

Exemplary Adventist Colleges

Several months ago, we wrote to the president and public-relations person of each Adventist college and university around the world, asking about recent awards and notable achievements. Following is information that we received from the various schools.—The Editor.

Adventist University of the Philippines—Manila, Philippines (AUP)

- AUP was recently authorized by the Philippine government to offer its first doctoral program, which is in the area of public health. Only the University of the Philippines, the nation's premier institution of higher learning, offers another doctoral program in this area—though the AUP program focuses on preventive care, the only one of its kind in the country.

- Indrasena Wijeyenake, a professor at AUP, received an international award in August 1998 for his research and work on the prevention of drug abuse.

Adventist University—Zurcher campus—Antananarivo, Madagascar

The destruction of the Adventist University of Central Africa in Rwanda during ethnic massacres created a great demand for a new French-language university to serve the area. As a result, the Adventist University Zurcher in Madagascar was created in 1996.

The only American-style, bilingual university in the Indian Ocean region, Adventist University Zurcher is the only post-secondary institution in Madagascar, other than the state university. The Malagasy government has welcomed the institution and will readily accredit both theology and other programs because of the positive image of Adventists throughout the country.

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Administration building, Union College, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Andrews University—Berrien Springs, Michigan, U.S.A. (AU)

The master of social work program at AU achieved full accreditation status from the Council of Social Work Education during the fall of 1998. While most social work programs—particularly those at public institutions—are built on humanistic philosophical bases, a biblical philosophy drives the graduate curriculum at AU, says Sharon Pittman, chair of the department of social work, now one of the fastest-growing graduate programs on the Andrews campus.

Atlantic Union College—South Lancaster, Massachusetts, U.S.A. (AUC)

- For the fourth consecutive year, AUC

has been named to the second tier of liberal-arts colleges in the Northeast United States by *U.S. News and World Report* magazine.

- After a comprehensive evaluation of AUC programs, the New England Association of Schools and Colleges recently granted the college a 10-year accreditation.

- AUC was the only one of eight central Massachusetts colleges to have at least half of its education majors pass all three components of the state's first teacher-certification test.

Avondale College—Cooranbong, New South Wales, Australia (AC)

AC ranked second in "student satisfaction" in an Australia-wide survey of all

government and private universities in 1998. The college also ranked first in "good teaching" and "imparting generic skills," as well as higher than all but a few specialist institutions in several significant performance areas.

Bangladesh Adventist Seminary and College—Goalbathan, Kaliakoir, District Gazipur, Bangladesh (BASC)

The Adventist Accrediting Association recently bestowed a full five-year term without interim visitation. BASC first awarded bachelor's degrees in 1991.

Canadian University College—College Heights, Alberta, Canada (CUC)

In 1998, the Alberta Private Colleges Accreditation Board voted unanimously to reaffirm the accreditation of CUC's degree programs, noting that the school "has a long history of providing recognized educational services in Alberta, and the institutional loyalty of the administra-

tion, faculty, students, trustees, support staff, and alumni is impressive." CUC is one of only four institutions in Alberta that is currently authorized to offer accredited degree programs.

Caribbean Union College—St. Joseph, Port of Spain, Trinidad, West Indies (CUC)

The government of Trinidad and Tobago forgave a loan of approximately \$2 million that CUC owed, and the prime minister said that he has found at CUC a model for a new education system for the nation.

Central American Adventist University—Alajuela, Costa Rica (CAAU)

• CAAU received a letter of gratitude from the Embassy of Nicaragua in Costa Rica for contributions made by the university, which collected food and clothing to help with disaster relief after Hurricane Mitch. Some staff members and students also helped to distribute the provisions.

• In 1998, CAAU was granted accredi-

tation for a four-year period, following the visit of the General Conference and the Inter-American Accrediting Committee.

Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences—Orlando, Florida, U.S.A. (FHCHS)

For the fifth consecutive year, 100 percent of the graduates from FHCHS's nursing and radiography programs have passed their respective licensing examinations. The school has been authorized by the Southern Association of Colleges and Universities to offer baccalaureate degrees, and was recently admitted to the prestigious Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida organization.

Hong Kong Adventist College—Kowloon, Hong Kong (HKAC)

The Hong Kong Education Department has granted HKAC permission to provide an advanced-level program starting in September 1999 that will prepare qualified students to attend the college.

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La Sierra Hall, La Sierra University, Riverside, California.

Kamagambo Teachers' College—Kisii, Kenya, East Africa (KTC)

After participating in a series of government examinations, KTC was listed as one of the 50 best schools in the area, a fact that was reported in the local daily newspapers.

Kettering College of Medical Arts—Kettering, Ohio, U.S.A. (KCMA)

KCMA was recently accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools to offer a baccalaureate program. The college will offer a B.S. in Health Professions with four major tracks: physician assistant, respiratory care, advanced imaging, and interdisciplinary studies.

Korean Sahmyook University—Seoul, Korea (KSU)

- The KSU choir took first place in a nationwide university choir contest for the second year in a row during 1998. As a result, the choir was invited to perform during a program celebrating the start of the new year shown on television and reported in newspapers.

- Sahmyook Junior College, a school attached to KSU, was recognized as the most exemplary specialized institution in children's education (a department at the school) from among 158 colleges and was awarded \$250,000.

La Sierra University—Riverside, California, U.S.A. (LSU)

- LSU was selected for inclusion in the 1997-1998 Honor Roll for Character-Building Colleges guidebook by the John Templeton Foundation of Radnor. The honor roll recognizes colleges and universities that purposefully strive to build character in their students.

- In LSU's 75th anniversary year (1998), the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce named it "Business of the Year," and the school received the maximum re-accreditation period from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges of 10 years (starting with the previous comprehensive visit in 1991).

- For an unprecedented fourth consecutive year, the LSU Students in Free Enterprise team became international champions at the 1997 International SIFE Exposition and Career Opportunity Fair in Kansas City, Missouri.

Lakpahana Adventist College and Seminary—Mailapitiya, Sri Lanka (LACS)

LACS recently celebrated its 75th anniversary with two former principals from the U.S.A., two former national principals, and about 1,200 alumni.

Montemorelos University—Montemorelos, Mexico (MU)

During November 1997, MU was accredited by FIMPES (Federacion de Instituciones Mexicanas Particulares de Educacion Superior), the national association that accredits private higher education institutions.

Newbold College—Bracknell, Berkshire, England (NC)

Ian Sweeney, pastor of a Seventh-day Adventist church in Sheffield, England, and a 1987 NC graduate, recently won the prestigious fourth-annual Times Preacher of the Year Award, which encourages and celebrates the work of preachers and gives them the opportunity to be heard outside their own congregations.

Six ministers, each from a different denomination, participated in the final round of the awards. Pastor Sweeney, speaking after he had won the award, said, "There is no greater calling and no greater privilege than to speak on God's behalf."

Northern Caribbean University—Mandeville, Jamaica, West Indies (NCU)

During 1999, its 80th anniversary year, West Indies College became NCU, having achieved university status following a visit to the campus by an international review team commissioned by the University Council of Jamaica, which also gave full accreditation to the school's primary teacher-education program.

Pacific Adventist University—Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea (PAU)

In the 15 years since PAU opened its doors, it has acquired a reputation for quality education. In 1997, the Papua New Guinea National Executive Council conferred university status on the institution, and in December of that year, a bill was passed guaranteeing the status of PAU as a regional institution (ensuring that students from other Pacific nations will have continuing access to PAU) and the right of the university to maintain its distinctive Seventh-day Adventist philosophy and values.

The university is considered a leader in quality control and the conducting of academic audits. In August 1998, the country's leading educators in teacher-training invited PAU's head of education to be the key speaker at a conference to

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Building project at Adventist University Zurcher, Madagascar.

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Irwin Hall, Pacific Union College, Angwin, California.

plan the direction of teacher-training for the 21st century.

In September 1998, PAU was invited to host the largest educational summit ever held by the government office of higher education. Delegates included government ministers, commissioners for higher education, senior officers of various government agencies, academics and administrators from various colleges and universities in Papua New Guinea, ambassadors, and noted community leaders. Attendees commented on the friendliness and sense of peace that pervaded the campus, compared to the unrest and violence that they had experienced at their own schools.

Pacific Union College—Angwin, California, U.S.A. (PUC)

For the fifth straight year, *U.S. News and World Report* magazine ranked PUC among the top 10 Western regional liberal-arts colleges in the United States. Of regional liberal-arts colleges in California, PUC ranked number one. It was also

listed as among the 10 most “culturally diverse” campuses in its category in the Western U.S. The *U.S. News* ratings are based on academic quality, student diversity, faculty-to-student ratio, available resources, financial aid, and pre-professional programs.

Romanian Adventist Theological Institute—Ilfov, Romania (RATI)

During the winter of 1999, RATI earned candidacy status for accreditation from the Romanian State Department of Education for its theology-languages branch.

Southern Adventist University—Collegedale, Tennessee, U.S.A. (SAU)

In December 1998, SAU was recertified for the next three years as a Gold Well Workplace, an achievement that required fulfilling and documenting 24 criteria in a four-inch notebook. Southern’s wellness program, now in its 10th year, has resulted in cash incentives for employees and lower medical bills for individuals

and the university. A university student-wellness program promotes health and well-being through health awareness, education, and intervention. SAU is the only Adventist college offering a comprehensive wellness degree, in addition to baccalaureate degrees in physical education and health sciences.

Union College—Lincoln, Nebraska, U.S.A. (UC)

Several of UC’s personnel have recently received awards or citations:

- In May 1998, retiring President John Kerbs received the Award of Excellence, one of the highest awards given by the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Dr. Kerbs was given special recognition for his leadership in reducing the college’s debt, the development of the physician assistant program, and continued development of the Teaching Learning Center.

- Michael Huckabee, director of the physician assistant (PA) program at UC, has been appointed to the Educational Council of the American Academy of

Physician Assistants (AAPA), which represents 30,000 physician assistants in the U.S. He serves as the liaison between the Education Council and the Association of PA Programs, the national organization representing the 105 PA programs in the country.

- Other awards: UC chemistry professor Charles Freidline appeared in the fifth edition of *Who's Who Among America's Teachers, 1998*; Associate Professor of Communication Gregory Rumsey received a Zapara Award for Excellence in Teaching; and George Gibson, chairman of UC's history department, was named to the newly established Dr. George Thomson Endowed Professorship, the first academic endowment of its kind at UC.

University of Eastern Africa Baraton—Eldoret, Kenya, East Africa (UEAB)

UEAB was recently authorized by the Commission for Higher Education, the accrediting body of the Kenyan government, to offer master's degrees in education. The university was also evaluated by the Adventist Accrediting Association and had its accreditation renewed in 1998.

Valley View University—Airport-Accra, Ghana, West Africa (VVU)

VVU's status as the first accredited, private, degree-granting institution in Ghana was announced during the school's

commencement ceremony in May 1998 by the chairman of the national accreditation board, an event covered by both national and local radio and television stations.

Walla Walla College—College Place, Washington, U.S.A. (WWC)

U.S. News and World Report ranked WWC in the first tier of 116 regional universities in the Western U.S., awarding it 18th place in Overall Quality and fifth

place in Best Value and Quality for the Price.

In 1997, WWC became the first Seventh-day Adventist institution to receive specialized accreditation in the area of business, bringing the total of accredited, specialized programs at the college to six—business, nursing, engineering, music, and social work (B.S. and M.S.), in addition to regional accreditation by the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges. ☞

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Moor Close, Newbold College, England.

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University of Montemorelos (Mexico) President Ismael Castillo (third from right), with members of the accrediting committee after the school received accreditation in late 1997 from the Higher Education Accrediting Association for Private Institutions, a government agency.