

S O U T H E R N
A D V E N T I S T
U N I V E R S I T Y

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY NURTURES CHRISTLIKENESS,
TRADITIONAL SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST VALUES, ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE,
AND A LIFELONG PURSUIT OF TRUTH, WHOLENESS, AND SERVICE.

S U M M E R C O M M E N C E M E N T

J U L Y 2 7 , 2 0 1 7

I L E S P H Y S I C A L E D U C A T I O N C E N T E R

C O L L E G E D A L E , T E N N E S S E E



SOUTHERN
ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

SERVING THE WORLD SINCE 1892

P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E
T O G R A D U A T E S

Dear Graduates,

Congratulations on reaching graduation and successfully preparing for your career! For much of our 125 years, Southern Adventist University has been dedicated to a holistic approach to education including mind, body, and soul. I pray that as you leave Southern and take your next steps, what you have experienced here will help you be the person God has called you to be in the setting in which He places you.

As you go, let me offer one last lesson. I have observed that smart people, even really smart people, do not seem so smart when they let their emotions—especially anger—get the best of them. Anger is the enemy of reason. Angry people do not think clearly. They often say and do things that they regret. Rarely, if ever, does anything good come from unbridled anger.

Thus, I recommend this text: “My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry,” (James 1:19, NIV). For the past few years, I have tried to let this text guide my life. Being angry has never served me well and has often caused others pain. It even kept me from fully living the life God called me to live.

As you graduate from Southern Adventist University, vow that you will not let anger destroy your relationships. Resolve that you will not let it cause you to say and do things that dishonor God. Instead, be quick to listen, to respond to the needs of others. Be slow to speak, to be enamored with your own opinion, and especially to become angry. I challenge you to let James 1:19 guide your life. Live anger-free, applying what you have learned at Southern as you go on to serve others and change the world around you

Yours in Christ,

David Smith
President

Please silence cell phones during the service.

M I S S I O N S T A T E M E N T

Southern Adventist University nurtures Christlikeness, traditional Seventh-day Adventist values, academic excellence, and a lifelong pursuit of truth, wholeness, and service.

V I S I O N

Southern Adventist University will lead in providing a learning foundation built upon biblical principles, model academic and professional excellence, conscientiously steward university resources, and cost-effectively graduate successful servant leaders guided by faith, integrity, and balance.

T H E M A C E

The mace is a traditional symbol used to communicate and designate authority. The Southern Adventist University mace was crafted in 1986 by John Durichek, a Southern alum and retired professor. Southern's mace represents its heritage and *raison d'être*. The base is of pine from Jones Hall, built in 1917 and razed in 1985. The main staff is of walnut. The seven rings represent completeness. The four-sided ebony segment is seen as Southern's underlying educational philosophy—balanced mental, spiritual, physical, and social development for each student. The brass flames represent the Holy Spirit. Bearing the mace is the grand marshal, Chris Hansen, chair of the University Senate as well as chair and professor in the Physics and Engineering Department. His regalia is green trimmed in white, the university colors.

P H O T O G R A P H S

Please do not crowd or block the aisle for graduates in an attempt to photograph them. To provide all students with a photograph of their graduation, we have arranged for a professional photographer to record each graduate receiving his or her diploma. A 5x7 photo will be sent to the graduate's permanent address as a gift from Southern. The photographer will provide an opportunity for graduates to purchase extra photos. There is no obligation to purchase.

R E C O R D I N G S

To order DVDs of the service, visit saucampusshop.com or call 423.236.2152. These will be available a few weeks after commencement.

C O M M E N C E M E N T
Thursday, July 27, 2017, 7 p.m.

Prelude	
Processional.....	<i>Pomp and Circumstance</i>Sir Edward Elgar
Invocation	Christina Stone MSEd Literacy Education
Welcome	Amanda Ruf BA English; History
Introduction of Speaker.....	David Smith president
Address	“Success” Dave Ferguson senior pastor at Collegedale Church of Seventh-day Adventists
Presentation of Degree Candidates	Robert Young senior vice president for Academic Administration Volker Henning associate vice president for Academic Administration Carleton Swafford graduate dean
Conferring of Degrees	David Smith, president Jim Davidson, Board of Trustees representative, Southern Union executive secretary Joni Zier, director of Records and Advisement
Alumni Association Welcome	Jay Dedeker Alumni Association president, class of 1988
Benediction.....	Kaley Hinson MSEd Literacy Education
*Recessional	<i>Rigaudon</i> André Campra
Presentation of the Graduating Class	David Smith president

Community Brass Ensemble director: Ken Parsons, School of Music associate professor
Grand Marshal: Chris Hansen, University Senate chair; Physics and Engineering Department chair and professor
Senior Class Sponsors: Rick Norskov, Biology Department professor
Laura Racovita-Szilagyi, School of Social Work associate professor

* The audience must remain seated until the conclusion of the recessional, as the graduates will be dividing at the back and lining the side aisles of the gymnasium for congratulatory applause.

S O U T H E R N S C H O L A R S



In addition to maintaining a minimum 3.50 GPA and meeting normal degree requirements, *Southern Scholars* complete a special honors curriculum involving interdisciplinary studies, honors courses, and independent study. This semester, one graduate earned that distinction. The title of her senior research project is listed below:

Amanda Ruf

“Confederate Theater in Richmond”

B A C C A L A U R E A T E D E G R E E G R A D U A T E S

Oliver Stuart Bragg	BA Global Policy and Service Studies
Alex Michelle Card	BS Nursing
*Rebecca Elyse Carnes, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BA English
Debora Ann Dawson	BS Nursing
DeMeisha RaShaun Edwards	BS Nursing
Rudy Alberto Franco	BA International Studies [Spanish]
Justin Hyun-Kyu Im, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Matthew Hyun Im, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Stephen Anthony Jenks	BS Computer Science
Whitney Krystal Jordan	BA Journalism [Broadcasting]
Jeffrey Milton King, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Medical Science
Ching Amber Kuo	BS Graphic Design
Marselinny Rebecca Mawuntu.....	BS Biology [Research]
Matthew Wilson Paulas	BA Theology [Seminary]
Elizabeth T. Perry, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Nursing
Amanda Jo Ruf, <i>Cum Laude, Southern Scholar</i>	BA English; History
Steven Josiah Shaffer	BS Long-Term Care Administration
Dirramong Yosinoa Tmetuchl.....	BA International Studies [Italian]
Daniela Torres, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Nursing

*Teaching Certificate

A S S O C I A T E D E G R E E G R A D U A T E S

Dorothy Elizabeth Boggess.....	AS Graphic Design
Kayana Stephanie Bromfield	AS Allied Health [Pre-Physical Therapy]
Ryan Davis	AS Nursing
Marcos Vinicius Mendes	AS Vegetarian Culinary Arts

MASTER'S DEGREE GRADUATES

Marina Joann Acosta	MSW Social Work [Trauma/Emergency Management]
Matthew David Barry.....	MSN Family Nurse Practitioner
Zalika Z. Bishop	MBA Accounting
Sierra Blevins	MSW Social Work [Child and Family Advocacy and Treatment]
Adrian Lynnette Boyd.....	MSW Social Work [Trauma and Emergency Management]
Hannah Hae Young Chong.....	MSN Family Nurse Practitioner
Tabitha Copeland	MBA Management
Joseph Randolph Garnica Daniel	MBA Accounting
Dennis Earl Dodd.....	MSN Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
Robert Blair Flowers	MBA Healthcare Administration
Florence Eliza Forde	MBA Healthcare Administration
Anne Marie Gonzalez	MSW Social Work [Child and Family Advocacy and Treatment]
Melissa M. Hand.....	MSW Social Work [Child and Family Advocacy and Treatment]
Edmund Morris Harty.....	MSEd Instructional Leadership
Ryan William Herman.....	MSA Customized
Natalie Navarro Herrera	MSW Social Work [Trauma and Emergency Management]
Kaley Michelle Hinson	MSEd Literacy Education
Jaron Malik Hobdy	MSW Social Work [Trauma and Emergency Management]
Simon Ionashku	MS Global Community Development
Amanda Pauline Kindred	MSW Social Work
Jailyn Irene Joi King.....	MSW Social Work [Mental Health and Practice]
Antonio M. Lazcano	MSN Acute Care/Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner
Phylicia Le'Til McCastle	MSW Social Work [Trauma and Emergency Management]
MacKenzi Nomura.....	MSW Social Work [Trauma and Emergency Management]
Bryce Alan Reading	MSEd Instructional Leadership
Antanet C. Roberts.....	MSW Social Work [Child and Family Advocacy and Treatment]
Benjamin Rueda	MA Religious Studies
Treva A. Sands	MSW Social Work
Adam Edward Schreader	MSN Acute Care Nurse Practitioner-Adult Gerontology
Kristen Elize Schwindt.....	MSW Social Work [Trauma and Emergency Management]
Nicholas R. Sigler	MSEd Instructional Leadership
Shanae Love Stock.....	MSW Social Work [Trauma and Emergency Management]
Christina Evelyn Stone	MSEd Literacy Education
Bob Stover.....	MSW Social Work [Mental Health and Practice]
Joel Gary Walton, Jr.....	MBA Management

The commencement program does not constitute an official list of the summer graduates.

HONOR CORDS

Gold Cord—*Summa Cum Laude*—3.90+ GPA

Silver Cord—*Magna Cum Laude*—3.75-3.89 GPA

Green Cord—*Cum Laude*—3.50-3.74 GPA

S U M M A R Y

Undergraduate Graduates – 23 (one has two majors)
Master's Graduates – 35

BACCALAUREATE DEGREE GRADUATES BY DEPARTMENTS/SCHOOLS

Biology and Medical Technology.....	4	Journalism and Communication.....	1
Business.....	1	Modern Languages.....	2
Computing.....	1	Nursing	5
English	2	Religion.....	1
History and Political Studies	2	Visual Art and Design	1

ASSOCIATE DEGREE GRADUATES BY DEPARTMENTS/SCHOOLS

Biology and Allied Health	1	Physical Education, Health, and Wellness	1
Nursing	1	Visual Art and Design	1

MASTER'S DEGREE GRADUATES BY SCHOOLS

Business.....	7	Nursing	5
Education and Psychology.....	5	Religion.....	1
Global Community Development.....	1	Social Work.....	16

ACADEMIC REGALIA

The color of the velvet trim on the hood represents the area of study. The color of the silk lining represents the university that conferred the degree. The color of the tassel represents the degree of the undergraduate.

Arts, Letters, Humanities	White	Outdoor Leadership.....	Russet
Business.....	Drab	Physical Education	Sage Green
Communication	Crimson	Public Admin./Foreign Service	Peacock
Education.....	Light Blue	Science.....	Golden Yellow
Fine Arts	Brown	Social Work.....	Citron
Music.....	Pink	Software Engineering.....	Orange
Nursing	Apricot	Theology.....	Scarlet

ALUMNI HOMECOMING WEEKEND



November 2-5, 2017

Featured Honor Classes: 1937, 1947, 1957, 1967, 1972, 1977, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2007

Theme: Celebrating 125th Anniversary of Southern's 1892 founding in Graysville

Highlights: Worship services speaker - Dr. James Appel, '96
Centennial (1992) time-capsule opening/recognition of flagpole's original site
Golden Anniversary Class of 1967 reunion
Reunion for former student and alumni missionaries
International food fair
Missions Emphasis Vespers - international flags and costumes pageant
Missions Expo - opportunities to mentor students considering mission service
Southern Serves - project to help relieve local and global hunger

More information for these and other scheduled activities is available online at southern.edu/alumni.