

# Profiles of Excellence

## *Seven Extraordinary Practices*

### INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

**H**ow would you define excellence in Seventh-day Adventist education? I used several methods to identify outstanding examples of quality Adventist education in action. First, more than 130 North American Division conference educational superintendents, union education curriculum directors, and division education department personnel were sent a survey form. Some 108 persons responded to one section of the *Profile '97* survey, which is given every odd-numbered year.

Respondents were asked to nominate one or two schools whose outstanding innovative programs should be featured in a special issue of the JOURNAL OF ADVENTIST EDUCATION. A number of respondents left the section blank (we hope by accident!). We then tried to determine whether any schools were named multiple times by the respondents. We conducted follow-up interviews to get more information on programs of choice.

A second survey was sent to 750 senior academy teachers around the world asking them to cite examples of outstanding Christian teaching. Again, many left this section blank, perhaps symptomatic of the lack of awareness by many educators regarding the exciting developments taking place in Adventist education across the globe.

### **By Paul S. Brantley**

Finally, the JOURNAL OF ADVENTIST EDUCATION sent an appeal to our tertiary institutions around the world for information about exemplary practices and activities for which their respective institutions had been honored. Both administrators and public relations officers were asked to respond.

The schools selected are only a tiny sample of the many fine programs operating throughout the world at the elementary, secondary, and tertiary levels! The challenge will be to continuously identify and track good things happening in Adventist schools and share the knowledge in ways that inspire all of us to do our best.

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