



# PANORAMA

parent newsletter | Spring 2024



## Chemistry Department Collaborates With McKee Foods

In late September of this school year, McKee Foods Corporation contacted Southern Adventist University's Chemistry Department for a potential collaboration. Southern's chemistry lab has some equipment and instrumentation that McKee Foods does not have, according to Bruce Schilling, PhD, professor of chemistry.

Jared Freeman, an analytical chemist at McKee Foods and '23 alum of Southern, said the equipment at Southern can help them troubleshoot and find issues. "The instrumentation that Southern has is incredibly helpful for troubleshooting, that's the big thing," he says. "We have an issue, we don't know why, and we can take it over here [Southern]."

Brent Hamstra, PhD, professor and chair of the chemistry department, feels that this collaboration with McKee Foods is a great opportunity for students to see how chemistry works in the real world. Hamstra shares that chemistry students sometimes have a hard time realizing that a chemistry degree is beneficial for a lot of jobs; going into medicine is not the only option. He believes that students hearing about chemists from McKee Foods using Southern's instrumentation for real-life problems will

help open their eyes to more options.

For a number of years, McKee Foods has offered an internship to a chemistry major each year. Freeman was the first chemistry major from Southern to intern at McKee Foods before he graduated in 2023, and Nathan Dickerhoff, senior chemistry major, is currently interning at McKee Foods. Hamstra shares that the interns have had great opportunities to see how chemistry

can be applied off-campus and used to solve problems outside of the classroom.

Both Southern's Chemistry Department and McKee Foods have expressed that they want to continue the collaboration in the future because it is a benefit to both sides. "We want to benefit the department because they have been a big benefit to us," Freeman says.

- by Alexis Dewey, junior mass communication major



Chemists from McKee Foods visit a lab in Southern's Chemistry Department where they can use equipment to troubleshoot.

## Exam Schedule Spring 2024

Time	Monday April 29	Tuesday April 30	Wednesday May 1	Thursday May 2
8 to 9:50 a.m.	English Comp Basic Writing	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	8 a.m. T Th 8:30 a.m. T Th
10 to 11:50 a.m.	1 p.m. T Th 1 p.m. M T Th F	10 a.m. M W F	9:30 a.m. T Th 10 a.m. T Th	9 a.m. M W F 9 a.m. T Th
12 to 1:50 p.m.	4 p.m. T Th 5 p.m. T Th 5 p.m. M W	11 a.m. T	12 p.m. M W F	11 a.m. M W F
2 to 3:50 p.m.	2 p.m. T Th 2:30 p.m. T Th	2 p.m. T Th 2:30 p.m. T Th	2 p.m. M W F 2 p.m. M W F	
4 to 5:50 p.m.	3 p.m. M W F 3:30 p.m. M W 4 p.m. M	3 p.m. M W F 3:30 p.m. M W 4 p.m. M	Speech	

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## MAR

21-22 Spring PreviewSouthern

25-29 Senior Exit Exams

### April

- 1 Pre-registration for Southern Scholars
- 2-3 F24 Registration open online for returning Seniors >93 hours
- 4-5 F24 Registration open online for returning Juniors >54 hours
- 6-7 Gym-Masters Home Shows
- 7 School of Music Choirs Spring Concert
- 8 F24 Registration open online for Southern Scholars/Graduate students
- 8-9 F24 Registration open online for returning Sophomores >23 hours
- 10-11 F24 Registration open online for returning Freshmen <24 hours
- 13 Asian Cultural Night
- 14 Southern Wind Symphony Concert
- 14-19 Student Worker Appreciation Week
- 15 F24 Registration open online for New/Transfer students
- 17 Southern Steel Band Concert
- 18 Campus Research Day



**“So he answered, ‘Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.’ And Elisha prayed, and said, ‘Lord, I pray, open his eyes that he may see.’ Then the Lord opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.”**

**2 Kings 6:16-17, NKJV**

*favorite Bible verse of Mary Neri, Thatcher Hall associate dean*



## Filled With Christ

### Spiritual Leadership Scholarship Awarded



Southern Adventist University's Education Department recently awarded its 2023 Spiritual Leadership Scholarship to Denver Nelson, a senior double-majoring in interdisciplinary teaching and educational studies: secondary, and vegetarian culinary arts. For the past three years, the Spiritual Leadership Scholarship has been available to any

education student applicants, although only one student is awarded the scholarship each year. To raise the money, students, alumni, and community members have donated during Southern's annual Giving Day.

"I'm very grateful for the scholarship and the opportunity it's given me to focus on my classes," Nelson says.

Originally, he joined Southern as a math major earning a secondary education certification. Since then, he's worked with his professors to create an interdisciplinary degree that combines his passions, certifying him to teach math and religion in the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists while also earning an associate degree in culinary arts.

Nelson believes strongly in relational teaching. "I want to be there to lead students to Christ and help them be successful people later in life." When students ask him hard questions, Nelson says, "You can't give what you don't have. I have to be so full of Christ that everybody sees it. Then, my cup can overflow into theirs without draining me."

Nelson is active at Ooltewah Seventh-day Adventist Church, where he is involved in everything from choir to the school board. He believes, "It's our duty as Adventists to help support our church and continue the mission God has planned for our church."

Krystal Bishop, EdD, retired director of Teacher Education and Nelson's advisor, originally suggested to Nelson that he apply. She explains, "Denver is a humble servant-leader. He is developing his gifts and talents to serve others in multiple capacities."

- Chehalis Eno, junior English major



## Q&A With Laurie Worth

### Director for Food Services



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

**A:** I've been an employee at Southern for two and a half years, but I've been well acquainted with Southern my entire life. Several generations of my family have attended Southern, and my grandmother even worked in the cafeteria.

**Q: What are you passionate about in your job?**

**A:** Food has always been an important part of my family. I grew up with good, healthy, fresh food and had the opportunity to try many different cuisines. I think that history, along with enjoying the togetherness that food brings, is a big part of why I love my job. I work with an amazing team that enjoys not only cooking but also interacting with the students.

**Q: How does having healthy food options available benefit students?**

**A:** I think it's important to nourish the body before you can expect to nourish the mind or the soul. I also think that good food helps boost your mood. Biting into a sweet, juicy piece of pineapple or crunching on a salad that is loaded with veggies, garbanzos, and pumpkin seeds usually makes me feel better.

**Q: What would you like parents to know about Food Services at Southern?**

**A:** My goal as Food Services director is to provide a variety of quality foods that meet as many dietary needs and personal food choices as possible, while keeping it labor- and cost-efficient. I am also very familiar with dietary restrictions as I have a daughter and a sister who both struggle with life-threatening food allergies. I welcome any questions and concerns and will try my best to accommodate and work with each situation.

*More information regarding menus and hours is available at [southern.edu/food](https://southern.edu/food).*



## Did You Know?

### Tutoring Center Spotlight

Southern's Tutoring Center and Writing Center both offer free tutoring support for Southern students. While the Writing Center focuses on helping students complete writing assignments and develop strong writing skills, the Tutoring Center offers individual and group tutoring for more than 45 upper- and lower-division courses. The Tutoring Center averages 1,000 appointments each month, while the Writing Center averages 250 appointments per month.

The Tutoring Center typically employs 80-90 tutors each semester. The tutors are students who have demonstrated mastery in the course and are recommended by their department. Peer tutors provide an encouraging learning environment to assist students in developing the skills to become confident, independent, and active learners.

The Writing Center employs 14-15 writing tutors each semester. Writing tutors work with students of all levels and disciplines on a variety of assignments and projects from research papers to resumes.

Sonja Fordham, PhD, director of the Writing Center and Tutoring Center, says, "Students love the Tutoring Center. Many of the students who regularly use the Tutoring Center have appreciated the help so much that they return as tutors so that they can help others successfully complete the courses."

If a student has strong study skills and has successfully completed a class, becoming a tutor for the class is a beneficial student job on campus. It offers flexible scheduling around classes, looks great on a resume, and offers the opportunity to become a certified tutor by the College Reading and Learning Association.

Both the Writing Center and the Tutoring Center are located on the third floor of McKee Library and are open six days a week, offering appointments from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Appointments for the Tutoring Center must be scheduled at least one day prior via the corresponding website while the Writing Center welcomes walk-ins. For more information about the Tutoring Center, visit [southern.edu/tutoringcenter](https://southern.edu/tutoringcenter), and for the Writing Center, visit [southern.edu/writingcenter](https://southern.edu/writingcenter).

- by Becky Brooks, editorial manager



## Student Life:

### Intramural Sports See Growth



In the past few years, the School of Health and Kinesiology at Southern has noticed an increasing number of students participating in intramural sports on campus.

Intramurals are a way for students to be active and socialize outside of a classroom, meeting new people, and participating in a sport of their choosing. Several intramural sports are available throughout the school year, including softball, soccer, pickleball, volleyball, basketball, and more.

"Intramurals plays a very important role in students' lives," says Troy Walker, professor and director of the intramurals program. "I think that shows when we have more than 60% of the student body participating in at least one intramural sport over the course of the academic school year."

The first spike in participation became apparent during the COVID-19 pandemic. The staff watched as students came out and were even willing to play wearing masks. Since then, the numbers have continued to grow. "I think the joy of playing a sport and competing in a positive and supportive social atmosphere is one big reason students participate," Walker says.

In the 2022-23 school year, volleyball was the most popular sport, with a record-breaking 96 volleyball teams and 701 unique participants. This was an increase from 62 volleyball teams and 511 participants in Winter 2022, according to Walker.

Another popular sport has been pickleball, since it was added in 2022. In the first year, 37 teams and 65 participants signed up. By the next year, participation had doubled, with 81 teams and 125 pickleball participants.

"The students not only gain the physical and mental benefits of participating, but they also enjoy positive social benefits, as well," Walker says. "Intramurals are a great way to meet new people, make new friends, and establish long-lasting friendships."

- by Alexis Dewey, junior mass communication major



# IGNITE LIVE

Southern's School of Journalism and Communication invited students and the community to IGNITE Live, a talk show featuring Christian recording artist Riley Clemmons, on February 3 in Iles P.E. Center on campus. The student-led event focused on faith beyond imitation and included interactive games, music from one of Southern's student bands, and Clemmons' testimony about how music and worship have helped her find her faith.







# SOUTHERN SMILES

Smiling can relieve stress, elevate your mood, and put people at ease. Not only that, but smiling is contagious! It's common for students to choose Southern because people on campus are welcoming and friendly. Whether we're talking with classmates, joking with friends, or telling stories together, smiling faces are around every corner on campus. We hope our smiles will bring a smile to your face, too.

