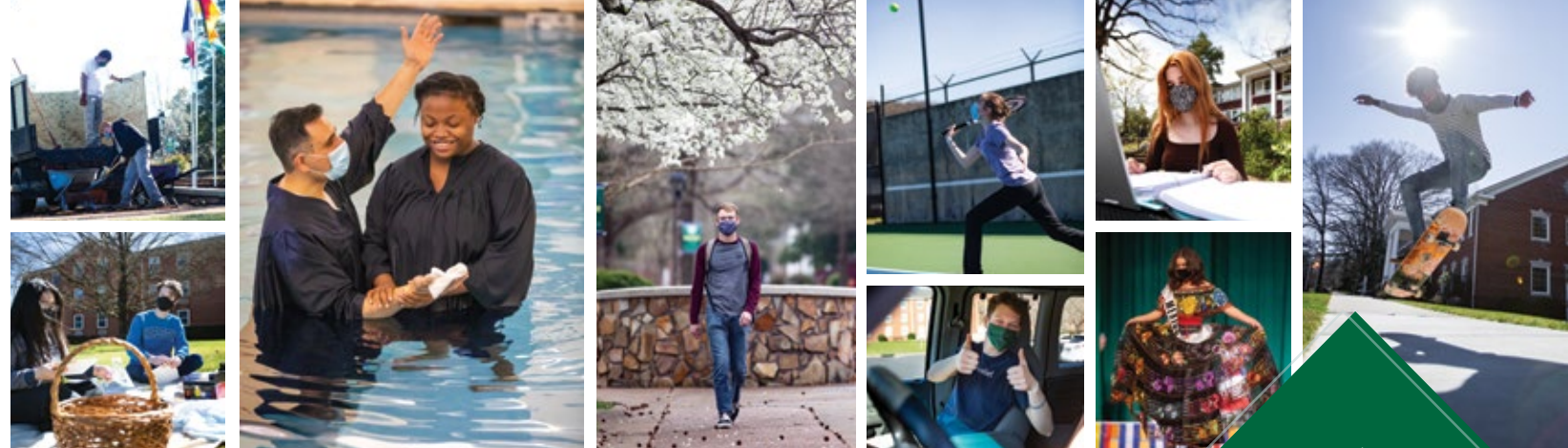




PANORAMA

parent newsletter | Spring 2021



Ken Shaw to Become 27th President of Southern Adventist University

The Southern Adventist University Board of Trustees voted unanimously on February 28 for Ken Shaw, EdD, to become the 27th president of the university. He will assume office on June 1.

Shaw graduated from Southern in 1980 with a Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics and will be the university's first alum to return as president. In fact, his entire family graduated from Southern: his wife, Ann (Kennedy), earned her nursing degree in 1979; their daughter, Kate Myers, earned her associate and bachelor's degrees in nursing in 2008 and 2009; and their son, Martin, earned his pastoral care degree in 2012.

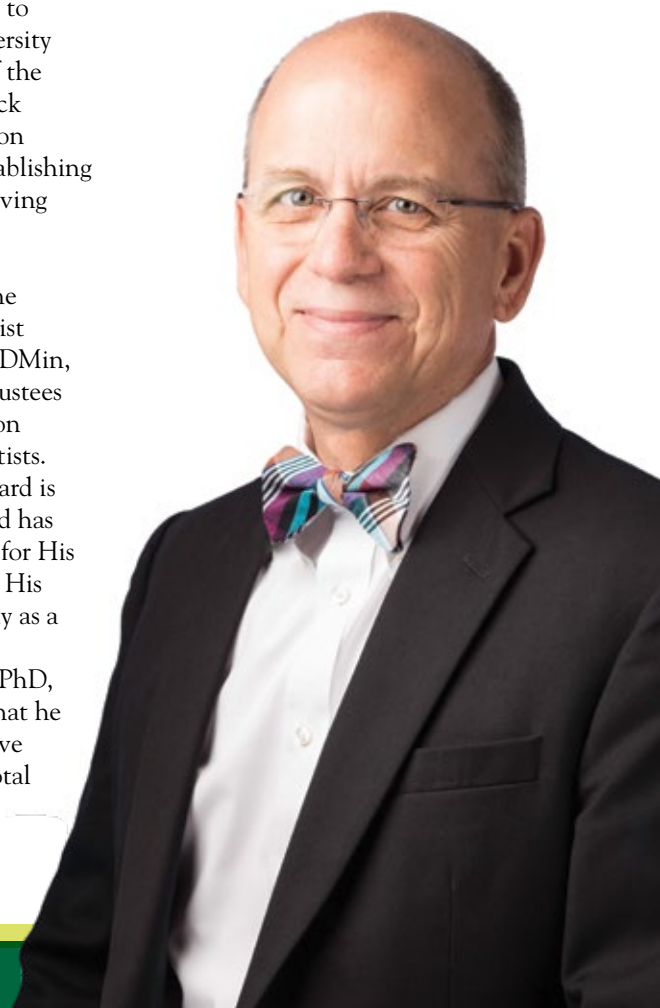
"Ann and I cherish our memories from Southern," Shaw said. "Returning to campus is like coming home for us, and we're delighted to be part of this institution. I really admire that Southern is still fundamentally centered on its mission and on the core values that the institution has been about for 129 years."

For the past seven years, Shaw has served as president of Southwestern Adventist University in Keene, Texas. Previously he worked at Florida State University for 25

years in various capacities, from assistant professor of mathematics education to campus dean of Florida State University Panama City and academic dean of the College of Applied Studies. His track record as a leader in higher education includes increasing enrollment, establishing new academic programs, and improving institutional financial stability.

"I am pleased that Dr. Ken Shaw has accepted our invitation to be the next president of Southern Adventist University," said Ron Smith, PhD, DMin, chairman of Southern's Board of Trustees and president of the Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. "The unanimous decision of the board is strong evidence that the will of God has been executed. We thank the Lord for His providential leading and anticipate His blessing in the Southern community as a result of Dr. Shaw's acceptance."

Shaw will succeed David Smith, PhD, who announced in October 2020 that he will retire at the end of May after five years as president and 22 years of total service at Southern.



Exam Schedule

Time	Monday May 3	Tuesday May 4	Wednesday May 5	Thursday May 6
8 to 9:50 a.m.	English Comp Basic Writing	12 p.m. T Th 12:30 p.m. T Th	8 a.m. M W F 8:30 a.m. M T W Th F	8 a.m. T Th 8:30 a.m. T Th
10 to 11:50 a.m.	9:30 a.m. T Th 10 a.m. T Th	9 a.m. M W F 9 a.m. T Th	1 p.m. T Th 1 p.m. M T W Th F	10 a.m. M W F
12 to 1:50 p.m.	12 p.m. M W F	11 a.m. M W F	4 p.m. T Th 5 p.m. T Th 5 p.m. M W	11 a.m. T
2 to 3:50 p.m.	2 p.m. T Th 2:30 p.m. T Th	1 M W F	BIOL 102	2 p.m. M W F 2 p.m. M W
4 to 5:50 p.m.	3 p.m. M W F 3:30 p.m. M W 4 p.m. M	3 p.m. T Th 3:30 p.m. T Th	Speech	

MAY

- 3-6** Semester Exams
- 4-7** Book Buy Back
- 6** Show: Hosted by School of Visual Art and Design
- 7** Graduation (*two options - ticket required*)
- 7** School of Business Commissioning Service
- 7** Social Work Pinning
- 8** School of Education and Psychology Dedication
- 8** School of Nursing Dedication
- 9** Graduation (*three options - ticket required*)
- 10** Summer Classes Begin
- 12** Last day to add S21S1 Classes
- 31** Memorial Day

“Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. ”

John 14:1-3, NKJV

favorite Bible verse of Michael Hasel, School of Religion professor



6 Tips to Help Students Build Strong Financial Foundations

From Michelle Doucoumes, Personal Finance professor in the School of Business

- 1. Encourage your student to keep a budget.** Even if they have very little to spend and save, learning now how to manage what they have and work toward their goals will set them up with habits for post-graduation financial success.
- 2. Make sure they understand their loans!** Ignorance is not bliss when it comes to debt. Student loans may be necessary for your student’s education, but make sure they know how much they are borrowing and what the terms are.
- 3. Partner with your student.** If your family has the financial ability to do so, consider a matching program with your student. If they earn a certain amount of money, offer to match it. This helps them reach their goals while incentivizing work and personal responsibility.
- 4. Minimize loans through work.** During both the school year and the summer, there are always job opportunities on or off campus for students who want to work. While work hours should be moderated to allow time for study, many students can work 10-20 hours per week while maintaining their classes.
- 5. Credit Card? Use with care!** Having a credit card of their own is one way that students can learn financial responsibility and build good credit for the future. But beware: no credit is better than bad credit. Your student should be paying off their credit card on time and in full every month. If your student may be tempted to overspend on a credit card, encourage them to wait before obtaining one.
- 6. Demonstrate faith-based generosity.** Malachi 3:10 challenges us to “test” God by giving, and He promises to bless. Students who trust God with finances—and watch parents who model this trust—learn not only a foundation of selfless, generous living, but also a foundation of faith in God to provide for all their needs.

- by Trisney Bocala, senior mass communication major



Need to Know: May Graduation

Graduation is a special time for family, friends, faculty, and staff to celebrate a major milestone in students’ lives. While the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic necessitates changes from previous years, the goal remains to make this a meaningful event for everyone involved.

To reduce crowd size and better maintain physical distancing protocols, Commencement will be held as several smaller services in the Iles P.E. Center:

- Friday, May 7, at 9 a.m.
- Friday, May 7, at 1 p.m.
- Sunday, May 9, at 9 a.m.
- Sunday, May 9, at 1 p.m.
- Sunday, May 9, at 4 p.m.

Graduates will choose the service in which they wish to march, and each will receive an e-ticket that will allow up to four guests to attend the program.

Doors will open one hour prior to each event’s scheduled start time, and each graduate’s guests will enter as a group to be seated in their reserved section. Prior to entering, everyone will need to go through a temperature check station and receive a wristband. Masks are required and must be worn for the duration of the program. Guests should remain seated until the service concludes.

It is through these and other precautions that Southern is able to proceed with in-person graduation ceremonies while keeping participants and guests as safe as possible.

“This is important to me because, after four long, hard years of work, I am grateful to have a day in which I can celebrate my accomplishments alongside my family and peers,” said Hannah Sbacchi, senior psychology major. “Southern has provided me with a superb education and life experiences that are applicable to my career. I feel proud of the work I have accomplished and am ready to conquer my next academic goal.”

For more information on graduation protocols, registering for a service, livestream links, and more, visit southern.edu/graduation.

- by Madison Reinschmidt, junior mass communication major



Student Life:

Hands-On Labs Prepare Students for Success



Southern’s mission statement expresses a goal to “equip students to ... embody academic and professional excellence,” an aim embraced by academic departments across campus. One way that the Biology Department puts this into practice is by offering rigorous research training, which is designed to prepare students to excel in graduate school and their future careers. For example, the Ecotoxicology class, an upper division lab-

based biology course, focuses on helping students master professional lab techniques.

Available each winter semester, the course demonstrates different approaches to research topics in the field of environmental toxicology. This semester, biology professor Ben Thornton, PhD, and his students are working on lab research with fruit flies. Each student works to discover the effects of a different toxin on the insects and examines the difference between how male and female fruit flies respond.

This class is a significant hands-on lab experience for students planning to enter a field of research or medicine. In addition to meeting at regular times for lab and lecture, they also spend up to 10 extra hours per week conducting research on their own.

“With most lab classes, students participate in a group lab experience once,” Thornton said. “Here, each student completes independent work, and they have to master what they are doing. This hands-on experience will help students who plan to attend graduate school and want to get involved with research, fellowships, or assistantships. The lab notebooks they create can serve as portfolios that show their capabilities. I have had students show their portfolio from this class and get full scholarships to universities even before taking the Graduate Record Examinations.”

In addition to a great portfolio, the students also learn how to interact with colleagues collaboratively and use lab equipment found in professional labs.

“I thought that the research would be boring,” said Diana Alvarez, senior biology major, “but this has opened my eyes to new experiences that will be applicable to my future.”

- by Madison Reinschmidt, junior mass communication major



Q&A with Janice Cosme

Student Employment Coordinator



Q: What led you to serve at Southern?

A: I love Southern, its mission, and what it stands for! After graduating from here with a bachelor’s degree in business administration-public relations and a master’s in global community development, nearly three years ago I became a full-time employee as the student employment coordinator. I am grateful to work in an atmosphere where I can help students thrive in their spirituality and find a life of service.

Q: Why are you passionate about student workers?

A: What I love most about my job is that I get to interact with students, help them find a job, and potentially be a mentor for them. I assist students in filling out paperwork, and I work with their supervisors to update payroll items or recruit new employees. I know that college has its challenges, and I wouldn’t have gotten through it without those who helped me, so I want to be there for students in the same way.

Q: What are some ways students benefit by working on campus?

A: Research has shown that working 12 to 15 hours a week actually helps students do better in their classes and teaches time management skills. The jobs that a student can find on campus provide more flexibility and convenience than is typical in other jobs. For example, students can usually make their own schedules, and they don’t have to commute. Southern also provides financial incentives, such as work-study scholarships and semester bonuses. The WISE program allows for students to earn a scholarship match of their earnings if they contribute at least 50% of what they make to their school bill. The amount awarded is determined by student finance and depends on what is needed.

Q: What do you want others to know about you?

A: I love to play intramurals! But most of all, I’m here if students ever have any questions about student employment. I encourage students to get a job on campus because it will really add to their experience, help them build relationships, and give them important life skills.

To view available jobs on campus or nearby, visit the student job board at southern.edu/studentjobs.

- by Madison Reinschmidt, junior mass communication major



HANDS-ON LEARNING

In addition to classroom learning, students benefit from practicing skills first-hand, expanding their abilities and preparing to excel in their future careers. Following are a few examples of hands-on learning from across campus this semester.



NURSING SKILLS LAB

SCIENCE LABS



CERAMICS



WELDING



AUTO MECHANICS

