

S O U T H E R N
A D V E N T I S T
U N I V E R S I T Y

COMMENCEMENT EVENTS

MAY 10, 2026



ILES PHYSICAL EDUCATION CENTER
COLLEGEDALE, TENNESSEE



SOUTHERN
ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

Power for Mind & Soul

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO GRADUATES



Dear Graduates,

Congratulations on reaching this important milestone in your academic journey. Completing your degree is a significant achievement, and we are proud to celebrate this moment with you and your family.

As you step into the next chapter of your life, whether that be a career, further studies, or new personal opportunities, I invite you to reflect on the words of Colossians 3:23-24: (NIV)

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.”

This verse is a reminder that your work—whatever form it takes—is not just about making a living or gaining recognition. It is an act of service and worship. When you commit yourself to excellence, integrity, and purpose, you honor Jesus, who has called and equipped you for a life of meaning and impact.

As a graduate of Southern Adventist University, you leave with an academic degree rooted in faith, service, and calling. You are uniquely positioned to influence your community and your profession with Christ-centered values and a spirit of humility and compassion.

May you approach each new responsibility with dedication, viewing every task as an opportunity to reflect God's character and love while remembering that in serving others, you are serving Christ.

On behalf of the entire Southern family, I extend our warmest congratulations and blessings on your journey ahead.

Sincerely,



Ken Shaw
President

SERVICES ON THE WEB



Commencement services can be viewed live online by visiting southern.edu/stream.

GRAND MARSHAL FOR ALL SERVICES



Lisa Kuhlman, *University Senate Chair, School of Business Associate Professor*

COMMENCEMENT

Sunday, May 10, 2026, 9 a.m.



| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Fanfare..... | <i>Fanfare for the Lord Mayor of London</i> | Sir Arthur Bliss |
| Processional..... | <i>Pomp and Circumstance March, No.1</i> | Sir Edward Elgar |
| Invocation..... | ..... | Cole Boggess, <i>graduate</i> |
| Welcome ..... | ..... | Juanita Sampson, <i>graduate</i> |
| Introduction of Speaker..... | ..... | Anaya Parker, <i>graduate</i> |
| Commencement Address..... | “Don’t Miss the Middle” | Alan Parker, DTh <i>Professor, School of Religion</i> |
| Conferring of Degrees..... | ..... | Ken Shaw, EdD, <i>President</i> |
| Presentation of Degree Candidates ..... | ..... | Robert Young, PhD <i>Senior Vice President for Academic Administration</i> Dionne Felix, PhD <i>Associate Vice President for Academic Administration and Dean of Student Success and Retention</i> Corjena Cheung, PhD <i>Associate Vice President for Academic Administration and Dean of Graduate and Professional Studies</i> Karon Powell, JD <i>Director of Records and Advisement</i> |
| Alumni Association Welcome ..... | ..... | Cheryl Torres <i>Director of Alumni Relations, Class of 2005</i> |
| Benediction..... | ..... | Roisbel Hernandez, <i>graduate</i> |
| Recessional..... | <i>Rigaudon</i> | André Campra |

Brass Ensemble Conductor: Ken Parsons, *School of Music Associate Professor*

Faculty Assisting Graduates: Lunelle Bertresse, MSW, *School of Social Work Associate Professor*
Candy Dolcy, MSW, *School of Social Work Assistant Professor*

Please silence all electronic devices during programs.

Please do not use airhorns, confetti poppers, or other noisemakers as they can be frightening, harmful, and painful to those of our guests with hearing devices.

COMMENCEMENT

Sunday, May 10, 2026, 1 p.m.



| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Fanfare..... | <i>Fanfare for the Lord Mayor of London</i> | Sir Arthur Bliss |
| Processional..... | <i>Pomp and Circumstance March, No.1</i> | Sir Edward Elgar |
| Invocation..... | ..... | Mia Sakata, <i>graduate</i> |
| Welcome ..... | ..... | Kimberly Bobenhausen, <i>graduate</i> |
| Introduction of Speaker..... | ..... | Summer Nash, <i>graduate</i> |
| Commencement Address..... | “Tomorrow” | Andy Nash <i>Adjunct Professor, School of Religion</i> |
| Conferring of Degrees ..... | ..... | Ken Shaw, EdD, <i>President</i> |
| Presentation of Degree Candidates ..... | ..... | Robert Young, PhD <i>Senior Vice President for Academic Administration</i> Dionne Felix, PhD <i>Associate Vice President for Academic Administration and Dean of Student Success and Retention</i> Corjena Cheung, PhD <i>Associate Vice President for Academic Administration and Dean of Graduate and Professional Studies</i> Karon Powell, JD <i>Director of Records and Advisement</i> |
| Faculty Honors..... | ..... | Ken Shaw, EdD, <i>President</i> Robert Young, PhD, <i>Senior Vice President for Academic Administration</i> |
| Alumni Association Welcome ..... | ..... | Cheryl Torres <i>Director of Alumni Relations, Class of 2005</i> |
| Benediction..... | ..... | Frank Lizardo, <i>graduate</i> |
| Recessional..... | <i>Rigaudon</i> | André Campra |

Brass Ensemble Conductor: Ken Parsons, *School of Music Associate Professor*

Faculty Assisting Graduates: Jaelyn Huse, PhD, *School of Nursing Professor*
Candy Dolcy, MSW, *School of Social Work Assistant Professor*

DOCTORATE OF NURSING PRACTICE PROJECTS



| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Megan Chandler | <i>Benefits and Barriers to Implementing a Mentorship Program Among Oncology Nurses</i> |
| Sarah Hillebert | <i>Utilizing Youth Mental Health First Aid: A Community-Based Prevention Strategy to Increase the Confidence Levels of Seventh-day Adventist Adults in Assisting Youth with Mental Health Distress</i> |
| Elista Sumner | <i>The Impact of a Culturally Sensitive Six-Week Type 2 Diabetes Reversal Program That Features Lifestyle Medicine Education and Health Coaching on Fasting Blood Sugar Levels in the African American Community</i> |

SOUTHERN SCHOLARS



In addition to maintaining a 3.50 GPA and meeting normal degree requirements, *Southern Scholars* complete a special honors curriculum involving interdisciplinary studies, honors courses, and independent study. This semester, three graduates earned that distinction. The titles of their senior research projects are listed below:

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Sarah Rose Hunter | <i>Small-Scale Spatial Structuring of Soil Microbial Communities in a Temperate Forest</i> |
| Summer Rose Nichols | <i>The Composer-Performer Collaboration: A Case Study</i> |
| Amelia Elise Samaniego | <i>Stylistic Priming: A Comparative Analysis of Writing Complexity in Academic and Slang Tones</i> |

THE MACE



The mace is a traditional symbol used to communicate and designate authority. The Southern Adventist University mace was crafted in 1986 by the late John Durichek, a Southern alum. Southern's mace represents its heritage and *raison d'être* (reason for existence). The base is of pine from Jones Hall, built in 1917 and razed in 1985. The main staff is of walnut. The seven rings represent completeness. The four-sided ebony segment is seen as Southern's underlying educational philosophy—balanced mental, spiritual, physical, and social development for each student. The brass flames represent the Holy Spirit.

Bearing the mace is the grand marshal, Lisa Kuhlman, chair of the University Senate and associate professor in the School of Business. Her regalia is evergreen, the university's traditional color.

ACADEMIC REGALIA



The color of velvet trim on the hoods represents the area of study. The color of the silk lining represents the university that conferred the degree. The color of the tassel represents the degree of the undergraduate.

| | | | |
|--|------------|---|---------------|
| Arts, Humanities, Interdisciplinary, Letters ... | White | Nursing..... | Apricot |
| Business..... | Drab | Outdoor Leadership..... | Russet |
| Communication..... | Crimson | Physical Education..... | Sage Green |
| Education..... | Light Blue | Public Administration, Foreign Service..... | Peacock |
| Engineering/Software Engineering..... | Orange | Science..... | Golden Yellow |
| Fine Arts..... | Brown | Social Work..... | Citron |
| Law..... | Purple | Theology..... | Scarlet |
| Music..... | Pink | | |

HONOR CORDS



Gold Cord—*Summa Cum Laude*—3.90+ GPA

Silver Cord—*Magna Cum Laude*—3.75-3.89 GPA

Green Cord—*Cum Laude*—3.50-3.74 GPA

Maroon and Navy Blue—Student Missions

All other colors represent honors societies in the various academic areas.

CLASS GIFT



The Class of 2026 has chosen to leave its mark on campus by investing in the renovation of the beloved gazebo—a space that has held countless moments of connection, reflection, and rest. Whether it’s a place to gather with friends, pause between classes, or simply enjoy a quiet moment, the gazebo just up the hill from Thatcher Hall’s main entrance represents the rhythms of everyday life at Southern. This renovation will restore and enhance the structure, creating a welcoming space for future students to make memories of their own. Join us in shaping this meaningful legacy at southern.edu/classgift.

BACCALAUREATE DEGREE GRADUATES

| | |
|---|---|
| Sofia Victoria Acevedo Mendez, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BBA Marketing |
| Kimberly Bolaoluwatito Adewunmi, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Nikki Jessica Sullano Agra | BS Health Science |
| James Kaejung Ahn, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BS Biology [Biomedical] |
| Jon Thomas Aitchison, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BS Computer Science [Web Development] |
| Omololade Ademilola Akintayo, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BS Psychology [Industrial/Organizational] |
| Leila Marie Alav, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BS Psychology [Clinical] |
| Kiley Samantha Allen, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Caleb Alvarez..... | BS Kinesiology |
| Brooke Laurell Ambrose, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BS Psychology [Industrial/Organizational] |
| Andrew Dongin An, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BS Biology [Biomedical] |
| Alicia Marie Almeida Anderson, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Katelyn Elizabeth Anderson, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BS Mathematics |
| Adonna Maria Andino, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BBA Accounting; BA Spanish |
| Jayden Austin Anggomas | BA Theology |
| Kristin Loay Antwan | BSN Nursing |
| Pedro Aragon Vega | BBA Marketing |
| Miriam Arredondo Batista..... | BSN Nursing |
| Roxanna Arredondo Batista, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Katherine Anne Arroyo | BA Computer Science [Web Development] |
| Derek Xavier Aubin..... | BS Digital Communication and Media [Media Production] |
| Czerny Garlejo Avance, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BFA Animation [Character Animation] |
| Braden Lee Badger, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BBA Finance |
| Camille Hays Badger, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BS Biology [Biomedical] |
| Eric Christopher Bahnmitter, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BS General Psychology |
| Hannah Claire Bahri, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BS Biology [Biomedical] |
| Dalton Daniel Baldwin, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BS Biology [Research] |
| Morgan Nash Baldwin, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BS Chemistry [Biochemistry] |
| Elyse Victoria Baltodano..... | BS Business-Public Relations |
| Rachel Katherine Baraks | BS Health Science |
| Eric Ismael Barnuevo, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BBA Accounting |
| Conner Cameron Bartsch..... | BFA Animation [Character Animation] |
| Jeaneva Andaca Bautista, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BBA Accounting |
| Reanna Elyshia Andaca Bautista, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BS Chemistry [Biochemistry] |
| Joshua Robert Bedwell, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BS Chemistry [Biochemistry] |
| Phillip Jackson Bell..... | BS Health Science |
| Tyler Jacob Bemis, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BFA Animation [Character Animation] |
| Ethan Scott Benedict, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Jennie Maria Betances Fernandez, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Kailee Olivia Pakilit Bilbao | BS Health Science |
| Brody Seth David Blanchard | BBA Finance |
| Lisett Andrea Blandon | BS Health Science |
| Cole Alexander Boggess | BS Kinesiology |
| Sergio Jeromy Bonilla Jr..... | BT Construction Management |
| Emma Caroline Boughman..... | BFA Animation [Character Animation] |
| Lauren Bethany Bowlby, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Hannah Lauren Boyd..... | BSN Nursing |
| Shelby Jane Brautigan, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BFA Animation [Character Animation] |
| Levi Austin Burkleo..... | BSN Nursing |
| Adrian Ellud Caballero..... | BA Mathematics |
| David Andrew Callender, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BS Biology [Biomedical] |
| Jonathan David Campos, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BS Biology [Biomedical] |

| | |
|--|--|
| Jerleine Love Hernandez Capobres, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Fiora Rita Carmona, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BS Business Administration |
| Megan Kindall Carney, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Kasey Suleydi Castellanos-Miranda | BS Business Administration |
| Jonas Trenton Caster, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BA Computer Science |
| Perla Rubi Catalan, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BS Health Science |
| Bernard Joshua Cerna, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BS Psychology [Clinical] |
| Kaitlin Natalie Chandler, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Macy Lane Chant, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Jaegwang Chi | BSN Nursing |
| Adena Eun Cho, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BS Psychology [Psychobiology] |
| Hansoul Choi..... | BA Biology |
| Noah Choi, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Emma Mae Clark, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BS Mathematics |
| *Lynae Marissa Clark, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BA Liberal Arts Education |
| Ruth Contreras, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BFA Fine Arts |
| Andrew Harrison Cox, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BBA Finance |
| Katerina Donnelly Crosby | BSN Nursing |
| Emilianne Lanae Cross, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BS Biology [Biomedical] |
| Marinela Cruz | BS Mathematics |
| Abigayle Elizabeth de Fluiter, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BA Biology |
| Ashley Lauren Dee, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BBA Accounting |
| Larissa Ribeiro DeOliveira, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BA Theology |
| *Ethan Glenn Ferreira DeSilva | BS Health, Physical Education and Recreation |
| Raffaela Schwab Dias, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Tiffany Rebecca Dien, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Hannah Felicity Dieppa, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BA Pastoral Care |
| Jonah Walter Dinger, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BA Religious Studies |
| Taylor Denee Donato, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BS Biology [Biomedical] |
| Joshua Christian Draget, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BS Business Administration |
| Jorja Rane Draves, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Eian Josh Rielle Gonzaga Dumanon..... | BSN Nursing |
| Justina Zuleika Duncan..... | BS Medical Laboratory Science |
| Sharon Duque, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BBA Accounting; Finance |
| Sharna Shireen Ebanks, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BS Mass Communication [Advertising] |
| Riley Arden Einhellig, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Alberto Elizondo..... | BS Computer Science [Web Development] |
| Hannah Lynn Elizondo, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BS Business Administration |
| Katie Jane Emde, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BA Biology |
| Andrew Harrison Eno, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BS Computer Science |
| *Chehalis Danae Eno, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BA English |
| Kellen Alexander Erskine..... | BA History; Computer Science |
| Mizael Espinoza | BSN Nursing |
| Lukas Alexander Evans..... | BS Business Administration |
| Jennifer Hope Nicole Fancher..... | BS Business Administration |
| Linton Wichert Feitosa, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BS Computer Science |
| Diane Naomi Felix | BA Psychology |
| Sabrina Esther Fernandez | BS Psychology [Clinical] |
| Jonathan Brady Fetters | BS Business Administration |
| Josep Antoni Figueredo Garcia, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BS Biology [Research] |
| Allyn Nicole Follette..... | BS Psychology [Clinical] |
| Emma Paige Forbes, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BS Health Science |
| Augustine Forson..... | BA Theology [Non-Seminary] |
| *Samantha Rhea Fullmer | BA English |

*Teaching Certificate

| | |
|---|--|
| Francisco Josue Funes Coto, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BBA Finance |
| Julianna Reese Ganding Luong, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BS Health Science; AS Chemistry |
| Grace Mawunyo Ganu..... | BSN Nursing |
| Sarah Garcia | BSN Nursing |
| Alicia Renae Garver, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BBA Finance |
| Eliana Gemelus | BSN Nursing |
| Isabel Naomi Genovez, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BS Biology [Biomedical] |
| Robert Edwin Godfrey Jr., <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Ana Sabrina Gomez..... | BSN Nursing |
| Nichollas Cuellar Goncalves, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BA Biology |
| Ximena Yael Gonzalez-Juarez..... | BS Music |
| Nicolas Ramsey Goslee..... | BS Information Technology |
| Glenn Stoyan Grakov, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BBA Finance |
| Madeline Lee Grunden..... | BA Communication [Communication Studies] |
| Riel Julian Gallego Guarino, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BS Medical Laboratory Science |
| Madison Paige Gwin..... | BSN Nursing |
| Judah Leon Hammond, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BA Pastoral Care |
| John Francis Hargy, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BS Biophysics [Research] |
| Wilson David Harris | BS Business Administration |
| Mariah Lynn Healy, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BSW Social Work |
| Caeli Lynn Hensel, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BSW Social Work |
| Roisbel Hernandez Rodriguez, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Felicia Aubrey Herrera, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BA Psychology; AS Allied Health [Pre-Speech Language Pathology and Audiology] |
| Liz Raynet Hilario..... | BSN Nursing |
| Cameron Nathanael-Ichiro Hill..... | BSW Social Work |
| Tyler Glenn Hillebert | BT Automotive Service Management |
| William Nehemiah Holt..... | BA Theology |
| Revin Symone Hooper | BSN Nursing |
| Sarah Rose Hunter, <i>Summa Cum Laude, Southern Scholar</i> | BS Biology [Research] |
| Brian Exody Danniel Hutabarat, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BS Chemistry [Biochemistry] |
| Jayden Spencer Hwang, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BA Biology |
| Vlastimil Hybl..... | BS Business Management |
| Herve Kazembe Ilunga, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BS Business Administration |
| Emma Louise Iuliano, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BS Health Science |
| Kara Elise Janzen, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Aman Javaid, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Joshua Colby Jenkins | BS Biology [Research] |
| Lindy Marie Jenkins..... | BA Biology |
| Yumin Joe..... | BS Health Science |
| Ethan Reece Johnson..... | BSN Nursing |
| Hannah Grace Johnson, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Logan Benjamin Johnson, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BA Biology |
| Ethan A. Jones, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BS Business Administration; AS Accounting |
| Rileigh India Juba | BFA Animation [Character Animation] |
| Kelsey Joanne Judd | BSN Nursing |
| Liesel Ann Kahler..... | BSN Nursing |
| Lauren Shi-Hyun Kang, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Yewon Kang, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BA Biology |
| Lauren Ruth Keller | BS Business Administration |
| Elina Engeline Khan, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BS Biology [Biomedical] |
| Allison Eun Young Kim, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BS Biology [Biomedical] |
| Do Za Kim..... | BA Psychology |
| Eleanor Ahyun Kim..... | BFA Animation [Effects Animation] |

| | |
|---|---|
| Elijah Kim, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BS Psychology [Industrial/Organizational] |
| Everest Hwirang Kim | BSN Nursing |
| Haejin Kim, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Joelle Haejin Kim | BS Biology [Biomedical] |
| Kirsten Jane Kim, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BS Biology [Biomedical] |
| Moses Jehu Kim, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BFA Film Production |
| Amber Que Kishihara, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BS Biology [Biomedical] |
| Hannah Elise Krause | BBA Marketing |
| Elsie Anne Kroll, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BSW Social Work |
| Holden Grady Larsen, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BT Construction Management |
| Ila Hope Lassel | BT Construction Management |
| Kaitlyn Arianne Layson | BS Digital Communication and Media [Media Production] |
| Jeriel Zavier Leal, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BS Business Administration |
| Zachary Dahl LeClerc | BSN Nursing |
| Elisa Hanah Lee, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BS Biology [Biomedical] |
| Ethan Li-Ren Lee, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Kevin Sunkyu Lee, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BS Biology [Biomedical] |
| Melissa Sum Yee Lee, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BS Biology [Biomedical] |
| Cailey Anne Lewis, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Frank Luis Lizardo | BSN Nursing |
| Joshua Christian Lohr, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BS Physics |
| Assdhy Frengky Lolowang | BA Theology [Non-Seminary] |
| *Alyssa Alvarenga Lopes, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BA History [History/Government] |
| Orlando Antonio Lopez | BS Business Administration |
| Ryan Benjamin Lopez, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BS Computer Science [Security] |
| Giovanna Marques Lucasin, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Cing Hau Lun | BSN Nursing |
| Melissa Joy Maguire, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BA Theology |
| Cing Ho Man | BA Psychology |
| Luz Jacqueline Mandujano | BS Psychology [Clinical] |
| Joseph Engel Manzanillo | BFA Web and New Media Design |
| Cason Todd Marr, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BS Business Administration |
| Aveann Ruth Marsden | BFA Graphic Design |
| Kenneth Gabriel Martin | BIS Integrative Studies |
| Tahkai Dante Martin | BS General Psychology |
| Rode Martin Rodriguez, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BFA Animation [Effects Animation] |
| *Benjamin Edward Maxson, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BA Biology |
| Ashton Lake McClure, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BS Chemistry [Biochemistry] |
| Seth Michael McPherson | BFA Animation [Character Animation] |
| Zane Christian Meyers | BS Information Technology |
| Anna Ferreira Mihaescu, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BBA Finance; Accounting |
| Priscille Anne Charlotte Mikala, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BS Music Performance [Piano] |
| Anaya Monique Miller, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BA English [Professional/Writing]; Art |
| Lefilwe Jarona Moesi, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BA International Development Studies |
| Caleb Ethan Mohns | BSE Engineering [Mechanical Engineering] |
| Kalyssa Elizabeth Mohns, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Seoyeon Moon, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BS Biology [Research] |
| Bethany Jada Moore | BSW Social Work |
| Raegan Elizabeth Moore, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Hannah Marie Moraga | BS Health Science |
| Eliana Bei Ling Morales, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BS Mass Communication [Writing/Editing] |
| Jared Daniel Moran | BSN Nursing |
| Taylor Madisson Moren | BS Mass Communication [Media Production] |
| Casey Grace Morgan, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BBA Marketing |
| Kendall John Morris | BA Psychology |

*Teaching Certificate

Logan Blake Morrison.....BSN Nursing
 Jazmin MotaBS Psychology [Family Systems]
 Romany Asaad Fouad Moussa, *Magna Cum Laude* BS Chemistry [Biochemistry]
 Nicholas Alexander Muchiutti.....BA Computer Science
 Taylor Elizabeth Musick.....BA History
 Mike Arnold Narita, *Magna Cum Laude* BBA Accounting
 Summer Grace Nash, *Summa Cum Laude*BSN Nursing
 Connor Robert NelsonBFA Film Production
 Matthew Nikolas NaukkarinenBS Health Science
 Joshua Luke Nerona..... BS Business Administration
 Summer Rose Nichols, *Summa Cum Laude, Southern Scholar* BS Music
 Emily Victoria NogueiraBSN Nursing
 *Eliana Skue Oberlander, *Summa Cum Laude* BA Liberal Arts Education
 Jhoan Ogando, *Magna Cum Laude* BFA Graphic Design
 Lauren Marie Ogle, *Magna Cum Laude* BS Biology [Biomedical]
 Ashley Sohee Paik, *Magna Cum Laude* BS Biology [Biomedical]
 Bryson Sung Joon Pak.....BA Computer Science;
 AS Allied Health [Pre-Dental Hygiene]; AS Biology
 Skyler L. Pangkey, *Cum Laude*..... BT Automative Service Management
 Sydney Park, *Magna Cum Laude*.....BSN Nursing
 Anaya Elise Parker, *Magna Cum Laude* BA Religious Studies
 Kyle Matthew Parsaoran..... BA Religious Studies
 Daniel Christopher Patton BS Computer Science [Security]
 *Heather Michelle Payne, *Summa Cum Laude* BA Liberal Arts Education
 Ysani Javier Pena, *Magna Cum Laude*..... BS Computer Science [Security]
 Nathanael Jaden Perez, *Magna Cum Laude* BFA Animation [Character Animation]
 Jennifer Perez Del Rio..... BA Art
 Jenna Kalena Peters BBA Human Capital Management
 Hannah Rose Pierce, *Cum Laude*BSW Social Work
 *Noah Alexander Pierce BA Liberal Arts Education
 Cherise Mari Piotrowski, *Magna Cum Laude*BSN Nursing
 Stephanie Miriam Polehna, *Magna Cum Laude* BS Biology [Biomedical]
 Bradley Clark Pollett BS Biology [Biomedical]
 Yan Poniatovskiy, *Magna Cum Laude*..... BS Chemistry [Biochemistry]
 Michael Falon Potter BA Religious Studies
 Mirella Sonya Profir, *Summa Cum Laude* BS Health Science; AS Allied Health [Pre-Physical Therapy]
 *Maria Christina Rada BA Liberal Arts Education
 Jeremy Samuel Ramirez BFA Animation [Effects Animation]
 Nica Cyrea D. Ramirez BFA Animation [Character Animation]
 Richard Alan Ramont III, *Cum Laude* BSE Engineering [Mechanical Engineering]
 Brooke Lauryn Reams, *Summa Cum Laude* BS Chemistry [Biochemistry]
 Braden Conrad Reitz..... BS Psychology [Clinical]
 Luna Juliana RendonBA Biology
 Emily Elizabeth Rice, *Cum Laude*.....BA Biology
 Laura Elsie Grace Ringstaff, *Cum Laude*.....BBA Management [Entrepreneurship]
 Kaleb Andres Rivas..... BFA Animation [Effects Animation]
 Adalmys Rivera-Abreu BS Medical Laboratory Science
 Hayley Hae Sun Ro, *Summa Cum Laude*..... BS Biology [Biomedical]
 Caleb Melgar Roblero BT Construction Management
 Chase Alexander Rodriguez, *Magna Cum Laude*..... BA Religious Studies
 Stephanie Nicole Rodriguez, *Cum Laude* BS Business Administration
 Julie Laureana D. Roy, *Magna Cum Laude*.....BSN Nursing
 Mia Masuko Sakata.....BA History
 Chiemezule Lois Sam-Nwaoma, *Cum Laude*.....BSW Social Work
 Amelia Elise Samaniego, *Summa Cum Laude, Southern Scholar*..... BS Psychology [Clinical]

*Teaching Certificate

| | |
|--|---|
| Juanita Alyssa Sampson, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BSW Social Work |
| Larnell Joel Samuel..... | BA Graphic Design |
| Lisbette Sanchez-Ramirez, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BS Computer Science |
| Claudio Andrews Sandoval | BS Chemistry [Biochemistry] |
| Shekinah Danielle Satterfield..... | BSW Social Work |
| Rebecca Leigh Savoy, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BBA Marketing |
| Sarah Isabel Schildgen, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Emily Grace Schneider, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BS Biology [Biomedical] |
| Sophia Yvonne Schwartzrock, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BA Film Production |
| Joshua Dallas Scott | BS Health Science |
| Raiden Joie Nalani Scott, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BS Psychology [Industrial/Organizational] |
| Rhett Navarro Seitz, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BS Computer Science [Security] |
| *Karissa Joy Sharley, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BA Liberal Arts Education |
| Oswin Sun-Woo Shin..... | BS Computer Science |
| Madeline Claire Showalter, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Nicollette Chantel Sophia Shyam | BSN Nursing |
| Lucas Cade Singletary..... | BS Biology [Research] |
| Jacob Eric Smith, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BS Health Science |
| Logan A. Smith | BS Kinesiology |
| Colton James Snyder, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BT Construction Management |
| Yanna Ivanovna Sorokoumova, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Matthew Wyatt St. Hilaire, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BS Kinesiology |
| Josie Anna Stabel | BFA Graphic Design |
| Micah Jeron States, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BT Construction Management |
| Christian Jakob Steinert, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BBA Accounting |
| Hannah Catherine Stephens, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Keira S. Stephens, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Kori Rush Stott | BA Chemistry |
| Phillip Peter Suvacarov | BS Computer Science |
| Karan Kenneth Swansi | BS Computer Science |
| Zane Davis Taitano | BFA Animation [Character Animation] |
| Richard Nicholl Tarigan..... | BSN Nursing |
| Matthew Stephen Taylor, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BS Mass Communication [Media Production] |
| Conrado Emmanuel Tojino III | BS Biology [Biomedical] |
| Eve Taylor Tol, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BFA Animation [Character Animation] |
| Carlos Isaac Torres, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BS Public Relations |
| Isabelle Miriam Touma | BS Health Science |
| Tadd Michael Trumbull II..... | BA Computer Science |
| Isabella Turcios..... | BA Biology |
| Chisara Omobolanle Ukegbu, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BS Mass Communication [Media Production] |
| Samuel Geiel Vargas | BS Music Theory and Literature |
| Kaitlyn Alexa Vasquez..... | BS Biology [Biomedical] |
| Jade Dupit Veal, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BS Medical Laboratory Science |
| Arturo Phil Vidal-Aquino | BSW Social Work |
| Luke Dizon Watson, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BS Medical Laboratory Science |
| Colette Grace Williams, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | BBA Marketing |
| Sophia Elise Williams-Marlow, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BSN Nursing |
| Maya Sunmee Wong, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BS Chemistry [Biochemistry] |
| Minha Yang, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BS Biology [Biomedical] |
| Sarina Alaina Young, <i>Cum Laude</i> | BA Graphic Design |
| Julia Ehab Seddik Youssef | BSN Nursing |
| Elias Abdiel Zabala | BS Business Administration |
| Ruslan Zavrivicco, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | BFA Film Production |

*Teaching Certificate

ASSOCIATE DEGREE GRADUATES

| | |
|--|---|
| Carlie Anna Alvarez, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | AS Vegetarian Culinary Arts |
| Ashley Elizabeth Austin, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | AS Allied Health [Pre-Speech Language Pathology and Audiology] |
| Millie Balboa, <i>Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Eliana Judith Barzola, <i>Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Breckin L. Beaman, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Carson S. Beckett, <i>Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Lucy Amelie Berecz, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Maile Yoko Berry | AS Allied Health [Pre-Dental Hygiene] |
| Malia Ui'lani Berry | AS Social Work |
| Savannah Lynn Bivens, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Mikayla Renae Yuumi Brenton, <i>Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Tian Rose Carney..... | AS Nursing |
| Emily Suyon Chang, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Chileleko Chileya..... | AS General Studies |
| Ellie Suzanne Christensen, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Anna Grace Cousins..... | AS Physical Therapist Assistant |
| Emma Christine Cuellar, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Linda Christina Dickson..... | AS Allied Health [Pre-Nutrition and Dietetics] Biology |
| Brooklyn Ching Divers | AS Nursing |
| TLeah S. Edwards | AS Graphic Design |
| Rachael Elizabeth Estrada..... | AS Nursing |
| Lucas Gromik Ferraz, <i>Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Grace Marie Garcia, <i>Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Aliesje May Goldsberry, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | AS Vegetarian Culinary Arts |
| Sofia Gianna Vixie Hall..... | AS Nursing |
| Brittany Nicole Harris | AS Nursing |
| Eliana Elizabeth Hounslow, <i>Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Faith Xiu-En Ing, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Ekaterina Kelly Jones, <i>Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Celine Jacqueline Kim, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Ella Macie Kim, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Ireland Christina Kroll, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Eric Lee | AS Physical Therapist Assistant |
| Jeremy Eliel Leichner..... | AS Nursing |
| Jacob Aaron Reyes Lucag, <i>Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Gabriela Kylene Mantiri..... | AS Allied Health [Pre-Dental Hygiene] |
| Chase Jackson Mayer..... | AS Allied Health [Pre-Physical Therapy] |
| Rodrick Blake McConnell | AS Nursing |
| Daniel Nehemiah Mesa IV, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | AT Construction |
| Arianne Abigail Milosavljevic, <i>Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Cadence Emmaline Mohns..... | AS Allied Health [Pre-Speech Language Pathology and Audiology] |
| Aron Benjamin Mojica..... | AS Physical Therapist Assistant |
| Reina Momoko Nozaki, <i>Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Ethan William Nudd | AA General Studies |
| Dianny Ximena Ortiz Paredes, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Kalia Chae-Eun Pak, <i>Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Isabella Nani Patel, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Olivia Anne Patrick, <i>Cum Laude</i> | AS Allied Health [Pre-Physical Therapy] |
| Ella Grace Matija Pellandini, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Joel Nathaniel Richards..... | AS Nursing |
| Joshua Brody Roberts..... | AS Nursing |

| | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Jadd Bulagsay Sampayan..... | AS Nursing |
| Seth William Schulte, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | AT Construction |
| Caleb Joshua Serrano, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Heather Renee Shanks..... | AS Nursing |
| Casey Grace Shim..... | AS Nursing |
| Adam Gabriel Stern..... | AS Business Administration |
| Aidan Bradley Sullivan..... | AS Physical Therapist Assistant |
| Olivia Mae Thompson..... | AS Nursing |
| Isabella Ann Trevizo..... | AS Nursing |
| Dylan Dean Van Zant..... | AT Construction Management |
| Rachel Elizabeth Wilkens, <i>Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Dakota Scott Williams..... | AT Construction Management |
| Kristen Marie Wright, <i>Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |
| Miao Zhou, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | AS Nursing |

M A S T E R ' S D E G R E E G R A D U A T E S

| | |
|--|---|
| Christopher Wallace Anderson..... | MMin Evangelism and World Mission |
| Lauren Michelle Anderson..... | MSEd Outdoor Teacher Education |
| Kimberly Bobenhausen..... | MS Clinical Mental Health Counseling |
| Joseph Alan Carpentier..... | MS Clinical Mental Health Counseling |
| Genesis Duarte..... | MSW Social Work [Crisis/Emergency Management] |
| Staci Lynn Fagal..... | MSEd Outdoor Teacher Education |
| Kristen Nichole Godsey..... | MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner |
| Hiroyoshi Kasahara..... | MS Applied Computer Science |
| Katelyn Clair Knight..... | MS Clinical Mental Health Counseling; School Counseling |
| Natalie Lilly..... | MS Clinical Mental Health Counseling |
| Hollie Macomber..... | MSEd Outdoor Teacher Education |
| Fredell McCord..... | MAT Teaching [Elementary] |
| Abishur Marvin Moses-Pakkianathan..... | MS Computer Science |
| Mikayla Jaelle Olmedo..... | MSW Social Work [Crisis/Emergency Management] |
| John Pauls..... | MSEd Outdoor Teacher Education |
| Dana Belcher Ridley..... | MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner |
| Donald Joseph Shull..... | MSEd Outdoor Teacher Education |
| Ashley Renee Sims Anderson..... | MSN Primary Care-Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner |
| Randall Wood Van Dolson..... | MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner |
| Laurin Nicole Von Krueger..... | MS Clinical Mental Health Counseling |

D O C T O R A L D E G R E E G R A D U A T E S

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Megan Chandler..... | DNP Lifestyle Medicine; Nurse Educator |
| Sarah M. Hillebert..... | DNP Primary Care-Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner |
| Elista Paulina Sumner..... | DNP Lifestyle Medicine |

The Commencement program does not constitute an official list of graduates.

GUEST GRADUATES

SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE UNIVERSITY

James Daniel Heath MA History

ATLANTA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Karilyn Moldovan AS Physical Therapist Assistant

WESTERN GOVERNORS UNIVERSITY

Hercule Toussaint MSN Nursing [Nursing Informatics]

SUMMARY



UNDERGRADUATE GRADUATES – 386
(15 HAVE TWO OR MORE MAJORS OR DEGREES)
MASTER'S GRADUATES – 20 (1 HAS A DUAL EMPHASIS)
DOCTORAL GRADUATES – 3 (1 HAS A DUAL EMPHASIS)

DEPARTMENTS/SCHOOLS WITH BACCALAUREATE DEGREE GRADUATES

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Applied Technology.....8 | History and Political Studies .....5 |
| Biology and Allied Health.....49 | Interdisciplinary Studies .....1 |
| Business .....43 | Journalism and Communication.....10 |
| Chemistry.....13 | Mathematics .....4 |
| Computing .....20 | Modern Languages.....1 |
| Education, Psychology, and Counseling | Music.....4 |
| Education.....6 | Nursing.....66 |
| Psychology .....20 | Religion.....13 |
| Engineering and Physics .....4 | Social Work .....10 |
| English.....3 | Visual Art and Design.....28 |
| Health and Kinesiology .....21 | |

DEPARTMENTS/SCHOOLS WITH ASSOCIATE DEGREE GRADUATES

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Applied Technology.....4 | Physical Therapist Assistant.....4 |
| Biology and Allied Health.....12 | Nursing.....43 |
| Business .....2 | Social Work .....1 |
| Chemistry.....1 | Visual Art and Design.....1 |
| Health and Kinesiology .....2 | |

SCHOOLS WITH MASTER'S DEGREE GRADUATES

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Education, Psychology, and Counseling | |
| Counseling.....6 | Nursing.....4 |
| Education.....6 | Religion.....1 |
| Computing .....2 | Social Work .....2 |

DOCTORAL DEGREE GRADUATES

| |
|---------------|
| Nursing.....4 |
|---------------|

PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE



Professor **David Hartman, PhD**, joined the School of Religion faculty at Southern in 2018 after serving as a pastor, conference administrator, and evangelist for more than three decades. He authored the book *Winning Ways to Witness* and currently teaches religion classes like Christian Beliefs and Christian Spirituality, evangelism courses including Christian Witnessing and Personal Evangelism, and Church Ministry II for senior theology students. Despite years of experience, he remains humble and committed.

Outstandingly personal and deeply intentional, Hartman nurtures connections with each one of his students and deliberately plans content that's "alive" and relatable. At the beginning of each semester, he creates printouts for every class with the pictures and names of all his students, along with handwritten details about each one's spiritual walk. As the weeks go by, he reminds classes about his daily prayers on their behalf. As his "kids" share their challenges and struggles with him, Hartman appeals to them to embrace Christ, and more than a dozen commit to baptism each semester. One student describes Hartman as "the best! He literally prays for every single student individually." Another says, "He still remembers my name and asks how I'm doing years after taking his class."

Students feel welcomed and understood by Hartman, and many are inspired by his vibrant love for God and stories of personal ministry. Their evaluations of his courses are filled with praise for his authentic ability to create an environment of true learning through kindness and empathy:

"I love Dr. Hartman's teaching style and his love for students and the church at large. He has an incredible way of showing us how to live out the Christian life to the world around us and grow our church." "He's one of the most amazing people I've ever met! I would take a class from him every semester if I could!"

"Dr. Hartman consistently reflects the character of Christ in both his words and actions. He is almost always found with a genuine smile on his face, and his enthusiasm about Jesus shines through him in a way that feels authentic and contagious. It is not performative, but rather a steady, lived-out faith." "He exemplifies what this school stands for."

"Throughout my journey at Southern, he has played a meaningful role in helping me find my way academically and spiritually. He does not simply teach information. He guides. He mentors. He pays attention. When I needed clarity, direction, or even quiet encouragement, he was present. His impact extends beyond the classroom and into the lives and hearts of his students."

"At the end of the semester, when he prayed a special prayer for all of us, he had tears in his eyes. He has the biggest heart for his students, and lets us know that he cares about us. Only eternity will tell the impact he has had on Southern's campus."

To commend his passion for winning people to a relationship with Jesus and his simple but profound approach to training others to walk the talk while sharing the gospel message, Southern Adventist University is thrilled to present David Hartman with the President's Award for Teaching Excellence.

PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN SCHOLARSHIP



Professor **Andrew Richards, PhD**, began his nursing career at Erlanger Baroness Hospital in Chattanooga, Tennessee, in 2002 and worked in medical-surgical, critical-care, and emergency settings while pursuing advanced nursing degrees and serving as a clinical instructor. He joined the School of Nursing at Southern in 2019, quickly gaining applause for his aptitude and enthusiasm for research.

Richards models research excellence for his students through his own consistent engagement in scholarly inquiry and dissemination. As the teacher for nursing research courses on campus, Richards makes classes fun and easy to digest. His committed efforts not only advance the discipline of nursing but also demonstrate the vital connection between generating evidence and clinical practice.

His fellow professors note how, despite working tirelessly to fulfill his departmental duties, Richards consistently finds time for research and scholarly writing, always open to possibilities for his next project. He also presents regularly at conferences and leads a monthly “fireside chat” where nursing leaders discuss issues related to evidence-informed practice.

Above and beyond personal scholarship, Richards cultivates a culture of inquiry among his peers with a collaborative spirit and leadership that have strengthened scholarly engagement across the School of Nursing. He encourages colleagues to participate in research initiatives and thoughtfully provides mentorship and practical support, making the process both accessible and rewarding. Additionally, Richards partners with nursing faculty from other universities to share his expertise.

With countless articles published in peer-reviewed journals over the past two decades, Richards added three more in just the past year:

- Focusing on student and educator evaluation of the five-minute peer writing activity
- School counselor perceptions and practices of advising male high school students regarding a career in nursing
- Sleep quality and the intention to modify sleep behaviors among night-shift nurses

Currently, he is heading up two major studies to explore compassion and grit among nursing students and the impact of these factors on graduates' intent to stay in nursing practice.

Richards currently chairs the University Senate at Southern. In addition to serving as president of Southern's chapter of Sigma Theta Tau—the international nursing honor society dedicated to advancing world health through scholarship, leadership, and service—Richards holds membership within the American Association for Men in Nursing, American Nursing Association, Emergency Nurses Association, and Sigma Theta Tau International.

In recognition for his dedication to collecting and analyzing data, disseminating findings, and consistently championing and modeling research efforts, Southern Adventist University is pleased to present Andrew Richards with the President's Award for Excellence in Scholarship.

D I S T I N G U I S H E D S E R V I C E M E D A L L I O N S



For 30 years, Professor **Keith Snyder, PhD**, chair of the Biology and Allied Health Department, has modeled Christ in his interactions. A true servant leader, he is always available to respond to a student or colleague in need, help catch and classify bugs or identify birds, sponsor the Asian and Pre-Dental Clubs, travel as a trip chaperone, or lend a listening ear. He's also known for creating a dynamic academic environment where questions are embraced.

During his two decades leading the department, his team has produced more Seventh-day Adventist medical and dental students than any other church-affiliated institution in the U.S. In the late '90s, Snyder brought the Human Anatomy course with the study of cadaver specimens to Southern—a rare feat for an undergraduate program. Former students often write from graduate schools with gratitude for this class and the advantage they gained over peers without such early training. Snyder also cultivated a rigorous student research pathway that allows science majors to actively participate in original studies that are published and presented at national and international conferences.

As the driving force behind the engaging displays featured along the hallways of Hickman Science Center, Snyder championed the implementation of geological evidence declaring belief in a Creator God that attracts visitors from across the country to tour the university's Origins Exhibit.

Coupled with development of a new way to map fossils using GPS technology, Snyder has been active in the summer Dino Dig in Wyoming for more than 16 years, joining researchers from various countries to collect and classify prehistoric remains from one of the richest bone beds in the world. His published articles on dinosaurs showcase discoveries from a uniquely Adventist perspective within secular paleontology.

After contributing to the design and construction of the White Oak Mountain and Bauxite Ridge trail systems on campus, Snyder continues to help with maintenance and serve as a community liaison for the ongoing project which is enjoyed by an estimated 70,000 hikers and bikers annually. For many years, he also taught a three-week summer tropical biology course exploring the Indonesian jungle, coral reefs, and volcanoes where he lived for a decade prior to joining Southern's faculty.

Snyder maintains a stellar reputation for truly caring about his students. He goes the extra mile as a teacher of more than a dozen different classes, while also carrying a heavy advising load for 70+ students who include most pre-dental majors and others studying biology.

Serving twice as past chair of University Senate, Snyder collaborates with colleagues across academic areas to craft faculty-supportive policies and help streamline efforts and expenditures. He goes out of his way to lift up others, offer encouragement, and advocate for voices that may not otherwise be heard.

For his gift of making biological information relatable, for fostering a love of God's creation in others, and for three decades of encouraging scientific inquiry within a biblical worldview, Southern Adventist University is honored to award Keith Snyder with the Distinguished Service Medallion.

A consummate educator who conducts herself with grace and integrity at all times, Professor **Lorraine Ball** in the School of Journalism and Communication gives her students 100%. For 25 years, she has gone above and beyond at Southern to ensure each young adult receives the guidance and support needed to succeed academically and excel professionally.

Ball also sets the standard for curriculum development, advising, and classroom management, earning respect from both students and colleagues across campus and the accolade of Advisor of the Year multiple times.

Authenticity and transparency make her genuine faith both relatable and inspiring, and she lives out her convictions daily while intentionally cultivating spiritual development in everyone within her sphere. Her affirming words are life-changing, and her confidence in others' potential wins hearts and minds while fostering courage and growth.

Marks of excellence in Ball's teaching style include organization, preparation, consistency, and delivering what she promises. Students appreciate her case studies, connections to real-world media, interesting and stimulating lectures, and even the ban on electronic devices in the classroom. More than one has quipped "I love her quizzes!" while her courses—known to be tough but fair—are cited as favorites with specific evaluation notes such as "her enjoyment of the topic contributed most to my learning."

Ball has designed and implemented multiple new upper-division courses at Southern in her areas of expertise, such as Professional Communication and Leadership, Portfolio and Career, and Group Dynamics and Leadership. She also developed a Social Media for Professionals workshop using local working professionals as presenters to help students transition from personal use to more dynamic skills.

Serving over the years as University Senate president, class sponsor, and chair of numerous committees, Ball remains a highly sought after source for institutional knowledge and guidance. As the faculty advisor for the Public Relations Student Society of America chapter on campus, Ball has led students to national conventions to present research and network with industry professionals. She ensures graduates are well-prepared with documented résumés, interview skills, and creative online portfolios to showcase their work. Many students credit Ball for helping them land first jobs.

Ball's professional memberships include the National Communication Association and the Society of Adventist Communicators. She stays abreast of cutting-edge skills and technologies in her field, living out the wise adage that education is the work of a lifetime. A unique blend of faith and learning is exemplified in her life through quiet attitudes as much as deliberate public actions.

For representing the very best of us as an exceptional instructor and student mentor as well as a woman of God and trusted confidant, Southern Adventist University is delighted to present Lorraine Ball with the Distinguished Service Medallion.

SPECIAL THANKS



| | |
|--|--|
| Academic Administration | Landscape Services |
| Advancement | Marketing and University Relations |
| Alumni Relations | President's Office |
| Audio Visual | Quick Print |
| Blluum Floral and Event Design (stage florals) | Records and Advisement |
| Campus Safety | School of Journalism and Communication |
| College Press | School of Music |
| Energy Management | Service Department |
| Financial Administration | Student Development |
| Food Services | Village Market |
| Graduate and Professional Studies | |

We extend our gratitude especially to parents, fellow students, and guests.

ALUMNI HOMECOMING WEEKEND



October 22-25, 2026

We're excited to invite you back to Southern Adventist University for a weekend of reminiscing, reconnecting, and celebrating. This fall, join fellow alumni from near and far to relive your favorite memories, enjoy beloved Homecoming traditions, and experience exciting new events we have in store!

Mark your calendars for Homecoming Weekend 2026.

Learn more and register at southern.edu/homecoming.

On behalf of the Alumni Association, congratulations to our newest graduates, the Class of 2026!