



PANORAMA

parent newsletter | Spring 2019



Southern on Social Media

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for campus life updates!

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What would you like to see us post more? We would love to hear your suggestions! Email Shana, our digital engagement manager, at smichalek@southern.edu with your feedback.

MAR

- 16** Student Association Talent Show
- 17** Symphony Orchestra Concert
- 24-29** Senior Exit Exams
- 25** Online Summer Registration
- 26** Online Fall Registration for Returning Seniors
- 28** Online Fall Registration for Returning Juniors

- APR 1** Online Fall Registration for Returning Sophomores
- 3** Online Fall Registration for Returning Freshmen
- 6** Asian Cultural Night
- 7** Wind Symphony Concert
- 8** Online Fall Registration for New/Transfer Students
- 11** Campus Research Day
- 13** Gym-Masters Home Show
- 14** School of Music Choirs Spring Concert
- 15** Last Day to Order May Graduation Regalia
- 20** SonRise Resurrection Pageant

Southern Adventist University has begun the initial stages of construction on the Bietz Center for Student Life that is slated to open in the fall semester of 2020. The \$13 million project is fully funded by donors of the institution as part of the \$50 million Campaign for Excellence in Faith and Learning.

According to Marty Hamilton, associate vice president for Financial Administration, the new building will be the centerpiece of student activities as the construction will bring most student-specific services together under one roof.

"We're aiming for a building that's focused on student life outside of the classroom," Hamilton said. "It will be this very synergistic building that has all of these services, so hopefully when students experience it, they will have that 'ahhh, I can relax and take it easy' feeling."

The space will include a new campus eatery, expanded study areas, Student Association offices, and many general meeting locations. In addition, the Campus Shop bookstore, Campus Ministries department, and the Student Success Center, which offers free counseling and

tutoring, will all relocate to the student center at its completion.

"Our whole mission with the new student center is about creating a living space," Hamilton said. "Our students need a living room. They need a place where they can go and relax, where they can study. For the lack of a better word, a student center is really kind of a social hangout."

The new center will also be environmentally responsible. While other buildings on campus are also eco-friendly, this facility is on track to be the first to receive an official certification, thanks to an initiative by the university's Enactus club. The student team is working with Hamilton and a local company called green|spaces to include sustainable features such as recyclable carpet, repurposed wood, and conscientious landscaping.

"The goal is to get people to care about the environment because this is what God gave us, so we should take care of it,"



said Nadine Peteros, sophomore business administration major and Enactus member.

Hamilton believes that adding sustainability to the construction plans directly aligns with the mission of the university.

"It's a nice way for Southern to show we care," Hamilton said. "We care about the environment; we care about the community; we care about our students."

- by Tierra Hayes, senior mass communication major

“Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.”

Ephesians 4:31-32 (NKJV)
*favorite Bible verse of Paula Walters,
Director of Student Finance*



Student Life: Spreading Smiles Across Campus

Students all across campus have an extra reason to smile thanks to the Student Association’s Smile Initiative. The idea originated several years ago, but this year SA has taken it to a new level.

Once a month, the Smile Initiative provides free food—like tacos and donuts—while hosting “listening booths” in the student center, giving students an opportunity to submit their concerns, suggestions, and prayer requests.

“I think the Smile Initiative is really great for students because it breaks up the routine and gives us something fun to brighten our school day,” said Natalie Boonstra, sophomore public relations major. “I always appreciate when SA goes above and beyond to meet our needs. It shows they really care about the student body.”

According to Rhidge Garcia, senior theology major and SA president, the Smile Initiative is also a platform where student businesses and creatives can express their talents. For example, SA recently partnered with 3 Cup Supply, a student-operated business, to serve gourmet hot chocolate.

“Our ultimate goal for the Smile Initiative is to help students know and feel that they are valued,” Garcia said. “It seems that the students are very thankful for these opportunities. We call it the ‘Smile Initiative’ because our hope is to put smiles on people’s faces!”

- by Rachel Beaver, senior public relations major



Meet the Christian Service Program Director: An Interview with Jennifer Carter

Q: Why is Christian Service important to you?

A: When we give back to the community and dedicate our time to others, we are following the example of Jesus. There are a lot of secular programs that give back to the community, which is wonderful, but when we show people Jesus, we are bringing something that the world can’t offer. It makes people ask, “What makes those students from Southern different?” I have found that when you dedicate yourself to service, you notice a change within yourself. There is a noticeable difference in character that comes over time.

Q: In your opinion, how do Christian Service projects affect the spiritual growth of students?

A: We all have unique gifts that God has given us, and He wants us to share them. Students who use their talents for service are showing the community the love of Jesus. The students who put in more time to service learning are typically better fed spiritually, so the more you do for others, the better you feel. I have noticed that the students who take time to give back have better mental health, are more organized, and are more well-rounded overall.

Q: What is something you find satisfying about your job in Christian Service?

A: I love finding opportunities for our students to go out into the community, show their love through service, and hopefully find something they are passionate about where they can continue to volunteer long term. This can open doors for service-learning opportunities, internships, and jobs later on.



Did You Know? Food Services Works to Offer Healthy and Enjoyable Options for Students

“No one really comes to college for the food,” said Teddy Kyriakidis, director of Food Services at Southern Adventist University. “Nonetheless, food service on a university campus is a necessity, and at Southern we try to make it fun and enjoyable without detracting from students’ focus on academics.”

With a broad range of operating hours, the Dining Hall, KR’s Place, The Kayak, and the Village Market offer students a selection of nutritious, completely vegetarian foods all across campus. Those on a meal plan even receive a 40 percent discount.

Since Kyriakidis’s arrival at Southern, he and his team have worked to add more variety to menus, while keeping long-time favorites such as Sam’s “Chicken” and Pasta Day. For example, in the Dining Hall, in addition to rotating in new entrées on the main food line, the team offers dishes from around the world at the international bar, including pierogi, sweet plantains, and pho. Additionally, the salad, fruit, and haystack bars provide fresh options at most meals.

Another area Food Services has focused on is expanding the options in eateries and vending machines across campus to accommodate special dietary needs and preferences such as gluten free, nut free, and vegan choices. However, the progress has not stopped there.

“We are continuously looking into our menus to see how we can make them more allergy-friendly and more nutritious,” Kyriakidis said. “We look for the balance between what students like to eat and what’s good for them. Then we try to find a happy medium.”

Overall, Southern’s Food Services team strives to supply more than simply a day’s energy but also nutrients that support physical, mental, and spiritual growth.

“Students balance healthy and unhealthy food choices pretty well,” Kyriakidis said. “And we work to make eating convenient and enjoyable for them and something they can look forward to.”

- by Trisney Bocala, sophomore mass communication major



Message from the President: Culture of Affirmation

I have been thinking recently about how people respond better to affirmation than to criticism, often producing positive, lasting change. For example, a former academy principal told me of his experience inheriting a school with a very critical campus culture. He explained how the main strategy that turned his school around was a determined effort to focus on the positive, to acknowledge what God was doing through employees at that school. The more positive the feedback, the healthier the culture became.

Southern Adventist University is a great place, but how much greater could it be if we made a more intentional effort to celebrate the positive ways God is using individuals on our campus?

I would like to invite you, as a parent of a Southern student, to help me reinforce this culture. What experiences has your student had at Southern that testify to God working through the life or ministry of one of our employees? How have you or your student been positively impacted?

Please take a moment to send me a note that I can pass along to an employee affirming him or her for a specific interaction that meant a lot to you and/or your student. What a pleasure it would be for me to share that appreciation and celebrate the specific way that the employee supported or encouraged your family!

You can send your message to president@southern.edu. Thank you in advance for helping us continue growing stronger and better by lifting up how God is working on our campus!

- by David Smith, president





LIBRARY

McKee Library provides students with academic resources to get the most out of their learning experience, catering to different learning styles. Students also benefit from open spaces to collaborate and quiet study areas to work independently.



CULINARY ARTS

Students in the culinary arts program learn professional techniques, gain valuable hands-on experience, and hone their tastebuds as they create healthy, tasty food.





IN THE CLASSROOM

Students and professors delve into ideas, exploring a wide range of topics in a way that helps students to not simply know what to think but how to think.



SCIENCE LAB

Hands-on research and experiments—such as studying the unique properties of Black Widow spider silk—bring science to life.



SPEECH CLASS

In the School of Journalism and Communication, students learn public speaking in a modern, engaging “Ted Talk” style.

