

ASDAH

The Newsletter of the Association of Seventh-day Adventist Historians

ADVENTIST INSTITUTIONS REMEMBER THE 500 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF MARTIN LUTHER'S 95 THESES



Reformation Symposium at Andrews University

The “Here We Stand: Luther, the Reformation and Seventh-day Adventism” symposium was held at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan, October 12-14, 2017. Twenty-four scholars, from various parts of the world, made presentations on numerous themes related to the Reformation. The session ended with a panel discussion. During the symposium, the book *Here We Stand: Luther, the Reformation and Seventh-day Adventism* (published by Pacific Press), edited by Michael W. Campbell and Nikolaus Satelmajer was formally introduced. There was a display of books, including *Here We Stand*, in the Seminary Hall. For several months prior to the event, a replica of the Wittenberg Castle Church door, with a reproduction of Luther’s 95 Thesis, was displayed in

various parts of the campus. John Reeve (chair), Michael W. Campbell, Martin Hanna, Jiri Moskala and Nikolaus Satelmajer coordinated the program.

~Nikolaus Satelmajer

La Sierra University Celebrates The Reformation

La Sierra University remembered and celebrated the 500-year anniversary of Martin Luther's 95 Theses with a number of events October 13-14. The weekend began on Friday night with a lecture by Dr. Katherine Koh on the relevance of Martin Luther's theses today. The lecture highlighted the impact of Luther's resistance to the religious power structures of his day, as well as considering theological nuances within his theses that continue to influence Seventh-day Adventist theology. The lecture was followed by a question and answer session that considered a variety of topics including the role of the laity in the formation of theology, church authority, and what modern Christians can learn from Luther's methods of communication. On Sabbath afternoon, the La Sierra University Church organized a panel discussion of interdisciplinary scholars, pastors, and church leaders to discuss the ongoing relevance of the Protestant Reformation. It began with a brief statement by each panelist on the impact of the Protestant Reformation in their field, followed by questions from the audience. The panel included Dr. Lora Geriguis, Professor of English and Assistant Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences; Dr. Maury Jackson, Professor of Divinity, Dr. David Kendall, Assistant Professor of Music; Dr. Katherine Koh, Assistant Professor of History; Dr. Suzanne Mallery, Professor of Psychology; Dr. Friedbert Ninow, Dean of the School of Divinity; Dr. John Webster, Professor of Divinity; Dr. Sandra Roberts, Conference President of the Southeastern California Conference; and Pastor Chris Oberg, Head Pastor of La Sierra University Church. Recordings of both the Friday night lecture and Sabbath afternoon panel are available on the La Sierra University Church website.

THE MCADAMS ADVENTIST HISTORY GRANT CELEBRATES THREE YEARS

The McAdams Adventist History Research Grant committee is in its third year of providing funding to scholars researching Seventh-day Adventist history. The committee organized in 2014 with the generous support of Donald R. McAdams (Ph.D., Duke University), former professor of history at Andrews University, president of Southwestern Adventist University (1975-84), and now an education consultant. Southwestern Adventist University administers the grant. Since its inception, the grant committee has approved nearly \$40,000 in research funding.

Recipients and their projects include: Jonathan M. Butler, *Ellen G. White: A Cultural Biography*; Douglas Morgan, *Daybreakers: Black Adventists in Urban America, 1900-1954*; Gilbert M. Valentine, *John Nevins Andrews Biography – Adventist Pioneer Series*; Edward Allen, *The Impact of the Student Volunteer Movement on the SDA Church*; Ruth Crocombe, *A Troubled Legacy: The Rehabilitation of Harry Willis Miller*; Sydney Freeman Jr., *Owen Troy: Adventism's First Academic Theologian*; Graeme Sharrock, *Appointments and Disappointments: Rhetoric and Religion in the William Miller Correspondence*; and Ron Numbers, a biography of John Harvey Kellogg.

Dr. McAdams founded the grant with the intent of helping SDA projects that have a high likelihood of publication. McAdams, a historian himself, was among the first scholars to examine Ellen White's use of historical sources. McAdams and his wife, Anne, established the grant with the assistance of a matching grant from Exxon. The research grant committee consists of Dr. Steve Jones, Southwestern Adventist University; Dr. Eric Anderson, Pacific Union College; Dr. Terrie Aamodt, Walla Walla University; and Jonathan Butler.

Scholars holding a Ph.D. in history (or related field) or who have demonstrated competence in the field of Adventist history are eligible to apply. Grants are not intended to aid research for completion of doctoral work, although funding may be available for scholars who are revising completed dissertations for publication. Grants will ordinarily be in the range of \$3,000 to \$10,000. Follow-up grants for large projects may also be available. Applicants should complete an application form (found at the ASDAH website, www.sdahistorians.org), which asks for a short description of the project. If a project is judged to be promising, the committee will ask for a fuller statement (1,200-2,000 words), including a proposed budget. Applications should be submitted to Steve Jones, Department of History, Southwestern Adventist University, 100 W. Hillcrest, Keene, TX, 76059, or jones@swau.edu. There are two application deadlines each academic year: November 1 and April 1.

~Eric Anderson

INSTITUTIONAL & FACULTY NEWS

Andrews University

Bryan Strayer retired after 42 years in teaching on July 1, 2016. Since then he has enjoyed historic tours and cruises in New England, Ontario, Quebec, Germany, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, Hungary, and Austria. He recently completed 26 articles for the on-line Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists, directed by the GC Archives. Currently his 300-page biography on John Byington, our first GC president, is at PPPA and due for release in December 2017. During the Conference on Martin Luther and the Reformation at AU last October, he served on a panel discussing religious liberty issues over the past 500 years. In March 2017, he began writing a weekly column in *The Journal Era* newspaper entitled "The Past Is Always Present" which examines how past sayings, inventions, practices, etc. have shaped our present reality today.

La Sierra University

The department suffered a terrible loss last year, when Dr. **Lisa Kohlmeier**--teacher, colleague, mentor, and friend--passed away unexpectedly. Lisa specialized in women's intellectual and social history, but also taught courses in disease and medicine, the Harlem Renaissance, and homelessness. A course in the latter area, Home & Homelessness, partnered with local community organizations through a service-learning program so that the students enrolled and the homeless of Riverside could help and learn from one another. Lisa often spoke of how her students were her main priority and gave great meaning to her life and work. She will be sorely missed.

This fall, the department welcomed Dr. **Alicia Gutierrez-Romine** as an assistant professor of History. Alicia recently completed her PhD--with a dissertation on an illegal abortion ring in California during the mid-20th century--at USC. Her teaching focus will be in gender, race, and ethnicity in U.S. history, particularly in the American west. We are pleased to welcome Alicia to the La Sierra family.

Gilbert Valentine recently published two book chapters on the history of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. They are: "Learning and Unlearning: A Context for Important Developments in the Seventh-day Adventist Understanding of the Trinity, 1888-1898," in *Andrews University Seminary Studies*, Vol. 55, (Fall 2017) No. 2, 213-236, and "The Reformation and the Shaping of Conflict over the Meaning of "Righteousness by Faith" in Seventh-day Adventism, 1960-1978" in Rolf Pöhler et al, eds., *Perceptions of the Protestant Reformation in Seventh-day Adventism*, Friedensau, Germany: Theologische Hochschule Friedensau, 2017.

Southern Adventist University

Southern Adventist University's Department of History and Political Studies has recently undergone change. **Lisa Clark Diller** is spending an academic year as an exchange professor at Avondale College in Australia. Her place in the department has been ably filled by Dr. **Daniel Reynaud** from Avondale College. Daniel's comparisons of Australian and American higher education have been fascinating to hear. We will miss him and his wife Eme when next semester begins, but have delightful experiences to look back on.

Dr. **Kris Erskine** has left the department to pursue other professional opportunities. Southern appreciates the many contributions he made to the History department and wishes him the best. Dr. **Katie Sheffield**, an alumna of SAU, is helping out by teaching full time in the department as a search process for one or more new professors begins.

Shannon Martin, who is spearheading a new political science major, will begin a doctoral program at University of Georgia at Athens next summer. Shannon will continue teaching some courses while taking classes at UGA next year.

Sadly, the faculty of the History Department lost their colleague of nearly thirty years, **Ben McArthur**. Ben was a persistent voice for the humanities and academic rigor at Southern. His gentle and insightful mentoring of students and colleagues changed so many lives. Ben wanted so much to finish winter semester last year, but unfortunately fell short. We look forward to being reunited with Ben in the next life where we will not have to say goodbye.

Southwestern Adventist University

ASDAH members Dr. **Steve Jones**, history chair at Southwestern Adventist University, and Dr. **Randall Butler**, program coordinator for Criminology, Criminal Justice and Strategic Studies at Tarleton State University, Texas, have published *Cesare Lombroso: The Father of Criminology Redefined*. They co-authored the book with Dr. Alex del Carmen, executive director of the School of Criminology at Tarleton State. Kendall Hunt publishes the book. In 19th-Century Italy, Lombroso founded the field of criminal anthropology to study the physical and psychological origins of criminal behavior. He believed that criminal behavior was deeply seated in an arrested state of evolutionary development that was passed down through generations. Thus, Lombroso determined that some people were "born criminals" who lived in a state of atavism. Lombroso's ideas have not withstood modern scrutiny; his work is often regarded as the first to scientifically examine criminal behavior. This book uses seldom-seen notes of Lombroso's daughter, Gina, and it puts Lombroso squarely in the midst of the Italian unification movement. Lombroso wanted to not only break ground in the study of criminal behavior, but he also wanted Italy's scientific reputation to rank with those of England, France, and Germany. Dr. Jones has been at Southwestern Adventist University since 1997. Dr. Butler is former library director, history professor, and criminal justice coordinator at SWAU.

Union College

Benjamin Tyner loves teaching history, philosophy and art history at Union College. He is currently revising his dissertation ("Imperial Martyrs") for publication at University of Nebraska, Lincoln Press and completing an article on European scientific and religious predictions of apocalypse-by-comet impact in 1857.

Edward Allen reports that he spent the summer traveling and teaching in the Philippines, Bangladesh, and China. He taught a class in the development of Seventh-day Adventist Doctrines at a clandestine seminary in northern China and was surprised that all of the students opposed the ordination of women to the gospel ministry in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. He continues his study of Seventh-day Adventist participation in the Student Volunteer Movement for Foreign Mission and expects to present a paper on his findings at the ASDAH/ASTR/WAU conference on Situating Adventist History in January 2018.

Walla Walla University

Walla Walla University welcomed **Timothy Golden** as Professor of Philosophy and director of the new, rapidly growing, Legal Studies minor in Fall 2015. Dr. Golden is also the director of the new Donald Blake Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity, and Culture. This spring the WWU campus will host the Center's second annual conference. Dr. Golden is currently working on several journal articles and book projects in the area of African American Philosophy.

Gregory Dodds, Chair, has given more than a dozen presentations on Martin Luther and the Reformation around the Pacific Northwest this fall, most recently appearing as Luther in an Adventist Forum event on October 31st to celebrate this 500th anniversary. He

has published four peer reviewed journal articles/chapters in the last few years and has another journal article coming out in early 2018. He continues to work on a draft for his second book. Dr. Dodds will be co-leading his 9th UK History and Literature tour for students this coming July.

Terrie Aamodt has been directing the Honors Program for the past nine years. Her current projects include work on a biography of Ellen White for the Adventist Pioneers Biography Series and a co-edited volume titled *Ellen Harmon White: American Prophet* (2014) for Oxford University Press. Dr. Aamodt has lectured broadly about Ellen White and about racism in the Northwest in conjunction with events to honor Donald Blake, the first African-American faculty member at Walla Walla College. She has also been involved in the current celebration of the 125th anniversary of Walla Walla University.

Terrell Gottschall's current research focuses on German involvement in the Boxer Rebellion, as well early baseball leagues in the Walla Walla Valley. Dr. Gottschall has published two journal articles on local baseball and history (2012, 2013) and one on the German naval figure Helmut von Mücke for the *International Journal of Maritime History* (2015).

Monty Buell will be leaving the department at the end of this year to work on full-time research and writing. Buell will likely remain involved in the department for some time contract teaching his favorite courses. The department is extremely sad that he has decided to leave full time teaching and is incredibly grateful for his years of service. He will be greatly missed, especially by the students who all loved his courses. The department hopes to conduct a search for a replacement pending university approval.

Linda Emmerson retired to part time teaching in 2016 after 16 years of teaching philosophy. She has meant so much to our department and we are very pleased that she is willing to continue teaching a few classes each year.

Monique Vincent, alumna 2007 and recent PhD in Near Eastern Archaeology, has been on campus contract teaching for the 2017-2018 academic year.

Other Institutions/Independent Researchers

The General Conference Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research is cohosting, with ASDAH, a conference to be held on January 8-9, 2018: "Situating Adventist History" (program at <https://www.adventistarchives.org/sah-program-draft>). In October, Dr. **Benjamin Baker** resigned his position in the Office of Archives, Statistics, & Research, which in consequence is currently seeking a new Managing Editor for the *Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists*.

In the last twelve months: **David Trim** published three scholarly papers: "'Something more in the way of organization": Seventh-day Adventist ecclesiastical polity in historical perspective', *Ministry*, 89:9 (Sept. 2017), 16–19; 'Revival and the Holy Spirit: The 1939 Australasian revival', *Ministry*, 89:2 (Feb. 2017), 16–18; 'War, soldiers, and high politics under Elizabeth I', in R. Malcolm Smuts (ed.), *The Oxford handbook of the age of Shakespeare* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016), 82–102. He also published two essays in magazines: 'Relieving the sufferings of humanity: Early Adventist city missions', *Mission 360*, 5:1 (2017), 26–27, and an essay in Romanian: 'Stat Islamic: Ridicare, consolidare și prăbușire?' ['Islamic State: Rising, consolidating or falling?'], *Semnele Timpului*, vol. 29, no. 226 (Feb. 2017), 14–23. He also published a review of Jay D. Green, *Christian historiography. Five rival versions*

(Waco: Baylor University, 2015), in *Journal of Ecclesiastical History* 68 (2017): 370–71.

Galina Stele published the following articles: “Tzerkov khristian-adventistov sedmogo dnya v Rossii v godi Pervoi mirovoi voini. 1914-1918.” [“The Church of Seventh-day Adventist Christians in Russia during the First World War. 1914-1918.”] in *Svoboda Sovesti v Rossii: Istoricheskii I Sovremennii Aspekti [Freedom of Conscience in Russia: Historical and Modern Aspects]*. Issue no 12. St. Petersburg: Russian Council of Religious Researchers, 2016, 100-122. (Russian); “The Bridge”, *Adventist Review*, vol. 194, No. 10 (October, 2017), 40-41.

In his retirement, **Jonathan Butler** is writing once again. In an upcoming issue of *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture* (Spring 2018), his review essay will appear as “Seventh-day Adventist Historiography: A Work in Progress.” The journal solicited the article so that its readership will become more familiar with Adventism’s “new history,” such as *Seeking a Sanctuary: Seventh-day Adventism and the American Dream* (by Malcolm Bull and Keith Lockhart) and *Ellen Harmon White: American Prophet* (ed. Terrie Dopp Aamodt, Gary Land, and Ronald L. Numbers). The journal has also become interested in the “new apologetics,” which is making its mark in the Adventist Pioneer Series but may be less familiar to non-SDA scholars. Granting that the “wall of separation” between history and apologetics is more porous these days, Butler argues that *Church History* readers can learn much from both perspectives within SDA historiography. He dedicated the 8,500 word essay to Gary Land and Benjamin McArthur, who contributed so much to Adventist historiography and whose loss to us as a historical community is deeply felt. Steve Jones has graciously asked him to replace the irreplaceable Ben McArthur on the McAdams Grant Committee. In the December issue of *Spectrum*, he reviewed George Knight’s *Adventist Authority Wars, Ordination, and the Catholic Temptation*, asking the question, “Has George Knight Gone Rogue in Rogue River?”

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

The upcoming edition of the Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists is expected to contain more than 200 entries in the historical/theological area. Some entries will be short while others will be major entries. If you wish to participate as an author of one or more entries, please inquire with Nikolaus Satelmajer (see contact information below) for a list of topics. Students are also welcome contribute.

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"We can learn from history, but we can also deceive ourselves when we selectively take evidence from the past to justify what we have already made up our minds to do." ~Margaret MacMillan
