

# Southern Factor

October 2010

CONNECTING WITH EACH OTHER

## BIETZ BYLINE

I went to Orlando, Florida, for the meeting of the Adventist Health System (AHS) Sunbelt Healthcare Corporation. This corporate meeting includes the union committees of the unions where AHS operates hospitals and so it is a large meeting. The report from AHS is very impressive. As one of the largest faith-based healthcare systems in the United States (a \$6 billion business), it has received increasingly high bond ratings over the past few years. It is operating very efficiently, and it's in the top quartile of similar systems. A number of community hospitals have asked to join them in recent years. They need Seventh-day Adventist leadership and are looking to Adventist higher education to help provide that leadership.

I spoke to a group of leaders of Florida Hospital on what it means to be an Adventist leader in an organization whose employees and customers have other faith traditions. I appreciate the fact the Florida Hospital and Adventist Health System are very focused on their mission of extending the healing ministry of Christ. They continually work on making that mission more manifest in their ministry and work.

As I travel around and visit with people, I continue to hear many positive comments about the work that everyone at Southern is doing. There is broad and genuine appreciation for the ministry of education that is provided at Southern.

—Gordon Bietz



Power for Mind & Soul

## ENROLLMENT SURPASSES 3,000

Southern's enrollment reached a major milestone this fall with 3,053 students, more than a 5.6 percent increase from fall 2009.

Freshman enrollment, at 630, reached an all-time record number, as did graduate enrollment at 321.

In addition to record enrollment, the university achieved top tier ranking in the U.S. News & World Report's Best Colleges edition for the ninth year in a row.

"Even though we're getting bigger, it's our plan to maintain the feel of a small university," says Vinita Sauder. "The university is intentionally keeping class sizes small and making certain that our students interact personally with professors and staff. This is a big benefit of attending Southern, and we plan to keep it that way."

## SOUTHERN GIVING EXCEEDS \$4.1 MILLION

Private donations to Southern Adventist University totaled \$4,102,873.89\* during the 2009-10 academic year.

This is the second year that the university's donors have given more than \$4 million, despite a national decline in institutional and charitable giving. This past year, the Advancement team noticed an increase in the total number of donors, the number of alumni donors, the number of employee donors, and the total dollar amount.

"Southern influences students to make a difference in the world and in God's kingdom," says Geovanny Ragsdale. "It's all about the students."

"The reason people support Southern is because of the quality of education," adds donor Ken DeFoor. "Southern prepares people to go out into the world holding onto their values."

\*unaudited

## **NURSE PRACTITIONERS HAVE 100 PERCENT PASS RATE**

All of Southern's nurse practitioner programs have a 100 percent pass rate on their certification exams.

"A lot of credit goes to the students," says Barbara James. "They have been taking advantage of resources here and applying themselves."

## **COMING EVENTS**

- Cohutta Springs Triathlon  
*Sunday, October 3, 10:30 a.m. (registration)*
- Student Organizations Advisers Meeting  
*Tuesday, October 5, 12 p.m., Presidential Banquet Room*
- Organ/Symphony Orchestra Concert  
*Sunday, October 10, 7:30 p.m., Collegedale Church*
- Chinese Acrobats  
*Tuesday, October 12, 7:30 p.m., Iles P.E. Center*
- Employee Apple Festival  
*Sunday, October 17, Bietz home*

## **Alumni Homecoming Weekend**

- Alumni Homecoming Weekend Kick-off Banquet  
*Thursday, October 28, 6 p.m., Dining Hall, \$18*
- Sietze de Vries (organist) and I Cantori Concert  
*Thursday, October 28, 8:30 p.m., Collegedale Church*
- Fiber Arts Display/Workshop  
*Friday, October 29, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1:30-5 p.m., Lynn Wood Hall, Room 320*
- Outdoor Adventure Activities  
*Friday, October 29, 2-5 p.m., Student Park*
- Adventist Heritage Seminar  
*Friday, October 29, 3 p.m., Hackman Hall, Room 215*
- Alumni Vespers  
*Friday, October 29, 8 p.m., Collegedale Church*
- Alumni worship services  
*Sabbath, October 30, 8:45 and 10:15 a.m., Collegedale Church*
- Reunion String Quartet Sacred Classical Concert  
*Sabbath, October 30, 4 p.m., Collegedale Church*
- Mark Twain Himself  
*Saturday, October 30, 8 p.m., Iles P.E. Center*
- Kids FallFest in the Park  
*Saturday, October 30, 8-9 p.m., Student Park Pavilion*
- Southern Shuffle  
*Saturday, October 30, 9:30 p.m., Mabel Wood Hall \$10-25*
- Antique/Classic Car Show  
*Sunday, October 31, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Mabel Wood parking lot*
- McKee Library Author Fair  
*Sunday, October 31, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.*

## **SOUTHERN IN THE MEDIA**

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

**"Movie at the Greenway set in Collegedale"**

*Chattanooga Times Free Press, August 28*

**"Computer and Video Game Degree Programs**

**Continue to Grow at Colleges and Universities Across the U.S."**

*PR Newswire, August 16*

**"TICUA Distributes \$94,500 in UPS Scholarships to Tennessee Private Colleges"**

*WDEF News 12, August 23*

## **CHANGING FACES**

Southern welcomes the following employees:

Ana Merconchini to Food Services

Josh Michalski to Business and Management

Jeanette Stepanske to Education and Psychology

Best wishes to the following employee in her new position:

Kelly Sanchez from Marketing and University Relations to Computing

Fond farewells to the following employees:

Brenda Gillund from Student Finance

Jeff O'Ffill from Technology

Wesley Taylor from Education and Psychology

## **VOICE AND PEN**

Jaclynn Huse presented "Humanizing Parkinson's disease through the journey of Michael J. Fox" on September 7 and "Comparison of teaching strategies on teaching drug dosage calculation skills in fundamental nursing students" on September 9 at the NET2010 International Networking Education in Healthcare Conference at the University of Cambridge.

Norman Gulley helped administrators organize a doctorate program in systematic theology at Adventist University of Central America, September 14-17.

All A.S. nursing faculty attended the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) Invitational in Atlanta on September 13.

## VOICE AND PEN, CONT.

**Michael G. Hasel** was the keynote speaker for the Portugal ASI Convention in Oporto, Portugal, September 29-October 2. He also gave a brief report on Southern's Khirbet Qeiyafa excavations at the ASI International convention in Orlando, Florida, on August 4. Hasel joined Ron Clouzet in presenting a "Discovery of a Lifetime" archaeology series in the Washington, D.C., metro area. The series was simultaneously linked by video to eight churches in the area.

This summer, **Ray Hefferlin** consulted with a colleague in St. Petersburg, Russia, on a monograph project and presented papers at conferences in Salamanca, Spain ("Vibration Frequency Forecasts for Transition-Metal Diatomic Molecules using Neural-Networks and Least Squares"); Bogota, Colombia ("A Periodic System of Diatomic Molecules in the Symmetry of the Group Chain which includes  $SO(3) \times SU(2)$ s"); and Pamplona, Colombia ("A Periodic System of Diatomic Molecules based on Group Dynamics and on 'String' Theory").

## PERSONAL NEWS

**Merlin** and **Jan Wittenberg** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 28.

## HATS OFF!

Many thanks to Kari Shultz for the yummy fruit arrangement she sent to the School of Nursing! It was wonderful encouragement from a friend across campus. Also, a huge thank you to nursing faculty and particularly Jillian Wills, Pam Ahlfeld, and Conni Cash for the monumental task of completing the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) self-study report! Many thanks to Quick Print for working with us so well. The NLNAC site visit is October 26-28.

-Barbara James

### Marketing and University Relations

editor | **Jarod Keith**

We welcome your comments and news.  
Please contact us at  
news@southern.edu or call 236.2581.

## BIRTHDAYS

October 1	Carlos Parra, <i>Modern Languages</i> Troy DeWind, <i>Landscape Services</i> Linda Lechler, <i>Nursing</i> Mary Anne Poulson, <i>Religion</i>
October 2	Linda Wilhelm, <i>Business and Mgmt</i>
October 3	Betty Garver, <i>Health Services</i> Patricia Beaman, <i>Library</i>
October 3	Vivian Grabiner, <i>Village Market</i>
October 4	David Huisman, <i>Accounting Services</i>
October 6	Lela Duvall, <i>Village Market</i> Cindy Johnson, <i>Nursing</i>
October 7	Joylynn Michals, <i>President's Office</i> Dennis Steele, <i>Business and Mgmt</i>
October 8	Luke Miller, <i>Information Processing</i> Clint Ratliff, <i>Visual Art and Design</i>
October 9	Faith Anderson, <i>Food Services</i> Bill Rawson, <i>Health Services</i>
October 10	Scot Anderson, <i>Computing</i> Linda Marlowe, <i>Nursing</i> Vinita Sauder, <i>Mrktg and Enrollment Svcs</i>
October 13	Judy Sloan, <i>P.E., Health, and Wellness</i>
October 14	Chris Hansen, <i>Physics and Engineering</i>
October 15	Mindi Rahn, <i>History</i>
October 17	Dwight Magers, <i>Talge Hall</i> Brittany Poarch, <i>Enrollment Services</i> Melissa Swanson, <i>Records and Advisement</i>
October 18	Angelica Batista, <i>Village Market</i> Braum Oberholster, <i>Business and Mgmt</i> David Olson, <i>Human Resources</i> Elaine Plemons, <i>Academic Technology</i> Keely Tary, <i>English</i> Cindi Young, <i>Financial Administration</i>
October 19	Steve Bauer, <i>Religion</i>
October 21	Linda Crumley, <i>Journalism and Comm</i> Josh Korson, <i>Food Services</i>
October 23	Owen Maupin, <i>Plant Services</i> Bonnie Myers, <i>Campus Shop</i> Jennifer Nestell, <i>Social Work</i> Yola Noya, <i>Village Market</i> Carol Plank, <i>Talge Hall/Thatcher Hall</i>
October 24	Jason Merryman, <i>Enrollment Services</i>
October 25	Boyd Buhl, <i>WSMC</i> Clarice Esquilla, <i>Risk Management</i>
October 26	Sheri Munger, <i>Chemistry</i>
October 27	Kevin Brown, <i>Mathematics</i>
October 29	Ron Johnson, <i>Mathematics</i>
October 31	Teri Klinger, <i>Village Market</i>