Southern is about to make history by being the first Seventh-day Adventist university in the United States to launch an institutional repository. The institutional repository, called Knowledge Exchange, is an online web site used to collect and showcase the intellectual work of students and professors on campus. This will allow anyone with internet access to have access to the information in Knowledge Exchange. Each department on campus will have a section they can populate with whatever they believe is valuable. This can include faculty’s published works, student research papers, theses, and any other sort of scholarly output.

Continued on page 3

Daniel Maxwell, Deyse Bravo, and Rob Coombs discuss the newly launched demo version of Southern’s institutional repository, Knowledge Exchange.
Psychology Professor Presents Research at Neuroscience Conference

Ruth WilliamsMorris, professor of psychology, presented research at the 42nd annual Society for Neuroscience research convention October 13-17 in New Orleans, Louisiana. More than 28,500 individuals attended the meeting, making it the world’s largest arena for neuroscientists to present their research and discuss ideas with colleagues.

WilliamsMorris presented a poster during the conference which was co-authored by student researchers Edely Yepez-Sanchez, Stefanie Kulik, and Michael Milmine. The research (titled Teaching Neuroscience Core Concepts in an Introductory Psychology Course: Does it Make a Difference?), is a result of three years worth of work which has focused on the implementation of eight core neuroscience concepts into class curriculum.

A total of 91 students enrolled in three different general psychology courses were surveyed on their knowledge about the brain and nervous system. Each class was exposed at different levels to the eight neuroscience core concepts (http://www.sfn.org).

In the past WilliamsMorris has conducted research on the spiritual practice of prayer and how it relates to the health and emotional wellness of college students. She plans to further her research by investigating bullying and resilience in college students.

To learn more, contact the School of Education and Psychology at 423.236.2765 or email wmsmorris@southern.edu.

From the dean’s desk

The School of Education and Psychology is more than just a school made up of four departments: education, psychology, counseling, and outdoor education and leadership. Students find extremely caring professors who go above and beyond the call to duty to serve their needs. Our school is a safe place for students to unwind, relax, seek guidance and direction, and pray with their professors.

Since moving into our temporary quarters of Herin Hall, the number of students “chillin”, in our lobby and first floor area has dramatically increased this year over last year as students become more comfortable with their temporary digs. We are planning lots of places for students to gather in our renovated Summerour, scheduled to open May 2014. Our School is their home away from home when they are not in their residence hall or apartment.

In this edition of Unraveled, you will read about students who have come through our halls and are reflecting on their time here. You will undoubtedly see a common theme of connectedness, wonderful memories, and long-lasting friendships. We love our students. Their stories are heart-warming and sincere, and we can even hear a bit of longing for the good ol’ days of college life.

We welcome Steven French to our School of Education and Psychology family. He filled the vacancy left by Colleen Mitchell. It didn’t take long for French to gain the respect and trust of his students and for his schedule to rapidly fill with student advising and counseling. You can read more about French in this edition of Unraveled.

UNRAVELED
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Making History

Continued from page 1

The School of Education and Psychology is particularly excited about the establishment of an institutional repository on campus as it will also include the *Journal of Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Research (JIUR)*.

The JIUR was established in 2009, after Rob Coombs, professor of psychology and editor-in-chief of the JIUR, attended a workshop hosted by Psi Chi (the International Honor Society of Psychology) that provided the information necessary for producing a journal at the university level. He brought the idea to the School of Education and Psychology and was met with enthusiasm.

After several years of careful planning the dream became a reality. Southern became the first Adventist university in the United States to produce a scholarly research journal. The purpose of the JIUR is to offer undergraduate students the chance to expose their research to a larger audience. The School of Education and Psychology hopes that by publishing scholarly work from a variety of disciplines, a diverse dialogue of Southern’s intellect will be showcased. The focus is continually on demonstrating academic excellence.

Now in its fifth year of publication the JIUR can offer students who submit their work for consideration the chance to be published globally. Although the JIUR is currently being shared with a number of Adventist universities and local colleges Knowledge Exchange will allow the JIUR to gain a world audience and this will result in greater exposure of the research being produced by undergraduate students at Southern.

For more information about the JIUR or to subscribe to the journal, call 423.236.2765 or email jiur@southern.edu.

Fact: Southern is the first Adventist university in the United States to establish an institutional repository, and falls within the first 200 universities in the world.

Colleen Mitchell Leaves to Become Full-time Mother

Colleen Mitchell, Ph.D., worked as an associate professor for the School of Education and Psychology for the past four years, but recently left to be a full-time mother to her three children. Prior to teaching at Southern, Mitchell worked as a practitioner in several clinical settings including outpatient and residential mental health facilities.

Mitchell received a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Oakwood University before continuing her education at Loma Linda University where she earned a master’s degree in psychology and a doctorate in clinical psychology.

After joining the teaching staff at Southern as an associate professor, Mitchell also took the responsibility of coordinating the counseling center in the School of Education and Psychology where she supervised students while they completed their practicum and internship hours.

Last fall, Mitchell and her husband were surprised to find out she was pregnant with their third child. This solidified her decision to leave her teaching position at Southern and dedicate her time to their children.

Mitchell’s desire is to be present for her children, in order to nurture and guide their development while they are young. Mitchell says, “Teaching will still be there when my children don’t need as much hands-on nurturing and support.” She continues to develop professionally by doing clinical work on a part-time basis, providing psychotherapy and behavior management services at Life Care Center of Collegedale a few hours each week.

The newest addition to their family, Andrew Michael, was born healthy on June 6. Their other children, Malcolm and Nyla, are 2 and 6, respectively.

The School of Education and Psychology greatly appreciates the leadership and talent Mitchell brought to the department and wishes her well in all future endeavors.
School of Education and Psychology

2012 December Graduates

Photos courtesy of Southern’s website and Facebook

Name: Angel Acevedo
Major: M.S. Ed-
Outdoor Ed
Hometown: Battle Creek, MI
Future Plans: Keep teaching and follow God’s plan for my life.

Name: Michelle Adams
Major: M.S. Ed-
Literacy Ed
Hometown: Ooltewah, TN
Future Plans: Stay home with her children for a while.

Name: Sophia Campbell
Major: M.S. Ed-
Literacy Ed
Hometown: Newnan, GA
Future Plans: I want to be used by God!

Name: Rebekah Harris
Major: Liberal Arts-Ed

Name: Julie Center
Major: M.S. Ed-
Inclusive Ed

Name: Philip Dade
Major: Psychology- I/O
Hometown: Apopka, FL
Future Plans: Officer in the Air Force then become an FBI Agent.

Name: Olivia Hilchey
Major: M.S., Clinical Mental Health Counseling
Hometown: Kingsley Lake, FL
Future Plans: Pursue a doctorate in clinical psychology.

Name: Shanel Jenkins
Major: M.S. Ed,
Instructional Leadership
Hometown: Indianapolis, IN
Future Plans: Work as a principal, then as a superintendent.

Name: Kate Jeong
Major: Psychology, education minor
Hometown: Gwang-Cheon, South Korea
Future Plans: Become a school psychologist and help students who have disabilities.
Congratulations
2012 Graduates!

“Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined.”
— Henry David Thoreau

Name: Jane Mashburn
Major: Art Education
Hometown: Bellbrook, OH
Future Plans: Pursue an MFA or art teaching position.

Name: Alana Retseck
Major: M.S. Ed-
Outdoor Ed
Hometown: Soddy
Daisy, TN
Future Plans: To serve God and give back all that I can to help His people grow.

Name: Sarah Sinz
Major: Liberal Arts-Ed
Hometown: Lodi, CA
Future Plans: To go and teach wherever God may lead. To follow Matt. 28:19: “Go and teach all nations...”

Name: Romaine Smith
Major: Liberal Arts-Ed
Hometown: Flint, MI
Future Plans: Teach in Korea starting in January.

Name: Jane Mashburn
Major: Art Education
Hometown: Bellbrook, OH
Future Plans: Pursue an MFA or art teaching position.

Name: Alana Retseck
Major: M.S. Ed-
Outdoor Ed
Hometown: Soddy
Daisy, TN
Future Plans: To serve God and give back all that I can to help His people grow.

Name: Sarah Sinz
Major: Liberal Arts-Ed
Hometown: Lodi, CA
Future Plans: To go and teach wherever God may lead. To follow Matt. 28:19: “Go and teach all nations...”

Name: Romaine Smith
Major: Liberal Arts-Ed
Hometown: Flint, MI
Future Plans: Teach in Korea starting in January.

Name: Charlotte Tokle
Major: Liberal Arts-Ed
Hometown: Crab Orchard, KY
Future Plans: Pursue a Spanish endorsement and a master’s in school counseling.

Name: Jessica
Villanueva
Major: Liberal Arts-Ed
Hometown: Sebring, FL
Future Plans: Move back to Florida!

Name: Casey Walter
Major: M.S. Ed-
Outdoor Ed
Hometown: Turku, Finland
Future Plans: Learn Finnish and get a job.

Name: Rachel Warren
Major: M.S. Ed-
Inclusive Ed
Hometown: Grass Valley, CA
Future Plans: Teach at Echo Ridge Adventist School in Nevada City, CA.
Psychology professor empowers students to see themselves as competent professionals

Steven French, associate professor of psychology, possesses a sense of humor that quickly makes others feel at ease. Full of energy and armed with a fresh perspective on psychology, French has been described by his students as “charismatic.”

Gabriel Trujillo, clinical mental health counseling graduate student, is excited about the new addition to the department.

“Dr. French is a personable, down-to-earth professor who encourages his students to see themselves as competent professionals,” he said.

French grew up in Ohio where he had the privilege of receiving an Adventist education from first grade through high school. He attended three different universities before graduating from Southern in 1987 and receiving a bachelor’s degree in behavioral science, with an emphasis in parenting.

French did not always see himself in the field of psychology. Initially, he was interested in becoming a boys’ dean as a result of the impact his own academy dean had on his life. However, as he continued coursework at Southern it was the psychology and social work courses he enjoyed most. After working at Greenleaf Health System, an inpatient substance abuse treatment facility in Georgia, French decided to pursue a graduate degree in the field of counseling.

It was also at Southern where French met Lyndie, his wife of twenty-two years. They met while he was hyperventilating in physiology lab— an exercise he volunteered to do— and her face was the first one he saw after waking up after passing out. They were married five years later, after French had completed a master’s degree in counseling psychology from Ball State University.

French has practiced counseling for over twenty years, during which he gained experience as a substance abuse counselor, a guidance counselor, and as a private practitioner. His most recent accomplishment includes earning a doctorate of psychology in clinical psychology from Marshall University in 2011.

Since graduating, French has been a part of an integrated office practice with pediatricians in Hendersonville, North Carolina, as well as with the Park Ridge Health System. French is passionate about child, adolescent, and family therapy. These areas allow him to help young people experience fulfillment from good decision making. Watching clients grow emotionally fuels the energy and hope that compel French to continue in the counseling profession.

This semester he is commuting from North Carolina, where he is finishing up the hours needed for his license, before moving to Tennessee. French is excited about the opportunity to work with like-minded professionals and to educate students within the framework of Christian education.

He says, “I do not have to tell you how unusual it is for a current student in today’s world to be able to pray or talk about faith in class.”

His responsibilities this semester include teaching Practicum I, II, and Principles of Counseling to students in both the school counseling and mental health counseling master’s programs. He is also supervising the counseling center and overseeing interns working within the community.

French’s teaching philosophy is based on the belief that practicing therapy is a high calling and a humbling honor. He wants to get students excited about assisting others.

He says, “I believe it is not my role to lecture, but to light a fire within each student.”
What they miss most about being a part of the School of Education and Psychology

“What I miss most is hearing Dr. Burks’ stories, having class with Dr. WilliamsMorris, and studying with other students in the Psych Resource Room.”
- Matthew Marlin, Psychology, 2009

“The thing I miss most about Southern is being able to tap into relationships and resources directly. For example: professors, other students to brainstorm with, the wide and diverse variety of schools to observe, and most of all, the relationships that grow strong through every interaction.”
- Alex Bolanos, P.E. with teaching certificate, 2009

“I miss the camaraderie and companionship of the classes. Every education class felt like I was a part of a team, not a competition. Every student had the other’s best interests in mind.”
- D’Mariea Banks, Liberal Arts Education, 2005

“What I miss most about being a part of the School of Education and Psychology is having students and professors with common spiritual beliefs and goals. I especially miss this now that I am attending a public university for graduate school.”
- Michelle (Edwards) Netzel, I/O Psychology, 2011

“I miss the people most. I had wonderful teachers and a fantastic group of colleagues! I also miss the not-so-frantic nature of undergraduate studies.”
- Katrina Stewart, Psychobiology, 2010

“Honestly, it is the people that make the department special. I miss my English and education colleagues. I had great professors (Dunzweiler, Taylor, Colon, Bishop, Olson) that believed in me and helped prepare me for life outside the classroom.”
- Tara Peterson, English and Liberal Arts Education, 2005

“What I find myself missing the most are my loving professors! Thankfully, God has given me a church family, school family, and community that reflect little glimpses of the Southern professors whom I miss so much. I suspect that all of these people are really just reflecting Christ, and I am grateful to be pointed to Him daily by memories of my professors and observing the actions and words of those with which I come in contact.”
- Charity Stone, Liberal Arts Education, 2011

“I miss the classroom discussions in Dr. WilliamsMorris and Professor Karst’s classes. I learned to think outside the box and how to assess each client’s individual needs.”
- Michael Looby, Psychology with Outdoor Leadership minor, 2009

“There are many things that I miss about my psychology program at Southern. I miss seeing my fellow classmates and friends every day. Together we discussed our painstaking progress in our research classes, our late night poster presentation creations, our job searches, our frustration in finding a parking spot, our future dreams, our dates with that charming guy, our wedding planning stress, our sorrows, and our joys. I also miss all of my professors. They had high standards for us and expected us to perform accordingly. It was clear that they were passionate about what they taught. They were there for us, to give us advice on career decisions, encourage us in our studies when the going gets tough, listen to our life stories, and celebrate our achievements.”
- Anna (Romanov) Vyhmeister, I/O Psychology, 2011

“There are many things I miss. Dr. Coombs’ Marriage and Family classes and the discussions they provoked, the compassion and guidance of Dr. Webster, and Dr. Burks’ dry wit. I also miss the camaraderie of my classmates!”
- Rick Swistek, M.S. Counseling, 2004

“What I miss most are professors who care and are personable; professors who invite you to lunch, ask how you are doing, and take time out of their busy schedule to pray with you.”
- Brittany Donohue, Liberal Arts Education

“I miss the caring professors who took the time to help me and prepared me for “real” life. Thank you!”
- Brenda Porter, Psychology with Education minor, 2002 and M.S. School Counseling, 2004

“I miss socializing with my professors and friends. I also miss the great wealth of information that I took for granted! Sure miss those days!”
- Nicole (Welch) Eby, Liberal Arts Education and Psychology, 2005
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