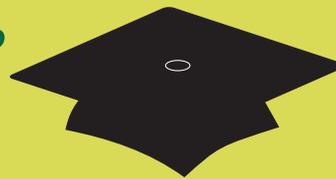


Congratulations, December 2017 Graduates!

Pages 4-5



Meet New Faculty Members

Pages 6-9



Summerour Counseling Center Serves Students and Community



Counseling graduate students Zakeya Sisco and Jacob Guptill practice greeting clients in the Summerour Counseling Center.

The Summerour Counseling Center has been open for over 10 years now and is available to students at Southern Adventist University, as well as any community member who may be interested in counseling services. The School of Education and Psychology offers Master of Science degrees in Counseling. As part of the preparation process, Clinical Mental Health Counseling students are required to provide counseling services to individuals, couples, and families at the Summerour Counseling Center.

The primary purpose of the center is to provide counseling students with the convenient opportunity to see clients with a supervisor nearby. Counseling students need both 100 hours of practicum and 600 hours of internship in order to complete the program. As a result, the center acts as a “laboratory” for students to complete practicum hours with clients and gain the confidence they need before starting internships with agencies in the community.

The faculty supervisors in the center make sure that students feel comfortable and prepared for real-world counseling before entering internship. In addition, all clients are made aware that Summerour Counseling Center is a laboratory, led by student counselors who are currently in their graduate training. Each of our counselors-in-training receive regular, weekly supervision and consultation from faculty members who hold doctoral degrees in counseling or psychology and appropriate licenses to practice. Every session led by a counseling student is

(Continued on page 3)

FROM THE DEAN'S DESK

The School of Education and Psychology offers the following programs: master's degrees in counseling, outdoor education, instructional leadership and literacy, in addition to bachelor's degrees in psychology and teacher education. I am thrilled to announce that our Teacher Education program has received full accreditation (7 years) with our national accrediting body, the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). Our program was among 43 teacher prep programs recognized for national excellence in educator preparation. We are now one of 101 providers in the United States that meets the new, rigorous CAEP national accreditation standards to better prepare tomorrow's teachers.



John McCoy, EdD

CAEP is the sole nationally recognized accrediting body for educator preparation. Our teacher education team worked hard in developing our self-study document that was reviewed by the accreditation council. Our students, professors, and partners should be very proud of the work they are doing. We've set a very high bar for our teacher prep program, and CAEP accreditation validates the hard work we are doing. Our students and their families are investing in an education program that is designated as nationally accredited for teacher preparation.

Students who graduate from our teacher education program receive not only teacher licensure from the state of Tennessee, but also from the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists, allowing them to be employed in either public school or church school. Without exception, our students are employable upon graduation. We give God the glory for this success!

Education & Psychology Student Workers

In Summerour Hall, faculty and staff depend on student workers to assist them with classes, department projects, research and everyday tasks. Taking on various roles, student workers in the Education and Psychology department are valued and appreciated! Here's what professors and students have to say about being part of this professional family:

"We have been blessed to have outstanding student workers in the last few years. They help us by grading papers, adding information to our eClass (our platform to hold class materials and student grades), designing presentations and announcement posters, and meeting many additional needs. It also helps to have a smiling presence in our section of the building. We are grateful for their professionalism and assistance." - Bonnie Eder (Education)

"I am a student assistant for the education department; my favorite part about my job is working with all of the professors in various tasks. Working in the education department is also helping me grow as a teacher myself by learning through my professors' examples. Working here is helping me get a different perspective in teaching, and I will always cherish that."

- Melany Orellana (Education student worker)

"I consider our student workers as being some of the unsung heroes of the psych department. Often behind the scenes, these students provide me with the necessary assistance and support to get my job done. My Research Design and Statistics tutors (Mike, Sarah, and Shanti) are indispensable to the success of managing a varied array of tasks. My graduate assistant, Zakeya, is my "right hand" (actually, my left hand, since I am left-handed)! What doesn't she do? With the help of her assistant, Maddy, the list is too long."

- Ruth Williams (Psychology)

"The best thing about working for the psychology department is being able to connect with the other students and the professors every day. I have been working here since my sophomore year, and the professors and the students have changed, but the department is always connected like a family."

- Hannah Odenthal (Psychology student worker)

In the words of Professor Ruth Williams, "We love, appreciate, and value each of these students who make a significant contribution to the School of Education and Psychology."

UNRAVELED
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Summerour Counseling Center (Continued from page 1)

recorded and reviewed with his or her supervisor. This allows student counselors to practice counseling skills such as body language, eye contact, and technique, while meeting the needs of their clients.

Those who seek services at the clinic are students and community members (mostly from Hamilton, Bradley, Catoosa, and Whitfield counties) in Tennessee and Georgia. However, individuals from other areas are welcome as well. Services are completely free of charge; and diversity of clients is highly respected and acknowledged, including diversity of religion. The number of clients that can be seen each semester is limited; therefore, clients are served on a first-come, first-served basis.

Our vision for the School of Education and Psychology is to be a community of learners dedicated to healing, and we feel strongly that reaching out to the community is an important aspect of fulfilling this goal. If you'd like to know more about the services available in the Summerour Counseling Center, please feel free to contact the clinic at 423.236.2492.

Graduate students Zakeya Sisco and Jeanina Mann (top), with their supervisor and Counseling professor, Liane de Souza (bottom photo).



ALUMNI UPDATE: SPEAK UP!

Education and Psychology Alumni Speak Up about Their Favorite Memories

“My time at Southern was truly memorable, from the friendships I made, to the classes that I took and the lasting impressions from the fantastic professors that I had in the School of Education and Psychology! To this day I still can recount walking down the promenade and feeling that overwhelming comfort that I was in a great place. Occasionally when it’s been a long or frustrating day, I will go back and walk the promenade at Southern just to find that peace of mind. Southern will always have a special place in my heart, and I will never forget the people, the experience, or the person I have become since I have graduated.”

- Rich Clark, Psychology, Class of 2012

“I miss being able to go into classrooms, try out different theories and ideas in a real-life setting, and then go back to our professors to explore why or why not the ideas and theories I tried worked. Having access to multiple resources for the classroom in the Teaching Materials Center was both incredibly helpful and also facilitated my “out-of-the-box” ideas!”

- Gabriella Tenold, Liberal Arts Education, Class of 2014

“One of the things I miss most from my time at Southern is my first placement of student teaching. I was placed in a kindergarten classroom with 18 students. The first day I walked in, I was terrified. They were crazy, but I absolutely adored each one of those cutie pies! They impacted me in a way I cannot describe. Student teaching was one of the hardest times during my time in the department, but it was also filled with unforgettable memories that shaped me into the teacher I am today.”

- Amber Heldzinger, Elementary Education, Class of 2017

Join our Facebook group!

“SAU School of Education & Psychology Alumni”

If you would like to receive future *Unraveled* newsletters electronically, please email us at edpsych@southern.edu and request to be added to the list.

Congratulations, Graduates!



Name: Ana Aguilera
Major: Psychobiology
Hometown: North Hollywood, CA
Future Plans: Get accepted into medical school and become a medical doctor.



Name: Alexandra Alvarez
Major: Spanish Education



Name: Fernando Barrientos
Major: MS Clinical Mental Health Counseling



Name: Raquel Brown
Major: MS School Counseling
Hometown: Beverly Hills, FL
Future Plans: Move to France and find a job in my field



Name: Charisse Carlton
Major: Elementary Education



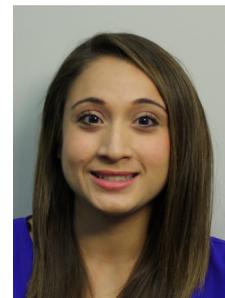
Name: Savannah Clark
Major: MS School Counseling
Hometown: Manhattan, KS
Future Plans: Work as a school counselor



Name: Erica Cosgrove
Major: Psychology
Hometown: Charlottesville, VA
Future Plans: Travel and live a life of ministry



Name: Dustin Evans
Major: Math Education



Name: Stephanie Guerrero
Major: MS School Counseling
Hometown: Houston, TX
Future Plans: Become a professional school counselor and travel in my free time



Name: Rachel Halterman
Major: Elementary Education
Hometown: Collegedale, TN
Future Plans: Teach in an elementary school



Name: Jade Henry
Major: Elementary Education
Hometown: Claremont, St. Ann, Jamaica
Future Plans: Teach 1st or 3rd grade



Name: Shanti Hollis
Major: MS School Counseling
Hometown: Jacksonville, FL
Future Plans: Work as a school counselor



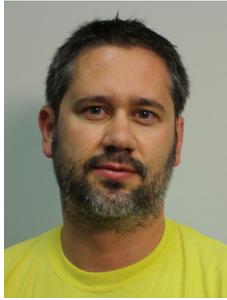
Name: Alicia Shanti James
Major: Psychobiology
Hometown: Stanford, KY
Future Plans: Graduate school for clinical psychology or linguistics; ultimate goal is neuropsychology



Name: Kim Knowles
Major: Elementary Education
Hometown: Asheville, NC
Future Plans: Teach at an Adventist elementary school



Name: Jenee Lee
Major: Psychology
Hometown: Columbus, OH
Future Plans: Graduate school for clinical-community psychology



Name: Matthew Liepke
Major: MS Outdoor Teacher Education
Hometown: Hutchinson, MN
Future Plans: Teach at college level



Name: Caleb McQuistan
Major: History Education
Hometown: Collegedale, TN
Future Plans: Teach high school history



Name: Brittany Nelund
Major: MS Clinical Mental Health Counseling
Hometown: Apopka, FL
Future Plans: Be a community counselor or work with a university



Name: Hannah Odenthal
Major: Psychology
Hometown: Cincinnati, OH
Future Plans: Attend law school or graduate school in forensic or social psychology



Name: Xiomara Pena
Major: MS School Counseling
Hometown: Miami, FL
Future Plans: Be a middle school counselor



Name: Elizabeth Pujols
Major: Mathematics Education



Name: Thiffany Lizbel Rambana
Major: MS Clinical Mental Health and School Counseling
Hometown: Orlando, FL
Future Plans: Become an elementary school teacher or work with Aspire Health Partners



Name: Kevin Rojas
Major: Physical/Health Education and Recreation
Hometown: Danbury, CT
Future Plans: Teach high school PE and pursue a Master's degree in educational administration



Name: Melissa Schiffbauer
Major: Elementary Education
Hometown: Apopka, FL
Future Plans: Teach Elementary School



Name: Sara Schoultz
Major: Spanish Education
Hometown: Germantown, WI
Future Plans: Teach high school Bible or Spanish, do missions abroad, and get married



Name: Rachel Smith
Major: English Education
Hometown: Irmo, SC
Future Plans: Teach high school English



Name: Matthias Tenold
Major: Industrial and Organizational Psychology
Hometown: Durango, CO
Future Plans: Be a hospital administrator



Name: Rebeca Torres
Major: Psychobiology
Hometown: Spokane, WA
Future Plans: Take the MCAT and apply for medical school to become a dermatologist



Name: Daniela Monzon Villegas
Major: Music Education-Voice Emphasis
Hometown: Altamonte Springs, FL
Future Plans: Spark the wonder, joy, and love of music wherever He takes me next.



Name: Alexis Vince
Major: Elementary Education
Hometown: St. Cloud, FL
Future Plans: Teach elementary school

Not pictured: Sonya Grice (MS Outdoor Education)

Tami Navalon

Tami with her husband, William, and daughter, Tess, stand in front of the Jet d’Eau of Lac Léman in Geneva, Switzerland.



As she pins pictures of her beautiful family to her office wall, Professor Tami Navalon happily explains how she chose the field of counseling and psychology. Born in Berrien Springs, Michigan, Professor Navalon grew up with Adventist education. During her time at Southern as an art major, she began taking psychology classes as electives. As her interest in the field of psychology grew, she graduated with a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Atlantic Union College and a Master’s degree in community counseling from Andrews University. Soon to come is her PhD in Counseling Psychology once she completes her dissertation.

Navalon developed a passion for teaching after having the opportunity to teach a graduate class at Andrews. When asked what she enjoys most about teaching, Professor Navalon says she loves

seeing confidence grow in both her students and clients.

“When I teach, I become a better counselor. I appreciate helping students find their calling.” She loves the moment when students can connect textbook information with their own experiences. She also appreciates class discussions and creativity in her students. “I love inspiring people to live authentically, because that makes the best counselors.” She believes God needs to be the center of the counseling/psychology field. “God is the ultimate counselor.” With this passion for a God-centered career, she noticed the lack of mental health awareness in the Adventist community. This led to her goal to raise awareness within the church and Adventist education.

Navalon previously worked for a 90-day addiction center before she realized that she needed some balance in the profession.

Joining the faculty of the School of Education and Psychology at Southern Adventist University in 2017, she looks forward to learning from the experienced faculty and staff and is excited about the work ahead.

Professor Navalon enjoys community work, painting, traveling, outdoor sports, reading, and sleeping. She also loves spending time with her husband, William, and their daughter, Tess.

**“God is the
ultimate counselor.”
—Tami Navalon**

Carol Raney

“I’m excited about helping students learn how to become good teachers.”

-Carol Raney



Carol and her husband, Rob, have two children, Robby and Macayla.

What led you to the field of education?

As far back as I can remember, I always wanted to be a teacher. My only question was whether to teach elementary or secondary. I remember taking Intro to Teaching here at Southern and sitting in my professor’s office (in the same building where I now teach!) and trying to make that decision. I chose secondary, but in the end it didn’t matter, because God has opened a variety of doors for me over the years, and I ended up teaching both!

What schools did you attend?

I attended Southern for a couple of years but ended up finishing at Atlantic Union College with a Bachelor of Science in Business Education. I earned my elementary certification later on while I was teaching. I completed my Master of Science in Education in Instructional Leadership (content

emphasis: Religion) in 2016.

What are some highlights of your experiences in the field?

One of my greatest joys has been watching my students grow up. I love seeing them unexpectedly or hearing how they are doing.

It was very exciting several years ago to teach my first second-generation student. Two of my algebra students from Pine Tree Academy in Maine got married, and it was great fun to teach one of their sons as a fifth grader at Spalding.

I remember one year here at Christmas on the Promenade, I saw at least one student from every school I had ever taught in all in the same evening!

What led you to join the faculty at Southern?

God’s perfect timing!

What do you enjoy most about teaching?

Getting to interact with students and share things that are important to me with them.

How do you feel about joining the School of Education and Psychology?

I’m excited about helping students learn how to become good teachers. I’m enjoying the variety and looking forward to what God has planned for the future. I remember walking by one day while Summerour was being renovated and thinking, “I want an office in that building someday,” so it’s especially fun that I have this opportunity now!

What hobbies do you enjoy?

I enjoy spending time with my family, reading, and feeding hungry college students.

Matthew Tolbert



Matt and his wife, Joey, have two children: Lela and Charlie.

While enjoying a bag of his daily trail mix, Matthew W. Tolbert sits down to tell his story. Professor Tolbert joined the faculty of the School of Education and Psychology at Southern Adventist University in 2017. He previously worked for Cleveland State Community College in Cleveland, Tennessee for 10 years as an associate professor of psychology and department chair for Social Sciences. After receiving his master's degree in counseling from Southern in 2005, Matt worked as a family therapist as well as a therapist and behavior specialist with the public school system.

Professor Tolbert grew up in the Seventh-day Adventist church. His father is a retired pastor, and he attended Adventist schools until beginning his PhD at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. Born in Chattanooga and raised between Washington and Florida, he started his academic career in religion.

He initially worked as an assistant chaplain for a year, and full chaplain for another year before switching to counseling. When someone asked him to teach, he agreed and suddenly found his calling. "I didn't leave ministry; I just changed to a different kind of service ministry." Professor Tolbert is also involved in volunteer work as President of the Board for Karis Dental Clinic in Cleveland, Tennessee, and an active board member for his local United Way.

When asked what he enjoys most about teaching, Tolbert said that he loves the moments of epiphany when a student finally understands a concept. "I want a lot of those moments. The moment where life makes a little bit more sense." "Learning is like breathing; without it there is no life." Demonstrated by his friendly and sociable personality, he is passionate about establishing relationships and getting to know

people individually. Students who have a desire to learn and grow, who are willing to work hard and be inspired, who are searching for their purpose in life; these are the students Tolbert hopes to serve. He looks forward to the opportunity and is excited about joining the School of Education and Psychology.

In his spare time, Professor Tolbert enjoys hiking, sports, playing guitar and writing music for his two children, Lela and Charlie.

**“Learning is like breathing; without it there is no life.”
—Matthew Tolbert**

Sylvester Carrington



**“I have learned to not give up on any student.”
—Sylvester Carrington**

Sylvester and his wife, Hortense, are the parents of three adult sons.

What led you to the field of education?

In high school I was always impressed by my teachers and how much they knew, especially my biology teacher, Mr. Holder. He influenced me to become a Biology teacher. When I started teaching right out of high school, I had the most wonderful headmaster, Mr. Vaughn, who was an inspiring and terrific leader. His inspiration and encouragement were responsible for me continuing in education and for being a principal for many years.

What schools did you attend?

I attended teacher's college in Barbados before I went to West Indies College (Northern Caribbean University) to complete my BA in Secondary Education with a major in Biology. I have an MA degree in Education Administration from Andrews University, an EdS in Curriculum and Instruction from Michigan State University, and

my doctorate is from Loma Linda University.

Where else have you worked?

I started teaching elementary school in Barbados. Later I taught biology in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands. Since moving to this area in 1987, I was the principal of Avondale SDA Elementary School; assistant principal in Hamilton County Schools, and principal in Dalton Public Schools.

What are some highlights of your experiences in the field?

I have learned not to give up on any student. There are so many instances where students have rebounded and turned things around in a very huge way. Many of them have gone on to do exceedingly well academically, and are holding positions of leadership in the church and in the public arena.

What led you to join the faculty at Southern?

I retired from public education in June and was looking for part-time work in Education. I happened to be in the right place at the right time when someone mentioned that this position had become available. I applied, and here I am!

How do you feel about joining the School of Education and Psychology?

I am excited to be here. I was never a student at Southern, but have always been impressed with what I saw on campus. I did teach a graduate class here a while back and was always interested in returning.

What hobbies do you enjoy?

I love being in the outdoors, gardening, walking, and working out. I also enjoy reading and writing. I have authored two books and am looking seriously at writing another!



**School of
Education and Psychology**

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