

Southern Factor

May 2011

CONNECTING WITH EACH OTHER

BIETZ BYLINE

In order to successfully reach our Vision 20/20 goals for enhancing the university, and to become more plan- and data-driven, I am expanding my office to include a vice president for Strategic Initiatives, beginning June 1.

I've called upon **Vinita Sauder** to step into this new role. Vinita has served for 13 years at the Cabinet level, earned her Ph.D. in educational administration and leadership, and is known for her collaborative skills in solving problems.

She will assist me in leading the execution phase of the strategic plan, as well as work on other projects for the President's Office, including a focus on our comprehensive retention plan for the university. Vinita's tasks will cross over into multiple areas on campus, so she will need the cooperation of many in order for us to reach our goals. Vinita will oversee two departments that currently report to me: Institutional Research and Information Systems. She will also continue to oversee Marketing and University Relations. These three departments are crucial to planning, communication, and the information and data gathering that is needed to drive decision-making as we move ahead on executing our strategic plan.

Marc Grundy will be the vice president for Enrollment Services, and will oversee Student Finance, Admissions, Recruitment, and the processes of billing and collections. With years of success behind him in this field, I am confident that under Marc's leadership, our excellent results in meeting enrollment and financial aid goals will continue. I look forward to working more closely with Marc as a member of Cabinet.

These changes are essentially budget neutral. I hope you'll join the Cabinet in welcoming both Vinita and Marc to their new roles.

—Gordon Bietz

SOUTHERN IN THE MEDIA

Here is a sampling of recent media coverage that mentions a Southern event or person. Click on the title to be redirected to the story:

"3 Adventists Killed in Violent Storms"

Adventistreview.org, May 1

"Adventists are victims, helping others in southern U.S. tornadoes wake"

news.adventist.org, April 29

"SAU Students Empty Rooms, Fill Samaritan Center"

News Channel 9, April 26

"SonRise Easter Resurrection Pageant Draws Thousands to Collegedale"

WDEF.com, April 23

"North Canyon Medical Center Hires David Butler as CEO"

Benzinga.com, April 13

"Disc golf turns forgotten parks into busy places"

Chattanooga Times Free Press, April 7

"Alzheimer's Association Offers Help For Caregivers"

Chattanooga.com, April 5

"Kiwanis Clubs Of Chattanooga And Collegedale Recognize Special Day Of Service"

Chattanooga.com, April 1

HATS OFF!

I have enjoyed working with the staff of Thatcher, Thatcher South, and Talge. We have had fun, sad, and hard times together. God bless you all.

—Sandra Twombly



Power for Mind & Soul

PERSONAL NEWS

On March 18, **Darin Bissell** and his wife welcomed their son, Isaiah Darin Bissell, who weighed 8 pounds and 10 ounces.

CHANGING FACES

Southern welcomes the following employees:

Tisha Looby to Thatcher Hall

William Cruttenden to Plant Services

Joseph Cripe to Plant Services

Paul Irwin to Information Systems

Jamie Kitterman to Enrollment Services

Katherine Holder to Village Market

Best wishes to the following employee in her new position:

Teri Klinger from Village Market to Thatcher

Fond farewells to the following employees:

Jaquelyn Witt from Village Market

Carrie Harlin from Business and Management

Clint Ratliff from Visual Art and Design

Kim Mehlenbacher from Plant Services

Sandra Twombly from Thatcher Hall

Helen Pyke from English

Jeanette Stepanске from Education and Psychology

VOICE AND PEN

Lynelle Ellis presented a seminar for the Southern Adventist Union Communication Directors' Spring Advisory Meeting. The title of the seminar was "Gospel Message, Visual Medium: Telling Stories for the Kingdom."

In April **Elaine Plemons** presented a seminar titled, "The Best of Both Worlds—Effectively Using Blended Learning" at the annual conference of the Southern Regional Faculty and Instructional Development Consortium at Auburn University. In March, she attended the Biggio Civil Rights Tour in Montgomery, hosted by the Biggio Center at Auburn University. And in February, Plemons received a certificate of training for completing the Introduction to Moodle-MRj2000 workshop.

Norman Gulley presented the Sabbath school lesson in Cohutta Springs on April 16 at the partnership weekend for those supporting Christian Record Services.

Fred Turner attended the School and College Building Expo in Chicago, April 12-14. The expo is host to the spring meeting of American Institute of Architects' committee on architecture for education, a gathering of the most active thought leaders in educational facilities design.

Willard Munger and **Tyson Hall** presented the paper "Integrating Robotics into First-Year Experience Courses" at the American Society for Engineering Education's Southeastern Section's annual meeting on April 12. At the meeting, Munger was elected to officer positions in the Professional Skills and Software Engineering Divisions, and Hall was elected president-elect of the section.

LETTERS TO BIETZ

Dear Dr. Bietz:

I have long appreciated my friendships with Southern Adventist University employees and students, through both my association with Executive Women International and, more recently, the Association for Experiential Education Conference in Chattanooga.

An experience I had this past weekend further solidified my feelings about the fine people of SAU.

Saturday afternoon I had a flat tire at the 43-mile mark on Interstate 75, one of the busiest interstates in the nation. Dozens of trucks and cars passed me while I began to change my tire. I was doing okay right up until I tried to remove the lug nuts. At this point, I was not sure what to do, as I could not get any of the lug nuts to budge.

Just moments later, "Nate" pulled over and offered his assistance. It did not surprise me in the least to learn that Nate was a recent graduate of SAU.

Nate, like every Southern employee and student I have met, had the qualities we all want in our friends. Without exception, I have found Southern employees and students to be of the highest caliber in every way. They are upstanding citizens.

Thank you. Thank you for the fine work Southern Adventist University is obviously doing to promote, encourage, and teach good character. Thank you for Nate, and all of the other graduates you produce.

Nancy Harrison, owner
Everything Just So
Wednesday, April 13, 2011

BIRTHDAYS

May 1	Gordon Bietz, <i>President's Office</i> Richard Erickson, <i>Business and Mgmt.</i>
May 2	Ray Hefferlin, <i>Physics</i> Pam Ahlfeld, <i>Nursing</i> Pat Coverdale, <i>Human Resources</i> Gary Shockley, <i>Village Market</i> Tami Wery, <i>Records and Advisement</i>
May 3	Ray Artigas, <i>Transportation</i> Becky Djernes, <i>Financial Administration</i> Jan Haveman, <i>Advancement</i> Kelly Sanchez, <i>Computing</i>
May 4	Tricia Foster, <i>Social Work</i> Richard Halterman, <i>Computing</i>
May 5	Rebeca Clay-Flores, <i>Campus Ministries</i> Stanley Cottrell, <i>McKee Library</i> Nathalie Mazo, <i>Enrollment Services</i>
May 6	Tara Hargrove, <i>Journalism and Comm.</i> Dean Scott, <i>Visual Art and Design</i>
May 7	Doru Mihaescu, <i>Informations Systems</i>
May 9	Shirley Rumsey, <i>University Health Center</i> Eric Baerg, <i>Advancement</i> Kevin Penrod, <i>Campus Safety</i>
May 11	Jackie Rose, <i>Village Market</i> Doug Walter, <i>Campus Safety</i>
May 12	Ever Perez, <i>Food Services</i> Mikhaile Spence, <i>Education and Psych.</i>
May 13	Michael Mehlenbacher, <i>Plant Services</i>
May 15	Peter Cooper, <i>Music</i> Kevin Pride, <i>Talge Hall</i>
May 16	Ginger Cheney, <i>Enrollment Services</i> Steve Holley, <i>Plant Services</i> Shelly Kalvoda, <i>Village Market</i>
May 17	Lisa Kuhlman, <i>Business and Mgmt.</i> Carolyn Liers, <i>Advancement</i>
May 18	Elaine Jeffers, <i>Student Services</i>
May 20	Pam Dietrich, <i>Student Services</i> Glenn Boyko, <i>Plant Services</i> Janice Nash, <i>Food Services</i>
May 21	Lorraine Ball, <i>Journalism and Comm.</i> Jackie Price-Walters, <i>Food Services</i>
May 22	Ron Miller, <i>McKee Library</i> Heather Slocum, <i>Campus Safety</i>
May 23	Sharon Ekkens, <i>Instit. Rsrch. and Planning</i>
May 25	Edna Kitchen, <i>Food Services</i> Mary Sundin, <i>Accounting Services</i>
May 27	Lisa Woodcock, <i>Thatcher Hall</i>
May 28	John Holley, <i>Village Market</i>
May 29	Kenneth Willes, <i>Visual Art and Design</i>

Marketing and University Relations

editors | **Jarod Keith**
Ana Recinos

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