

# Southern Factor

February 2016

CONNECTING WITH EACH OTHER

## Leading by Example: Employees Model Mission Work

Southern students are not the only ones on campus participating in mission work all over the world. Faculty and staff also exemplify the university's focus on service. Here in *Southern Factor*, we highlight three professors and some of the mission trips they've participated in.

### Sierra Leone, Peru, and Guyana.

Michael Dant, associate professor in the School of Computing, has traveled to many locations on mission trips with Southern. Repurposing his skills, Dant has helped with evangelistic seminars, taught at schools, done medical work, and held computer clinics.

"I like to travel and show God's love in a practical way," Dant said. "It's also a great opportunity to get to know students, demonstrating to them the importance of both the academic and spiritual aspects of education."

### Haiti, Nicaragua, Navajo Nation, and Venezuela.

Barbara James, dean for the School of Nursing, and her husband determined long ago to support missions both financially and with their skills. James said her goal



*Michael Dant, background, helps count and bag medications for clinic use during one of his mission trips.*

was to demonstrate Christian caring in tangible ways.

"We wanted to be an example and demonstrate to young people that in serving others, we grow in appreciation for all that we have," James said. "A life of service follows the example of Jesus."

James encourages all employees to participate in mission trips.

"Mission service is contagious," James said. "Students can catch the vision and carry it forward long after faculty are off the scene."

**Guatemala, San Salvador, Chile, Botswana, Dominican Republic, Colombia, Bolivia, and Brazil.** This year, Freddy Fuentes, professor in the School of Education and Psychology, will be returning to Bolivia and Guatemala, as well as traveling to Cuba for the first time. He's helped with evangelistic series, vacation Bible schools, medical and eye clinics, building construction, and building maintenance.

"It's one of the most rewarding experiences a professor can have," Fuentes said. "Students see you in different light as you lead using a servant leadership model; I do everything they do and the bonding is immediate. It's a one of a kind experience!"

Interested in leading by example? To participate or chaperone a short-term mission trip, email the Evangelistic Resource Center ([erc@southern.edu](mailto:erc@southern.edu)) or uQuest Missions office ([uquestmissions@southern.edu](mailto:uquestmissions@southern.edu)).  
-Sheann Brandon

## NEW CALENDAR ITEM: BIETZ'S LAST CONVOCATION TO FOCUS ON ADVENTIST EDUCATION

2016 marks the 100th anniversary of Southern's move to Collegedale from nearby Graysville, Tennessee, where the university was founded in 1892. To celebrate this milestone, President Gordon Bietz will share a presentation about the history and value of Adventist education—including Southern's important role both in the past and moving forward—on March 17 at 11 a.m. in the Iles P.E. Center.

"The significance of the move cannot be overstated," said Ben McArthur, professor in Southern's History and Political Studies Department. "The limited grounds of the Graysville campus and the village's out-of-the-way location

had contributed to the school's failure to thrive. The new location offered much more, not to mention being located right on a main thoroughfare of the railway. During this same transition time, what had been Southern Training School became Southern Junior College of Collegedale. The institution was beginning its decades-long transformation into the doctorate-granting Southern Adventist University."

Faculty are invited to the convocation presentation, which is Bietz's last before retiring in May. It will be open to the public and may also be viewed live online at [southern.edu/streaming](http://southern.edu/streaming).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Career Services Lunchtime Lecture Series will be on February 15, February 22, and February 29, from 12-12:50 p.m. in the Presidential Banquet Room. Please invite students to attend. Topics include writing cover letters, preparing for interviews, and more. Students can receive convocation credit.

## DEPARTMENT NEWS



Global Community Development is travelling again! Graduate students participating in their second semester have traveled to Nairobi, Kenya and have settled in for six weeks of intensive courses. This time allows our program to “come alive” to students as they navigate cross-cultural communication, practice their assessment skills at World Vision rural sites and urban slum projects, and prepare for the upcoming eight weeks of field work with area development programs. This is such an exciting time for our students, as they are learning to apply lessons from their coursework to meet international community needs on the ground! Please pray for our students. Pray that God will be glorified through every relationship they develop and every project they undertake! -Sharon Pittman

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**Andy Nash** recently published a book about Jesus titled *The Book of Matthew: Save Us Now, Son of David*. He also wrote the *Matthew Adult Bible Study Guide* for Sabbath schools April-June. Nash dedicated the book to **Greg King**, who invited him to teach a Life and Teachings of Jesus course at Southern.

**Adrienne Royo** presented a lecture titled “Charge/Recharge: The Educator’s Toolbox Installation” for Southern’s Faculty Showcase. The presentation was a follow up to Southern’s 2015 Summer Institute. Royo will also present for Southern’s “Christ in My Life” series on February 25.

## HATS OFF!

Graphic design manager **Ryan Pierce** and former MUR student worker **Morgan Preston** used their artistic talent to design the creative walls that border the new Information Technology hallway. Ryan and Morgan’s work contributed significantly to the consistently excellent work of interior designer **Becky Djernes**. Together, this team recently received second place for interior design in the “Renovation Under \$50K” category awarded by the Association of University Interior Designers.

-Marty Hamilton and Ingrid Skantz

Campus Research Day was a smashing success: 222 students and five faculty joined forces to celebrate research, inquiry, and the pursuit of truth on our campus. Special thanks to **Nivischi Edwards**, **Sonja Fordham**, **Luceta McRoy**, **Christine Moniyung**, and **Philip Samaan** for the leadership they demonstrated by conducting research and presenting their work at Campus Research Day. Watch Faculty Net for information on how to participate in our next event on April 12!

-Katie McGrath

## PERSONAL NEWS

Hayden Evenson (along with parents Nick and **Leslie Evenson**) is pleased to introduce his brother, Corbin Lars, born November 23, 7 pounds, 9 ounces, and 19.5 inches. They plan to be a fearless adventuring duo, keeping mom and dad on their toes!



Daniel and Danielle Royo, son and daughter-in-law of **Adrienne Royo**, celebrated the dedication of their second son, Elijah Robert, at the Collegedale Community Church Sabbath, December 19. They were accompanied by Elijah’s big brother, Ethan Gabriel. The service was officiated by Pastor LeClaire Litchfield.

## VOLUNTEERS AVAILABLE

Do you need help with a project? Consider using a Lights Volunteer to assist with organizing, data entry, research projects, inventory, or other supportive roles! Our volunteer pool includes a wide variety of various educational backgrounds, interests and skills. If you would like to meet with **Leslie Ann Schwarzer** to discuss details about how a Lights Volunteer could enhance your department this upcoming school year, please call x2555 to set up an appointment.

## COMPLAINT REPORT FORM

SACSCOC and federal regulations require that the university records complaints received and works to make sure they are responded to in an appropriate and timely manner. If you receive a complaint, please share the information (and your response) by visiting [southern.edu/marketing](http://southern.edu/marketing) and clicking on “Complaint Repository.” Your efforts here help us watch for trends where the university can improve services provided.

## 'SUCCESS STORY' LISTSERV

Southern has created an email listserv for employees to share success stories (of students, staff, alumni, donors, etc) in variety of areas (academic, spiritual, financial, social, etc). [Stories@lists.southern.edu](mailto:Stories@lists.southern.edu) is an important tool for collecting these testimonies. We need to remind others—and be reminded ourselves—about the numerous ways God has blessed Southern. Marketing and University Relations will take each story, categorize it, and includes it in a searchable and login-protected database that will, in the next few months, be found at [southern.edu/stories](http://southern.edu/stories). To be added to this listserv, email [Lucas Patterson](mailto:Lucas.Patterson@southern.edu).

## CHANGING FACES

COMING TO SOUTHERN:

**Margarita Solano**, salad supervisor, Food Services  
**Ginger White**, cafeteria floater, Food Services  
**Ryan Becker**, admissions representative,  
Enrollment Management  
**Dennis Clifford**, associate director of energy management,  
Plant Services

LEAVING SOUTHERN:

**Jessica Seard**, office assistant, Human Resources  
**Janet Fournier**, cafeteria floater, Food Services  
**Ileana Riverovega**, housekeeper, Village Market  
**Melissa Maracle**, transcripts manager, Records  
**Crystal Whitten**, associate professor,  
P.E., Health, and Wellness  
**Magdana Philossaint**, assistant professor,  
School of Social Work  
**Amanda Acheta-Reinhardt**, ASSIST program manager,  
Enrollment Management

## Marketing and University Relations

editor | **Myron Madden**

We welcome your comments and news.  
Please contact us:  
[news@southern.edu](mailto:news@southern.edu) or 236.2689

## BIRTHDAYS

February 1 **Richard Johnson**, Food Services  
February 2 **Scott Brankshire**, Plant Services  
**Cynthia Gettys**, Ctr. Teaching Excellence  
**Bonnie Hunt**, Nursing  
**John Nixon**, Religion  
February 3 **Ryan Pierce**, Marketing  
**Leon Weeks**, Business  
February 4 **Leslie Ann Schwarzer**, Advancement  
**Derek Sherbondy**, Information Systems  
**Larry Turner**, Plant Services  
**Stephen Barber**, Food Services  
February 7 **Stephen Ruf**, Journalism and Comm.  
February 8 **Randy Bishop**, Biology  
**Xenia Figueroa**, Advancement  
February 10 **Elisabeth Anderson**, Admissions  
**Robert Coombs**, Education and Psych.  
February 11 **Janita Herod**, Journalism and Comm.  
February 12 **Bonnie Eder**, Education and Psychology  
**Kathy Goddard**, English  
**Ben McArthur**, History and Political Studies  
February 13 **Kevin Coon**, Plant Services  
**Adolfo Granada**, Plant Services  
**Kent Robertson**, Admissions  
February 14 **Janice Lyons**, Village Market  
February 15 **Michael Dant**, Computing  
**Laura Perez**, Food Services  
February 16 **Delores Franks**, Village Market  
**Breanna Johnson**, Village Market  
February 17 **Luceta McRoy**, Business  
**Magdana Philossaint**, Social Work  
February 18 **Chamra Anthony**, Thatcher Hall  
**Lisa Diller**, History and Political Studies  
**Ruth Saunders**, Nursing  
February 19 **Genevieve Cottrell**, McKee Library  
**Cheryl Craven**, Social Work  
February 20 **Chad Raney**, Plant Services  
**Mark Verbrigghe**, Landscape Services  
February 21 **Cindy McBryar**, Enrollment Mgt.  
**Jeri Pewsey**, Food Services  
**Keith Snyder**, Biology  
February 22 **Angela Teague**, Accounting Services  
February 24 **Donn Leatherman**, Religion  
February 25 **Ashley Fox**, Advancement  
**Lucas Patterson**, Marketing  
February 27 **Carol Heath**, Village Market  
**Mike McClung**, Information Systems  
**Laura Racovita-Szilagyi**, Social Work  
February 28 **Michael Cafferky**, Business  
**Pierre Nzokizwa**, Modern Languages