



### Seventh Edition of JIUR

Page 2

### Congratulations Spring 2015 Graduates!

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## FAMILY SYSTEMS MAJOR

New Bachelors of Science Degree Comes to Psychology



Photos courtesy of Short, Tretyer, and Lee Families

### Generations of Southern Families

Memories of home are not particularly pleasant for many in contemporary society. As many bemoan, home is not what it used to be. The family unit is undergoing phenomenal change; perhaps revolutionary change is not an overstatement. Statistics collected during the past five decades graphically illustrate this point. Since 1950, out-of-wedlock births have increased 80 percent. Divorce rates have continued to escalate. Approximately half of the marriages begun in the mid-1970s are predicted to end in divorce. Those who choose to remarry face a failure rate even greater than their first marriages, as divorce occurs 63 percent of -

(Continued on page 3)

# From the Dean's Desk

We have had a wonderful second semester at Summerour Hall, home of Education, Psychology, Family Studies, Outdoor Education, and Counseling. As you may know, we offer two tracks for our Master's degree in Counseling: School Counseling and Clinical Mental Health Counseling. We received notice in February that these two programs were approved by the American Counseling Association's accrediting body known as CACREP, the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs. The accredited status is retroactive one year, which means that students who graduated from either of our programs in 2014 can now state they graduated from a CACREP accredited program, which not only indicates the quality of training they received, but also aids in their licensure process.



John McCoy, Dean

In addition to this great news, we were able to find a break in the weather in order to install our statue of Jesus and the college student. Both are sitting on a bench adjacent to the main entrance to the building. This lighted art project titled "I Am the Way," represents what we believe - that Jesus is the only way to heaven. A big THANK YOU to the many donors who contributed to this beautiful art work that enhances our campus and points students to Jesus.

Starting June 1st, our Master of Science in Education with an emphasis in Instructional Leadership goes online. Students will be able to take our six-week classes from the luxury and convenience of their homes and not have to travel to Southern's campus with the exception of one, two-week intensive course on research in the summer. We look forward to providing this degree to students from all over the world!

I hope you enjoy this issue of *Unraveled*. We have our spring graduates in this issue and we wish them well as they move on and pursue their chosen professions.

## Seventh Edition of *Jiur* By: Dr. Rob Coombs

This year, *The Journal of Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Research (Jiur)* enters its seventh year of publication. From the inception, our intent has been to make this journal interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary in approach, publishing original and review papers, including literature reviews, book reviews, film reviews, position papers, empirical work, experiential reflections, and original quantitative and qualitative research.

By offering undergraduates the chance to express their ideas to a broader audience, this journal demonstrates the strength of undergraduate scholarship at Southern Adventist University and our continuing focus on academic excellence. It is gratifying to know that this journal has become an integral part of our university's present and its future. Each year the number of submissions outnumbers our previous year's submissions. Since its birth, my hope has been that the journal would become a centerpiece of the academic life of our university, and it is immensely satisfying to know that it has certainly

found its deserved place.

Beyond Southern, our journal is distributed to local academic libraries, sister Adventist universities, individual subscribers, and through Knowledge Exchange, which is an online website used to collect and showcase the intellectual work of students and professors on campus to a world audience.

Because our journal is interdisciplinary, I am afforded the special privilege of working with an outstanding editorial board that reflects the immense talent we have on our campus: Dr. Linda Crumley, Journalism and Communication; Dr. Keith Snyder, Biology; Dr. Rick Norskov, Biology; Dr. Mark Peach, History and Southern Scholars; Dr. Kristie Wilder, Social Work; and Dr. Ruth Williams, Psychology. I, too, am pleased and grateful for our university, especially the School of Education and Psychology, for continued support, encouragement, and most of all the commitment to academic excellence that affords this publication.

**UNRAVELED**

Volume 13

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UNRAVELED is the official newsletter for the School of Education and Psychology at Southern Adventist University.

# Family Systems Major

(Continued from page 1)

the time. The impact of these changes upon our children is staggering. Less than two-thirds of today's children live with both biological parents. Future projections for children prior to age 18 living in a single parent home have been cited as high as 94 percent for African-American children and 70 percent for Caucasian children. For most, such a prospect is hardly appealing. Single-parent families are faced with a multitude of problems, chief of which may be financial, as they are far more vulnerable to poverty than are other types of families. In fact, over half of families in the poverty scale have a single female as head of household. Facing bleak economic hardships carries numerous stressors for families. To avoid the many negative realities of becoming a single parent, many choose to remain within unsatisfying marriages and live lives of quiet desperation. Sex abuse, suicide, failure in school, runaway children, alcoholism, drug addiction,

and extramarital affairs are characteristic of these stress-ridden families.

There seems to be little question that the family system is in a state of transition. Transition by its nature carries confusion. What is unanswered is whether or not the family can emerge from this confused state strengthened with new insights and potential. I am cautiously optimistic.

In a continuing effort to meet the challenges of encouraging healthy family development the School of Education and Psychology has expanded the academic options for our undergraduate students by developing a new concentration for our psychology majors, the Family Systems concentration. This step forward will not only help students address the needs of families, but it

will also equip our students to meet current graduate school admissions requirements and future job opportunities. Until now, students seeking a major in psychology could choose one of four programs of study: (1) Bachelor of Arts in Psychology which provides an opportunity to major in psychology and minor in another field of study; (2) Bachelor of Science in Industrial Organizational for students who are interested in human resource management, organizational behavior, or business related fields; (3) Bachelor of Science in Clinical Concentration for students who are interested in becoming clinicians, practitioners, and therapists; and (4) Bachelor of Science in Psychobiology for students planning to work in fields such as neuroscience, behavioral medicine, behavioral



Loza Family

ecology, genetics counseling, health psychology, and clinical psychology. Offering a variety of opportunities of study has captured the attention of one of the most prestigious annual conferences in the United States. The Southeastern Psychological Association (SEPA), based on how we have structured our program, has recently identified our undergraduate psychology program as one of the best in the eastern United States.

In the fall of 2015, the Undergraduate Council approved our fifth program of study, a Bachelor of Science in Family Systems. The Family Systems Concentration will provide a much needed option that reflects current trends in psychological research, counseling opportunities, and marriage and family ministry for our church. The concentration will be recommended for students who are planning to gain admission into master's and doctorate graduate programs in specific areas of psychology such as Clinical Mental Health, School Counseling, Social Work, Marriage and Family Counseling, Family Studies, Early Childhood Development, and Public Administration. Our goal is to provide a primary focus on the understanding of the family as a system and how the family system can be functional and healthy thus equipping our graduates to be a part of strengthening the family in this generation and the generations to come.

- Dr. Rob Coombs



Du Vall; Family

# School of Education and Psychology

## 2015 Spring Graduates

PHOTOS COURTESY OF  
SOUTHERN'S WEBSITE



**Name:** Triana Abarca  
**Major:** Liberal Arts - Ed  
**Hometown:** Miami, FL  
**Future Plans:** Get an excellent job as a teacher somewhere in FL



**Name:** Sharon Adams  
**Major:** Liberal Arts - Ed  
**Hometown:** Cleveland, TN



**Name:** Lynette Allcock  
**Major:** English Ed  
**Hometown:** London, England  
**Future Plans:** To return home and get a Master's in applied linguistics, then travel and teach



**Name:** Fernando Barrientos  
**Major:** Psychology  
**Hometown:** Dallas, TX  
**Future Plans:** To pursue my master's in Clinical Mental Health Counseling at Southern



**Name:** Annalee Beagle  
**Major:** History, Ed  
**Hometown:** Ukia, CA



**Name:** Stephanie Bolin  
**Major:** Liberal Arts - Ed  
**Hometown:** Newburgh, IN  
**Future Plans:** To impact the world - one class at a time



**Name:** Rachel Boggess  
**Major:** Art and English, Ed  
**Hometown:** Apison, TN



**Name:** Janet Burke  
**Major:** M.S. Clinical Mental Health Counseling & M.S. School Counseling  
**Hometown:** Jamaica  
**Future Plans:** To become a licensed professional counselor



**Name:** Tamekia Bush  
**Major:** M.S. School Counseling  
**Hometown:** Talladega, AL  
**Future Plans:** Pursue my doctorate while working as a School Counselor



**Name:** Jordyn Butts  
**Major:** Psychology  
**Hometown:** Atlanta, GA  
**Future Plans:** Continue my education in Southern's Clinical Mental Health program



**Name:** Benjamin Castellanos  
**Major:** M.S. Outdoor Ed  
**Hometown:** Snellville, GA



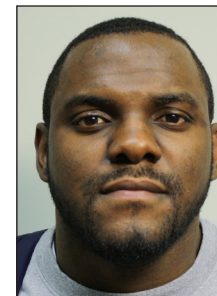
**Name:** Eleny Carpio  
**Major:** Liberal Arts - Ed  
**Hometown:** Bronx, NY



**Name:** Savannah Clark  
**Major:** Psychology  
**Hometown:** Manhattan, KS  
**Future Plans:** To get my M.S. in School Counseling



**Name:** Melissa Clayton  
**Major:** Liberal Arts - Ed  
**Hometown:** Cedar Springs, MI



**Name:** George Cook II  
**Major:** Psychology  
**Hometown:** Bermuda  
**Future Plans:** Take a gap year and possibly teach in South Korea while preparing for graduate school



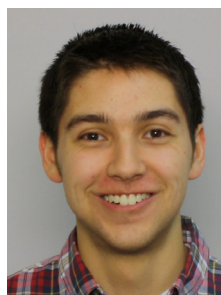
**Name:** Amanda Darkens  
**Major:** PE, Health, & Wellness, Ed  
**Hometown:** Calimesa, CA  
**Future Plans:** To be a student missionary or find a physical education job



**Name:** Kristina Forberg  
**Major:** Liberal Arts - Ed  
**Hometown:** Millstadt, IL



**Name:** Jennifer Fos  
**Major:** Religion & History, Ed  
**Hometown:** Maumelle, AR



**Name:** Bradford Goodridge  
**Major:** M.S. School Counseling  
**Hometown:** Duluth, GA  
**Future Plans:** Hoping to be a school counselor at an elementary school



**Name:** Nicole Hadley  
**Major:** English, Ed  
**Hometown:** Chattanooga, TN



**Name:** Becky Hall  
**Major:** History Ed  
**Hometown:** Delaware, OH  
**Future Plans:** Teach high school history, hopefully in the Adventist school system



**Name:** Daniel Hamilton  
**Major:** M.S. Clinical Mental Health Counseling & M.S. School Counseling  
**Hometown:** Chattanooga, TN



**Name:** Brittini James  
**Major:** Liberal Arts - Ed  
**Hometown:** Lawrenceville, GA  
**Future Plans:** Teach!



**Name:** Jaily King  
**Major:** Psychology  
**Hometown:** Worcester, MA  
**Future Plans:** Start the MSW program at Southern, complete my master's then return to MA



**Name:** Ryan Kloosterhuis  
**Major:** M.S. Outdoor Ed  
**Hometown:** Collegedale, TN  
**Future Plans:** Move to VA with my future wife and look for a teaching position



**Name:** Amanda Kolibu  
**Major:** Liberal Arts - Ed  
**Hometown:** Denver, CO  
**Future Plans:** Teach, travel, and have a family



**Name:** Hannah Leonard  
**Major:** Psychology  
**Hometown:** North Conway, NH  
**Future Plans:** To pursue a career in child counseling



**Name:** Tyler Mathis  
**Major:** Mathematics Ed  
**Hometown:** Portland, TN  
**Future Plans:** To teach in a high school setting



**Name:** Adam McQuistan  
**Major:** Mathematics Ed  
**Hometown:** Collegedale, TN  
**Future Plans:** Pursue graduate work in math or teach math in a school system



**Name:** Bradley Newmyer  
**Major:** M.S. Outdoor Ed  
**Hometown:** Cleveland, TN



**Name:** Tyler Newmyer  
**Major:** M.S. Outdoor Ed  
**Hometown:** Cleveland, TN



**Name:** Kaitlyn Penno  
**Major:** English Ed  
**Hometown:** Lancaster, CA  
**Future Plans:** Teach!



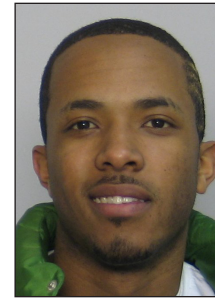
**Name:** Lisa Poirer  
**Major:** Music/Band, Ed  
**Hometown:** Silver Spring, MD



**Name:** Kathleen A. Robidoux  
**Major:** English Ed  
**Hometown:** Leicester, MA  
**Future Plans:** To be a faithful servant of God in the classroom of His choosing



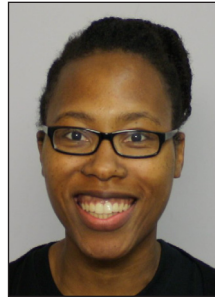
**Name:** Rebecca Rodacker  
**Major:** English Ed  
**Hometown:** Citrus Heights, CA



**Name:** Jonathan Santucci  
**Major:** Family Studies  
**Hometown:** Warwick, Bermuda  
**Future Plans:** I plan to pursue a master's degree in Social Work



**Name:** Kristetn Schwindt  
**Major:** Family Studies  
**Hometown:** Nashville, TN  
**Future Plans:** Pursue a master's degree in Speech Language pathology



**Name:** Cecilia Simmons  
**Major:** Music Ed  
**Hometown:** Anthony, FL  
**Future Plans:** Get a job teaching German or band at a middle school in TN



**Name:** Cara Simonds  
**Major:** Liberal Arts Ed  
**Hometown:** High Point, NC  
**Future Plans:** Be happy



**Name:** Jeremy Steinkraus  
**Major:** M.S. Outdoor Ed  
**Hometown:** Dade City, FL



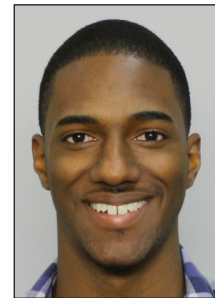
**Name:** Tawsha Stiltz  
**Major:** Liberal Arts Ed  
**Hometown:** Apopka, FL



**Name:** Tracy Strong  
**Major:** Liberal Arts Ed  
**Hometown:** Ooltewah, TN



**Name:** Khadisha Sylvester  
**Major:** Psychology  
**Hometown:** Augusta, GA  
**Future Plans:** Take a gap year before applying to graduate school to focus on Marriage and Family



**Name:** Arthur Theodor  
**Major:** Psychology  
**Hometown:** Naples, FL  
**Future Plans:** Before attending graduate school, I plan on taking a gap year to be a Dean overseas



**Name:** Jessica Trejos Tirado  
**Major:** Music Ed  
**Hometown:** Jesup, GA  
**Future Plans:** Find a music teaching job around Atlanta and enroll in graduate school



**Name:** Michelle Valentin  
**Major:** Psychology  
**Hometown:** Tampa, FL  
**Future Plans:** To be a task force dean at an academy for one year then to graduate school



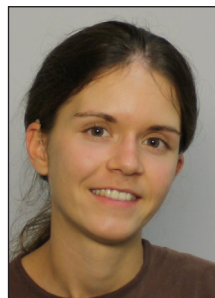
**Name:** Jacquelyne Wade  
**Major:** Liberal Arts Ed  
**Hometown:** Portland, TN



**Name:** Christianna Walter  
**Major:** Liberal Arts - Ed  
**Hometown:** McDonald, TN  
**Future Plans:** To shape young minds through teaching



**Name:** Ann Marie Walters  
**Major:** Psychology  
**Hometown:** Blakely, GA  
**Future Plans:** Attend graduate school at Southern



**Name:** Briana Wever  
**Major:** Liberal Arts - Ed  
**Hometown:** Collegedale, TN  
**Future Plans:** Teach at the SDA School in Morristown, TN



**Name:** Janelle Wong  
**Major:** Psychology  
**Hometown:** Sellersburg, IN  
**Future Plans:** Become a physician or physician assistant

# First-Year Teaching Experience

## An Interview with Gabriela Bonilla

Gabriela Bonilla graduated from Southern in May of 2014 with a Bachelor's degree in Liberal Arts Education. During the last semester of her undergraduate program, she was offered a job at Olney Adventist Preparatory School in Olney, Maryland. Olney Adventist Preparatory School is a kindergarten through eighth-grade Christian school where they believe that God created each student with unique abilities and skills, and through God's grace every child can achieve.

At Olney Prep, Gabriela is the second-grade teacher to 14 students. Gabriela said that Southern's education program prepared her for her teaching career by exposing her "to different types of school environments" and allowed her to be "immersed in classrooms throughout my

four years at Southern." This immersion provided her with the opportunity to observe a variety of teaching styles and strategies. "With [the professors'] guidance, I was able to acquire the knowledge and skills to be an effective educator."

The Education professors always made Gabriela feel like she mattered. She knew that they were interested in her success and, through their passion for teaching and for Jesus, they motivated and inspired her. When asked what she missed most about Southern Gabriela said she missed the college environment. "Making an adult salary is very nice, but I miss living with my wonderful roommates, playing intramurals, and always having someone to hang out with who is above the age of seven."

The recent graduate is fully enjoying this transition into adulthood and her career, and she says the most fulfilling aspect of her job is "knowing that I am making a difference in my students' lives. Seeing their faces light up when they understand a concept is so rewarding." Gabriela adds that her role as a teacher does not end there; being a teacher means taking on many roles. She is also the students' role model, confidante, counselor, and preacher. "Although it is a huge responsibility, with God's help, I am happy to take on the task and fulfill it to the best of my ability."

- Hayley Baker



Left Picture: Gabriela with her second-grade class.

Right Picture: Gabriela teaching a lesson.



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