

REACHING OUT

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Washington, D.C., Museum Features Work of Southern Students and Professors



Photo contributed by Marketing and University Relations

Michael Hasel, PhD, and Martin Klingbeil, DLitt, professors of archaeology and biblical languages, attended the grand opening of the Museum of the Bible in November 2017.

More than 3 million visitors are expected to visit the new Museum of the Bible in Washington, D.C., this year. Many of them will explore the findings of Southern's archaeology students and professors on display in the special temporary exhibit titled "In the Valley of David and Goliath." This area of the museum focuses on the ground-breaking contributions of the Khirbet Qeiyafa Archaeological Project, co-sponsored by the Institute of Archaeology at Southern and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

From 2009-2011, many groups of Southern students had the opportunity to work on a site overlooking the valley where the story of David and Goliath took place. The ancient fortified garrison city Khirbet Qeiyafa is on the border between Judah and Philistia, southwest of Jerusalem.

During the course of the excavation, students helped make discoveries that gained international attention and are now featured in the museum, such as the oldest Hebrew inscription ever found.

"We were the only special exhibit to open up with the main exhibits of the Museum of the Bible," said Michael Hasel, PhD, director of Southern's Institute of Archaeology. "Because this was the grand opening for the museum, guests of honor, donors, and dignitaries were invited from around the world. It was a privilege to take part in these ceremonies."

The Museum of the Bible is located in the heart of Washington, D.C., near Capitol Hill, the Smithsonian Institution, and the National Mall. Hasel said the six-story museum is the largest in the world to focus on the history of the Bible.

The Khirbet Qeiyafa Archaeological Project was sponsored by the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and directed by Yosef Garfinkel and Saar Ganor. Michael G. Hasel served as associate director with Southern Adventist University as the senior partner. The project pioneered a cyber-archaeology approach. The CIRC database was developed by the School of Computing at Southern under the direction of Scot Anderson, Michael Dant, and Thomas Olsen. The School of Visual Art and Design, including faculty members Giselle Hasel and Dean Scott, provided support in 3-D animation, rendering, and architectural drawings of the site. Three volumes of the final publications have been produced. *Khirbet Qeiyafa (Vol. 4)* is now at the press, and a popular book titled *In The Footsteps of King David: Revelations from an Ancient Biblical City* will be published this summer by Thames & Hudson.

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Ivan Williams Challenges Ministerial Candidates

The speaker for this year's Ministerial Candidate Recognition Weekend was Ivan Williams, DMin, ministerial director for the North American Division (NAD) of Seventh-day Adventists.

Williams first emphasized the importance of the pastor being reconciled to God in a strong personal relationship with Him. He emphasized the importance of sustaining a personal spiritual life apart from sermon preparation and similar research. Reconciliation also includes the work of evangelism, as the pastor reconciles undisciplined souls to God helping the congregation unite in common goals and a common vision.

For Sabbath School, Williams spoke about pastoring under pressure and harsh conditions. He reminded the students that ministry can be very tough on the pastor. A leader will face criticism, church politics, difficult people, challenging building projects, and more. Williams reiterated that the pastor must have a strong personal relationship with God apart from professional duties, and that without a personal walk with God, the pressures and problems can destroy the pastor's ministry. On the other hand, he gave several personal testimonies of how God has helped him through some tough circumstances and how the joys of seeing souls being disciplined, baptized, and growing more than adequately rewards the minister for the pressures and challenges encountered.

Finally, Williams spoke on being a humble vessel in God's hands to be used by Him.

The larger message focused on not having the pastor think that he is indispensable to God's work on earth. Williams emphasized the importance of having boundaries for family and mental and physical health so that by good stewardship of oneself, an individual can offer him- or herself as a tool to be used by

God that is not weary, worn out, or broken. Learning to avoid a messianic complex and to operate within one's own limits gives God better service than overestimating one's importance. The School of Religion appreciated Dr. Williams' messages, which were inspiring, practical, and uplifting.



Photo contributed

Ivan Williams, ministerial director for the NAD

ELLEN G. WHITE / ADVENTIST HERITAGE LECTURESHIP



Philip Samaan was appointed to the Ellen G. White Memorial Chair in Religion in 2000.

Photo contributed

Philip Samaan speaks for the Ellen G. White/Adventist Heritage Banquet and Lectureship Convocation.

On October 25 and 26, 2017, Philip Samaan spoke for the annual lectureship series sponsored by the Institute for the Study of Ellen G. White and Adventist Heritage. At the banquet Wednesday evening, he addressed specific aspects of Ellen White's prophetic ministry and answered questions from the faculty and students in attendance. For Thursday morning convocation, Professor Samaan discussed some of Ellen White's most unusual statements and drew powerful lessons for daily Christian experience. As usual, his messages were well received and blessed those in attendance. Samaan has taught at Southern for 20 years and will retire in the spring of 2018. Prior to coming to Southern, he was the editor of the *Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guides* at the General Conference and served the world church in various capacities. While students and faculty will miss Samaan's presence on campus, his legacy will continue in their hearts.

PIERSON INSTITUTE OF EVANGELISM AND WORLD MISSIONS



Photo by Stephen Bauer

Byard Parks gives a call of commitment Sabbath on morning.

Byard Parks was this year's featured speaker for the Pierson Weekend of Evangelism and Missions. Parks has been connected with Adventist Frontier Missions for 17 years, including nearly a decade he spent in Turkey, where he helped to establish a church and the country's first Adventist publishing house. Currently, he is founder and director of GoTential, the tentmaking arm of Adventist Frontier Missions.

It's not often that we get a guest speaker on campus who is a frontline missionary. Pastor Parks held the students in rapt attention as he shared stories and creative approaches to missions. During the weekend, he talked about the need for innovation in missions and for tentmaking missionaries. His final sermon contained an inspiring call to join the missionary movement, and students streamed forward in response to his appeal. As a result of the weekend, a common refrain of the students was: "This was great! I'm inspired to be a missionary!"

Faculty News

Michael Hasel, professor of Archaeology and Biblical Languages, gave two worship presentations on October 8 and 10, 2017, for the General Conference Annual Council, on the theme “Faithfulness to His Word.” He was the keynote speaker for a major Reformation symposium at the Village SDA Church in Berrien Springs, Michigan, October 27-28. His sermons were titled “The Papal Counter-Reformation Today.” He presented a scientific report to the American Schools of Oriental Research in Boston, November 16. On November 17 he attended the grand opening of the Museum of the Bible in Washington, D.C., where a special exhibit on Khirbet Qeiyafa, a project co-sponsored by Southern Adventist University, was featured.



Greg King, dean and professor of Biblical Studies, attended the Faith and Science Conference in St. George, Utah, July 6-14, 2017. While there he gave a presentation titled “No Middle Ground: Why Theistic Evolution and Biblical Creation Are Mutually Exclusive.” He also attended the Biblical Research Institute Ethics Committee on the campus of Andrews University in September and returned to the Andrews campus in December as a member of the team conducting a site visit for the Adventist Accrediting Association.



Carlos Martin, professor of Evangelism and Missions, traveled to Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, to accomplish the groundwork for the summer field school of evangelism, which will involve 20 evangelistic series to be conducted by students in May 2018. He also traveled to Panama City, Panama; Cancun, Mexico; and Santo Domingo, Ecuador, to make arrangements for the other ERC mission trips that will be held this spring and summer. In September he provided training for a Congress of Evangelism for 1,200 small group leaders in Oaxaca, Mexico. In November he did the same for 1,100 small group leaders in Playa del Carmen, Mexico, and for 1,200 in Cancun, Mexico. He conducted a seminar in New York City in September on last-day events.



Edwin Reynolds, professor of New Testament Studies, presented four studies on biblical hermeneutics on October 27-28, 2017, for the Secrets Unsealed Summit near Yosemite, California, focusing on the theme of *Sola Scriptura* in celebration of the Protestant Reformation’s 500th anniversary. His titles included “Biblical Principles for Interpreting Scripture,” “Hermeneutics and the Reformation,” “Strange Fire: Unbiblical Hermeneutics,” and “Applying Hermeneutical Methods.”



Philip Samaan, professor of Christian Spirituality, and Adventist History, was the featured speaker on the topics of Christ’s methods of teaching, spirituality, evangelism, and discipleship. He addressed these practical subjects before church groups and ministerials meetings in North and South Carolina, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, and Ohio. He was also the December graduation speaker at Southern Adventist University.



2017-2018 Ministerial Candidates



Chris Anderson
May '18
Georgia-Cumberland
Conference



Juanita Baker
December '17
Minnesota Conference



Matthew Baker
December '17
Minnesota Conference



Andrew Caban
May '18



Ben Curet
May '18
Florida Conference



Andrew de Jesus
May '18



Carlos De La Cruz
May '18



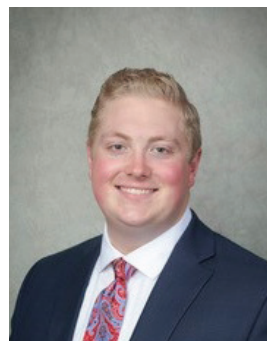
Jordan Fowler
May '18



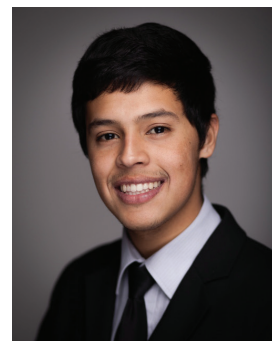
Anthony Jamgochian
May '18



Rolf Jean Louis
December '17



Jacob Metzner
May '18



Juan Mora
May '18
Carolina Conference



Abel Morobel
December '17
Florida Conference



Pablo Perez
May '18



José Pieretti
May '18
Carolina Conference



Chris Sauvé May '18
Georgia-Cumberland
Conference

Dates reflect the time of graduation. Employment location is listed for students who have accepted positions as of February 2018.



Nathan Shires
December '17
Oklahoma Conference



Josh Sholock May '18
Georgia-Cumberland
Conference



Yesenia Sosa
May '18

SUMMER 2018 GRADUATE CLASSES

Tuition: \$635 per credit

Audit: 50% of tuition

Contact Edwin Reynolds at reynolds@southern.edu
or Alan Parker at parker@southern.edu

On-Campus Intensive Session A (June 4-15, 2018)

Application deadline: April 9, 2018

RELP 570 World Missions (Alan Parker, DTh)

8:00 a.m.–12:20 p.m. Monday–Friday

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

RELP 521 Time and Life Management

(Jud Lake, DMin, ThD)

1:00 p.m.–5:20 p.m. Monday–Friday

Explore the fundamentals of time and its management within a theological and pastoral context. Special consideration is given to articulating personal values, achieving goals, evaluating and implementing a time-management system, overcoming personal time-management weaknesses, and applying strategies of efficiency and effectiveness to everyday life.

On-Campus Intensive Session B (June 18-29, 2018)

Application deadline: May 7, 2018

RELP 534 Personal Soul-Winning Skills (Philip Samaan, D.Min.)

8:00 a.m.–12:20 p.m. Monday–Friday

A study of the importance, principles, and methods of personal evangelism. The course focuses on the development of skills to help individuals make favorable decisions for Jesus Christ through one-on-one small-group evangelism. Students will gain practical experience in laboratory exercises and in the field.

RELT 520 Spirituality in Ministry (Barry Tryon, DMin, PhD)

1:00-5:20 p.m. Monday–Friday

Examine a biblical model for spiritual leadership and its implications for personal spiritual life and development. The objective of this course is to discover how to experience life and ministry that is full of God's grace and power.

Norman Gulley Completes Final Volume In Systematic Theology Series

By Abigail King, sophomore marketing major

After many years of hard work, Norman Gulley, PhD, research professor in the School of Religion at Southern Adventist University, has completed the fourth and final volume in a landmark series. Published last fall by Andrews University Press, *Systematic Theology: The Church and the Last Things* expounds on last-day events from a scriptural and historical perspective. Gulley explained, “Volume 4 will be of interest to all who want to be informed and ready for the days just ahead.”

Systematic theology means studying about God in an orderly way. The first volume of the series explains how to study and interpret biblical truths about God, followed by volumes covering the Trinity, creation, Christ, salvation, and last-day events. These four volumes are intended for serious students of the Bible and theology but are also available as a biblical resource for anyone.

“This is a groundbreaking work,” said Greg King, dean of Southern’s School of Religion. “It is the first multivolume systematic theology from an Adventist perspective.”

Ronald Knott, director of Andrews University Press, agreed. “It is the largest theological work ever written by an Adventist author. Now complete, these volumes will have a lasting impact on the general understanding of Adventist theology for years to come.”

Gulley graduated from Southern (then Southern Missionary College) in 1955 and received his PhD in systematic theology from the University of Edinburgh in Scotland.

The idea for Gulley’s series came while he was studying in Scotland. He became convicted that the Seventh-day Adventist Church needed a unique theological system, one unlike other systems—based on Scripture alone. He sensed that God was calling him to write a systematic theology for Adventists and promised God that he would try. However, Gulley had no idea what this would involve and that it would take more than 30 years to complete.

Gulley’s work has received attention from scholars outside the Adventist world. David Dockery, president of Trinity International University, commended Gulley’s work in Volume 4 as “thoughtful in its approach, balanced in its engagement with others, wide-ranging in its research and interaction, and clearly presented.”

Gulley’s next book, *Christ Our Assurance: How to have Fitness for Last-day Events and Heaven—A Christ-centered Book of Hope*, will be a companion source for the *Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide* for the second quarter of 2018.

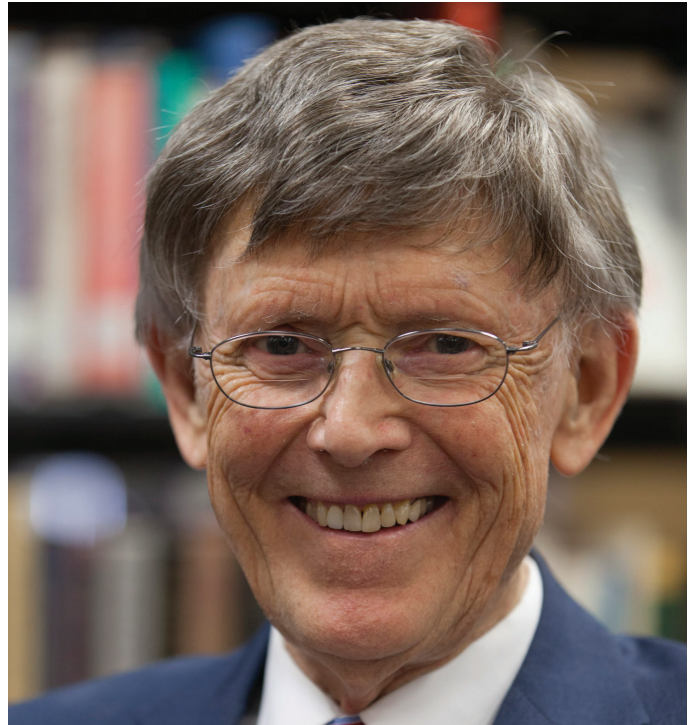
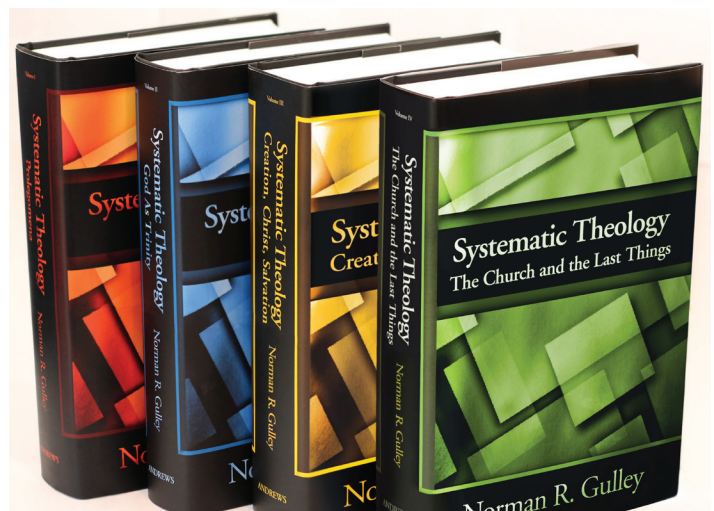


Photo contributed from Marketing
Norman Gulley, School of Religion research professor



THE DEAN'S PAGE

What We Are Looking For

The School of Religion faculty is being hit with a spate of retirements. Last summer Donn Leatherman retired after 25 years of teaching at Southern. This coming summer we will be losing three more faculty members for the same reason, as Philip Samaan, Doug Jacobs, and Edwin Reynolds—with a combined 50 years of service on the Southern campus—step away from their full-time faculty positions and transition into their retirement years. And there is one more retirement on the immediate horizon, as Carlos Martin has announced his intention to take the same step in the summer of 2019, after what will then be 18 years on the Southern religion faculty.

It is only natural to exclaim: “What a gaping hole! What large shoes to fill!” Indeed, that is the case. How do you replace what is approaching a combined century of ministry on the Southern campus?

While no one person truly replaces another, in that we are all individuals and no one is a clone of another person, we do believe that the Lord is providing capable and dedicated teachers for the religion faculty at Southern. Two new colleagues have already joined us, and we are in the process of hiring a couple more.

Someone might wonder, What qualities are we looking for in the faculty whom we invite to join us? What characteristics should they manifest?

Of course, there must be academic credentials. In order to teach at the university level, the instructor is required to have at least a master's degree, and a doctoral degree is preferred. Yes, an appropriate educational background is assumed. Additionally, we are happy to welcome individuals who will enrich our group in terms of ethnicity, gender, and country of origin.

But are there qualities that transcend all others, characteristics that are non-negotiable for those who would join our faculty? I would like to suggest five such qualities that we consider essential in prospective faculty members.

First, the person should have a vibrant, positive, and contagious relationship with Jesus Christ. This is the foremost quality. If a potential faculty member doesn't have this, he doesn't have what is most important of all. Southern Adventist University desires to be a Christ-centered institution. We want to teach Christ-centered classes in the School of Religion, and we want our teachers to model a committed and growing relationship with Christ. Thus, anyone who doesn't know Jesus intimately and personally would not be a good fit for us.

Second, the person should be committed to what I would call a “high view” of Scripture. That is, he should believe strongly in the divine inspiration of the Bible and uphold its authority and relevance for Christian life today. This is fundamental and foundational. If a prospective faculty member is solid on Scripture, other things, including

support for the biblical teaching on creation, sexuality, and other hotly debated issues, tend to fall into place. Conversely, if he sees the Bible largely as an account of ancient humans groping after God instead of containing God's revelation to and through humans, he will likely be adrift on a whole raft of significant issues without a firm foundation to anchor him to the truth.

Third, the person should be dedicated to the message and mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Someone might expect this to be mentioned, because Southern Adventist University is an institution owned and operated by the Adventist Church, and this is a quality the Board of Trustees would expect in an incoming faculty member. However, I want to emphasize that this is not mentioned just to give lip service to a quality that is expected or to satisfy important constituencies. Rather, this characteristic is highlighted because it is vital to the current religion faculty, and because we really do want colleagues who are Adventists at heart, who believe that God has given the Adventist Church a message and mission for this time in Earth's history, and who are personally invested in proclaiming this message and furthering this mission in a world that is in desperate need.

Fourth, the person should be able to interact with students in a positive, engaging, and dynamic way in the classroom setting. Basically, we are saying that the prospective faculty member should be able to excel at the primary role which he is called here to fill—that of a teacher. While significant scholarly research does take place at Southern, it is primarily a teaching institution, and the classroom is the main setting in which instruction takes place. Thus, potential faculty members should have the ability to foster a vibrant learning environment in the classroom.

Fifth, the person should have the ability to work in harmony with the other members of the School of Religion team. We have 12 faculty (what a great biblical number!), and we want an incoming faculty member to contribute to the collegiality and camaraderie that are characteristic of this fine team. We don't want a prima donna or a one-man band, as it were, but another instrument in the orchestra who will contribute to and enhance the musical production.

This is the type of person whom we want and need. May God lead us to just the right replacement faculty!



Greg King, dean



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ERC WELCOMES NEW LEADERSHIP

DOUGLAS NA'A - SALT RAUL RIVERO - ERC

The School of Religion welcomes Pastor Douglas Na'a as the new SALT (Soul-winning and Leadership Training) program director. Na'a is joining the SALT team from the Hawaii Conference, where he served as a district pastor on the island of Kaua'i. Na'a has extensive experience in evangelism. He has planted several churches; served as a Bible worker, youth pastor, and senior pastor; and conducted more than 20 evangelistic meetings.

As the SALT program director, Pastor Na'a will be responsible for teaching SALT classes, promoting and recruiting students, coordinating evangelistic outreach, and guiding the strategic development of the SALT program, which is run in partnership with It Is Written.

"I'm really excited that Douglas Na'a is our new SALT director," comments It Is Written speaker/director John Bradshaw. "He knows evangelism inside and out. We have great days ahead. God has blessed us with a fine leader."

Na'a is excited to join the team: "I love evangelism in all of its phases. I am so excited to teach young people about evangelism and disciple them in a transformational way."

"We are thrilled to welcome a capable evangelist with a heart for people and a passion for teaching," states Pierson Institute director Alan Parker. "Douglas Na'a is very personable and easygoing, blending evangelistic zeal with pastoral compassion. He has a desire to mentor young people and to engage them in sharing the gospel."

Pastor Raul Rivero is the newest addition to the Pierson Institute team of the School of Religion. He brings a pastoral and evangelistic background that has already proved to be a blessing to our students.

Rivero has worked as a pastor in the Chesapeake, New Jersey, and Arkansas-Louisiana local conferences. Before accepting the position as coordinator of the Evangelistic Resource Center missions program, he was pastoring in New Orleans, where he began pursuing a PhD in missions.

The ERC involves students in short-term evangelistic missions. Through these evangelistic experiences, students develop a greater understanding of the Adventist message, acquire a greater appreciation of a worldwide denomination, experience a deeper relationship with God, and make a contribution to the world church. Over the last 17 years, approximately 1,300 ERC preachers have been instrumental in leading almost 30,000 people to baptism.

Through his tireless efforts, Pastor Rivero has already been instrumental in doubling the number of student evangelists for this coming May. He has traveled to Panama, Ecuador, and Jamaica in preparation for the upcoming evangelistic series.

The ERC plans to send 133 students to seven locations from spring break through May 2018: Bulacan (Philippines), Bulawayo (Zimbabwe), Cancun (Mexico), Montego Bay (Jamaica), Nashville (Tennessee), Panama City (Panama), and Santo Domingo (Ecuador).