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## ePanorama January 2020

Southern Adventist University

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For Parents of Southern Adventist University Students

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# PANORAMA

parent newsletter | January 2020



## New Mission, Vision, and Values Statements

Over the course of 2019, the leadership of Southern Adventist University worked to revise the university's official mission, vision, and values. A vote by the university's Board of Trustees on October 6 finalized the new statements:

### The Mission

Grounded in Jesus Christ and dedicated to the beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, we equip students to embrace biblical truth, embody academic and professional excellence, and pursue Spirit-filled lives of service.

## Calendar

### January

13 | Classes Begin

14 | Archaeology Museum Exhibit Opening: "From Script to Scripture"

17 | Ministry Expo

18 | Student Association Mid-Winter Party

20 | MLK Service Day

21 | Faculty Piano Recital: Peter Cooper

26 | Symphony Orchestra Concerto Concert

27 | Student Week of Prayer Begins

### February

- Model the love of Jesus in every interaction.
- Invite students into a saving relationship with Jesus.
- Inspire each student to engage with God’s Church and the world through service and witness.
- Provide each student with an exceptional learning experience that equips them to thrive in a fluid, global job market.

### Core Values

As Southern Adventist University employees, we:

- Embrace a Seventh-day Adventist Worldview and Fundamental Beliefs
- Love Others as God Loves Them
- Act with Integrity
- Live Prayerfully
- Serve Others Generously
- Follow God’s Calling
- Pursue Excellence
- Exercise Responsible Stewardship
- Offer an Exceptional Learning Experience

“These new statements define the heart of who and what we are as an institution and also who and what we plan to be in the future,” said President David Smith, PhD.

“Our goal is to clearly express, particularly to our employees, what we expect from their service, as well as sharing with our students and constituents what we expect to deliver.”

Faculty and staff support and understand these statements, which reflect the experiences that in many ways students already benefit from at Southern. Here are two examples of how professors are living them out:

“Every year, the School of Nursing faculty collaborate and fix a homemade Thanksgiving feast for our students. The Wednesday before Thanksgiving break, more than 200 students come together, and we offer them plates heaped with staple holiday foods like mashed potatoes and gravy, veggie-turkey, green beans, dinner rolls, cranberry sauce,

2 | Student Association Superbowl LIV Party

8 | Studio 4109 LIVE

9 | Student Association Spring Formal

14-16 | Parents Weekend

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a memorable and festive prelude to the Thanksgiving break and an encouragement for each student to finish the semester strong.”

– **Holly Gadd, PhD, dean of the School of Nursing**

“Issues in Natural Science and Religion is a biology course that looks at evolution, studying it from both an evolutionist perspective and a creationist perspective. This class teaches students about functioning in a job setting where people have different beliefs than they do. It takes faith to believe that everything evolved, and it takes faith to believe in God and to believe that He created it. The question is: where are you going to put your faith? Everybody has a worldview and it impacts what you believe, the decisions you make, and what you consider your calling in life.”

– **Lucinda Hill, MD, biology professor**

Students appreciate these efforts; in response to the material presented in Hill's class, she received an email from senior biology major Henri Marbun: “I was studying for the test, and I couldn't help but acknowledge how much your class has cultivated my understanding of this world and my faith. Thank you for being understanding and well-versed in the material. I really do enjoy engaging in the lectures, and the content is awesome.”

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## Happy New Year!

Happy New Year! We are excited to begin a new semester, and we thank you for reading *Panorama*!

Your thoughts and feedback are valuable! Email [southernparents@southern.edu](mailto:southernparents@southern.edu) or call 423.236.2581 with your comments or questions.

Thank you!

Natalie Boonstra, junior public relations major  
*Panorama* Editor

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