

Southern Factor

October 2013

CONNECTING WITH EACH OTHER

Employee Participation Critical to Homecoming Success

"They come expecting to see you here. Let's not disappoint them."

More than 1,000 people attend Southern's Alumni Homecoming Weekend each year, making it one of the university's greatest opportunities to stay connected with those who have passed through these halls before us. Graduates come back both to talk about all things familiar and to explore the changes that have taken place on this ever-evolving campus. Homecoming is October 24-27, and our hope is employees will encourage their students to engage the alumni and will participate in events themselves.

Southern works hard to maintain and fortify alumni loyalty. The university values the time, talents, and gifts they freely give (annual estimates include nearly \$1 million in donations and 3,500 hours of volunteering). And as is the case with any relationship, things go the smoothest when the admiration is mutual. One simple way all employees are capable of expressing our spirit of gratitude is through interaction with alumni over the weekend.

The list of events Alumni Director Evonne Crook and her Alumni Council have put together is extensive. Highlights include academic lectures, a service project in the Garden of Prayer, an art and film showcase, affinity group meals, game night in the gymnasium, and even a motorcycle ride! View the schedule online (southern.edu/alumni) and find something that interests you.

Individual schools and departments across campus are getting involved with homecoming this year in a number of ways. For example, the Biology Department is hosting its inaugural bird counting activity as well as open-



Alumni at last year's homecoming showed great interest in the 3-D model of proposed master plan changes to the campus. They long to stay connected. Employee participation and interaction during the weekend helps make that happen.

ing Hickman Science Center up on Sabbath afternoon so people can tour the Origins Exhibit. This is just one of several academic areas making good use of the concentrated constituency present at the end of October each year.

Crook is hoping employees will join in the weekend's activities by scheduling their own on-campus events, connecting with alumni, and participating in programs.

"Alumni that return for homecoming want to connect with their former professors and other staff leaders and to meet the new faces who are representing Southern," Crook said. "Either way they come expecting to see you here. Let's not disappoint them."

To inquire about hosting your own event or getting involved with an existing one, email ercrook@southern.edu.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Sharon Rogers attended the Academic Advising Association Conference October 6-9 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Michael G. Hasel spoke for the It Is Written partnership meetings in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, September 13-14. He also published an article entry on Khirbet Qeiyafa in *The*

Oxford Encyclopedia of the Bible and Archaeology (New York: Oxford University Press, 2013).

Adrienne Royo presented a paper, "Cultural Understanding through Iconic Figures," on September 27 in Chicago, Illinois. The presentation was for the Alpha Mu Gamma (Modern Languages Honor Society) biannual convention.

Ray Hefferlin and Ding-Yu Chung (retired from the CERN accelerator staff) co-authored an article published in *The Journal of Modern Physics* titled “The Higgs Boson in the Periodic Systems of Elementary Particles.” The article proposes a mechanism for the strange behavior observed in the Higgs Boson.

Rene Drumm made a presentation on July 22 titled “Pastoral Family Stress: The Hard Realities of Today’s Pastoral Families” for the Adventist Conference on Family Research and Practice at Andrews University. Drumm, along with **Lorri Merchant** and **Stanley Stevenson**, also presented “From ‘Um...’ to ‘What Were You Thinking When...?’: Teaching Graduate Students CBT Skills” at the Seventh World Congress of Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies Conference in Lima, Peru, on July 20. On August 10, Drumm and **Tricia Foster** met with the North American Division Women’s Ministries Leadership Committee in Orlando, Florida, where they shared a training plan: “Christian Abuse Response Education.” Drumm and Foster also presented “Equipping Clergy for a Caring and Competent Response to IPV Disclosure” at the 18th International Conference and Summit on Violence, Abuse and Trauma in San Diego, California.

DEPARTMENT NEWS

The Institute of Archaeology and the **School of Computing** collaborated this past summer, using a radio-controlled quadcopter to do aerial photography over the Lachish excavation site in Israel. School of Computing plans to experiment with using the device for 3-D photography and other forms of additional data gathering.

PERSONAL NEWS

Congratulations to **Scott Brankshire** and wife, Chantel, on the birth of their daughter, Charlotte Marie, on August 26. The baby weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces.

Kristie Wilder and **Tron Wilder** welcomed their son, William “Ace” Wilder, into the world on August 18. He weighed 7 pounds, 6 ounces.

Adam Heck and **Annette Heck** welcomed their baby boy, Samuel Thomas Heck, into the world on September 9. He weighed in at a whopping 8 pounds, 14 ounces. The Hecks are grateful for this precious blessing.

HATS OFF!

A big thank you to **Evan Moses** in Herin Hall’s EdTech Lab! He really helped me by finding something of great value I had misplaced there during a preweek inservice. I just want to commend his trustworthiness for keeping it safe until the owner was identified. It meant more to me than I could even verbalize.

-Elaine Plemons

When **Gary Sewell** was presented with a challenging situation recently, changes to fix the problems were already in place by the following day and equipment had been installed in only a few more days. Thank you, Gary, for working diligently to make technology accessible to our staff and students. **Mike McClung**, **Eli Courey**, and their entire team provide superb and timely support. They seem to adhere to the adage, “the difficult we do right away; the impossible takes a little longer.” Appreciation goes out to them for the countless times they have rescued us from the technology gremlins and even from our own mistakes.

-Sheila Smith

CHANGING FACES

Southern welcomes the following employees:

Sandra Garcia to Village Market
Timothy Roberts to Food Services
Genefer Joseph to Food Services
Rosiris Camacho to Food Services
Kenny Turpen to Advancement
Robert Bovell to Advancement

Fond farewells to the following employees:

Jessica Turner from Food Service

SAVE THE DATE

October 1 **Student Organization Adviser’s Meeting**
October 13 **Employee Apple Festival, Bietz Barn**
October 17-20 **Midterm Break**
October 20 **Flea Market**
October 22 **Midterm Grades Due**
October 24-27 **Alumni Homecoming Weekend**

BIRTHDAYS

October 1 **Troy DeWind**, Landscape Services
Linda Lechler, Nursing
Carlos Parra, Modern Languages
Mary Anne Poulson, Religion
Marcus Sheffield, English

October 2 **Kim Armstrong**, Food Services
Barb Edens, President's Office
Jessica Spears, McKee Library
Linda Wilhelm, Business and Management

October 3 **Vivian Grabiner**, Village Market

October 4 **David Huisman**, Accounting Services

October 5 **Bill Lyons**, Plant Services

October 6 **Cindy Johnson**, Nursing

October 7 **Miguel Rivas**, Information Systems
Joylynn Scott, President's Office
Dennis Steele, Business and Management

October 9 **Faith Anderson**, Food Services
Matt Barclay, Enrollment Services
Bill Rawson, University Health Center

October 10 **Scot Anderson**, Computing
Rodney Bussey, P.E., Health and Wellness
Linda Marlowe, Nursing
Vinita Sauder, President's Office

October 11 **Ronda Christman**, Nursing
Blake Laing, Physics
Steve Tsui, Food Services

October 12 **Jamie Hall**, Enrollment Services

October 13 **Judy Sloan**, P.E., Health and Wellness

October 14 **Chris Hansen**, Physics

October 15 **Ric Griffin**, Student Success Center
Mindi Rahn, History and Political Studies

October 17 **Rosalva Jacinto**, Food Services
Dwight Magers, Talge Hall
Brittany Poarch, Enrollment Services
Melissa Swanson, Records and Advisement

October 18 **Braam Oberholster**, Business and Management
David Olson, Human Resources
Elaine Plemons, Academic Technology
Keely Tary, English
Cindi Young, Financial Administration

October 19 **Stephen Bauer**, Religion

October 20 **Amelia Laneville**, Food Services

October 21 **Linda Crumley**, Journalism

October 23 **Yola Noya**, Village Market
Carol Plank, Talge Hall
Boyd Buhl, WSMC

October 25 **Clarice Esquilla**, Risk Management
Seth Shaffer, McKee Library

October 26 **Sheri Munger**, Chemistry

October 27 **Kevin Brown**, Mathematics

October 29 **Ron Johnson**, Mathematics

October 31 **Teri Klinger**, Thatcher Hall

Marketing and University Relations

editor | **Shana Michalek**

We welcome your comments and news.

Please contact us:

news@southern.edu or 236.2689