



PANORAMA

parent newsletter | Spring 2023



Southern Dedicates Land for Future School of Business Building

Despite the threat of rain, Southern Adventist University students, employees, donors, and community members joined together in February to dedicate land for a new building to house the School of Business. After opening remarks, the group formed a large circle around the future facility’s location and prayed together over the land.

Several university and community leaders were present, including President Ken Shaw, EdD; Ron Smith, PhD, chairman of Southern’s Board of Trustees and president of the Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists; and local business owner Franklin Farrow, chairman of the fundraising campaign for the School of Business.

“We’re very grateful that many have stepped up with their donations, time, and energies to make this project possible,” Farrow said. “Southern is in the business of changing and equipping hearts, and as we take on this challenge of creating a new building, let’s remember that it’s more than bricks and mortar. It is a place that will shape characters for generations to come.”

The School of Business is the second largest academic area on the university’s campus, with a 10% increase in its enrollment over the last five years. With 42,000 square feet, the new facility will house a large, multipurpose auditorium, and its investment lab will include 12 Bloomberg Financial Terminals—computer software systems on which students can analyze real-time financial market data.

Thanks to alumni, donors, and other friends of the university, more than \$16 million of the \$20 million campaign, which also includes an endowment, has been raised through donations and commitments. Groundbreaking for the new facility is planned for early Fall 2023.

“God has anointed our students to be kingdom builders in the marketplace,” said Stephanie Sheehan, PhD, dean of the School of Business. “He has called and will continue to call many students here, and we are thankful they will soon have a new facility to call home.”

For more information, visit southern.edu/gobusiness.

- by Amanda Blake, senior journalism major



Exam Schedule Winter 2023

Time	Monday May 1	Tuesday May 2	Wednesday May 3	Thursday May 4
8 to 9:50 a.m.	English Comp Basic Writing	8 a.m. T Th 8:30 a.m. T Th	12 p.m. T Th 12:30 p.m. T Th	8 a.m. M W F 8:30 a.m. M T W Th F
10 to 11:50 a.m.	9 a.m. T Th 10 a.m. T Th	9 a.m. M W F 9 a.m. T Th	1 p.m. T Th 1 p.m. M T Th F	10 a.m. M W F
12 to 1:50 p.m.	12 p.m. M W F	11 a.m. M W F	4 p.m. T Th 5 p.m. T Th 5 p.m. M W	11 a.m. T Th
2 to 3:50 p.m.	2 p.m. M W F 2 p.m. M W	2 p.m. T Th 2:30 p.m. T Th	1 p.m. M W F	
4 to 5:50 p.m.	Speech	3 p.m. M W F 3:30 p.m. M W 4 p.m. M	3 p.m. T Th 3:30 p.m. T Th	

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MAY

1-4

Semester Exams

7

Commencement



**“Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all,
especially to those who are of the household of faith.”**
Galatians 6:10, NKJV
favorite Bible verse of Cheryl Craven, director of Christian Service



Decisions for Baptism

Sixteen Students Commit to Baptism During Religion Class

Sixteen students at Southern requested baptism after their professor, David Hartman, DMin, gave a heartfelt appeal to his Christian Beliefs class.

“I praise God for this!” Hartman said. “This doesn’t happen by accident. I print out thumbnail pictures of the students and pray for them by name throughout the semester. I ask God to use the classroom as a crucible for change. On the day of an appeal, I pray earnestly for God to move hearts, and He does! Every semester there are students who resolve to follow Christ and be baptized.”

Hartman accepted Jesus as his Savior 40 years ago while studying at Southern. Now, as a professor in the university’s School of Religion, his mission is to help a new generation of young people do the same. His Christian Beliefs course covers the 28 Fundamental Beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church with their scriptural support. During the class discussion on baptism, he distributes response cards and asks each student to consider starting a new life with Christ.

This semester, eight students responded with a desire for baptism and eight others for rebaptism. Over the next few weeks, Hartman met with the 16 individuals to facilitate their journeys toward spiritual renewal.

“There were many times during Christian Beliefs class when I was reminded of God’s power, how much He loves me, and how He has always drawn me to Him,” said Lia Narikawa, a sophomore health science major who plans to be baptized. “Those reminders made me want to fully give my heart to Jesus.”

- by Amanda Blake, senior journalism major

Q&A

Q&A with Mark Antone

Director of Landscape Services

Q: Tell me a little about yourself and your relationship with Southern.

A: Originally from Northern California, I became a Seventh-day Adventist in my late teens, graduated from Rio Lindo Academy, and studied landscape horticulture at Pacific Union College. In the early ’80s, I was offered a full-time staff position at the college and also married my high school girlfriend. We moved east in 1984 so I could join the staff at Southern. I worked for 10 years as a student supervisor, and this year will mark 29 years as director.



Q: How has the campus changed over the decades?

A: When I started, construction was just finishing at Brock Hall, the Promenade was used for driving and parking, and there was no landscaping. Through the years, as buildings were remodeled or built, we have added sidewalks and plants, bushes, and trees. Campus expansion and growing enrollment keep us busy! I enjoy being a part of helping students learn to work with their hands and share God’s love.

Q: What would you like parents to know about Landscape Services?

A: Both students and staff on my team are privileged to work in and with God’s creation every day. As employees, we take our missionary credentials to heart. We are here to care for the grounds, but the students are our top priority. Academic life is stressful, and I believe having a place to go outside to study, play, rest, and work is an important part of a successful and enjoyable student experience. Hopefully, it also brings students closer to our loving Creator and their personal walks with Him.

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Did You Know?

Stress Out Week Offers Students Healthy Coping Mechanisms

During the week before midterms, the Student Success Center team hosted a booth with materials and gifts for students in front of the Bietz Center for Student Life. According to Amy Ortiz-Moretta, Counseling Services director, students responded well to the ongoing tradition of the Student Success Center’s Stress Out Week.

On Monday, psychoeducational resources on stress and coping were offered, along with free face masks. On Tuesday, “smoothie-blending bikes” were set up, offering both cardio workouts and a refreshing snack to participants. Students chose succulents on Wednesday to plant in mugs donated by faculty and staff. Stress Out Week moved online Thursday to the Counseling Services’ Instagram account for a giveaway.

“I loved seeing the smiles on our students’ faces” said Ortiz-Moretta. “I know they juggle multiple responsibilities, so it’s always nice to do something fun for them. Southern students are the best, and we want them to know they are not alone during tougher times, like preparing for tests.”

Stress Out Week is a part of Southern’s ongoing Healthy Minds Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP).

“This year, the QEP Implementation Taskforce wanted to create more variety in the student experience by adding activities that were hands-on,” said Tiffany Bartell, QEP director.

According to Bartell, the goal of the initiative is to increase helpfulness to students and add happy diversions.

- by Victoria Mills, senior mass communications major



Student Life:

History Department Brings 18th Century England to Life



“You might be interested to know that 14 of you voted to maintain the status quo of religion in our nation. Fourteen!” announced Professor Lisa Diller, PhD, to her History of England class. “Eleven of you want to extend toleration to dissenters, and three of you want to extend toleration to Roman Catholics.”

So began a unique class period, complete with costumes, accents, and speeches.

Diller has been using Reacting to the Past (RTTP), an interactive reenactment game curriculum, to teach the course this year. According to its website, RTTP “is an active learning pedagogy of [characterized] games designed for higher education. ... Students are assigned character roles with specific goals and must communicate, collaborate, and compete effectively to advance their objectives.”

For every student in the class, the room became an imaginary coffee shop, a unique setting for RTTP games. Most take place in a more public space, like a court or town square, but the intimate venue provided more fluidity in student interactions. Part of each class period was designated as social time when characters could communicate with each other, pushing agendas whether public or secret.

Michael Weismeyer, PhD, associate professor and chair of the History and Political Studies Department, is excited to see other professors adopting this teaching medium, and he agrees the approach makes learning more fun and rewarding.

“The games can help students better understand how and what people at the time were thinking and working through,” he said. “I believe they are a valuable way of learning material and fostering understanding of complex subjects such as historic periods.”

- by Victoria Mills, senior mass communications major



BCU CULTURAL NIGHT

Southern's Black Christian Union hosted its annual Saturday night cultural event in February, complete with skits and music.



MEET THE FIRMS

Companies, ministries, and organizations gathered in Iles P.E. Center this spring to recruit Southern students as future interns and employees during the semiannual event.

