

FACTOR*Connecting with each other***BIETZ BYLINE**

A Southern Adventist University Board of Trustees meeting was held in the new Hulsey Wellness Center on February 15. The board members were very appreciative of the beautiful center but disappointed in the fact that it was more than \$1 million over budget.

Marty Hamilton gave a good explanation as to some of the causes of that overage. Most of the expenses were in the complexities of connecting the new building to the existing building.

In light of the square-foot cost of the wellness center, the budget for Florida Hospital Hall was raised to \$8 million. Tom Verrill gave a detailed explanation as to how the university plans to provide funding for the two construction projects that included a combination of loans, fundraising, and capital budget allocations.

Despite these costs, the January 2009 statement was reviewed and the university is doing very well to date. If we continue the rest of the year without any abnormal expenses, we will finish this fiscal year in good financial condition.

The board reviewed the total compensation of administration, deans, and chairs and expressed appreciation for the faculty and administration for accepting sacrificial wages to accomplish the mission of Southern.

Board members voted to authorize Southern to develop and implement a master's program in social work to begin in the fall of 2010. Another faculty member is budgeted for the social work department for this master's degree.

In addition, Ruth Liu, the chair of the Keys to Excellence Campaign gave an update on fund raising. Nearly half of the funds have been raised and various events are being planned in Chattanooga to raise the rest of the funds in time for Alumni Weekend this fall.

~ Gordon Bietz

BECOMING AN ALL-STEINWAY SCHOOL

Professors, students, and alumni shared excitement and refreshments as they mingled in the lobby of Ackerman Auditorium in late January.

The reason these music enthusiasts were gathered was to celebrate the first shipment of 21 of the 30 new Steinway & Sons pianos. This first step toward becoming an All-Steinway School will make Southern the only Adventist school, as well as the only school in the Chattanooga area, with this designation.

After an inventory of the pianos in Mabel Wood Hall, Peter Cooper; Scott Ball; and Ted Summitt, a retired local Steinway dealer Southern alum, saw that the pianos were beyond repair. This typical situation, common among the vast majority of college-level music programs, provided an opportunity to replace the pianos with high-quality instruments.

This would also give Southern Adventist University the prestigious title of an All-Steinway School, one of three in Tennessee and the 100th in the world.

"When I heard the idea I was thrilled," says Joy McKee. "This would set us apart amongst other similar education facilities."

Each Steinway piano requires up to one year to be handcrafted, resulting in an instrument of rare quality.

"I am humbled by the excitement this project is generating," says Cooper. "I truly believe that this is a great moment for the School of Music and for all of us at Southern."

In addition to the new pianos that will be placed in teaching studios and some practice rooms, a nine-foot grand piano will go in Ackerman Auditorium. It will be used for everything from student degree recitals to guest artist recitals.

Funds for this endeavor are being raised through Southern's Keys to Excellence Campaign.

ART PROFESSOR DISPLAYS TALENT

Brian Dunne inspired students, faculty, and community members alike with his testimony, music, and artwork at the opening of his gallery show January 19.

The evening performance began in Ackerman Auditorium where Dunne shared how he realized the contrast between Christ, the ultimate artist, and Satan, the counterfeit.

"I wanted to bring out that God is the original artist. He's made us artists, but we're not original artists," Dunne says. "During my conversion with Christ, I began to notice that two huge philosophies sit at the base of art and all expressive media and that many seem naïve as to the origin of these philosophies."

During the program, Dunne illustrated the contrast between Christ and Satan through the medium of clay. Two others from the School of Visual Art and Design joined Dunne: Clint Ratliff and Loren Howard.

"One of the things that I wanted to show is that even with all our faculties and intelligence, spiritually speaking we are like the helpless lump of clay," Dunne says.

The message Dunne shared and the artwork on display impacted many who attended the event.

"I am so pleased the whole thing was so well put together," says Byron Reynolds, Collegedale resident. "It depicted well our walk with Christ and the struggles that artists have. It's so neat to be able to tie art together with spirituality."

Julie Lechler, senior psychology and nursing major agrees, "There's a lot more of a spiritual connection than I realized there would be between his art and God. It had a really a huge impact."

LIBRARY EVENTS

McKee Library will be holding two events in March that will be of interest to those who enjoy the art of the well-crafted spoken word.

On March 17, the library will celebrate the 250th birthday of Scottish poet Robert Burns.

Some of Burns music will be sung by Julie Penner, and selected readings of his work will be presented by Lynn Sauls, Jan Haluska and Scott Douglass. Douglass will also play the bagpipe.

On March 31, regional storytelling champion Bruce Hopson will share some tall tales. Hopson is a well-known storyteller, who has shared his in-demand talent all over the Southeast.

Both events will take place in the library's Knowledge Commons at 7 p.m.

SOUTHERN SCHOLARS TO PRESENT AT REGIONALS

Four senior Southern Scholars will be presenting their senior honors projects at the 37th annual conference of the Southern Regional Honors Council to be held in St. Petersburg, Florida, March 26-28.

Matthew Hermann, Michael Hermann, Dequina Nicholas, and Brienna Thompson will be the university's first Southern Scholars to present at a regional honors conference.

BIETZ SERMON SERIES AVAILABLE ON DVD

Gordon Bietz's sermons recorded on campus this fall, "Developing a User-Friendly Church," are now available for purchase on DVD.

The sermons that are included in this series are as follows:

"What Do You See?" (judging)

"Getting Over It" (forgiveness)

"Whose Fault?" (empathy)

"That They May Be One" (unity)

"Don't Make It Difficult" (grace)

COMING EVENTS

Daylight saving time begins

Sunday, March 8, set clocks forward one hour

Adventist Robotics League Southern Challenge

Sunday, March 15, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Burns 250th birthday celebration at McKee Library

Tuesday, March 17, 7 p.m.

Asian Night

Saturday, March 21, 9-10 p.m.

Employee Brown Bag

Wednesday, March 25, 12 p.m.-1 p.m.

Faculty summer textbook adoptions due

Friday, March 27

Spring Break

Friday, February 27-Sunday, March 8

SOUTHERN IN THE MEDIA

Here is a sampling of recent media coverage that mentions a Southern event or person:

Thoughts on origins continue to evolve 200 years after Darwin

Adventist News Network, Feb. 11

Chattanooga: Visions of change

Chattanooga Times Free Press, Jan. 20

VOICE AND PEN

René Drumm presented seminars on family dynamics in February at an Inter-American Division Family Life meeting in the Dominican Republic.

Linda Potter Crumley, René Drumm, Tricia Foster, Ardelle Bland, and **Laurie Cooper** presented research findings on faith-based adolescent residential treatment in January at the Adventist Association of Family Life Professionals Research Forum in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. This presentation is part of a series of papers from research by an interdisciplinary research team at Southern.

John Wesley Taylor made a series of presentations, "Leadership in difficult times," at the E. A. Sutherland Educational Association Conference, February 13-14.

Stephen Bauer is preaching a three-sermon series at the McDonald Road Church on February 28, March 7, and March 14 with the following titles: "The Lie": Confronting the Ultimate Deception, "The Lie" and the Mark of the Beast, and "The Lie" and the Third Angel's Message.

Sharon Robberson is the new executive director of the Adventist Event Planners Association (AEPA). This organization is on the web at www.adventisteventplanners.org and recognized by the North American Division. AEPA is an organization focused on excellence in events planned for the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Support for planners is available through networking, shared results of experience, professional growth encouragement, and resources on their secure website.

Michael Cafferky took an eight-day trip to the Russian Federation, where he provided 30 hours of classroom instruction for a course on advanced leadership. The trip to the Russian Federation took him to the village of Zaokskiy located 80 kilometers south of Moscow. The 23 students enrolled in the course came from all over the Russian Federation as well as neighboring countries such as the Ukraine, Moldova, and Armenia.

Keith Snyder, Tony Trimm, and **Renita Klischies** attended the Loma Linda Pre-professional Advisor's Workshop, January 23-25. Workshops are held in medicine, dentistry, and allied health for advisors of students with these career goals. They were also able to meet with 40 of the department's alumni.

Joe Mocnik attended the 2009 American Library Association (ALA) Midwinter Meeting in Denver, Colorado, January 23-28. Joe was elected to serve a two-year term (2008-2010) on the International Relations Committee (IRC) Europe Subcommittee. IRC Europe Subcommittee promotes relations with libraries and librarians in the countries of Europe.

Myrna Colon published a book in Spanish on cooperative learning.

PERSONAL NEWS

Brenda Seifert got engaged over the Christmas holiday to Cody Gillund. The wedding will be June 21.

HATS OFF!

I want to say a big thank you to Joni, Sandy, Barb, Barbara, Don, and Ginger for making February 4 a great day instead of a very difficult time. (That was the day a year ago that I lost Dennis to cancer.) "Sharon's Mystery Day" was super, and I'll always remember the thoughtfulness and love they gave to me all day long! Thank you office family; I am so blessed! —Sharon Rogers

On January 17, I slipped on ice and fell while walking through the Brainerd tunnel, requiring an ambulance trip to the Erlanger ER. Knowing that my dog would not be allowed in the ambulance, I desperately called Ben and Callie McArthur.

They dropped everything on a Saturday evening, took care of my dog, kept me company in the ER for hours, delivered me home, and went out to get pain medication for me in the middle of the night. They did not return home until 2 a.m.

Subsequently, Rachel Byrd and her husband have generously loaned me their automatic-transmission equipped van, allowing me to live a normal life as a professor and parent. I am very grateful for their selfless generosity. —Mark Peach

Thanks goes out to Judie Port for making the annual field fair for the Social Work and Family Studies Department a success. Approximately 12 agencies were available for junior social work majors to interview as they prepare to for 40 hours of experiential learning this semester then move into the senior year, completing 400 hours of field work in a local agency. More than 20 agencies have agreed to have our students as interns this fall. —Terrie E. Long

BIRTHDAYS

- March 1 Dee Dee Boyce, *Landscape Services*
March 2 Ileana Rivero, *Village Market*
Denise Childs, *Journalism and Communication*
Dennis Schreiner, *Service Department*
March 3 Brian Wilson, *Village Market*
March 4 Richard Long, *Service Department*
March 6 Nathan Erickson, *Plant Services*
March 7 Tim Meliti, *Landscape Services*
Kathy Pires, *Enrollment Services*
March 8 Jason Mitchell, *Accounting Services*
March 11 Randi Buhl, *Information Systems*
Joy McKee, *Advancement*
March 14 Bruce Schilling, *Chemistry*
Dennis Smith, *Village Market*
March 15 René Drumm, *Social Work and Family Studies*
March 16 Dave Allemand, *Energy Management*
March 17 Nancy Howard, *Village Market*
March 18 Lori Futcher, *Marketing and University Relations*
Cathy Olson, *Education and Psychology*
Richard Schwarz, *P.E., Health and Wellness*
Sheila Smith, *Student Success Center*
March 19 Herdy Moniyung, *Information Systems*
Neville Webster, *Business and Management*
March 20 Star Stevens, *Religion*
March 22 Andy Nash, *Journalism and Communication*
March 23 Trenton Schwarzer, *Campus Safety*
Dorothy Turner, *Purchasing Services*
March 25 Merritt MacLafferty, *Information Systems*
March 26 Elisa Adeogun, *Online Campus*
Melodie Lopez, *Graduate Studies*
March 29 Christine Moniyung, *Nursing*
March 30 Frank Di Memmo, *McKee Library*
Patti Anderson, *Mathematics*
Marty Hirschhorn, *Plant Services*
Jane Mote, *Information Systems*
Mark Turk, *Campus Safety*
March 31 Ingrid Skantz, *Marketing and University Relations*

MARKETING AND UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

editor | **EMILY YOUNG**

We welcome your comments and news.
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