline Brauer ( <i>North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists</i> )
	“Lessons Learned from the Pandemic: COVID-19 and its Influence on SDA Older Adults’ Life and Spirituality”		Sarah Riedel, Shannon Trecartin ( <i>Andrews University</i> )
5–6 p.m.	<b>BANQUET &amp; FELLOWSHIP</b> Greenlaw Conference Center		
6:30–8 p.m.	AdventHealth Wholeness Research Overview <a href="#">Microsoft Teams Link</a>  Carla Gober Park, <i>Executive Director, Wholeness and Faith Strategy, AdventHealth Corporate</i> ; Ted Hamilton, <i>Chief Mission Integration Officer and Senior Vice President, Mission &amp; Ministry, AdventHealth</i> ; Patricia Robinson, <i>Scientific Director of Nursing, Population Health and Academic Research, AdventHealth Research Institute</i> ; Martin Shaw, <i>Research Associate, AdventHealth University</i>		

**FRIDAY, MAY 20, 2022**  
**THEME: Seeking Wholeness Through Equity**

**GOAL FOR DAY 3: Understand the devastating effects of racism  
on community health outcomes**

<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Title/Location</i>	<i>Presenter</i>
8:15–8:30 a.m.	Welcome		Rob McIver, <i>Incoming AHSRA President</i>
8:30–9 a.m.	Devotional	“Scholarship as Witness”	Duane McBride, <i>AHSRA President</i>
9:15–10 a.m.	<b>KEYNOTE</b>	“Keys to Effectively Addressing Racial Inequity in Health”	David R. Williams, <i>Florence Sprague Norman and Laura Smart Norman Professor of Public Health, Harvard University</i>
10–10:30 a.m.	Q&A		René Drumm, <i>Facilitator</i>
10:45 a.m.–noon	<b>Paper Presentations</b> Theme: World Church		Curt VanderWaal, <i>Session Host</i>
	“Not a Needy Person Among Them: A Network Analysis of Prosocial and Religious Behaviors”		Karl Bailey, Zoe Shiu, Shannon Trecartin, Duane McBride ( <i>Andrews University</i> )
	“Correlates of Legalism in a Global Sample”		Duane McBride, Alina Baltazar, Karl Bailey, Shannon Trecartin ( <i>Andrews University</i> ), David Trim ( <i>General Conference</i> )
	“A Garland and a Chain: The Persistent Influence of Family Religious Environment on Adult Adventist Church Members Raised in the Church”		Karl Bailey, Myrnaliza Tan, Alina Baltazar, Duane McBride ( <i>Andrews University</i> )
12–1:15 p.m.	<b>LUNCH</b> Greenlaw Conference Center		
1:15–2:15 p.m.	<b>Paper Presentations</b> Theme: Social Issues		Elizabeth Role, <i>Session Host</i>
	“Berrien College Access Network: Focus Group Evaluation”		Desiree Davis, Alina Baltazar, Curt VanderWaal, Shannon Trecartin ( <i>Andrews University</i> )

<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Title/Location</i>	<i>Presenter</i>
	“Social Capital and Sleep Quality in Medical Students During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Cross-sectional Analytic Study”		Josue F. Canaza ( <i>Houston Community College System</i> ), Jaquelin Canaza, Wendy Tapia, Abdiel Coico ( <i>Universidad Peruana Union</i> )
	“Empowering and Equipping Students to Nurture their Personal Devotional Time”		Ronda Christman, Gary Bradley, Andrew Richards, Dionne Felix ( <i>Southern Adventist University</i> )
2–4 p.m.	Research Consultation ( <i>by invitation only</i> ) Faith Community and Health Equity Research and Training Agenda <i>Campus Center 357, University Boardroom</i>		David R. Williams and AdventHealth Leaders
2:15–2:30 p.m.	<b>BREAK</b>		
2:30–3:45 p.m.	<b>Brief Oral Presentations</b>		Alina Baltazar, <i>Session Host</i>
	“Red Signals on Mental Health Concerns on COVID-19: Comparison between Children and Adolescents in Developed and Developing Countries: A Systematic Review”		Fraulein Pimentel-Tormon ( <i>Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies</i> )
	“Social Work Leadership: A Quantitative Study of Social Work Practitioners’ Perceptions of Leadership Development”		Joshue Aceves ( <i>Walla Walla University</i> )
	“Basic Psychological Needs Satisfaction of Online Learners’ Autonomous Self-Regulation in Higher Education”		Christine Jin, Nadia Nosworthy, Jimmy Kijai, Janine Lim ( <i>Andrews University</i> )
	“Racial Disparities in the Berrien County Criminal Legal System”		Irina Gagliu ( <i>Andrews University</i> )
	“Discipleship in Making: Identifying Key Factors of Growing People in the Adventist Church in the Philippines”		Pavel Zubkov & Donie Ver Medalla ( <i>Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies</i> )
4–5 p.m.	AHSRA Business Meeting		
5–6:30 p.m.	<b>DINNER</b> Greenlaw Conference Center		
6:30–7:30 p.m.	Vespers	“The Role of Faith Communities and Equity”	David R. Williams

**SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2022**  
**Faith Communities and Wholeness**

**Greenlaw Conference Center**

[Livestream Link](#)

<i>Time</i>	<i>Event/Title</i>	<i>Presenter</i>
10–10:05 a.m.	Welcome & Introductions	Petr Činčala
10:05–10:25 a.m.	Film Presentation	Carla Gober Park
10:25–10:40 a.m.	Response to Film and Faith Community Work Break	Vicmael Arroyo, <i>Faith Community Coordinator, Mission and Ministry, AdventHealth Central Florida Division</i>
10:40–10:55 a.m.	GIS Mapping	Russ Butler, <i>Professor of Biology, Department of Health and Biomedical Sciences; Investigator, AdventHealth Research Institute</i>
10:55–11:05 a.m.	<b>BREAK</b>	
11:05–11:30 a.m.	“Church, Heal Yourself”	Petr Činčala
11:30 a.m.–noon	Panel on Faith Communities and Wholeness	Sandee Dunbar-Smalley, <i>Provost, AdventHealth University</i> , Russ Butler, Vicmael Arroyo, Petr Činčala
12–1 p.m.	<b>LUNCH</b>	
	Afternoon tour of Leu Gardens <a href="https://www.leugardens.org">https://www.leugardens.org</a>	Alina Baltazar, <i>Host</i>
5–7 p.m.	<b>DINNER</b>	

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

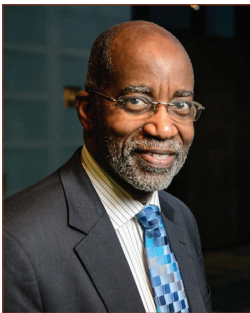
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**Tyler J. VanderWeele, PhD**, is the John L. Loeb and Frances Lehman Loeb Professor of Epidemiology in the Departments of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, and director of the Human Flourishing Program and co-director of the Initiative on Health, Religion and Spirituality at Harvard University.

He holds degrees from the University of Oxford, University of Pennsylvania, and Harvard University in mathematics, philosophy, theology, finance and biostatistics. His methodological research is focused on theory and methods for distinguishing between association and causation in the biomedical and social sciences and, more recently, on psychosocial measurement theory.

His empirical research spans psychiatric and social epidemiology; the science of happiness and flourishing; and the study of religion and health. He is the recipient of the 2017 Presidents' Award from the Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies (COPSS). He has published over 400 papers in peer-reviewed journals; is author of the books *Explanation in Causal Inference* (2015), *Modern Epidemiology* (2021), and *Measuring Well-Being* (2021); and also writes a monthly blog posting on topics related to human flourishing for *Psychology Today*.



**David R. Williams, PhD**, is the Florence Sprague Norman and Laura Smart Norman Professor of Public Health and chair of the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. He is also a professor of African and African American Studies and Sociology at Harvard University. Previously, he served six years on the faculty of Yale University and 14 at the University of Michigan. He holds an MPH from Loma Linda University and a PhD in sociology from the University of Michigan.

Williams is an internationally recognized social scientist focused on social influences on health. He has been invited to keynote scientific conferences in Europe, Africa, Australia, the Middle East, South America and across the United States. His research has enhanced our understanding of the complex ways in which socioeconomic status, race, stress, racism, health behavior and religious involvement can affect health.

He is the author of more than 475 scientific papers, and he has served on the editorial board of 12 scientific journals and as a reviewer for over 75 others. The Everyday Discrimination Scale that he developed is the most widely used measure of discrimination in health studies.



**Daniel Ganu, DrPh**, is Professor of Public Health, Adventist University of Africa. Ganu is the principal investigator for Adventist Health Study in Africa, chair of AHSRA-Africa and editor-in-chief of the Pan African Journal for Health & Environmental Science.

## PAPER PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS

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### THEME: INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH

**TITLE:** “Blooming After the Storm: Transforming Women’s Lives Through Education”  
*Gianina Petre (Adventus University, Romania), Arceli Rosario (AIAS)*

**ABSTRACT:** Using the empowerment education framework (Freire, 1970) and transformative learning theory (Mezirow, 1978), we studied the lives of six Adventist Romanian women through narrative inquiry. The participants’ stories went through the process of data metamorphosis and data representation (Muccio, Reybold, & Kidd, 2015). Recurrent metaphors and motifs are real world vs. desired world, emptiness vs. completeness, internal storm vs. external storm, transformation vs. stagnation.

**TITLE:** “Lived Experiences of Adventist Humanitarian Service Providers in the Ukraine-Russia Crisis: A Hermeneutic Phenomenological Study”  
*Arceli Rosario, Pavel Zubkov, David Lumowa, Gracel Ann Saban, Jasmin Tuapin (Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies)*

**ABSTRACT:** The ongoing armed conflict in Ukraine has become a serious humanitarian crisis. The call for help to meet the basic needs of people affected by the crisis has been disseminated worldwide. Several organizations such as the “Adventist Development Relief Agency (ADRA) staff report that conditions within Ukraine are even more dire than the rest of the world is seeing in the media” (ADRA’s Response to the Ukrainian Crisis, para. 4). ADRA has to suspend its ongoing projects to prioritize the emergency humanitarian assistance for the displaced victims.

**TITLE:** Differences in Practices of Personal Spirituality and Beliefs Concerning Salvation between Adventist Teachers in Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Korea, Philippines, the Solomon Islands, Russia, Ukraine, the United States and Zimbabwe  
*Robert K. McIver, Wendy A. Jackson (Avondale University)*

**ABSTRACT:** The differences between the survey responses from Adventist teachers in Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Korea, Philippines, the Solomon Islands, Russia, Ukraine, the United States and Zimbabwe regarding practices of personal spirituality and understanding of salvation are explained by underlying cultural differences.

### THEME: HEALTHCARE

**TITLE:** “Implementing Artificial Intelligence-based Solutions in Adventist Healthcare Institutions: An Extended Technology Acceptance Model”  
*Kepha Pondi (Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies), Kennedy Orwa (University of Sussex)*

**ABSTRACT:** Healthcare service providers are increasingly using Artificial Intelligence-based solutions to discover new drugs, expand access to healthcare services, improve patient outcomes, and anticipate and control the spread of diseases. This study extends Technology Acceptance Model and proposes strategies to accelerate the adoption of AI-based solutions in Adventist healthcare facilities.

**TITLE:** “The Structure of Clinical Ethical Decision-Making: An AdventHealth Needs Assessment Study”

*Edwin Hernandez, Leana Araujo, Martin Shaw (AdventHealth University)*

**ABSTRACT:** The primary purpose of this study is to conduct a needs assessment of the bioethics infrastructure within AdventHealth hospitals, to better understand and strengthen this infrastructure. The study had a mixed method, cross-sectional design, using an anonymous online survey. To obtain varied points of view, the survey was sent to five key leaders from each hospital facility: the chief executive officer, chief medical officer, chief nursing officer, risk manager, and lead chaplain. Survey questions focused on the composition, structure, function, and effectiveness of clinical ethics committees within AdventHealth and the issues they encounter. Respondents rated the effectiveness of their facilities’ bioethics infrastructure and shared information about ethics-related training and resources.

**TITLE:** “What Is the Level of Domestication of The Human Rights to Water and Sanitation in Kenya? Insights From a United Nations University Leave No One Behind (LNOB) in Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Status Report for Kenya”

*Japheth Nzioki (College of Health Sciences of Jumeira University-Dubai, United Arab Emirates)*

**ABSTRACT:** Key elements of Human Rights to Water and Sanitation (HRWS) are classified into two; Five normative criteria (availability, accessibility, acceptability, affordability, and quality,) and five principles (equality and non-discrimination, accountability, sustainability, participation, and information access and transparency). This study presents a review of the domestication of HRWS in legislations and institutions in Kenya.

## **THEME: COVID-19**

**TITLE:** “Vaccine Hesitancy at Andrews University”

*Melinda Nwanganga, Janae Mitchell, Jimmy Kijai, Mordekai Ongo, Shawna Henry (Andrews University)*

**ABSTRACT:** In February 2022, using the Class Climate platform, we investigated reasons why students, staff and faculty at Andrews University received or did not receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Three hundred ninety-four (394) participated: students (47.4%), staff and faculty (48.4%), and others (4.1%). Significant differences in reasons were found between vaccinated and unvaccinated.

**TITLE:** “Are You Pro or Against COVID-19 Vaccine? Closer Look at North American Division Members’ Attitudes”

*Angeline Brauer (NAD), Petr Činčala (Andrews University), Injae Son (Western Michigan University)*

**ABSTRACT:** This presentation highlights findings from research conducted in the North American Division (NAD) regarding members’ attitudes about and receipt of the COVID-19 vaccination. The research identified trends based on different demographic factors, including gender, age, race or ethnicity, education, religious or political views, church location or size, or the Union to which the recipient belongs. The study also identified reasons for vaccination hesitancy through the demographic analysis.

**TITLE:** Lifestyle factors focused on potential antiviral and immune-enhancing herbs and spices used globally to treat COVID-19

*Padma P. Tadi Uppala (Andrews University)*

**ABSTRACT:** The purpose of this study is to examine lifestyle factors used globally against the virus SARS CoV-2. Results indicate that lifestyle factors such as consumption of herbs and spices, exercise, hydrothermal therapy and prayer that enhance the immune system, possibly play a significant role in controlling mortality rates from COVID-19.

### **THEME: MENTAL HEALTH**

**TITLE:** “I struggled with depression, self-injury, and was suicidal”: How Religious Practices Help LGBTQ+ Adventist Millennials  
*Shannon M. Trecartin, Curt VanderWaal, David Sedlacek (Andrews University), Rene Drumm (University of Southern Mississippi)*

**ABSTRACT:** This presentation examines the role of substance use and religiosity/spirituality as risk and protective factors for depression, suicidality among LGBTQ+ Seventh-day Adventist Millennials. Results suggest that religious participation may buffer some mental health challenges and self-harm, while significant concern remains for those who identified as transgender or gender diverse.

**TITLE:** “The P.E.A.R. Strategy: Addressing Mental Health in Girls”  
*Leanne Marie Prendergast, Joel Raveloharimisy (Andrews University)*

**ABSTRACT:** The P.E.A.R. Strategy (Prevention, Engagement, Action and Resilience) existing methodologies in chronological order is a practical evaluation tool which uses to address mental health disorders such as depression and anxiety in girls. The strategy proposes a new approach which will ultimately empower and promote enriching environments agency amongst girls.

**TITLE:** Religious Behaviors and Mental Health of Seventh-day Adventist Church Members in East-Central Africa Division  
*Elizabeth Mendoza Role (University of Eastern Africa)*

**ABSTRACT:** This paper describes the religious behaviors, mental health, and role of social media use, preaching on wholistic healthful living, and understanding of Adventist health message on the mental and spiritual well-being of SDA church members in East-Central Africa. It was found that there is a significant relationship among these constructs.

### **THEME: CHURCH LIFE**

**TITLE:** “How Spirituality Intersects with Civic Engagement Following and Emergency Preparedness Interprofessional Collaborative Practice Simulation”  
*Gary Bradley, Ronda Christman, Faith Laughlin, Liane DeSouza, Laura Racovita (Southern Adventist University)*

**ABSTRACT:** Learn how spirituality intersects with civic engagement as multi-disciplines provide an emergency preparedness interprofessional collaborative practice simulation for their students.

**TITLE:** “It takes a lot of discipline to say, ‘I’m going to walk with God today’: Recognizing and Addressing Barriers to Pastors’ Spiritual Wellbeing”  
*René Drumm (University of Southern Mississippi), Petr Činčala (Andrews University), Ivan Williams, Angeline Brauer (North American Division)*

**ABSTRACT:** This presentation highlights findings from studies focusing on Adventist pastor stress and wellbeing in North America. Utilizing both quantitative (survey) and qualitative (focus groups) data, the analysis exam-



ines findings related to spiritual challenges and strategies to bolster spiritual health and wellbeing. We conclude with planned interventions emerging from these findings.

**TITLE:** “Lessons Learned from the Pandemic: COVID-19 and its Influence on SDA Older Adults’ Life and Spirituality”

*Sarah Riedel, Shannon Trecartin (Andrews University)*

**ABSTRACT:** COVID-19 has disproportionately affected marginalized populations in a variety of areas of life, including the religious and spiritual realms. Older adults in a Seventh-day Adventist faith community share their experiences navigating church and spiritual life in this phenomenological study. Thematic findings as well as recommendations from participants are shared.

### **THEME: WORLD CHURCH**

**TITLE:** “Not a Needy Person Among Them: A Network Analysis of Prosocial and Religious Behaviors”

*Karl Bailey, Zoe Shiu, Shannon Trecartin, Duane McBride (Andrews University)*

**ABSTRACT:** We used a network analysis of prosocial and religious behaviors to identify facilitating hub items that might drive broad prosocial behaviors among church members. We identified four hub items that suggest that intentional involvement of church members in service to the church and community might serve to drive further prosociality.

**TITLE:** Correlates of Legalism in a Global Sample of Seventh-day Adventists  
*Duane C. McBride, Alina Baltazar, Karl G. Bailey, Shannon Trecartin (Andrews University), David Trim (GC Office of Archives, Statistics and Research)*

**ABSTRACT:** The Seventh-day Adventist Church is often identified as a strict church (Iannaccone, 1994; Chen et al., 2019; McBride et al., 2020) in that it has specific dietary and behavioral requirements for joining and continued membership. These include abstinence from alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drugs as well as a strong emphasis on vegetarianism (McBride et al., 2020). This has resulted in longevity advantage for Adventists (Fraser et al., 2020). This focus on behavioral requirements have resulted in critics viewing Adventists as legalists (WELS, 2022). The purpose of this research is to examine the issue of legalism among Adventist Church members.

**TITLE:** “A Garland and a Chain: The Persistent Influence of Family Religious Environment on Adult Adventist Church Members Raised in the Church”

*Karl Bailey, Myrnaliza Tan, Alina Baltazar, Duane McBride (Andrews University)*

**ABSTRACT:** Adventist church members across the globe born into an Adventist church context report a stronger family religious environment than those who joined later, along with stronger agreement with Adventist beliefs, lower spiritual struggle and less legalism. Childhood family religious environment plays a protective role into adulthood for Adventist-born church members.

### **THEME: SOCIAL ISSUES**

**TITLE:** Berrien College Access Network: Focus Group Evaluation

*Alina Baltazar, Desiree Davis, Shannon Trecartin, Curt VanderWaal (Andrews University)*

**ABSTRACT:** This study was a summary of focus group findings from five high schools in Southwest Michigan in December 2021,

regarding the post-high school plans of graduating seniors. The study was carried out by researchers from the School of Social Work at Andrews University. The study focused on what they decided to do with their future, how they arrived at their decision, and the concerns they had as they navigated through the process of making their decision. Finally, the study explored how students prepared for life after high school as they navigated through their senior year. Students shared what was helpful to them during this time and the advice they would offer to the junior class.

**TITLE:** “Social Capital and Sleep Quality in Medical Students During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Cross-sectional Analytic Study”  
*Josue F. Canaza (Houston Community College System), Jaquelin Canaza, Wendy Tapia, Abdiel Coico (Universidad Peruana Union)*

**ABSTRACT:** Social capital is a protective factor for mental well-being but it’s been affected during the COVID-19 pandemic. Medical students are a vulnerable population in regards of mood disorders affecting their sleep quality. This study aimed to gain understanding on the association between social capital and sleep quality.

**TITLE:** “Empowering and Equipping Students to Nurture their Personal Devotional Time”  
*Ronda Christman, Gary Bradley, Andrew Richards, Dionne Felix (Southern Adventist University)*

**ABSTRACT:** Learn how students participated in an experiential learning activity to explore their personal devotional time.

## BRIEF ORAL PRESENTATIONS

**TITLE:** Red Signals on Mental Health Concerns on COVID19: Comparison between Children and Adolescents in Developed and Developing Countries: A Systematic Review  
*Fraulein G. Pimentel-Tormon, Michael Joseph Dino, Ramon Pesante B. Jr, Elsha Pestaño, Riza A. Pestaño, Jan Albert O. Pestaño, Junfelle Aye M. Pilapil, Louisa Pilapil, Ian Michael Porciuncula, Nina Camille P. Pujalte, Marybelle C. Pulis, Hillary Fay B. Racela, Melvin S. Ramos, Patricia Denise G. Ranada, Maria Cristina Y. Ranido (Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies)*

**ABSTRACT:** The children in developed countries may have more ways to divert their attention compared to developing countries. Adolescents of developed and developing countries have different ways of coping mechanisms, however most of them have elevated their anxiety symptoms.

**TITLE:** “Social Work Leadership: A Quantitative Study of Social Work Practitioners’ Perceptions of Leadership Development”  
*Joshue Aceves (Walla Walla University)*

**ABSTRACT:** The proposed study includes distributing a social work leadership survey to social work practitioners. The study aims to assess whether social workers believe their education and professional experience contribute to leadership effectiveness. Additionally, the study will assess social workers’ perception of their behavior and adherence to social work leadership principles.

**TITLE:** “Basic Psychological Needs Satisfaction of Online Learners’ Autonomous Self-Regulation in Higher Education”  
*Christine Ting Jin, Nadia Nosworthy, Jimmy Kijai, Janine Lim (Andrews University)*

**ABSTRACT:** Online learners are oftentimes seen as a vague and abstract “variable” with barely no human face in the context of discussing how to optimize online learning. To see and hear online learners in the joint effort of meeting their complex needs which are essential to making them striving and fully functioning, we need to look into the autonomous self-regulation of online learners. In this session, we will share how basic psychological needs satisfaction predicts the autonomous self-regulation in the learner-centered teaching and learning of higher education.

**TITLE:** “Racial Disparities in the Berrien County Criminal Legal System”  
*Irina Gagi* (*Andrews University*)

**ABSTRACT:** Do racial disparities exist in the Berrien County Criminal Justice System? Through an analysis of data from the Berrien County Jail, we will highlight any disparities pertaining to demographic variables—including racial/ethnic identity. Furthermore, we plan to establish our results on a community-applicable scale to aid in eliminating racial injustice.

**TITLE:** “Discipleship in Making: Identifying Key Factors of Growing People in the Adventist Church in the Philippines”  
*Pavel Zubkov, Donie Ver Medalla* (*Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies*)

**ABSTRACT:** Bringing people into baptism and church membership is not easy; making them stay and grow spiritually even more complex. Based on the Growing Disciple Model (Hattingh et al., 2016), this study identifies the key factors and the contextual features of growing disciples in the Seventh-day Adventist churches in the Philippines.



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