

REACHING OUT

A biannual publication of the School of Religion
Fall 2011 Vol. 17, No. 1

Southern Launches New Soul-winning and Leadership Training Program (SALT)




Gordon Bietz, Southern Adventist University President; and John Bradshaw, It Is Written Director

Southern Adventist University, partnering with It Is Written, has launched the Soul-winning and Leadership Training (SALT) program, a practical 14-week training course in Bible work and evangelism. This new program is offered to interested students from any major or career. Participants take classes in soul-winning and evangelism, do outreach and give Bible studies in the community, and assist with a full-length evangelistic series. Upon completion of the pro-

gram, participants receive 16 academic credits and Bible worker certification. Currently offered in the Fall semester of each year, SALT is designed as a

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Southern Launches SALT (Continued from p. 1)

full-time, team-based program. Community is emphasized, with participants taking their classes together as a cohort, having worships together in the mornings, conducting outreach in pairs, and benefiting from personal mentoring and low student-teacher ratios. In addition to an experienced full-time staff, SALT's guest teachers include John Bradshaw, Chester Clark III, Mark Finley, and Gary Gibbs.

While some SALT students will be going on to do full-time Bible work and other ministries, others will be lay workers, taking their new skills with them to their careers, schools, and churches.

SALT is currently accepting applications for the Fall 2012 pro-

gram. Part-time and shorter summer options designed for busy individuals are also available. For more information, visit southern.edu/salt or call 423.236.2031.



SALT Students and Staff

Tutsch Speaks for Ellen G. White Institute

The Institute for the Study of Ellen G. White and Adventist Heritage conducted its second annual lectureship October 12-15, with Cindy Tutsch as the featured speaker. Tutsch is currently an associate director of the Ellen G. White

Estate at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in Silver Spring, Maryland. Her position includes promoting an enthusiasm and understanding for Ellen White among youth and young adults worldwide. She has been a featured speaker at cross-generational convocations in 55 countries on five continents. Tutsch has authored scores of articles and several books, including *Ellen White on Leadership: Guidance for Those Who Influence Others*.

She is also the editor for *Visionary*, an online magazine for kids, and the author of 41 Bible

studies for teens. Tutsch earned the B.A. in religion from Andrews University, the M.A. in pastoral ministry from Indiana Wesleyan University, and the D.Min. with an emphasis in leadership from the Andrews University Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary.

At the banquet on Wednesday evening, Tutsch spoke to faculty and answered questions on the subject of Ellen White and leadership principles. Thursday she spoke at the student convocation with the title "Was Ellen White Green?" This presentation showed the remarkable relevance of Ellen White's counsel to contemporary issues such as ecology, recycling, contaminants, and the effects of materialism. On Friday, Tutsch lectured in the Adventist Heritage class. The lectureship concluded with her Sabbath-afternoon lecture for the Adventist Theological Society: "The Eschatological Relevance of Ellen G. White in the Twenty-First Century." Overall, Tutsch's lectures reminded faculty, students, and the local community of how relevant Ellen White's counsels are in today's world.



Cindy Tutsch

Faculty News

Michael Hasel, Professor of Near Eastern Studies and Archaeology, directed the excavations at Khirbet Qeiyafa this last summer with 50 staff and students in attendance. In September he spoke for the “Astonishing Discoveries” series with Ron Clouzet. The series was downlinked live to 650 churches and was broadcast on DirectTV in anticipation of the NET2011 meetings. In November he presented a paper on Khirbet Qeiyafa at the Near East Archaeological Society in San Francisco.

Greg King, Dean and Professor of Biblical Studies, was the speaker for the Northeast Tennessee Camp Meeting in Greeneville the first weekend of October. He also spoke for a creation seminar for the Hendersonville, North Carolina, Seventh-day Adventist Church in November and for the Southern Union Evangelism Council in Daytona Beach, Florida, in December. His article “Is Biblical Creation Important? Seven Reasons Why It Really Does Matter What We Believe About Creation” appeared in the June issue of *Ministry*.

Donn Leatherman, Professor of Old Testament Studies and Biblical Languages, served this year as president of the Adventist Society for Religious Studies. In November he presented his presidential address to a joint meeting of the Adventist Society for Religious Studies and the Adventist Theological Society in San Francisco.

John Nixon, Professor of Theology and Spirituality, completed a weekend revival series in Salt Lake City in November. He also preached at the Korean Seventh-day Adventist Church youth service and attended the Oakwood University Evangelism Council in December.

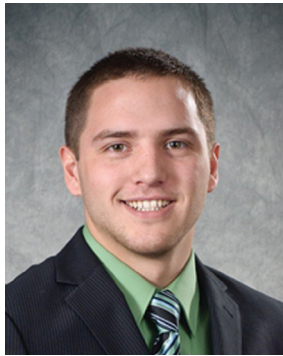
Alan Parker, Professor of Evangelism and Missiology, helped launch Southern’s new SALT Program (see page 1) and serves as director of the program. He is actively involved with a number of It Is Written Partnership 2011 meetings. He and his wife, Nicole, were both speakers at this year’s General Youth Conference convention in Houston, where they gave a seminar on sexual abuse and healing.

Edwin Reynolds, Professor of New Testament Studies, made a presentation on how to teach Pauline Epistles at the annual meeting of the Adventist Society for Religious Studies in San Francisco in November. He shared his course outline with the group and discussed innovative ways to effectively communicate the Pauline Epistles to both theology and religion majors and general education students from across the disciplines, maintaining a practical and biblical focus.

Philip Samaan, Professor of Religion, Spirituality, and Seventh-day Adventist History, was the featured speaker at the workers’ meetings and camp meeting for the Alberta Conference in Canada. He was also the featured speaker at the elders’ meetings for the Texico Conference. He spent many weekends in various churches and retreats, conducting revival meetings and seminars in the areas of spirituality, Christ’s methods of labor, Adventist history, and the Spirit of Prophecy.



2011-12 Ministerial Candidates



*Benjamin Crerar, *Tenn.*
May '12, Ga.-Cumberland



*Jonathan Cross, *N.C.*
Dec. '11, Northern N.E.



Jonathan Gardner, Wash.
May '12



Shawn Kelley, N. Y.
Dec. '11



*Ross Knight, *N.C.*
May '12, Carolina



Matthew Manzari, Fla.
May '12



Chad Mejeur, Mich.
Dec. '11



*Robert Meneses, *Fla.*
Dec. '11, Gulf States



*Nelson Mercado, *Tenn.*
May '12, Ky.-Tenn.

“And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who hath enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry.” 1 Timothy 1:12, NKJV



*Zachary Payne, Ind.
Dec. '11*



*Ever Perez, N.C.
May '12*



*Jocelyn Prado, Fla.
May '12*



*Eli Rojas, N.C.
May '12*



*Martin Shaw, Fla.
May '12*



*Morris Thompson, * Fla.
May '12, Florida*



*Abraham Velazquez, Nev.
May '12*



*Jason Wheeler, N.M.
May '12*



*Josh Withers, Ore.
Dec. '12*

*Students who have accepted employment as of publication date.
Dates reflect the time of graduation.

Ministerial Candidate Recognition 2011

The small chapel in Thatcher Hall slowly began to fill as students, family members, and professors alike filed in to show their support for the future leaders of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It was the twelfth annual Ministerial Candidate Recognition Weekend, designed to congratulate the 18 senior theology and pastoral care majors on their years of hard work and to declare publicly that they have now officially earned the school's "stamp of approval" to be considered for pastoral and chaplaincy positions.

Ed Wright, president of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference, gave a three-part sermon series, in which he drew parallels between the life of Joseph and the qualities the world needs in its leaders. The first part of his sermon trilogy began Friday night, September 23, when he discussed how Joseph's character flaws while a teenager made him unfit for any leadership roles. As the sermon progressed, however, Wright showed the change that took place in Joseph's life and commended him on making the decision to always follow God, even in the bleakest of situations. He then brought the sermon to a close with words about how God has a plan for everyone: "God takes all of us from wherever we are and chooses us anyway."

Wright began the second part of the Ministerial Candidate Recognition service Sabbath morning, September 24, with a talk on how as Christians, we should always maintain a Godlike character and how we need to show perseverance through all of the temptations and injustices we encounter. Once again, he drew examples from Joseph's experiences through the story of his being wrongfully accused of adultery by Potiphar's wife. At that point in his life, Joseph could easily have blamed God for his circumstances and decided to live the rest of his life without his Savior. However, he continued to follow God and was eventually greatly rewarded for remaining faithful. "Leaders must expect temptations and injustices," Wright said as he drilled his final point home before wrapping up his talk, "but God is bigger than temptation; God is bigger than injustice."

After a short intermission, Wright was back in the pulpit to give his final words to this year's min-

isterial candidates. He shared a quick story about how he and his wife were convicted to come to Southern Adventist University and used it as an example to encourage others to always follow where God leads. He then went on to tell the rest of Joseph's story. He discussed how, over the years, Joseph had allowed God to shape his character so well that he was able to completely forgive the brothers that had once sold him into slavery. Using Joseph's experiences as examples, Wright showed how "the best leaders are those who have learned

how to follow." Following the sermon, Wright invited the School of Religion faculty to come forward for a special prayer for the new ministerial candidates as he thanked God for the future leaders of the church.

The journey into the ministry is not yet over for the ministerial candidates. Most have a semester left to complete and are in the process of interviewing for pastoral positions by conference representatives. "I'm willing to go wherever God leads me," said Ross Knight, senior theology major. At this point, he honestly doesn't know just where that might be. However, along with all the other candidates, he takes courage in knowing that God will always lead him down the right path and that He will always be there for him, no matter the situation.



Ed Wright

Goals of the New General Education Religion Curriculum

Before receiving a degree, each Southern Adventist University student must take several religion classes in order to satisfy their general education requirements. In fact, nearly a tithe of the total number of credits needed for a bachelor's degree—12 out of 124—are required to be taken in religion. Because it is something that affects every student on campus, teaching these general education religion classes is one of the most important responsibilities of the School of Religion faculty. It is our aim to provide vibrant and engaging classes that provide enriching, enjoyable learning experiences for our students. And beyond that, as will be stated below, there are more specific goals we wish to accomplish.

In the past, the *Catalog* gave little guidance and few parameters on which classes should be taken to meet this general education religion requirement. Basically, a student could take nearly any four classes in biblical studies (RELB classes) or theological studies (RELT classes), as long as at least one class was upper division. The classes could be a hodgepodge, an assortment of disparate religion classes. However, this has now changed.

The religion faculty recently reworked the religion section of the general education requirements. This was done in an attempt to be more intentional in the outcomes we are seeking and to prioritize certain goals. These goals are visible in the three main sub-sections of the new religion requirement.

The first sub-section highlights our top priority. Because the best decision for any student to make is the choice to embrace Jesus as Savior and Lord, every student is required to take at least one class that focuses on the development of personal spirituality. Students can choose to take either Life and Teachings of Jesus or Christian Spirituality. The first of these two classes deals with Jesus as presented in the four gospels and *The Desire of Ages*, while the second presents the nature and practice of the devotional life. However, though the content is different, both classes

have a significant devotional component and the primary goal of inspiring students to either begin a friendship with Jesus or deepen a relationship that already exists.

The second sub-section emphasizes yet another goal. Since Southern is a Seventh-day Adventist institution of higher learning, everyone who graduates should have some knowledge of the beliefs and practices of the SDA Church. This being the case, every student is required to take one class focusing on Adventist faith and identity. There are three classes to choose from, namely, Adventist Heritage, Last-Day Events, or Christian Beliefs. As can be deduced from the class titles, each of these classes provides significant exposure to important aspects of the SDA system of beliefs, including doctrines that are held in common with other Christian churches, as well as those that are more uniquely Adventist.

The third sub-section states that all students are required to take a class in biblical studies, that is, one which is listed in the *Catalog* as an RELB class. This is to highlight the central role that the Bible plays in the Adventist Church and the primacy of Scripture in determining SDA doctrines. A rich variety of classes fulfill this requirement, including Old Testament Studies, New Testament Studies, Studies in Daniel, and Studies in Revelation. This requirement is meant to ensure that each student graduating from Southern has explored Scripture in a meaningful way during his or her time here. A fourth sub-section allows a student to choose any additional religion class as an elective in order to complete 12 credits.

So these are our goals: to invite each of our students to have a personal relationship with Jesus, to inform them about the amazing heritage and wonderful beliefs of the SDA Church, and to inspire them to cherish, value, and study God's Holy Word. May God grant us success in meeting these aims!



Greg King, Dean

Summer 2012 Master's Degree Courses

Tuition: \$1,650 per class. Audit: \$825 per class. Contact Edwin Reynolds at reynolds@southern.edu before April 23, 2012.

June 18-29 Intensives

RELB 542 Urban Ministry and Evangelism. Consideration of the forces which create cities, their development, and their ethos, with emphasis on secularization and the church's holistic approach. Attention is given to evangelism and church planting. Exposure is given to various ministries dealing with the hungry, homeless, addicted, and the alienated. (Professor: Alan Parker)

RELT 552 Theology of Mission and Evangelism.

A theological reflection of evangelism's essence, goals, motives, and strategies, with emphasis on the mission of the SDA Church. Provides a theological foundation for courses in evangelism, ministry, and missions. (Professor: Carlos Martin)

July 9-20 Intensives

RELB 581 Biblical Ethics in a Contemporary Society.

An examination of major biblical ethical teachings in light of their cultural and historical setting and in relation to contemporary moral issues; how to approach ethical problems in ministry, as well as Christian strategies dealing with basic matters such as confidentiality, church-

state relations, racism, sexual vulnerability, and marriage/divorce/remarriage. (Professor: Steve Bauer)

RELP 521 Time and Life Management. Explores the fundamentals of time and its management within a theological and pastoral context. Consideration is given to articulating personal values, achieving goals, evaluating and implementing a time-management system, overcoming personal time-management weaknesses, and applying strategies of efficiency and effectiveness to everyday life. (Professor: Jud Lake)

RELT 542 Studies in Biblical Doctrine. An in-depth study of key biblical doctrines, such as salvation, the nature of God and man, the Great Controversy, and the final destiny of God's people. (Professor: John Nixon)

July 9-27 Intensive

RELB 556 Studies in Revelation. A study of the prophecies and symbolism of Revelation with their historical fulfillments. Special attention is given to discovering its special message for our day. (Professor: Edwin Reynolds)

REACHING OUT

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