



# PANORAMA

parent newsletter | Spring 2025



## Southern Wins Nine Communication Awards

Once again taking home the most wins, Southern Adventist University applauds students and faculty who earned awards at the creative competition held during the Society of Adventist Communicators (SAC) Convention just outside Chicago, Illinois, earlier this school year. The annual contest encourages both seasoned and new generations of communicators to submit projects in writing, design, photography, videography, public relations/marketing, and social media categories for judging.

“Southern’s ongoing success in the contest is a tribute to the work done within our classrooms and beyond,” says Stephen Ruf, professor in the School of Journalism and Communication (SJC).

Student winners include Raquel Lazcano, junior psychology major, for journalistic photography; Preston Waters, senior marketing major, for journalistic photography as well as short film; Lesieli Savelio, senior public relations and international studies major, along with alumni Lauren Fenwick and Valeria Izaguirre, for campaign design; alum Amanda Blake, last year’s student newspaper editor, for news writing; and Steven Hansen, sophomore media technology major, and Derek Aubin, junior mass communication



major, for web video. Andrew Boggess, senior mass communication major, received a student honorable mention for journalistic photography.

In the professional category of short film, winners were SJC professor Pablo Fernandez, his wife and Master of Social Work program manager at Southern Lísye Fernandez, their middle-school-aged son Eduardo Fernandez, and Rich Aguilera (attended). Alva James-Johnson, also a professor in SJC, received an honorable mention for news writing.

SJC dean Rachel Williams-Smith, PhD, spoke of the department’s hopes and dreams for those enrolled in the program. “We celebrate our students for their outstanding achievements at the SAC competition. These awards not only reflect the high level of quality and creativity they consistently produce but also underscore how Southern is preparing them to excel in their careers. Opportunities like this, where our students can engage with industry professionals and showcase their work, are invaluable in shaping their future successes.”

- by Anaya Miller, senior English major

**“Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.”**

Ephesians 3:20-21

*Favorite Bible Verse of Michelle Clinton, office manager for the School of Social Work*



## Mission to Serve

### Nursing Students Impact Community Health

The School of Nursing at Southern collaborated with AdventHealth Manchester to send 14 nursing students and two professors to Manchester, Kentucky, from October 16-20 last semester. The group participated as part of the Population and Community Health course, along with John Singletary, assistant professor of nursing, and Becky Retzer, recently retired professor of nursing.

As one of the students on this trip, I was excited to partner with employees at the hospital to conduct pre-assessments and post-assessments in patient homes. We examined and evaluated fire alarms, window locks, unstable railings, and slippery bathroom floors, which helped project managers understand what work needed to be done.

Spiritually, I was reminded of how listening to the stories of others changes everything. I found myself tearing up as people shared about their lives, losses, and families. So often, as nursing students, we find ourselves short on time and stressed about assignments. In community health, however, you are stepping into someone's home. People invite you into their world, and you get the chance to sit and listen as they share their lives with you. It was such an honor to be welcomed like this and to learn about community health with the lovely people of Manchester.

- by Keeley Phillips, senior nursing major



## Q&A: Meet Joseph Hyde

### Digital Engagement Manager

**Q: What does the role of digital engagement manager encompass?**

**A:** As the digital engagement manager, I oversee the content that is posted on Southern's official social media accounts. I also manage video and photography.

**Q: What sparked your interest in this field?**

**A:** During the summer of 2012, I had the opportunity to go on a mission trip to the island of Tonga in the South Pacific Ocean. As I watched the group's designated media team document both the work being done and the connections made, I realized how the photographers and videographers were making their own skilled contributions to a greater cause. That service experience spoke volumes, pushing me to realize my calling to pursue photography as a career path. I received my degree in photography at Southern, which prepared me for the professional work I now oversee. A foundation in photography has also allowed me to explore other avenues of digital communication, such as video and social media management.



**Q: How do you hope to make a difference for students?**

**A:** I enjoy working with and mentoring several student workers who help produce our social media content. I hope to help them grow and learn by allowing them to be creative with their skills as we think of new and fun ideas. I also love that our work helps build community for current students and encourages prospective students to come to Southern, but even more, I hope it draws them closer to Christ.

**Q: What do you want parents to know about Southern's social media channels?**

**A:** Don't only consume the content that we put out but also engage with us by reposting, sharing, and commenting. We want feedback from you. My dream is to nurture a healthy, flourishing, and thriving online Southern community. If you are not already, follow us on all platforms!



## Did You Know?

### 5 Leadership Tips from President Shaw

As the president of Southern, Ken Shaw, EdD, has a wealth of experience in leadership. He aims to make the university a place where students observe effective leadership in action and have ample opportunities to grow and develop their own skills in guiding and motivating others as they prepare to enter the professional workforce.

He shares this advice, “As a leader, it’s important to inspire others to aim for excellence and empower them to pursue their God-given potential. Consider how you are cultivating not only your own growth but also the growth of those around you. Let your leadership be motivated by the needs of others, and as you lead others, remember to let God lead you.”

The following are five tips from President Shaw for developing leadership skills.

- 1 Be authentic** and aware of your strengths while surrounding yourself with individuals who complement those strengths.
- 2 Communicate clearly** and transparently, setting well-defined expectations. Seek knowledge continuously to improve and drive innovation.
- 3 Be a visionary** in crafting a strategic plan, gaining support from stakeholders with understandable, achievable milestones and timelines.
- 4 Embrace best practices and lead by example** through a strong work ethic, integrity, and values, inspiring others to model dedication and passion.
- 5 Recognize your people** as your greatest asset, investing in their development and well-being.



## Student Life:

### School of Business Students Excel

Students in Southern’s School of Business have been working hard in competitions and tackling projects simulating real-world business scenarios both regionally and worldwide. Take a look at some of their most notable recent rankings below.

• **99<sup>th</sup> Percentile in Marketplace Simulation:**

In a simulation of managing a startup company in the MGMT 364 International Business course, one of Southern’s teams placed first out of the five locally competing teams, and in the 99th percentile of more than 1 million simulation teams worldwide.

• **Three Top 50 Performers in Business Strategy Challenge:**

Out of 685 teams from 58 colleges and universities worldwide, three teams of Southern students earned the ranking of Global Top 50 Performers for the performance of their GLO-BUS business strategy simulations during the week of June 17-23, 2024.

• **Second in CFA Institute Research Challenge:**

Southern’s team of finance students placed 2nd among the 10 participating colleges and universities in the Greater Tennessee Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Institute Research Challenge in 2024.

• **Battle of the Brains Finalists:**

At the HSI Battle of the Brains, a national intercollegiate pitch competition for Hispanic-Serving Institutions, Southern’s team of students made it to the finals along with six other teams after formulating and presenting strategies to solve a business challenge that was presented at the start of the event.

*Southern’s \$24 million School of Business Leadership and Innovation Campaign will support a new building and program endowment that benefits students in endeavors like these. You can also stay current on the progress at the new Ruth McKee School of Business by watching a livestream of the construction site at [southern.edu/gobusiness](https://southern.edu/gobusiness).*





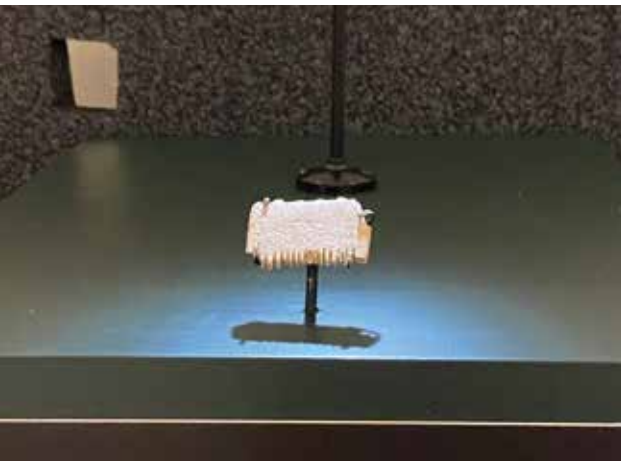
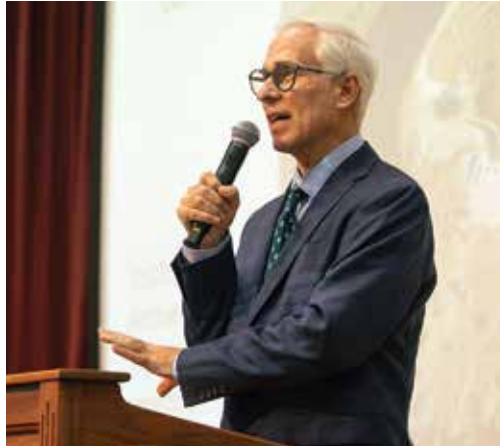
# STRONG INSIDE AND OUT

Southern students find plenty of ways to keep their bodies and minds fit. Whether through cardio exercise during intramurals, studying with classmates in a lab, or praying together and finding community in a LifeGroup, building a variety of healthy habits to stay strong mentally, physically, socially, and spiritually is all part of life on this university campus.



# IVORY COMB ON CAMPUS

The oldest deciphered sentence ever found has been on Southern's campus this semester as the only location in the United States displaying the rare artifact. The inscribed ivory lice comb arrived on campus in January and is on display until May 2 at the Lynn H. Wood Archaeological Museum on loan from the Israel Antiquities Authority. Care and precision went into installing the exhibit, followed by a grand opening banquet and archaeological symposium featuring internationally recognized scholars who shared details about the comb's literary and biblical significance.



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## Exam Schedule Winter 2025

Time	Monday May 5	Tuesday, May 6	Wednesday May 7	Thursday May 8
8 to 9:50 a.m.	English Comp Basic Writing	8 a.m. M W F 8:30 a.m. M T W Th F	8 a.m. T Th 8:30 a.m. T Th	12 p.m. T Th 12:30 p.m. T Th
10 to 11:50 a.m.	9:30 a.m. T Th 10 a.m. T Th	9 a.m. M W F 9 a.m. T Th	1 p.m. T Th 1 p.m. M T Th F	10 a.m. M W F
12 to 1:50 p.m.	12 p.m. M W F	11 a.m. M W F	4 p.m. T Th 5 p.m. T Th	11 a.m. T Th
2 to 3:50 p.m.	1 p.m. M W F	2 p.m. M W F 2:30 p.m. M W F	2 p.m. T Th 2:30 p.m. T Th	
4 to 5:50 p.m.	3 p.m. T Th 3:30 p.m. T Th	Speech	3 p.m. M W F 3:30 p.m. M W 4 p.m. M W	

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-  [x.com/SouthernNews](https://x.com/SouthernNews)

## MAR

27-28 Spring PreviewSouthern

31 F25 Pre-registration for Southern Scholars

### April

1 F25 Pre-registration for returning seniors >93 hours

3 F25 Pre-registration for returning juniors >54 hours

3-5 Symphony Orchestra Tour

7 F25 Pre-registration for returning sophomores >23 hours

9 F25 Pre-registration for returning freshmen <23 hours

12-13 Gym-Masters Home Shows

14 F25 Registration open for new/transfer students

17-20 I Cantori Concert Tour

26 Asian Cultural Night

### May

5-9 Semester Exams

11 Commencement

12 S25 Sessions Begin