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PANORAMA

parent newsletter | April 2018



United in Christ

Over the last 126 years, Southern has expanded and changed dramatically. Starting as a one-room school with 23 students, Southern has grown to a 1,300 acre campus with approximately 3,000 students. Besides enrollment growth, the demographics of the student body have also visibly changed. During the first seven decades, the student body was almost entirely white, but in 1965, Southern's board voted to accept students "regardless of race, color, and national origin." Students greeted the announcement with a standing ovation.

Since then, the school's diversity has blossomed, with 53 percent of the student body now represented by minority groups. (Southern is proud to be ranked by U.S. News and World Report Best Colleges as tied for most diverse university in the South.) Some of the most popular student organizations lead out in celebrating the unique cultures on campus, with Asian Club, Black Christian Union, and Latin American Club each hosting a special Saturday night event every year.

Additionally, this year the Student Association partnered with the university to hang banners across campus celebrating Black History Month in February and Asian/Pacific heritage in April. Similar banners will

celebrate Latin American History Month in the fall.

Even with a campus that seems well-integrated and harmonious, there is still room for improvement. Some students, particularly in the black community, expressed concern that not enough was being done to address Southern's history of segregation or to ensure that everything possible was being done to make Southern a safe and caring environment for ALL students.

In February, President David Smith, PhD, released a video in response to these concerns. To view the video and see updates on the topic, visit southern.edu/diversity. In addition to apologizing for discrimination in the school's past and soliciting prayers, Smith also announced several initiatives, such as creating a new vice president position. This individual will dedicate his or her time to serving all minority groups on campus in a broad way, facilitating unity and community, while celebrating the unique cultures represented at Southern.



Smith concluded the video by saying, "This is Southern Adventist University, a campus grounded in hope, united in Christ, and committed to living with one another in love."

- by Janell Hullquist, editorial manager

Exam Schedule

Time	Monday April 30	Tuesday May 1	Wednesday May 2	Thursday May 3
8:00 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
10:00 to 11:50 a.m.	1 p.m. T Th	9 a.m. M W F 9 a.m. T Th	10 a.m. M W F	9:30 a.m. T Th 10 a.m. T Th
12:00 to 1:50 p.m.	4 p.m. T Th 5 p.m. T Th 5 p.m. M W	11 a.m. M W F	11 a.m. T	12 p.m. M W F
2:00 to 3:50 p.m.	BIOL 102	1 p.m. M W F	2 p.m. M W F 2 p.m. M W	2 p.m. T Th 2:30 p.m. T Th
4:00 to 5:50 p.m.	BIOL 152	3 p.m. M W F 3:30 p.m. M W 4 p.m. M	Speech	3 p.m. T Th 3:30 p.m. T Th

APR

- 21 Student Association Multi-Cultural Performance**
- Night: This is Us**
- 28 Religion Senior Consecration**
- 30 Semester Exams Begin**
- MAY 4 Consecration**
- 4 Social Work Pinning**
- 5 Baccalaureate**
- 5 School of Education and Psychology Dedication**
- 5 School of Nursing Dedication**
- 6 Commencement**

“Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.”

James 1:2-4



A Message from the President: A Parent's Changing Role

Jesus' parents must have delighted in His childhood. He was a perfect child. As Jesus matured, however, His growing sense of mission and identity affected His behavior.

Mary could not understand why Jesus, at age 12, remained in the temple to spend time with the temple leaders rather than stay with His parents. Joseph and Mary frantically looked for Him for three days. Mary was exasperated: “Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you” (Luke 2:48, NIV). Neither parent understood Jesus' reply that He was going about His Father's business.

I share this because children, when they reach college age, are also in the process of becoming adults and pursuing what they understand to be God's plan for their lives. I know from personal experience that when college students return home for the summer or during a leave, they often begin to assert their independence. This can be a challenging adjustment for parents who have tried to carefully guide their children through the years.

I would like to encourage you as the parent of a college student to be patient and prayerful as your child navigates this stage between young adult and adulthood. While it can be unsettling to reestablish relationships on new grounds, the connections that can result from loving and wise adjustments to your child pursuing his or her independence are often very rewarding.

- by David Smith, president



Meet the Associate VP for Financial Administration: An Interview With Glenn Carter

Q: Why did you choose to work for the Student Finance department?

A: I have a passion for making higher education affordable for students seeking a top-notch Christian education. And while we can't make that experience free, we can remove unnecessary hurdles and frustrating errors. My team is dedicated to connecting students with the best financial paths to graduation and positioning them to live securely and give generously throughout their careers.

Q: What is your philosophy for the ideal department?

A: Student Finance focuses on providing exceptional service founded on effortless interactions. The financial journey should be easy to navigate with clear explanations and communications that anticipate the next questions. Families should be able to quickly find guidance, know what is required, and understand when things are completed. We are currently implementing a new system to track interactions and also are committed to increasing transparency about policies and awards.

Q: If a parent is frustrated while dealing with Student Finance, what should he or she do?

A: Our counselors are anxious to serve and appreciate hearing from parents. Family members should never hesitate to ask for clarification or request that a supervisor join the conversation. Even though we can't modify or waive government-mandated requirements for administering aid programs, we promise to do our best to clearly explain processes and steps that may seem unnecessary or redundant.

Q: How does your team work specifically with students?

A: Southern takes the lead in letting students know about deadlines and necessary steps to make their enrollment journey smooth. We encourage them to apply for grants and also learn to wisely evaluate and manage debt. The more we help students realize they are making a major investment in themselves, the better prepared they will be for success after graduation.



Student Life: Communicating God's Mission

On first thought, many may associate mission trips with medical work, building houses, and preaching the gospel in foreign countries. But over spring break, a uQuest mission trip to northeast Tennessee stepped outside of that mold.

The trip, sponsored by the School of Journalism and Communication, brought students together to craft articles, videos, pictures, and other multimedia projects to aid in the communication efforts of a non-profit organization called Of One Accord Ministry.

The organization serves impoverished communities in the Appalachian region of Tennessee, some of which don't have access to running water or bathrooms.

While at a food pantry run by the organization, Krista Griffith, freshman communication studies major, made meaningful connections with the volunteers she was able to interview.

“I've been really wanting to learn how to use my major in the context of mission and spreading the gospel,” Griffith said. “And I just figured that this trip would help me to understand how to use my skills to help others.”

She was surprised by the elderly nature of many of the volunteers at the food pantry, but felt particularly blessed by one lady's personal testimony.

“She was the sweetest thing ever. I asked her what motivated her and she just broke down crying,” Griffith said. “She explained ‘God has been so good for me all my life, how could I not do this in return for Him?’ and then she just started saying ‘God has a plan for you,’ ‘there are so many things that He can do for you,’ and it was really just so powerful and touching. We prayed together and she joked and said she wanted to take me home.”

Tessa Corbin, junior art therapy major, appreciated all of the little moments that she was able to experience and hopes that others will take the time to help communities in need, regardless of the location or task at hand.

“If you are going on a mission trip, I don't think it matters where you go,” Corbin said. “It just matters that you are doing it for the right reasons, because if you are, it doesn't matter where you go or what you do, just that you go serve people for God.”

- by Tierra Hayes, junior mass communication major



Did You Know? Campus Safety: Enriching and Protecting Southern's Campus

Southern strives to provide a safe campus environment for students to reside and thrive in. The university's Campus Safety officers don't take student safety for granted. They monitor severe weather, maintain fire safety, provide safety inspections, monitor security and card access systems, and, in case of emergencies, alert students of safety issues through an emergency notification system. However, besides being dedicated to students' safety and peace of mind, Campus Safety officers are more than happy to help students with everyday needs.

“Our goal and mission is to make sure Southern and the people on campus are safe as they pursue an education,” said Shawn Haas, associate director of Campus Safety. “We want to promote safety and awareness, not only on campus now but for students as they move forward in their lives, developing life-long safety skills.”

Officers offer their services in many ways including teaching self-defense classes, managing lost and found items, escorting students around campus after dark, overseeing on-campus vehicle registration, and offering students vehicle assistance such as jump starts, airing up flat tires, and retrieving fuel for vehicles on empty.

“We feel that these services not only assist students,” Haas said, “but promote and encourage students to take ownership of their own personal safety plan.”

Campus Safety officers are always looking for ways they can help improve students' personal safety, whether through education, campus improvements, or the implementation of new technology.

If you would like to learn more about the services Campus Safety provides, visit southern.edu/campusafety.

- by Sheann Brandon, senior broadcast journalism major





EXHBT

SENIOR GRAPHIC DESIGN SHOWCASE





CARDBOARD BOAT RACE

SINK OR SWIM. JUST LIKE MIDTERMS.

