

Southern Factor

April 2015

CONNECTING WITH EACH OTHER

Outdoor Leadership Program Receives \$25,000 Grant

For the last two years, graduate assistants from the Outdoor Leadership program have introduced inner-city youth to the great outdoors through their environmental education classes. Thanks to a \$25,000 grant from Versacare, these children will experience the joy of nature for another two years.

Since receiving a similar grant in 2012, eight graduate assistants have traveled to Calvin Donaldson Environmental Science Academy once a month to teach the third and fifth grade students about trees, the water cycle, and how to take care of the environment.

"We provide a certain amount of consistency in their lives, which they

don't get a lot," said Emily Durichek, a participating graduate assistant who is studying outdoor teaching education.

The grant will also allow graduate assistants to conduct a three-day,

"It's important to break the cycle these kids are in and let them see something else that's available to them."

two-night "outdoor school" for the fifth graders, providing them with a chance for hands-on activities surrounded by nature.

"Kids need to be outside," Durichek

said. "It's important to break the cycle these kids are in and let them see something else that's available to them. A different way to de-stress. Another place to hang out."

The funds from the grant also give Southern the opportunity to partner with Lookout Mountain Conservancy (LMC), a group dedicated to protecting the mountain's scenic, historic, and ecological resources. LMC hires interns from Howard School of Academics and Technology, and the graduate assistants hope to connect Calvin Donaldson students with Howard students who are doing well to create a mentorship program.

-Myron Madden



Campus Mourns Passing of Longtime Research Professor

Ray Hefferlin, renowned physicist, professor, and beloved husband and father, died March 7. While many across the globe grieve this significant scientific loss, our campus community took time to remember the relationships he impacted, in addition to the research. Hefferlin's **memorial service** and **obituary** can be found online.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Brent Hamstra presented "Gideon's Fleece: A Biblical Narrative Providing a Framework for Discussion of Issues in the Relationship Between Scientific Inquiry and Divine Revelation" at the Biblical Foundations of Faith and Learning Conference March 8-15 aboard the Emerald Princess cruise ship in the Caribbean. At this same event, **Cynthia Gettys** and **Elaine Plemons** co-presented "The Development of a Higher Education Biblical Foundation Course Design Model."

Jodi Ruf and four English majors attended the Sigma Tau Delta international convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, March 18-22. Junior Amanda Ruf presented her paper, "The Estrangement of the Artist in Joyce's *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*," and senior Lauren Marsh read her original poem "Confidence" during an open mic session.

Linda Crumley attended a conference

on Autoethnography at San Angelo University. She arrived just in time for the Texas ice storm and increased her winter driving skills.

Southern hosted the Southern Regional Faculty and Instructional Development Consortium (SRFIDC) March 1-3. **Elaine Plemons** coordinated the three-day conference of approximately 50 participants. SRFIDC is an organization of faculty and instructional development programs for all two- and four-year degree-granting institutions in the South. **Cynthia Gettys** and **Elaine Plemons** also gave a presentation, titled "Increasing Teaching Effectiveness through a Summer Institute."

Carlos Parra received an official invitation by the Embassy of Spain in the United States (Trade Commission-Miami) to participate as one of 14 administrators in the U.S. to visit Spain April 12-19. The main goal of this visit is to establish the first step toward a better understanding of programs and

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courses offered by the Spanish educational institutions for students.

HATS OFF!

I thank the members of the organizing committee for the Biblical Foundations of Faith and Learning Conference—**Cynthia Gettys, Greg King, Keith Snyder, Bob Young, and Ed Zinke**—for making the conference possible and successful, I thank **Eve Parker** for handling many of the technical details of the conference, and I thank the other faculty who presented at the conference for their thought-provoking presentations and stimulating discussion.

—Brent Hamstra

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Interdisciplinary Journal of Best Practices in Global Development (IJBPGD)** is a new peer-reviewed journal representing both the academic and practice (field) perspectives. IJBPGD's goal is to disseminate the knowledge gained by researchers, educators, practitioners, and students who are currently combating the wide range of issues affecting our global community. We are hoping you will be interested in utilizing this platform to disseminate your research, or the research of your students. Please take a minute to [visit our journal site](#). Since we are in the process of opening our first publication year, our journal homepage is a little empty, but we are excited to fix this with the help of your research contributions!

—Brittni Bryan

DEPARTMENT NEWS

The Writer's Club held a community service poetry workshop at the Collegedale Public Library on March 25 to teach students about creative writing and help them pen their own limericks and haikus.

PERSONAL NEWS

Barbara James, and her husband, David, are the proud grandparents of Hudson James Smith, born March 13 to Valerie, '02, and David T. Smith, '03, who reside in Battle Ground, Washington.



CHANGING FACES

COMING TO SOUTHERN:

Daniel Olson, career counselor, Student Success Center

LEAVING SOUTHERN:

Elden Ford, patrol officer, Campus Safety

Christian Patino, assistant director, Enrollment Services

Dan Turkenkopf, supervisor, Food Services

Genefer Joseph, breakfast chef, Food Services

COMPLAINT REPORT FORM

Regulations require that the university records complaints and works to make sure they are responded to in a timely manner. Please share the concern (and your response) by visiting southern.edu/marketing and clicking on "Complaint Repository."

SAVE THE DATE

April 1	Professor Study Circle
	Online Fall Registration Starts
April 4	SonRise Resurrection Pageant
April 6	Undergraduate Council
April 7	First Year Experience Lunch and Learn
April 13	University Senate
April 26	SA Strawberry Festival
April 27	University Senate
April 30	Convocation: Departments/Schools

BIRTHDAYS

April 1	Jana Dietsche , Enrollment Services
	Andrew Myaing , Risk Management
	Lorella Howard , Nursing
April 4	Randy Craven , Visual Art and Design
April 8	Carlos Lopez , Enrollment Services
	Elizabeth Pontvik , Visual Art and Design
	Greg Wilson , Religion
April 9	Genevieve Brown-Kibble , Music
	Nancy Soapes , Food Services
	Amy Steele , Human Resources
April 10	Erin Cook , Talge Hall
	Lisa Hess , Global Community Development
April 13	Ryan Harrell , Online Campus
April 14	Michael Liedke , Nursing
	JP Mathis , Thatcher Hall
April 15	Terri Fillman , Transportation Services
April 18	Lucinda Hill , Biology
April 19	Cathlyen Robertson , Food Services
April 20	Carol Raney , Biology
April 21	Mioara Diaconu , Social Work
April 22	Debbie Strack , Biology
	Ruth Williams , Education and Psychology
April 23	Dale Walters , Technology
April 25	Shirley Menhennett , Food Services
April 26	Diane Proffitt , Nursing
April 27	Dana Krause , Nursing
April 28	Gary Sewell , Information Systems
	Osmin Yanes , Village Market
April 30	Scott Clukey , Plant Services
	Marc Grundy , Enrollment Services
	Faith Laughlin , Education and Psychology

Marketing and University Relations

student editor | **Myron Madden**

We welcome your comments and news.

Please contact us:
news@southern.edu or 236.2689