

ASDAH

The Newsletter of the Association of Seventh-day Adventist Historians

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 email Nikolaus Satelmajer (see contact information below) for a list of topics. Students are also welcome to contribute.

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LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY HOSTS TRIENNIAL ASDAH CONFERENCE (MARCH 17-20, 2016)

From March 17-19, ASDAH's 8th Triennial Conference ("Periods of Transition") convened at La Sierra University. Participants hailed from every North American Adventist undergraduate institution, as well as our cousin schools in Ghana and New Guinea. Professor Rick Kennedy of Pt. Loma Nazarene University and Professor Gil Valentine of La Sierra's School of Education delivered the two keynote talks, on new currents in Cotton Mather research and Ellen G. White research, respectively. Twenty-four papers were delivered, mostly by faculty but also by graduate and undergraduate students. The Gary Land Session on SDA History was initiated as a standing panel focused upon institutional history; papers for the 2016 Gary Land session were given by Gilbert Valentine, Edward Allen (Union College), and Eric Anderson (Pacific Union College). A

tribute to Dr. Land was also given by his friend and colleague, Brian Strayer (Andrews University). Benjamin Baker gave a talk on the GC's project to launch an updated

Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists, and Ruth Crocombe shone a light on the troubling legacy of Harry W. Miller during his time in China and the subsequent cover-up of his activities in the mission field. These were only a few of the many highlights of the weekend, as the community of SDA historians came together to rekindle old friendships, forge new ones, and to share and exchange ideas with others working within the discipline. ASDAH's 9th Triennial Conference will be held at Southwestern Adventist University from May 16-18, 2019. Papers from the 2016 conference are available at:

www.sdahistorians.org/2016-asdah-conference-papers.html

-Andrew Howe

AN HISTORIAN ABROAD: AN UPDATE FROM EDWARD ALLEN (ASDAH PRESIDENT, 2013-2016)



Since AHSDA 2016 I have been active in a number of areas. Continuing my research on SDA participation in the Student Volunteer Movement, I have completed research at the Northern California Conference office, Loma Linda University Heritage Room, Yale Divinity School Library, and the Union Theological Seminary in New York. I plan to continue that research at Andrews University and at the General

Conference Archives within the next month. Just to give you one tidbit of information: I discovered David Paulson's application to join the Student Volunteer Movement at the Yale Library. In his application dated March 30, 1892, he mentions that he was motivated to join the movement by Mr. Robert P. Wilder's visit to Battle Creek College.

Thanks to Union College, I have been on sabbatical this semester. That means that I have also had a chance to visit some fellow historians. Jeff Crocombe, of Pacific Adventist University (PAU) in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, invited me to present an intensive class at PAU during the second week of September. I had a great time with that class and was later told by a student that one of the non-SDA students in the class decided to be baptized as a result of the class. I also visited Michael Campbell at the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies (AIAS) in Silang, Cavite, Philippines. There I taught a two week intensive

graduate seminar on the History and Doctrine of the Sabbath. One benefit of teaching a class to the diverse AIIAS student body is the chance to learn about their experiences. For example, one student described the difficulties a pastor in Indonesia had when he attended a wedding on Sabbath. Madalyn, my wife, accompanied me in visiting both New Guinea and the Philippines.

Following our time in the Philippines, Madalyn and I spent some time in Nepal, visiting Malcolm and Sharon Russell who were advising the nursing school at Scheer Memorial Hospital. On the way to Nepal, we spent eight days in southern China. A highlight of that time was a visit to the Seventh-day Adventist Training School located at the church in the city we visited. With only a brief advance notice, I gave a lecture on Jesus' approach to the Sabbath to some 25 students taking seminary level courses at the training school, about half of whom were women.

I plan to write a journal article about my Student Volunteer research. Michael Campbell and I have also completed a number of chapters in a new SDA history textbook we hope to publish sometime next year.

-Edward Allen

INSTITUTIONAL & FACULTY NEWS

Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies

Donny Chrissutianto, a doctoral student from Indonesia, will join the department in 2017 upon completion of his dissertation. Michael W. Campbell was promoted to Associate Professor. He organized a panel session on Adventism in China at a joint session of the American Society of Church History/American Historical Association, and presented a paper on C. C. Crisler and indigenization in China. The previous year he also presented a paper on the Sabbath and the Taiping at the Society of Biblical Literature. He also presented a paper in May on Luther and the Lord's Supper at Friedensau, and another paper on Luther and Babylon in southern Germany. He wrote a series of 13 articles for the recently published *Encyclopedia of Christianity in the United States* (Rowman & Littlefield) including a major essay on the "Lord's Supper." Currently, he is co-editing a book with Nikolaus Satelmajer on *Luther and Adventism*, forthcoming from Pacific Press, and a textbook on Adventist history, co-authored with Ed Allen. In addition to peer-reviewed publications, he has published over a dozen articles in denominational publications this past year.

Andrews University

Brian Strayer officially retired in July 2016 after forty-two years in SDA education (1974-2016). Although enjoying retirement, he is still an active historian, presenting papers on Uriah Smith, John Byington, and others at venues throughout the United States. He recently completed a biography of Byington, to be published in 2018 by the Pacific Press, and is currently writing twenty-five articles for the new online edition of the *Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists*. He also remains active in the church, leading the week of prayer at Grand Rapids Adventist Academy, guiding a week long Adventist Heritage Tour of New York and New England, and giving worship talks to teachers from the Michigan Conference gathered at Camp Au Sable.

In the Department of Church History at the Andrews University Seminary, Jerry Moon, former chair, retired in summer 2016 after serving 14 years as chair and 22 years in total. John Reeve succeeded him as the new chair. Dr. Reeve has served as an Associate Professor of Church History at Andrews for 12 years. He is also co-editor of the semi-annual journal *Andrews University Seminary Studies* (AUSS). Starting January 2017, Denis Kaiser began his position as Assistant Professor of Adventist Studies. He is currently the Annotation Project Editor for the Ellen G. White Estate in Silver Spring, MD.

La Sierra University

The faculty are deeply saddened to announce the sudden, unexpected passing of our dear friend and colleague, Lisa Kohlmeier, who passed away January 23 at age 47. Lisa began teaching at La Sierra in 2005 after three years teaching history at Atlantic Union College. As a student, she earned two bachelor's degrees from AUC, graduating Summa Cum Laude. In 2009, she jointly earned master's and doctoral degrees in American history from Claremont Graduate University. Her numerous fellowships and awards include an American Association of University Women publication grant, several La Sierra University research grants, and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History Fellowship. She gave numerous scholarly presentations at universities and conferences around the United States. She will be greatly missed by both her students and her colleagues.¹

Southern Adventist University

The History Department at Southern Adventist University recently added a Political Science major and an International Relations minor to their program. Kris Erskine recently became

¹ Adapted with permission from an article by Darla Tucker.

chair of the department. Kris is replacing Lisa Clark Diller, who spent the past four years as department chair. Lisa is currently spending a year at Avondale College, switching places with Daniel Reynaud beginning winter 2017. Ben McArthur published a biography of A.G. Daniells, the first General Conference President, entitled *A.G. Daniells: Shaper of Twentieth-Century Adventism*, through Pacific Press Publishing in 2016.

Southwestern Adventist University

Steve Jones, Chair of the History & Social Science Department at Southwestern Adventist University, is working with Randy Butler (also a member of ASDAH) on a biography of early criminologist Cesare Lombroso. The publication is contracted with Kendall Hunt and is set to come out later in 2017.

Union College

Malcolm Russell retired from Union College last spring after 13 years as the Academic Dean. He is currently in Nepal for three months with his wife as tourists and volunteers at Scheer Memorial Hospital.

Other Institutions

Rachel Reeves is managing the Andrew Mellon Public Fellows Program at UC Davis (having finished a PhD in History in January). She helps train and place doctoral students in the arts, humanities, and humanistic social sciences in short-term public and nonprofit partnerships. This program is motivated by the need to acknowledge and support community-engaged work already being done by the UC Davis faculty and to offer humanities doctoral students an opportunity working with different publics. This year one of the fellows developed an interactive map of Akwesasne Mohawk Territory and another studied the long-term effects of international Christian volunteerism on communities in Ecuador. This year they plan to place students with the California Department of Education and the Yolo Food Bank.

CONFERENCES, RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES, AND GRANTS AVAILABLE

GENERAL CONFERENCE ARCHIVES CONFERENCE

The General Conference Archives, the Association of SDA Historians (ASDAH), and the History

Department of Washington Adventist University are co-sponsoring a two-day conference on Adventist history, to be held January 8-9, 2018.

Next year, the American Historical Association's annual meeting will be held in Washington D.C. As we did four years ago, when the AHA met in D.C., we are organizing a conference to take advantage of the fact that many of you will be attending, or would like to attend the AHA and the ASCH. We suggest that, if you do come for those meetings, you arrange to stay on an extra couple of days.

The conference theme: **"Situating Adventist History."** A weakness in Adventist historiography is that events in Adventism often seem to take place almost in a vacuum. While we believe this Church is divinely ordained, we cannot fully understand its development in isolation from wider historical currents.

The conference will start on Monday January 8, with several keynote papers that provide context to the emergence of Seventh-day Adventism. We will shortly be issuing a Call for Papers - we hope to receive proposals for papers that will contextualize Adventism in a wider history. These papers will fill out the conference program.

Keynote speakers already confirmed are:

- * David Holland (Harvard Divinity School), author of *Sacred Borders* (Oxford UP, 2011)
- * Nicholas Miller (Andrews University), author of *The Religious Roots of the First Amendment* (Oxford UP, 2012)
- * Alec Ryrie (University of Durham), author of *Protestants: The Faith that Made the Modern World* (Penguin, 2017)
- * Reggie Williams (McCormick Theological Seminary), author of *Bonhoeffer's Black Jesus* (Baylor UP, 2014)

We hope to confirm other keynote speakers shortly.

In closing, **please save the dates January 8-9**; and please keep a look out for the Call for Papers which will be released soon.

Martin Luther Conference

The Andrews University Departments of History & Political Science and Religion & Biblical Languages, in collaboration with the Office of Research and Creative Scholarship and the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists' Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research, proudly announces its upcoming conference to commemorate the 500-year anniversary of Martin Luther's *Nine-Five Theses*. We welcome all scholarly paper or session proposals for the conference, to be held at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan, from October 31 to November 3, 2017. The program committee welcomes proposals from all disciplines, time periods, and locales—with the common thread relating to Martin Luther, Protestantism,

and/or the Reformation. Roundtable discussions that foster audience involvement are welcome as well. Please provide a 250-word abstract and CV by March 31, 2017 to:

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<https://www.andrews.edu/cas/history/lutherconference/>

Luther Symposium

There will be a Luther Symposium, October 12-15, 2017, at Andrews University Seminary. It will be coordinated by John Reeve, Jiri Moskala, Martin Hannah, Michael Campbell, and Nikolaus Satelmajer. Scholars are welcome to attend.

McAdams Adventist History Research Grants

Scholars of SDA history have opportunities for research funding through the McAdams Adventist History Research Grant program. Support for the program comes from one of the founders of ASDAH, Donald R. McAdams (Ph.D., Duke University), a former Professor of History at Andrews University, President of Southwestern Adventist University (1975-84), and successful education consultant. Assisted by a matching grant from Exxon, McAdams and his wife, Anne, have established the McAdams Adventist History Research Grant.

The intention of the grant program is to fund significant projects in Millerite/Adventist history that will result in publication. 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 be available.

During the 2015-2016 academic year, the McAdams Grants committee approved \$33,900 in funding requests.

Applicants should complete an application form (found on 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 follow up statement of 1,200-2,000

words, including a proposed budget. Application letters should be submitted to Steve Jones, Department of History, Southwestern Adventist University, 100 W. Hillcrest, Keene, TX, 76059. The deadline is April 1, 2017. A selection committee of veteran ASDAH members (Steve Jones, Terrie Aamodt, Eric Anderson, and Ben McArthur) will review applications and make recommendations.

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"It is the work of true education to develop this power, to train the youth to be thinkers and not mere reflectors of other men's thought."

~Ellen White
