

# REACHING OUT

Fall/Winter 2016-2017

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Vol. 21, No. 1

## Bryan Aalborg Speaks for 2016 Candidate Recognition



Photo by Stephen Bauer

Bryan Aalborg, Lead Pastor of the Charlotte Sharon SDA Church

Bryan Aalborg spoke for the Candidate Recognition Weekend September 23 and 24, 2016. Aalborg, lead pastor for the Sharon SDA Church in Charlotte, North Carolina, inspired and challenged the 22 ministerial candidates as the School of Religion faculty and students gathered for these special meetings. Friday evening, in a sermon titled “Glory: Greater than You . . .,” he explored Moses’ plea to God in Exodus 33:18: “Please show me your glory.” He exhorted his listeners to be intentional about seeking God’s glory.

During the early service on Sabbath morning, Aalborg drew on his 33 years of pastoral ministry experience in a message titled “Everyday Life: What Classrooms Cannot Provide,” to share practical advice for the ministerial candidates looking forward to graduation and ministry. This session also included a question-and-answer period, during which Aalborg answered a variety of questions from School of Religion students.

For the Candidate Recognition service on Sabbath morning at 11 a.m., Aalborg’s title was “Glory: Deeper than you . . .,”

and his text was John 17:24: “Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.” To conclude this service the religion faculty gathered around the ministerial candidates for a special prayer of dedication. These candidates are seniors who have completed stated academic and practical requirements and have been approved by the SOR faculty as eligible to interview with conferences for pastoral positions.

Candidate Recognition speaker Bryan Aalborg is a Southern Adventist University graduate who later earned the Doctor of Ministry degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. His dissertation was titled “Clarity and Compassion: Preaching to Achieve the Formation of a Local Church Policy Which Affirms Grace and Transformation to Homosexuals.” The Sharon Seventh-day Adventist Church, which he serves as lead pastor, is a multi-cultural congregation, with nearly 50 countries of origin represented. Approximately 70% of its 400 attendees are active in at least one of the church’s 38 ministries, which includes a radio station.

Candidates and attendees were challenged, not only by Aalborg’s messages and his deep spiritual commitment, but also by his recreational activities, which have included bicycling across the United States from San Francisco to Charleston, and completing the Dallas Marathon and the Augusta 70.3 half-IRONMAN triathlon.

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# Institute for the Study of Ellen G. White and Adventist Heritage Features Adventist Historian George Knight

Dr. George Knight, one of the most influential voices in Adventism over the last 30 years, spoke to the faculty and students October 26 and 27, 2016. At the Wednesday evening banquet for the Institute for the Study of Ellen G. White and Adventist Heritage, Knight spoke on the multivolume Adventist Pioneer series he is editing for Pacific Press. Books have already been released on the lives of James White, Joseph Bates, J. N. Loughborough, and others. He specifically mentioned the recently published volume by Dr. Ben McArthur on A. G. Daniells and the forthcoming one on D. M. Canright by Dr. Jud Lake, both faculty at Southern.

At Thursday morning convocation, Knight spoke to the student body on the subject of “Why Be Adventist?” He discussed the Millerite origins of the Adventist Church as foretold in Revelation 10 and the prophetic identity of the church in Daniel and Revelation. For him, being an Adventist makes a difference. George Knight is always an engaging speaker with a unique style that captures the hearts and minds of his audiences. He continues to be an influential voice within the church during his retirement from teaching at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary.

Several of Knight’s most popular books include *Reading Ellen White: How to Understand and Apply her Writings* (1997); *Ellen White’s World: A Fascinating Look at the Times in which She Lived* (1998); *A Search for Identity: The Development of Seventh-day Adventist Beliefs* (2000); *The Cross of Christ: God’s Work For Us* (2008); *The Apocalyptic Vision and the Neutering of Adventism* (2008); and *Sin and Salvation: God’s Work for Us and in Us* (2009).



Photo by Stephen Bauer

George Knight, Leading Seventh-day Adventist Historian, Author, and Educator

# Pierson Institute of Evangelism and Mission Weekend Welcomes Roger Hernandez



Photo by Stephen Bauer

Roger Hernandez, Ministerial and Evangelism Director for the Southern Union Conference

Every year the Pierson Institute of Evangelism and World Mission hosts a weekend which focuses on the mission and message of the Adventist Church. This last November the speaker was Roger Hernandez, Southern Union Evangelism and Ministerial Director.

Pastor Hernandez was invited, not only because of his expertise in evangelism, but also because of his close mentoring relationship with Edgar Alquinta, who was being ordained as a minister on the same weekend.

The theme of the weekend was the call of Moses to ministry. Pastor Hernandez was able to blend stirring challenges with humorous personal stories. On Friday he talked about the people of Israel at the Red Sea, and their desire to go back to Egypt. He emphasised that when people are in crisis, they resort to what they know, even when that is dysfunctional.

On Sabbath morning his first message was titled “Whatever,” which is the one-word prayer that tells God that even though we may not feel qualified, if He calls us, we need to respond and go. His final message dealt with the cost of leadership, which is criticism. He told the students that sometimes criticism will be personal, irrational, and painful. When God chooses individuals for leadership, there will be a cost. The weekend was a reminder that God takes His children through crises and not out of them.

# Faculty News

**Stephen Bauer**, professor of Theology and Ethics, presented a paper titled “What Is His Name, and What Is His Son’s Name?” Proverbs 30:4 and the Trinity” at the Adventist Theological Society meetings, in San Antonio, Texas. *Perspective Digest* ([www.perspectivedigest.org](http://www.perspectivedigest.org)), a ministry of Adventist Theological Society which takes scholarly articles from its members and condenses them for the lay reader, will be publishing a condensed version of his chapter on theodicy from *Always Prepared*. The article is “How Can God Allow Suffering?”



**Michael Hasel**, professor of Archaeology and Biblical Languages, co-directed The Fourth Expedition to Lachish June 18-July 14. He spoke for Annual Council at the General Conference on October 8, focusing on Adventist education. He was the keynote speaker for the 19th AIIAS Annual Theological Forum, “Digging the Scriptures: Light on the Text Coming from the Past” in Manila, Philippines. He also authored the chapter on “The Table of Nations” in *Genesis: A Commentary* by Jacques Doukhan (Pacific Press, 2016) and the most recent GLOW tract, entitled “Ancient Scrolls Discovered in Forgotten Caves,” to be used for literature evangelism around the world.



**Jud Lake**, professor of Homiletics and Adventist Studies, spoke at the Charlotte Sharon Seventh-day Adventist Church on the subjects of Ellen White, the Bible, and her Civil War visions. Lake’s book, *A Nation in God’s Hands: Ellen White and the Civil War*, will be released by Pacific Press in the spring of 2017.



**Carlos Martin**, professor of Evangelism and Missions, had a busy summer teaching and preaching in Beirut, Lebanon; the Greater New York Conference, New York City; the Central States Conference, Omaha, Nebraska; Medellin, Colombia; Posa Rica, Veracruz, Mexico; Manila, Philippines; the Dallas Oak Cliff Spanish Church in Texas; the North Caribbean Conference in the Virgin Islands; and several local churches in the Georgia-Cumberland Conference.



**Edwin Reynolds**, professor of New Testament Studies, had an article published in *Parousia* 4 (2016): 99-120, a scholarly journal of the Brazilian University (UNASP), entitled “Dez chaves para interpretar o livro de Apocalipse” (“Ten Keys for Interpreting the Book of Revelation”). Another version of the article edited for lay people was published in the Portuguese edition of the *Adventist Review*. A three-hour seminar on “The Mission of the Church in the Book of Revelation” was given to pastors and elders in the Cancun area of the North Quintana Roo Conference in Mexico.



**Philip Samaan**, professor of Religion, Spirituality, and Adventist History, was the featured speaker at the camp meetings of the Michigan Conference and the Northern New England Conference. He was also the main presenter at the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference on Prayer and Evangelism, as well as at that conference’s prayer summit for the youth. He addressed the Chesapeake Conference Men of Faith retreat. In addition, he conducted numerous seminars in the North American Division.



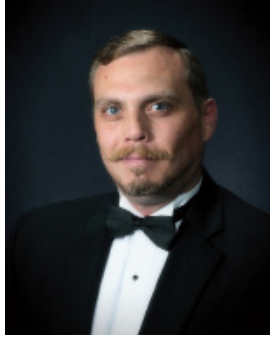
**Barry Tryon**, professor of Church Ministry and Spirituality, was the speaker at a men’s ministry weekend at the Arlington Adventist Church in Arlington, Texas. The theme of the weekend was “Legacy” and focused on qualities or values that men can pass on to those they are mentoring. Presentations included “A Legacy of Faithful Obedience,” “A Legacy of Impeccable Integrity,” “A Legacy of Powerful Proclamation,” and “A Legacy of Intentional Discipleship.”



# 2016-17 Ministerial Candidates



Joseph Duarte  
May '17



Joseph Ellis  
May '17



John Felts  
May '17



Brandon Ford  
May '17  
Carolina Conference



Richard Anthony Kimbley  
May '17



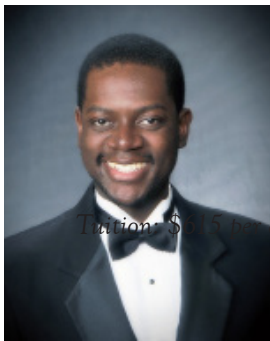
Orlando Lizardi  
May '17



Rodrick London May '17  
Georgia-Cumberland  
Conference



Felipe Mendes  
May '17



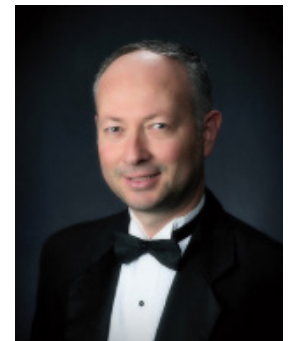
Matthew Paulas  
December '17



Marc-Anthony Pierre  
May '17



Edward Pino  
May '17



Mario Reategui  
May '17  
Michigan Conference



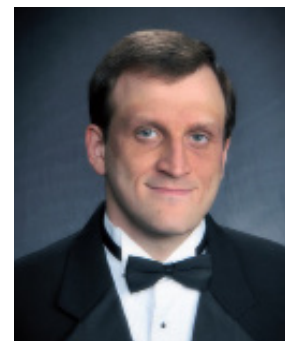
Bryant Rodriguez  
May '17



Link Russi  
May '17



Josue Sanchez  
December '16  
Florida Conference

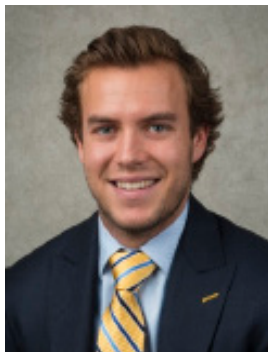


Pedro Sauder  
May '17

Dates reflect the time of graduation. Employment location is listed for students who have accepted positions as of February 2017.



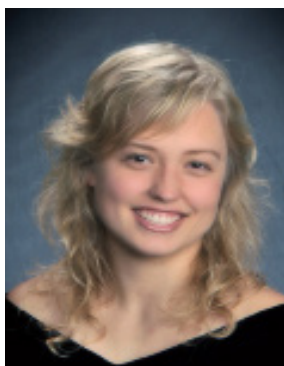
Eric Smith May '17  
Georgia-Cumberland  
Conference



Luke Steen May '17  
Georgia-Cumberland  
Conference



Paul Anthony Turner  
May '17  
Carolina Conference



Casey Vaughn  
December '16  
Carolina Conference



Dwaine Vaughn  
May '17

## SUMMER 2017 GRADUATE COURSES

Tuition: \$625 per credit

Audit: 50% of tuition

Contact Edwin Reynolds at [reynolds@southern.edu](mailto:reynolds@southern.edu)

**Online Session: June 5-July 28 ~ Application deadline: April 10**  
**RELT 542 Studies in Biblical Doctrines (Stephen Bauer, PhD)**

*Online class chat sessions to be arranged*

An in-depth study of key biblical doctrines, such as salvation, the nature of God and man, the Great Controversy, and the final destiny of God's people.

**On-Campus Intensives: June 19-30 ~ Application deadline: April 24**  
**RELB 556 Studies in Revelation (Edwin Reynolds, PhD)**

**8:00 a.m.–12:20 p.m. Monday–Friday**

A study of the prophecies and symbolism of Revelation with their historical fulfillments. Special attention is given to discovering the special message of Revelation for our day.

**RELP 570 World Mission (Carlos Martin, PhD) 1:00 p.m.–5:20 p.m. Monday–Friday**

A broad introduction to Christian world missions. This course covers aspects of the theology of mission; the history of mission; various philosophies of mission, including the Seventh-day Adventist perspective; and strategies for implementing missions in a variety of cultural settings.

**Off-Campus Intensives: July 5-18 ~ Application deadline: May 8**  
**RELP 532 Principles and Strategies for Church Growth (Mark Finley, DD) 8:00 a.m.–12:20 p.m. Monday-Friday**

This course focuses on the application of biblical principles of church growth to the North American church, as well as practical evangelistic strategies for the local Adventist congregation. These include year-long planning for community outreach, church planting, evangelistic preparation, and membership training.

**RELP 519 Church and Community Health Education (Douglas Jacobs, DMin) 1:00-5:20 p.m. Monday-Friday**

Based on principles outlined in the Bible, this course deals with specific methods and programs designed to reach both church and community in areas of felt needs not ordinarily emphasized in the traditional evangelistic approach.

**The off-campus intensive sessions will be held at the Living Hope School of Evangelism in Haymarket, VA 20169. Housing to be arranged without cost. Delivery fee is \$450.00 for each course.**

# Ordination Service for Edgar Alquinta

On November 5, 2016, Edgar Alquinta, coordinator for the Evangelistic Resource Center (ERC) in the School of Religion, was ordained to the gospel ministry. Leaders of the Southern Union Conference and the Georgia-Cumberland Conference led the event, attended by students, professors, friends, and members of the Knoxville First Church.

Edgar and Pamela, his wife, were born in Chile. In his early adult years, Edgar worked as a travel agent, but in 1999 the couple made the most important decision of their lives as they attended an evangelistic series and were baptized. They later immigrated to the United States, actively serving in their local church in Hillsboro, Oregon. Edgar's leadership skills were noticed, and the church asked him to be the church administrator, a position in which he served for three years.

While still living in Oregon, Edgar decided to study theology at Southern Adventist University (SAU). During his time at SAU, Edgar participated in three mission trips organized by the ERC. After graduation in 2009, the Georgia-Cumberland Conference sponsored Edgar to the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, where he completed his master of divinity degree with an emphasis in world mission.

For two-and-a-half years Edgar served as the senior pastor of the Knoxville SDA Church. As a pastor, he led his church in community outreach ministries that resulted in many people being added to the church and trained as disciples. In 2014 he accepted a call to be the coordinator for the ERC, working with Dr. Alan Parker and Dr. Carlos Martin in the Robert H. Pierson Institute of World Missions and Evangelism.

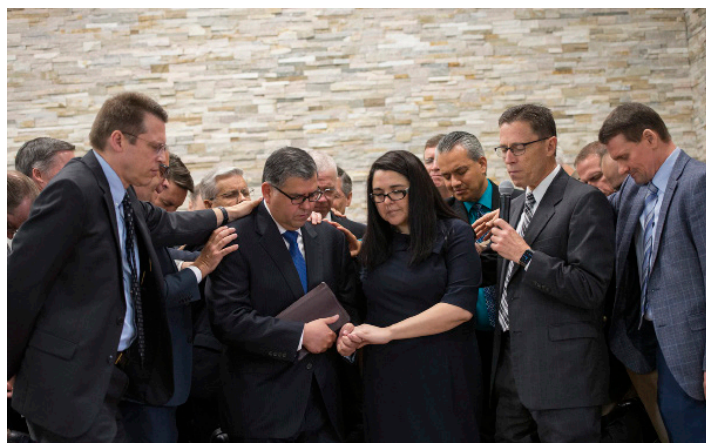


Photo by Brian Young

## Ordination Prayer for Edgar and Pamela Alquinta

Since 2001, the ERC has trained and sent more than 1,100 students to preach evangelistic sermons in 35 countries. As a result of these series more than 27,000 people have been baptized.

In order to participate in these evangelistic trips, students raise a portion of the cost usually amounting to the cost of airfare alone. Other expenses such as food, lodging, and visas are subsidized by generous donations to the ERC. In addition to planning these trips, Pastor Alquinta provides training to the students so that they will be effective evangelists in places they may have never been before.

The Alquintas have been blessed with two children, Javiera and Matthew.

## EC3 Held at Southern Adventist University

For the first time in its 45-year history, the Southern Union Evangelism Conference (EC3) was held on Southern's campus and hosted by the School of Religion last November. This annual event provides training, networking, and inspiration for evangelists, pastors, and church administrators. Those who attended this event rated it very highly.

A dynamic speaker lineup included well-known Adventist evangelists Roger Hernandez, Carlton Byrd, John Bradshaw, Ty Gibson, and Myron Edmonds. Plenary sessions included intriguing presentations by author James Emery White on how to reach the "nones" (those with no religious affiliation), as well as a gripping lecture on apologetics by author Alex MacFarland. Breakout sessions included seminars on preaching from Oakwood professor Charles Wesley Knight and personal evangelism by Southern professor Alan Parker. A Spanish track was conducted by Walter Castor, Frank Gonzalez, and Nilton Garcia.

The move to Southern was inspired by the desire to bring in a younger audience and to stimulate new thinking about evangelism.

Junior and senior theology majors were excused from classes so they could attend the conference. They were inspired and challenged by the presentations, and glad for the opportunity to rub shoulders with pastors and leaders.

One of the many highlights for them was a banquet where Walter Pearson Jr. (from Breath of Life television) was honored for his years of service in evangelism.

The event was so successful that the School of Religion and the Southern Union Conference plan to repeat the event this fall. Make plans now to attend the next EC3 conference from November 5 through 8!



# THE DEAN'S PAGE

## The Courage of the White Rose

As I write this, a new year and a new semester have recently begun, and as I reflect upon my hope to inspire my students with a commitment to make a difference in the world around them, I am reminded that sometimes it has been students just like them who have led the way in showing moral courage and making a positive impact on the world. Students like the group known as the White Rose.\* The White Rose was the name chosen by the German students who, inspired by their commitment to Christ and galvanized by the bravery of one of their professors, decided to protest against the evils of Nazism in Germany in the 1940s.

A brother and sister, Hans and Sophie Scholl, perhaps the two most famous of these students, were not particularly committed Christians during their childhood. But as they went away to school and met some devout Christians, they began looking at Christianity in a new light. They read some Christian books and explored the Christian worldview. The Holy Spirit brought conviction to their hearts, and on December 7, 1941 (the day of the attack on Pearl Harbor), Hans wrote to a friend, "I'm thinking of you on this second Sunday of Advent, which I'm experiencing as a wholehearted Christian for the first time in my life."

As Hans and Sophie continued their university studies, they began to feel that they were responsible for what was happening in Germany. As Hans noted the evils pervading German society and saw the minimal resistance offered to these evils, he asked pointedly, "Where are the Christians?"

A turning point was reached one evening when Hans was invited to a social gathering in the home of a certain professor. The conversation turned to the subject of politics. Since the group did not know one another well, it was a dangerous subject to discuss.

Everyone present agreed that Germany was headed in the wrong direction and that evil things were happening. One person suggested that the only way to cope with the Nazis was just to hang on and try to wait out the nightmare. But philosophy professor Kurt Huber was of a different mindset. He exclaimed, "Something must be done, and it must be done now!" Professor Huber began to help the students of the White Rose, and over the next two years, they produced and distributed a number of leaflets highlighting the evils of the Nazi party.

But the inevitable happened. On Thursday, February 18, 1943, Hans and Sophie took their latest pamphlet to the university campus to distribute it personally. They were apprehended by the authorities, summarily tried and convicted,

and they were beheaded on the evening of their trials. But they had stood up for right. They had made a difference. Inspired by their commitment to Jesus Christ, influenced by godly mentors and a courageous professor, they had made a statement in favor of truth. As Sophie had stated it simply, "Somebody, after all, had to make a start."

Hans and Sophie were buried in Perlach Cemetery in Munich on February 24, 1943. In the city, graffiti appeared on the walls. It read, "Their spirit lives."

I wonder, Does their moral courage live? Does it live in the hearts and minds of the faculty and students of Southern Adventist University? Is each one of us willing to manifest the courage of our convictions and to live out what it means to be a Christian in our time?

A worthy challenge for the new year and new semester is expressed in the words of King George VI, who addressed the British people at the beginning of the year 1940. Adolph Hitler, having already conquered lands to the east, was hungry for more conquest and would soon attack western Europe. The very existence of the United Kingdom was at risk. In this dark time, King George broadcast a live message to offer reassurance to his people. He declared, "A new year is at hand. We cannot tell what it will bring. If it brings peace, how thankful we shall all be. If it brings us continued struggle we shall remain undaunted."

He then quoted from Minnie Haskins' poem "The Gate of the Year":

*And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:  
"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."*

*And he replied:  
"Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God.  
That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."*

As we venture out into the moral darkness of the times in which we live, may we place our hands into the Lord's nail-pierced hands, and may we know that being next to Him is the best and safest place to be.

\*For the story of the White Rose, I have relied on Steven Garber, *The Fabric of Faithfulness*, InterVarsity Press: Downers Grove, Illinois (1996), pp. 162ff.



Greg King, dean



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An important transition has taken place in Hackman Hall. At the end of September, the School of Religion bid a fond farewell to Mary Anne Poulson, who retired after serving as office manager for over ten years. Mary Anne successfully handled a plethora of responsibilities with poise, efficiency, and cheerfulness. Even on the many days when the pace in her office was hectic and the requests for her assistance were numerous, she was unflappable and unfailingly gracious in her interactions with both students and fellow employees.

Her retirement plans include spending more time with her family, including her beloved grandchildren, making use of her master's degree in home economics and her interest in health ministry to teach adjunct classes for Southern, such as Health Benefits of Vegetarian Diets and Health Evangelism, and continuing to be active in her local church. Her colleagues in the School of Religion wish her well in her retirement years and want to express appreciation to her for over a decade of faithful service and thankfulness to the Lord for leading her to be part of the team in Hackman Hall.



Photo by Edwin Reynolds  
Mary Anne & Herb Poulson at Mary Anne's Retirement Party