

Ken Shaw, EdD

Ken Shaw, EdD, took office as the 27th president of Southern Adventist University on June 1, 2021. Having graduated from Southern in 1980 with a Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics, he is the first alum to serve as president. His wife, Ann, and their children, Kate and Martin, graduated from Southern as well. President Shaw also holds a doctorate in mathematics education from the University of Georgia and master's degree in mathematics from Middle Tennessee State University.



For the past seven years, President Shaw has led Southwestern Adventist University in Keene, Texas. Previously he worked at Florida State

University for 25 years in various capacities, from assistant professor of mathematics education to campus dean of Florida State University Panama City and academic dean of the College of Applied Studies.

During his tenure at Southern, President Shaw looks forward to engaging with students, hearing their stories, and worshiping together. His goals include forging stronger connections with the local community and making Southern more affordable by growing the university's endowment. As a leader and mathematician, he values strategic thinking and analyzing metrics to optimize results. Additionally, he enjoys playing piano duets with his wife, traveling, sports—especially golf—and spending time with family.

Alumni Processional Reprentatives

Supporting Ken Shaw as Southern's first alumni president, alumni representing the university's graduating decades are marching in the procession today.

Jan Rushing, '58 Inelda (Phillips) Hefferlin, '58 *Representing* 1950-1959

Barbara (Holland) Wear, '62 Bill McGhinnis, '69 *Representing* 1960-1969

Phil Garver, '70 Callie (Thatcher) McArthur, '73 *Representing* 1970-1979

John Hensen, '80 Linda Shriver-Buckner, '86 *Representing* 1980-1989

Shelli (Senior) Dietrich, '93 Eric Dunkel, '99 Representing 1990-1999

Christina Zaiback-Khabbaz, '07 Michael Looby, '09 *Representing 2000-2009*

Xenia Figueroa, '14 Moses Maier, '17 *Representing* 2010-2019

Delaney Harris, '20 Caleb Sutherland, '20 *Representing 2020-present*

INAUGURAL CONVOCATION

Processional George Frideric Handel from Music for the Royal Fireworks	
Welcome and Invocation	
Greetings Various Representatives	
Introduction of Speaker	
Inaugural Address	
Congregational Hymn Now Thank We All Our GodJohann Crüger	
Prayer of Inauguration and Charge to LeadershipRon Smith, DMin, PhD Chair of Southern Adventist University Board of Trustees President of Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists	
Musical ResponseJohn Rutter	
BenedictionCalvin Watkins Vice President for Evangelism and Regional Liaison North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists	
Recessional	

Grand Marshal: Keith Snyder, PhD Brass Ensemble Conductor: Ken Parsons I Cantori Chamber Choir Conductor: Gennevieve Brown-Kibble, DMA Organist: Judy Glass

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN Now Thank We All Our God, Johann Crüger Text by Martin Rinkart

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices, who wondrous things hath done, in whom His world rejoices; who from our mothers' arms hath blessed us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us, with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us; and keep us in His grace, and guide us when perplexed, and free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God the Father, now be given, the Son and Him who reigns with them in highest heaven, the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore; for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

JOHN BOSKIND, '93 Hendersonville, Tennessee

JEFFREY BROMME Altamonte Springs, Florida

KARIN COVI, '81 Chattanooga, Tennessee

BRIAN DANESE, '89 Montgomery, Alabama

JIM DAVIDSON, Vice-chair Norcross, Georgia

KEN DeFOOR, '71 Ooltewah, Tennessee

FRANKLIN FARROW, '93 Ooltewah, Tennessee

DAVID FERGUSON Collegedale, Tennessee

DAVID FREEDMAN Norcross, Georgia

STEVE HALEY, '83 Gallatin, Tennessee

KEITH HALLAM Norcross, Georgia

HEATHER HILLIARD, '95 Apopka, Florida

DANNY HOUGHTON, '98 Lynden, Washington

A. DAVID JIMÉNEZ, '75 McDonald, Tennessee

BENJAMIN JONES JR., '01 Nashville, Tennessee

RUTH LIU Ooltewah, Tennessee

LESLIE LOUIS, '73 Charlotte, North Carolina

ALLAN MACHADO Altamonte Springs, Florida MOSES MAIER, '17 Calhoun, Georgia

S. JACK McCLARTY, '99 Ooltewah, Tennessee

SCOTT McCLURE, '88 Silver Spring, Maryland

TODD McFARLAND, '97 Burtonsville, Maryland

BILL McGHINNIS (Emeritus), '69 Ooltewah, Tennessee

ELLSWORTH McKEE (Emeritus), '54 Collegedale, Tennessee

BARBARA CHASE McKINNEY, '81 and '85 Jacksonville, Florida

MICHAEL OWUSU Mt. Dora, Florida

GORDON RETZER (Emeritus), '68 Tunnel Hill, Georgia

GARY RUSTAD, '00 Calhoun, Georgia

KEN SHAW, '80 Apison, Tennessee

RON SMITH, Chair Norcross, Georgia

JEANETTE STEPANSKE Ooltewah, Tennessee

DAN TURK, '85 Fort Collins, Colorado

CHRISTINE WALDROP, '92 and '14 Ooltewah, Tennessee

WILLIAM WINSTON Stone Mountain, Georgia

DOUGLAS ZINKE, '95 Ashton, Maryland

PAST PRESIDENTS

Graysville Academy George W. Colcord	1892-1896
Southern Industrial School William Thomas Bland Charles Walter Irwin N. W. Lawrence J. Ellis Tenney	1896-1898 1898-1900 1900-1901 1901-1904
Southern Training School J. Ellis Tenney Marshall B. Van Kirk C. L. Stone Lynn H. Wood A. N. Atteberry	1904-1908 1908-1912 1912-1914 1914-1915 1915-1916
Southern Junior College Leo F. Thiel Lynn H. Wood Leo F. Thiel Henry H. Hamilton Marion E. Cadey Henry J. Klooster John C. Thommpson Denton E. Rebok Kenneth A. Wright	1916-1918 1918-1922 1922-1925 1925-1927 1927 1927-1937 1937-1942 1942-1943 1943-1944
Southern Missionary College Kenneth A. Wright Thomas W. Walters Conard N. Rees Wilbert M. Schneider Frank A. Knittel Southern College of Seventh-day Adventists	1944-1955 1955-1958 1958-1967 1967-1971 1971-1982
Frank A. Knittel John Wagner Donald R. Sahly	1982-1983 1983-1986 1986-1996
Southern Adventist University Donald R. Sahly Gordon Bietz David C. Smith	1996-1997 1997-2016 2016-2021

UNIVERSITY HISTORY

- 1892 School founded in Graysville with 23 students.
- 1893 Graysville Academy administration building constructed. Enrollment reaches 120.
- 1915 Women's dormitory burns in February.
- 1916 School moves to Thatcher farm. Male students live in tents first three winters.
- 1919 Electricity installed on campus.
- 1924 Lynn Wood Hall built.
- 1934 Tabernacle built on site now occupied by Hickman Science Center.
- 1936 Southern Junior College gains accreditation with Southern Association.
- 1940 First PhD faculty member hired.
- 1946 A.G. Daniells Memorial Library built. Southern Missionary College awards first baccalaureate.
- 1950 Southern accredited as a four-year college. Hackman Hall built to hold sciences.
- 1954 Harold Miller Hall built for music.
- 1955 Student Park created.
- 1957 McKee Bakery moves to Collegedale to provide student employment.
- 1959 WSMC issued FM license.
- 1961 New Talge Hall built as women's dorm.
- 1964 Enrollment exceeds 1,000.
- 1965 Collegedale Church of Seventh-day Adventists built, and Physical Education Center opens.
- 1967 Wright Hall built.
- 1968 New Thatcher Hall built.
- 1970 McKee Library opened.
- 1971 Summerour Hall built.
- 1976 Herin Hall built to house nursing.
- 1979 First Strawberry Festival slideshow held.
- 1981 Southern Scholars honors program starts. Mabel Wood Hall opens.
- 1983 First endowed chair established.
- 1984 Brock Hall dedicated.
- 1985 Garden of Prayer dedicated.
- 1986 WSMC begins 24-hour broadcasting.
- 1987 Promenade walkway completed.
- **1989** Tabernacle burns.
- 1990 Lynn Wood Hall renovated.
- 1992 Centennial celebrated, including mention on NBC's Today Show.
- 1994 Internet access becomes available at more than 150 workstations.
- 1995 Employee wellness program gets gold Well Workplace Award.
- 1996 Southern Adventist University becomes school's new name. Education master's classes begin.
- 1997 Hickman Science Center dedicated. Master's degrees in religion and counseling added.
- 1998 First graduate degrees awarded.
- 1999 University of Arizona Centennial Archaeology Collection donated to Southern.
- 2000 Master's degree in nursing added. Undergraduate enrollment jumps 12 percent.
- 2001 Students have the option of earning a Southern master's degree in business entirely online.
- 2002 Two additional Southern Village apartments constructed.
- 2003 New addition to Talge Hall under construction.
- 2004 Grand opening of the Lynn H. Wood Archaeological Museum hosted.
- 2005 Student Park cave reopens to public, managed by the Outdoor Education program.
- 2006 200,000 fossils donated to Southern's Biology Department.
- 2007 School of Business accredited by the International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education.
- 2009 Hulsey Wellness Center completed.
- 2010 Enrollment eclipses 3,000 students for first time in school's history.
- 2011 Florida Hospital Hall (now AdventHealth Hall) completed to house School of Nursing.
- 2012 Origins Exhibit opens in Hickman Science Center. First doctoral-level classes offered.
- 2013 Vegetarian Culinary Arts begins.
- 2014 Summerour Hall reopens after extensive renovations. WSMC launches online, faith-based station.
- 2015 School of Nursing summer cohort begins.
- 2016 100th anniversary of the school's move from Graysville to Collegedale celebrated.
- 2017 125th anniversary of the institution's existence.
- 2018 25th year of serving the community on MLK Day.
- 2019 First physical therapist assistant students accepted. New mission, vision, and values statements voted.
- 2021 Bietz Center for Student Life opens.