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THE JOURNAL OF ADVENTIST EDUCATION (ISSN 0021-8480) is published bimonthly, October through May, plus a single summer issue for June, July, August, and September by the Department of Education, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904-6600, U.S.A. TELEPHONE: (301) 680-5075; FAX: (301) 622-9627; E-mail: rumbleb@gc.adventist.org. Subscription price: U.S.\$18.25. Add \$3.00 for postage outside the U.S. Single copy: U.S.\$3.75. Periodical postage paid at Silver Spring, Maryland, and additional mailing office. Please send all changes of address to P.O. Box 5, Keene, TX 76059, including both old and new address. Address all editorial and advertising correspondence to the Editor. Copyright 2010 General Conference of SDA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE JOURNAL OF ADVENTIST EDUCATION, P.O. Box 5, Keene, TX 76059.

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E D I T O R I A L

**Introducing the New Team
and Game Plan**

By Lisa M. Beardsley

While many teachers were enjoying a well-deserved break from school, a new General Conference (GC) education team was voted in this summer. Every five years, the global Seventh-day Adventist family convenes (this time in Atlanta) to elect the president of the church and other leaders who will serve around the world. Education is well represented in the final line-up. The newly voted president, Dr. Ted Wilson, earned a doctorate in religious education. Three general vice presidents have spent significant parts of their careers in education: Drs. Ella Smith Simmons, Delbert Baker, and Benjamin Schoun. For the first time in the history of the church, a woman was elected to head the General Conference Department of Education (me!). This is evidence indeed of

the empowering and equalizing force of education that should encourage girls and women to study well, in preparation for service wherever the Lord may lead.

We salute and say good-bye to Dr. C. Garland Dulan, who dedicated 35 years of uninterrupted service to the cause of education in the Seventh-day Adventist Church that culminated in leading the global work of education as director of education. Dr. John Fowler has not yet retired but plans to, having worked for the church for over half a century. His past 15 years have been here in the Department of Education. Long-time readers of the JOURNAL will recognize his name as author and consultant, if not having met him or heard him speak somewhere in the world.

Along with fond farewells, we also welcome new associate directors who join the GC Education Team: Drs. John Wesley Taylor (editor of *Dialogue* and chair of the JOURNAL Advisory Board), Mike Lekic (executive secretary of the Adventist Accrediting Association), and Hudson E. Kibuuka (our expert

in math/science education and board training). But not everyone is new. Continuing on the team are Associate Director Dr. Luis A. Schulz (editor of the international edition of the *JOURNAL*), Beverly J. Robinson-Rumble (editor of the English edition of the *JOURNAL*), and Susana Schulz, editorial assistant for our “other journal,” *Dialogue*. This journal equips university/college students and young professionals to successfully deal with the intellectual, spiritual, and lifestyle issues that challenge them as they study on secular campuses.

Our team works with 13 world division directors of education (see sidebar on page 61). They oversee accreditation of K-12 education in their region, along with many other aspects of the educational work. We work together with them on accreditation of higher education, as well as supporting teachers and administrators through publication of the *JOURNAL* and presentation of conferences, workshops, and meetings.

Our GC team was selected on the basis of their capacity to serve a global church. Among them, nine languages are spoken (English, Finnish, French, German, Kiswahili, Luganda, Portuguese, Serbo-Croatian, and Spanish), and eight passports are in constant use (Argentina, Canada, Finland, Germany, Switzerland, Uganda, the U.K., and the U.S.A.).

Those are the players—a very international team of dedicated and well-qualified Adventist educators. We also have a four-point game plan for the new quinquennium. Foremost is to reinforce Adventist identity and mission, characterized by:

- a. Meaningful integration of faith and learning in the various disciplines and a biblical worldview overall;
- b. Balanced, whole-person, redemptive education that develops the ability “to think and to do” and restores in students the image of God (*Education*, p. 17);
- c. Adventist essentials in gradu-

ate and professional programs;

d. Adventist philosophy of education in distance education, delivery of intensives for non-residential cohorts, and urban campuses;

e. Academic quality;

f. Spiritual master plans appropriate for the level and type of student; and

g. Use of the Bible and Adventist textbooks.

The second goal is to strengthen leadership and administration, and demonstrate accountability and effective governance through robust institutional decision-making processes and structures, supported by journal articles, handbooks, and board training workshops.

Third, we seek to expand the capacity of all teachers to achieve the redemptive purposes of Adventist education and to model Adventist values and lifestyle; and to increase, where needed, the

Continued on page 61



Left to right: Beverly J. Robinson-Rumble, Editor, *The Journal of Adventist Education*; Lisa M. Beardsley, Director of Education; Esther Rodriguez, Administrative Assistant; Mike Mile Lekic, Associate Director of Education; John Wesley Taylor, V, Associate Director of Education; Luis A. Schulz, Associate Director of Education; Susana Schulz, Editorial Assistant, *Dialogue*; Chandra Goff, and Linda Torske, departmental secretaries. Inset: Hudson E. Kibuuka, Associate Director of Education.

Editorial continued from page 3

percentage of Seventh-day Adventist teachers who work in the system. We plan to:

- a. Encourage induction and development of all teachers in the area of faith and learning;
- b. Increase access to the *JOURNAL*;
- c. Strengthen the role of religion and theology teachers;
- d. Add to the Handbook series for teachers;
- e. Offer regional conferences about faith and learning, assessment of spiritual master plans, Adventist philosophy of education, etc.
- f. Promote education as a calling, and the practice of credentialing and commissioning of teachers.

The fourth goal is to nurture Seventh-day Adventist students in non-Adventist higher education and partner with other GC departments (Chaplaincy, Children's Ministries,

Youth, Family Ministries) to strengthen, through the divisions, the ministry of churches to all Seventh-day Adventist students. To accomplish this, we plan to:

- a. Increase access to *Dialogue*;
- b. Monitor the preparation of future teachers and recruit teachers and other personnel needed for Adventist higher education (in line with our third goal); and
- c. Expand membership in the Adventist Professionals' Network (<http://apn.adventist.org>).
- d. Address access barriers so as to increase the percentage of Seventh-day Adventist students in denominational schools.

There you have it: the Team and Game Plan. What are your thoughts on how to strengthen Adventist mission and identity? What are some practical ways the *JOURNAL* might support school leadership and effective

decision-making by school boards? How can we be better partners with teachers to achieve the redemptive purposes of Adventist education? And how should we extend Adventist education outside of its formal educational structures to have an impact where the majority of Adventist students are? We're not in this alone—we want to hear from you. It's more than a game—we aim to score for eternity.



Lisa M. Beardsley is world Director of Education for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Silver Spring, Maryland, U.S.A.

THE WORLD EDUCATION TEAM

Lisa M. Beardsley, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.B.A., Director
Editor in Chief, *Dialogue*
Liaison to North American Division (NAD)

Hudson E. Kibuuka, D.Ed., Associate Director
Liaison to the following divisions: Southern Africa-Indian Ocean (SID), Southern Asia-Pacific (SSD), Southern Asia (SUD)

Mike Mile Lekic, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Div., Associate Director
Executive Secretary, Accrediting Association of Seventh-day Adventist Schools, Colleges, and Universities
Liaison to the following divisions: East-Central Africa (ECD), Euro-Asia (ESD), Northern Asia-Pacific (NSD), Trans-European (TED)

Luis A. Schulz, Ed.D., Associate Director
Associate Editor, *The Journal of Adventist Education* (International Edition)
Liaison to the following divisions: Euro-Africa (EUD), South American (SAD)

John Wesley Taylor V, Ph.D., Ed.D., Associate Director
Editor, *Dialogue*
Advisory Board Chair, *The Journal of Adventist Education*
Liaison to the following divisions: Inter-American (IAD), South Pacific (SPD), West-Central Africa (WAD)

Beverly J. Robinson-Rumble, M.A.
Editor, *The Journal of Adventist Education*

Susana Schulz, M.A.
Editorial Assistant, *Dialogue*

To date, the following division directors of education have been elected:

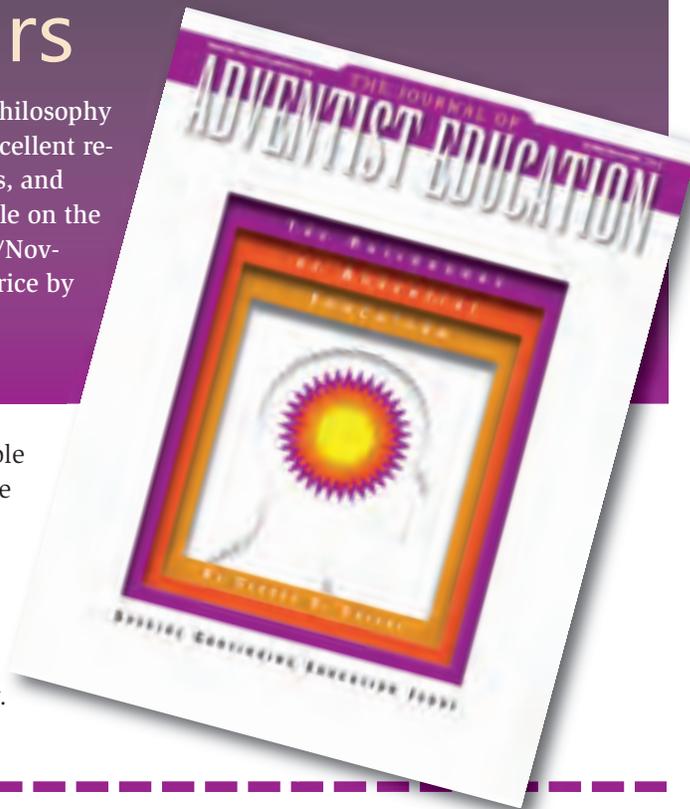
- ESD: **Branislav Mirilov**, Ph.D.
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- IAD: **Gamaliel Flórez**, D.Min.
- NSD: **Chek Yat Phoon**, Ph.D.
- SAD: **Edgard Leonel Luz**, M.A.
- SID: **Ellah Kamwendo**, Ph.D.
- SPD: **Barry Hill**, Ph.D. until December 15, 2010, thereafter **Malcolm T. Coulson**, Ph.D.
- SSD: **Lawrence L. Domingo**, Ed.D.
- TED: **Daniel Duda**, D.Min.

Elections to be held for appointment of division education directors later this year:

- ECD (vacated by Hudson E. Kibuuka, D.Ed.)
- NAD (incumbent Larry D. Blackmer, M.A.)
- SUD (incumbent Nageshwar Rao, Ph.D.)
- WAD (incumbent Chiemela Ikonne, Ph.D.)

Here's How to Order Copies of This Issue to Use for In-Service Education/Seminars

In addition to their use for continuing education credit, the Philosophy of Adventist Education study materials in this issue are an excellent resource for teacher conferences, school board training sessions, and small group study. The materials will immediately be available on the JOURNAL's Website (<http://jae.adventist.org>), and the October/November 2010 issue can be purchased in bulk at a discounted price by contacting the JOURNAL's office assistant, Chandra Goff, at (301) 680-5069. E-mail: goffc@gc.adventist.org.



Richard Rice's two-part continuing education articles on "Bible Doctrines" have been recently updated, and are also available in PDF format for easy download at the JOURNAL's Website: <http://jae.adventist.org/>.

Be sure to also check out the list of other Continuing Education materials available at the Website.

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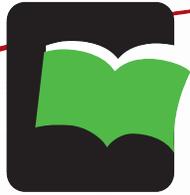
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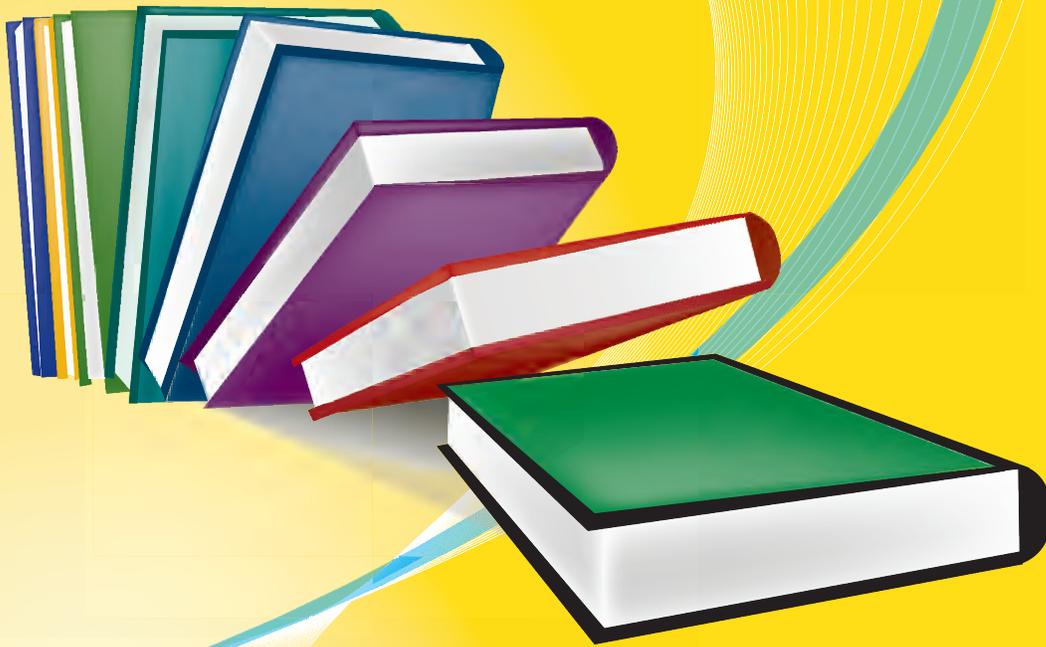
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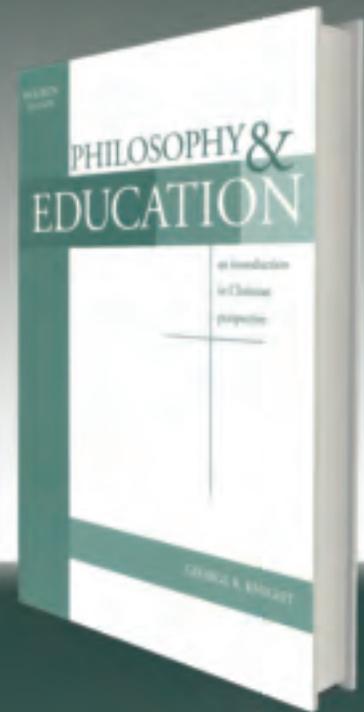
PHILOSOPHY & EDUCATION

by George R. Knight

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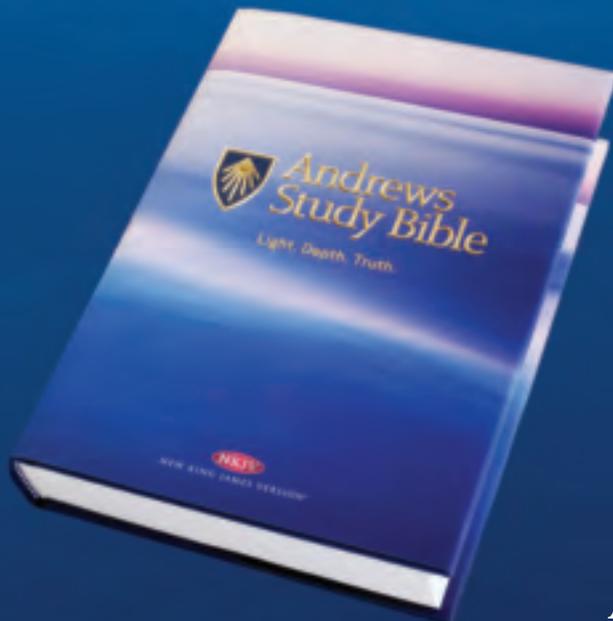
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