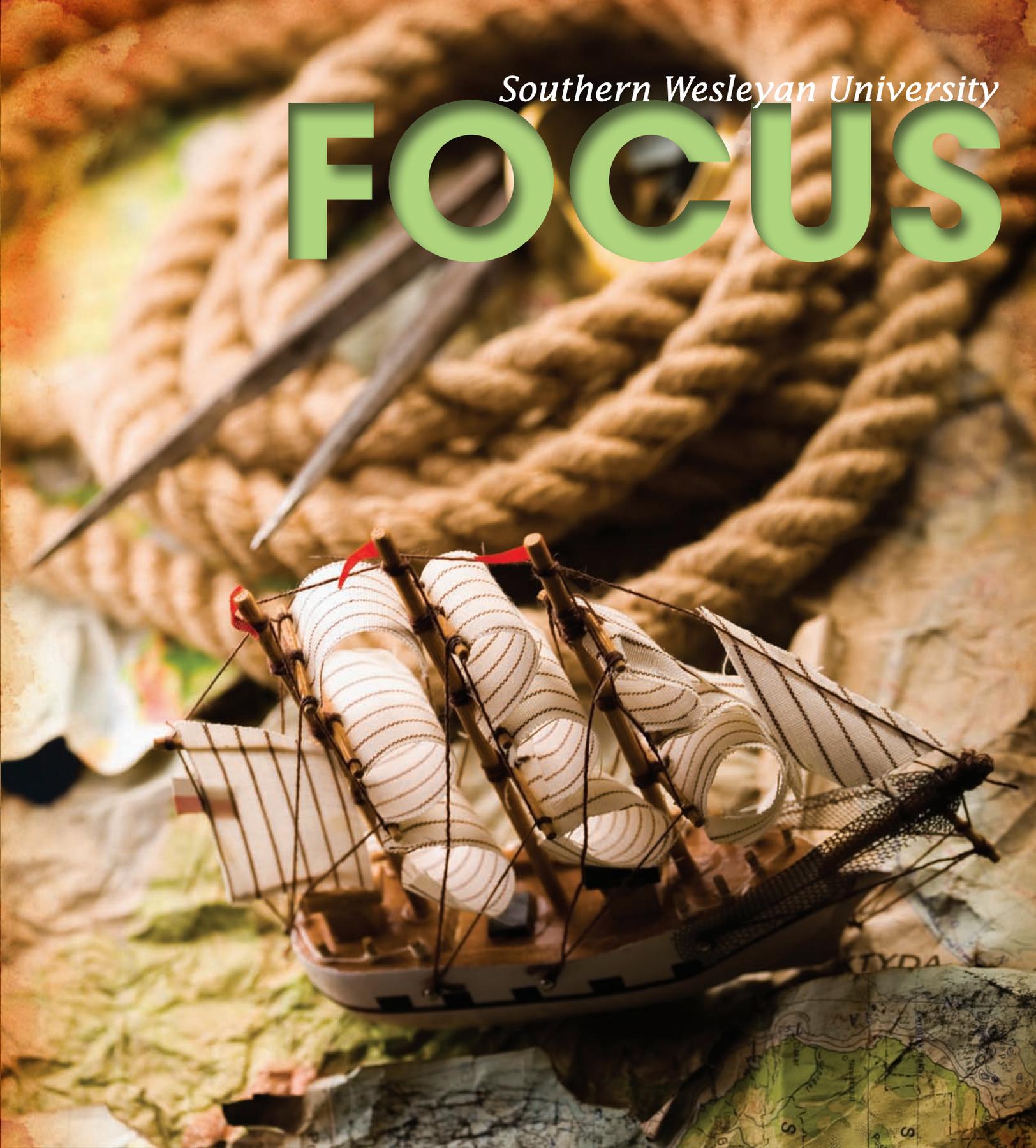


Southern Wesleyan University

FOCUS



Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:5

SPRING 2009

From here to there

**By David J. Spittal, president
Southern Wesleyan University**

It might seem a simple process to get from here to there, but it may be harder than we think. The directions and route we choose to follow may actually take us where we didn't intend to go. Although the newest GPS systems are amazing, even with these marvelous devices it is possible to be distracted, miss a turn and even get lost. A faceless voice politely tells us to turn around and go in the right direction.

Experienced sailors also know that open water can be deceiving and understand that the most direct route to the harbor may also be the most dangerous. Unseen rocks, sandbars and invisible obstacles often lie beneath the surface and pose serious dangers to both vessel and crew. Nautical charts of the sea and waterways include the water depth and known hazards and indicate markers and buoys that are placed to guide sailors through safe channels and inlets. These charts include clear warnings that remind travelers that unseen obstacles often move with weather and current and these maps may not be accurate at certain times of the year. Those who ignore these maps, the marked obstacles and the clear warnings often become vessels in distress.

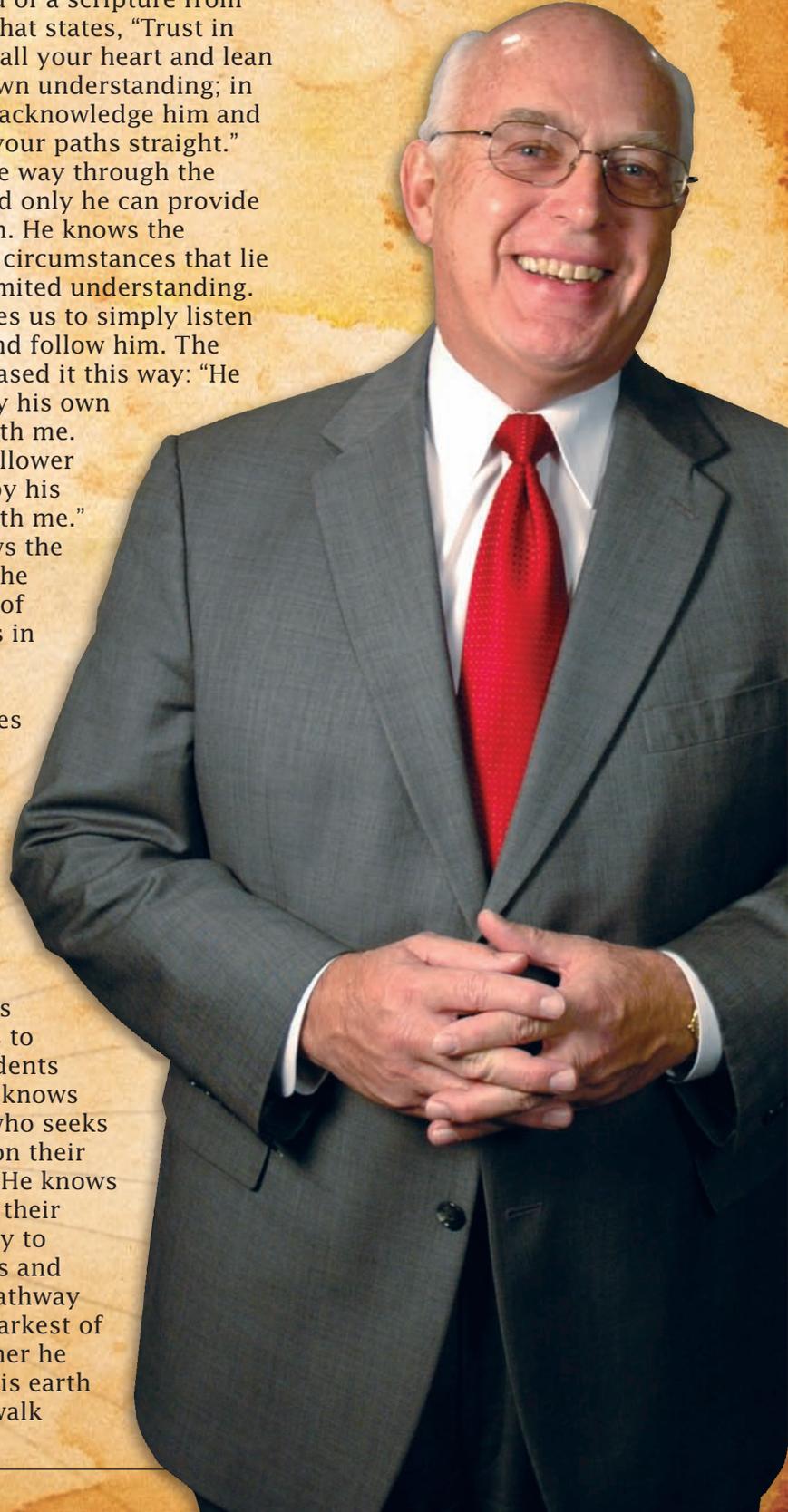
In life, it would be easier if our journey were a straight line from one point to the next. We assume that decisions will take us directly and without interruption toward our hopes and dreams. Unfortunately, along the way we discover hidden obstacles and circumstances that alter our course and even change our destination. When we get off course and lose our bearings in life, we tend to wander aimlessly; our hopes and dreams are often

abandoned and we become distressed people.

I am reminded of a scripture from Proverbs 3:5 that states, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight." God knows the way through the wilderness and only he can provide a straight path. He knows the obstacles and circumstances that lie beyond our limited understanding. Our God invites us to simply listen to his voice and follow him. The old hymn phrased it this way: "He leadeth me, by his own hand he leadeth me. His faithful follower I will be. For by his hand he leadeth me." Our God knows the way through the most difficult of circumstances in life. He is not confused by alternate routes and is not perplexed by a change of direction or even hidden obstacles along the way.

Our mission as a university is to guide our students to Christ who knows the way and who seeks to lead them on their life's journey. He knows the desires of their hearts, the way to green pastures and the straight pathway through the darkest of valleys. Whether he leads us on this earth or lifts us to walk

heavenly paths, our God can be trusted fully to take us from here to there.



Dr. David Spittal

FOCUS CONTENTS

SPRING 2009

Focus Magazine is published four times a year by Southern Wesleyan University, Central, SC

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Keeping the dream alive

Tom Jones of Columbia, a veteran of the civil rights movement, addressed Southern Wesleyan University students, faculty and staff during a chapel service Jan. 20 at Newton Hobson Chapel on the university's campus in Central. The chapel was held in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.



Tom Jones

Jones, who is a public relations executive and much sought-after speaker, recalled how as a young man working with the Youth Council of the NAACP in New York he helped organize groups of civil rights activists. Jones also shared his experiences of meeting Dr. King and related the dangers he and others faced during the 1950s and 1960s. Jones has worked

closely with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and was a youth organizer of the historic March on Washington in 1963.

Jones challenged students to be energized by the educational process they are engaged in at SWU. He urged them to follow King's example by practicing justice and equality, and emphasized the importance of exercising the right to vote.

On the cover Whether it's speaking through a burning bush, sending an angel as a messenger or just the quiet nudge in the back of our minds that guides us in His chosen direction, God guides our lives. Many of us began our journeys on career paths or life paths that would not seem to lead to where we are today. And most of us are still on the journey to find all the ways God wants to use us. This issue is devoted to honoring those who are following God's path and those who are seeking it.



Southern Wesleyan alumni build

Two Southern Wesleyan University graduates are polishing up a promising dental practice in a growing part of the Upstate.

Dentists **Michael Davis** ('94) and **John Atcheson** ('03) are all smiles about working together at Keowee Family Dentistry in Seneca.

It all began after Davis received his doctor of dental medicine degree from the Medical University of South Carolina in 2000 and bought an existing practice in Seneca. As Davis worked to build his new practice, he wanted to add another dentist. In a conversation with one of his former professors, Davis found out about Atcheson, who was close to earning his doctor of dental medicine degree. Atcheson recalls that the professor mentioned Davis' name and suggested he call him. Seeing an opportunity to practice dentistry close to home, Atcheson said that he "jumped in with both feet."

Davis said, "It's probably been as good as it possibly could be as far as two people being able to work together and actually having the same

types of views and same treatment ideas."

Davis and his wife Christina live in the Clemson area with their 2-year-old son Greyson. Atcheson lives in Six Mile with his wife Renee, who is enrolled in Southern Wesleyan's masters of education degree program.

Coming to SWU from different directions

Davis, who grew up on a small farm in southern Greenville County, was interested in a career in the sciences. He also enjoyed playing baseball and wanted to play on the college level. A friend and former Woodmont High School teammate invited him to SWU for a visit.

"I wanted to go somewhere to play ball and thought that in a larger school I wouldn't be able to do that," Davis said. He was signed to play as second baseman for the Warriors. While Davis was at SWU, Dr. Walt Sinnamon, his advisor at the time, talked to him about the possibility of medical school, but the idea of four additional years of college didn't appeal to him. He had considered environmental engineering, but was basically undecided.

After graduating from SWU, Davis joined a Greenville manufacturing company where he previously worked during his breaks from college. Sensing little opportunity for advancement and losing interest, Davis considered career alternatives.

"After getting out of college and working for a year or so, I thought it would be worth it to go ahead and go a little further," Davis said. A friend of his who is a dental hygienist urged him to look into dentistry. The idea began to appeal to Davis.

"I enjoy using my hands and meeting people," said Davis, adding that he

Dr. John Atcheson

dental practice in Upstate

went to a few offices and visited several other dentists.

The year he entered dental school, Davis said that he was among about 55 out of more than 700 applicants from all over the country. He said he feels blessed to have been accepted on the first try, adding that he was well prepared for the challenges of successfully completing his required coursework.

"I think just having small class sizes at Southern Wesleyan University, you get so much more one-on-one instruction than at a larger school with big lecture halls. That's one reason I was so much better prepared – because of having smaller class sizes. You can move at a much faster pace, but also you don't get left behind," Davis said.

Davis is a member of the Academy of General Dentistry, the South Carolina Dental Association and has served as president of the Tri County Dental Society. He is currently working to obtain a Mastership with the Academy of General Dentistry.

For Atcheson, deciding to enter Southern Wesleyan was a "foregone conclusion." Atcheson's father, Marty Atcheson, graduated from SWU and is currently the university's senior vice president for finance. Growing up in Central, John Atcheson would ride his bicycle through the Southern Wesleyan campus, near his home. Even as a youngster, he wanted to attend SWU.

"I felt like I was one of the most prepared people," Atcheson said, adding that close interaction with his professors and small class sizes built his confidence. Atcheson noted that from the first day of dental school, he would confidently approach his professors with questions, but noticed that his other classmates were hesitant to approach professors directly.

Atcheson considers entering dentistry a natural progression, given his love of working with his hands combined with a love for science. He enjoys the challenge of saving a decayed tooth or interpreting a dental x-ray. Atcheson's hobby is woodworking and he especially enjoys carving duck decoys. His uncle is also a dentist and his younger brother, Joseph, is studying dentistry, as well.

Atcheson is a member of the Academy of General Dentistry, the South Carolina Dental Association and the Tri County Dental Society.

At a time when a lot of dental school graduates move into a specialty, Atcheson is satisfied to treat patients with a variety of needs.

"We see people from age 2 to 96 – root canals, extractions – it gives me a lot of variety," Atcheson said.

Davis adds that since he started pursuing a career as a dentist, he has never looked back.

Atcheson agrees "The way we were brought up, we believe things happen for a reason," he said.



Dr. Michael Davis

Promise Fund stays on track to reach goal

The Southern Wesleyan University Promise Fund is more than halfway to the 2008-2009 goal of \$404,000. So far, alumni and friends have donated \$237,949 to the Promise Fund, to be used for student scholarships and academic and student programs. With continued support, the goal is attainable by the end of the university's fiscal year on June 30, 2009.

Total: \$237,949

No gift is too small to be of help to our students. Each and every donation helps Southern Wesleyan provide the education that our students deserve. Without donors, the university would not be able to give the next generation of world changers the support they need to accomplish their goal of graduating from SWU.

The Promise Fund needs your prayers and donations. If you would like to give a gift, you can send it in the envelope enclosed in this issue of Focus or contact Mary Costello at 1-800-282-8798, ext. 5004 or mcostello@swu.edu.

Donations

Faculty and Staff: \$16,557
Corporations/Businesses: \$31,369
Alumni: \$81,494
Friends: \$46,112
Churches/Organizations: \$13,509
Trustees: \$43,058
Matching Gifts: \$5,850

Giving employees treated to breakfast

Southern Wesleyan University is blessed by the unwavering support of its faculty and staff.

At the beginning of every fiscal year, all SWU employees are given the opportunity to support the Promise Fund, which provides student scholarships and funds academic and student programs. Many faculty and staff members are involved in supporting the Promise Fund and thereby supporting the students that they interact with on a daily basis.

All departments that achieve 100 percent of their members giving to the Promise Fund by November are entered into a drawing for a chance to win a homemade breakfast prepared by the development department to thank SWU employees for their generous support.



SWU employees get a "thank you" breakfast.

The breakfast was served in the Mitchell Conference Room on Dec. 16, 2008, in honor of the following departments: Academic Services, Faculty Services, Planning and Assessment and the President's Office.

Phonathon ringing up donations

The Southern Wesleyan University's Phonathon has had a great year so far. With \$34,050 pledged and \$30,525 received, the Phonathon was almost to the halfway mark toward raising \$65,000.

All money raised during the Phonathon goes towards the Promise Fund, which provides student scholarships as well as academic and student program support.

The university is grateful to all of its donors, but still needs your help. As the spring semester continues, the university must raise the remainder of the \$65,000 goal, which is just a little more than \$30,000. As our student callers continue toward this goal, all alumni and friends are asked to consider answering the call and supporting our students. If you do not wish to be called

but want to donate, you can simply place a gift in the envelope enclosed in this issue of Focus, and note "Phonathon" on your check, or contact Mary Costello at 1-800-282-8798, ext. 5004, or mcostello@swu.edu.



SWU celebrates more than 500 winter graduates

Southern Wesleyan University presented more than 500 degrees on Dec. 11 and 13, during commencement exercises at the university's campus in Central.

The 2008 winter graduation exercises included three graduation ceremonies, with students assigned to each ceremony based on their program and location.

The speaker for the Dec. 11 ceremony was Jane Robelot, vice president of CarolinaZoom Productions. She addressed students in Southern Wesleyan University's traditional



programs who are earning bachelor's degrees.

She encouraged the students to value their integrity and to approach life with a sense of excitement.

Jane Robelot

"If you have integrity, you're a success," she said. "If that's the only thing that you have left on your deathbed, you have lived a good life."

Robelot is a nationally-acclaimed television news correspondent, anchoring for CBS News from 1995-99. She was co-anchor of the "CBS Morning News" and later was anchor of "CBS This Morning." While at CBS, Robelot won two Emmy awards for journalistic excellence and a national Emmy nomination. She has covered many important events including the death of Princess Diana and Pope John Paul II's visit to Cuba and has had the opportunity to interview numerous national and world leaders. She is now a contributing reporter for WYFF-TV in Greenville and vice president of CarolinaZoom



Southern Wesleyan University graduates gather outside Newton Hobson Chapel and Fine Arts Center on the university's campus in Central after the afternoon graduation ceremony on Dec. 13.

Productions. Robelot told the graduates that life's value comes from enthusiasm. "What good is life without enthusiasm?" she asked. "Remember your passion. Remember your mission and bring your enthusiasm with it."

For two Dec. 13 ceremonies, U.S. Congressman Gresham Barrett was the guest speaker. These ceremonies were for Adult and Graduate Studies students.

He encouraged the Southern Wesleyan University graduates to be individuals of impeccable character and to continue learning throughout their lives.

"Education doesn't stop when you leave this campus," Barrett said. "A mind that stops learning, stops working."



Gresham Barrett

Rep. Barrett was recently re-elected to his House seat. Currently, he serves on the Budget Committee, the House Committee on Financial Services, the House Committee on International Relations and the Ethics Commission. Prior to being elected to the U.S. Congress in 2002, he managed his family-owned business in Westminster. He served three consecutive terms in the S.C. House of Representatives. A 1983 Citadel graduate, Rep. Barrett went on to achieve the rank of captain and served in the U.S. Army Field Artillery until 1987.

"The charge we have is to help our fellow man," Barrett said. "Let others benefit from your God-given talents and abilities."

Other end-of-semester events included a baccalaureate chapel on Dec. 11 with a sermon delivered by Rev. Kevin Myers.

Myers is founder and Senior Pastor of 12Stone Church in Lawrenceville, Ga., the 16th-fastest-growing church in the United States. He has also been nominated to serve as a member of the Southern Wesleyan University Board of Trustees.



North Charleston fire chief has red

New North Charleston Fire Chief Greg Bulanow has turned up the heat on his career since graduating from Southern Wesleyan University's master of science in management program in 2004.

Since earning his master's degree, Bulanow has been promoted three times. He was named battalion chief in 2006 and assistant chief in 2008, before his most recent promotion.

"As Chief Bulanow progressed through the fire department, he has exemplified professionalism, whether in fighting fire, working administratively within the department or promoting fire safety," said North Charleston Mayor Keith Summey.

Bulanow stepped into his new position on Feb. 1, overseeing firefighting in South Carolina's third largest city. North Charleston has about 90,000 people who live in the city, but the population swells to 200,000 to 300,000 on business days.

He commands 11 fire stations, with one more opening soon, and more than 200 firefighters. Bulanow also manages a \$13 million budget, with \$11 million in personnel costs.

"Our city has expanded very quickly and we need to add staff and stations," he said.

Bulanow is looking for ways to save money by streamlining internal processes. He is creating a central database to manage all the fire department operations. By using performance metrics, he'll be able to analyze results and improve his operation, Bulanow said.

"All of that really goes back to what I learned at Southern Wesleyan University. I'm trying to manage the fire department as I would manage a business," he said.

But the Wisconsin native didn't begin his career path with firefighting in mind.

He attended Cedarville University in Ohio with the goal of becoming a college professor. Bulanow earned a bachelor's degree in English, which has been a great help with communication skills, he said.

Bulanow married his college flame, Jacqueline, and the couple moved to South Carolina in 1995. He began his career with the North Charleston Fire Department in 1996.

"Initially, the excitement of firefighting appealed to me," he said. After witnessing countless examples of property loss and tragedy, however, Bulanow felt drawn toward focusing on fire prevention. "I kept seeing the same types of calls over and over again. I wanted to do more to try to prevent those types of losses," he said.

Bulanow's goal was to be a fire captain by age 30. He reached this goal by age 28 and continued to climb the fire department's organizational ladder. With the birth of his first daughter, Bulanow felt it was time to buckle down with his career goals and he began researching options for graduate school.

"I wanted to get serious about my career and I wanted to make a difference in my organization, as well," he said. "I knew that by earning the master's in management, I would have a huge edge as far as my academic credentials."

The flexibility of Southern Wesleyan University's adult and graduate studies program was a key part of Bulanow's decision to attend his classes there. The program meets one night each week for a four-hour class and then students meet once a week for a study group, scheduled at their convenience. Working 24-hour

hot career

shifts, this was a great system for Bulanow, he said.

"It's not like I could take night classes two or three times a week," he said. Bulanow attended classes at Southern Wesleyan University's Charleston location on Faber Place Drive.

"Southern Wesleyan University was fantastic. It made it so easy to attend class," he said. It was easy to register for classes, billing was simple and books were delivered to him in class without any hassles, he said.

"SWU eliminated all of the obstacles for an adult to get an education. They allowed me to focus on learning instead of on a lot of bureaucratic things," Bulanow said. "There were no administrative headaches at SWU. I could really focus on my education. And the quality of my education was excellent.

"I was very pleased with the quality of the professors we had," he said. The university courses weren't easy, but "if I put in the time and did the work, I did well. I was much more focused than I was as an undergraduate. It took a lot of work, but I learned a great deal."

His master's degree in management has been very useful in his work with the fire department, Bulanow said.

"It seemed like everything applied to my job and my department. All of it was valuable," he said.

Using what he learned at Southern Wesleyan University, Bulanow took a methodical approach to examining the problem of fires in specific areas of North Charleston.

"I applied the same method we used for case studies in school," he said.

"A high number of the homes we were going into for fires didn't have smoke alarms," he said. "What gets measured gets fixed, as my professors used to say."

He used a database to measure which neighborhoods lacked smoke alarms,



Greg Bulanow

then distributed smoke alarms in those areas.

"I organized neighborhood sweeps installing smoke alarms door-to-door." He has distributed 4,000 smoke alarms since 2006. The project won national acclaim and has made a measurable impact on people's lives.

Bulanow cites seven instances in which the program's new smoke alarms saved lives and counts 20 lives that have been saved so far.

In addition to helping him with management projects and his fire prevention program, "my master's degree has also helped me get into high level programs within the fire service," Bulanow said. His degree in management has helped him gain entry to the national Executive Fire Officer's Program through the National Fire Academy. Only 200 fire professionals are selected annually to participate. Bulanow was one of those selected and he is nearing completion for his certification.

"It all goes back to that degree," he said. "That opened up the whole world to me."

Bulanow believes that SWU prepares its students so well that he hired two SWU alumni for his team. Fire and Life Safety Educator Bianca Sancic earned her master's in management in 2008 and Chief Training Officer Kyle Minick earned his master's in management in 2005.

"When I saw Southern Wesleyan University on their resumes, I knew they were who we wanted," he said.

And to those who are considering pursuing a graduate degree at Southern Wesleyan University, Bulanow said, "I would encourage them 100 percent."

Bulanow has won numerous professional awards and is a member of many professional organizations. And he still goes on some fire calls.

"I want to make sure I'm aware of what's going on in the street," he said.

Bulanow and his wife have two daughters, ages 6 and 4. The time he has away from the fire department is devoted to his family, he said.

2009 Warrior GOLF

Season in progress at
time of publication.

MARCH 9-10

Rome News Tribune Invite
Rome, Ga.

MARCH 16-17

Montreat College
Spring Invitational
Brevard, N.C.

MARCH 30-31

SEKI/MSC Spring Tournament
London, Ken.

APRIL 27-28

SSAC Championships
Adairsville, Ga.



SWU warriors visit Ethan Brown and present the Liberty High School junior an autographed basketball jersey.

Warriors provide inspiration to local student

SWU Head Basketball Coach Charles Wimphrie shared a devotional with the team based on James 1:12 which states, "Blessed is the man who endures trials, because when he passes the test, he will receive the crown of life that He has promised to those who love him."

After the devotional, Coach Wimphrie shared the impactful story of Ethan Brown with the team. Brown, who is 16 years old and is a junior at Liberty High School, is the son of Rick and Jan Brown. He attends East Side Baptist Church and loves sports. This past July, Brown was diagnosed with a brain tumor caused by neurofibromatosis, which can cause tumors to form along the nerve line in the body. Brown's tumor is wrapped around his carotid

artery and is causing severe facial and eye pain. Additionally, he has tumors on both auditory nerves, which will eventually cause him to lose his hearing.

The Warrior Basketball team visited Brown and gave him a SWU Men's Basketball jersey which was autographed by the entire team. In addition to the jersey, the team presented Brown and his parents with a monetary gift to help the Brown family with medical expenses. The team also took time to read scripture and pray with the family as they prepared for his surgery on Dec. 11 and 12 at Duke University. According to Coach Wimphrie, Brown "has placed his trust in God and knows that He will take care of him during this difficult time."

If you would like to follow Brown's progress, please go to www.caringbridge.org/visit/ethanbrown.com.

2009 Warrior BASEBALL

Season in progress at time of publication.

MARCH

TUES 3	Davis Elkins	4 p.m.	Central, S.C.
WED 4	Anderson University	3 p.m.	Central, S.C.
FRI 6	Shorter College	2 p.m.	Rome, Ga.
SAT 7	Shorter College	1 p.m.	Rome, Ga.
TUES 11	Montreat College	5 p.m.	Central, S.C.
FRI 13	Southern Polytech	2 p.m.	Marietta, Ga.
SAT 14	Southern Polytech	1 p.m.	Marietta, Ga.
WED 18	North Greenville University	2 p.m.	Tigerville, S.C.
FRI 20	Reinhardt College	6 p.m.	Central, S.C.
SAT 21	Reinhardt College	1 p.m.	Central, S.C.
MON 23	Shawnee State	6 p.m.	Central, S.C.
WED 25	Montreat College	2:30 p.m.	Montreat, N.C.
FRI 27	Brewton Parker College	7 p.m.	Mt. Vernon, Ga.
SAT 28	Brewton Parker College	1 p.m.	Mt. Vernon, Ga.

APRIL

WED 1	Atlanta Christian College	4 p.m.	Atlanta, Ga.
FRI 3	Emmanuel College	6 p.m.	Central, S.C.
SAT 4	Emmanuel College	1 p.m.	Central, S.C.
TUES 7	USC-Beaufort	6 p.m.	Central, S.C.
WED 8	King College	3 p.m.	Bristol, Tenn.
FRI 10	Faulkner University	7 p.m.	Montgomery, Ala.
SAT 11	Faulkner University	1 p.m.	Montgomery, Ala.
TUES 14	Atlanta Christian College	6 p.m.	Central, S.C.
WED 15	North Georgia College	7 p.m.	Dahlonega, Ga.
FRI 17	Berry College	6 p.m.	Central, S.C.
SAT 18	Berry College	1 p.m.	Central, S.C.
THURS 23	Lee University	4 p.m.	Central, S.C.
FRI 24	Lee University	5 p.m.	Central, S.C.

APR 28 - MAY 2	SSAC Baseball Tournament	Columbus, Ga.
MAY 7-9	NCCAA South Region Tournament	Franklin Springs, Ga.
MAY 12-15	NAIA Opening Round	TBA
MAY 20-23	NCCAA National Tournament	Mason, Ohio
MAY 26-30	NAIA World Series	Lewiston, Idaho

Home games in bold.



2009 Warrior SOFTBALL

Season in progress at time of publication.

MARCH

TUES 3	Emmanuel	4 p.m.
WED 4	@ Newberry	2 p.m.
FRI 6	@ Brewton Parker	2 p.m.
SAT 7	Brenau	1 p.m.
WED 11	@ Shorter	4 p.m.
TUES 17	@ Reinhardt	1 p.m.
WED 18	@ Wesleyan	4 p.m.
SAT 21	@ Lees-McRae	1 p.m.
TUES 24	@ Brenau	5 p.m.
FRI 27	Shorter	4 p.m.
SAT 28	Lee	noon
TUES 31	Brewton Parker	2 p.m.

APRIL

FRI 3	Faulkner	4 p.m.
SAT 4	AUM	noon
TUES 7	Anderson	4:30 p.m.
FRI 10	@ AUM	TBA
SAT 11	@ Faulkner	noon/CST
TUES 14	@ Emmanuel	4 p.m.
MON 20	Reinhardt	2 p.m.

APRIL 17-18

NCAA South Region Tournament

APRIL 23-25

SSAC Tournament

Home games in bold.

Southern Wesleyan offers podcasts

Audio podcasts of various Southern Wesleyan University chapel services and special events are available online through the university's Web site: www.swu.edu.

Individual podcasts are available for download from the site by going to http://www.swu.edu/spiritual_life/podcasts.htm. You can also subscribe and get the latest podcasts as they are posted.

Users of iPods can now access these podcasts via iTunes. Go online to <http://www.apple.com/search/ipoditunes/?q=Southern+Wesleyan+University> or open iTunes, go to the iTunes Store and type "Southern Wesleyan University" in the iTunes search window.

And, of course, the podcasts are free. For details, contact Ed Welch at ewelch@swu.edu or by calling 1-800-282-8798, ext. 5382.



SWU names Snyder as v.p. for marketing



Bruce Snyder

Southern Wesleyan University has named Bruce Snyder to the position of vice president for marketing and enrollment development.

Snyder previously served as

associate dean of administration and marketing for the School of Global Leadership and Entrepreneurship at Regent University in Virginia Beach, Va. He has also served with major advertising and marketing agencies.

He earned a bachelor's degree in science from Southwestern University in Waxahachie, Tex., in 1990 and his master's in business administration at Regent University in 1994.

Snyder is the first person to assume the newly-created job and will oversee the university's marketing and recruitment efforts. Dr. David Spittal, Southern Wesleyan University president, said that Snyder will provide leadership for integrated and coordinated marketing, branding and administration of all enrollment systems and strategies for both traditional and extended adult and graduate programs.

Caines to serve as new business dean

Southern Wesleyan University has named Dr. Royce Caines as dean of the School of Business.

Caines comes to Southern Wesleyan from Lander University, where he has served for 20 years as a professor of economics. For the past four years, he was dean of the College of Business and Public Affairs. He was also a teacher at York High School and has also served in the Army Reserves.

Caines earned both a master of science in agricultural economics and a Ph.D. in applied economics from Clemson University. He has been published widely in economic, business and education journals.

Initially Caines will serve the university part-time until May, when he will assume the position on a full-time basis. Dr. Keith Iddings, SWU provost, says he is pleased



Dr. Royce Caines

that Caines possesses a good understanding of the state's business sector as well as the issues of higher education administration in the Southeast.

Saxophonist wailed his way into her heart

By Darla Atlas
Special contributor
for the Dallas Morning News

Being the leader of a church band is not without its stressful moments.



In 2001, Southern Wesleyan University alumna **Kelley Marcus** ('90) held that position at her church in Los Angeles. When she was told one day that

Kelley Marcus

they were getting a new member, she was intrigued. Then intimidated.

The new guy was Doug Norwine, whose resume lists a who's who of music legends. Not only has he performed on tour with Frank Sinatra, Pat Boone, Chaka Khan, Melissa Manchester and Ray Charles, but – he says this always impresses people the most – he was the talent behind Lisa's saxophone on *The Simpsons*.

Marcus had heard about his illustrious career, so she was highly doubtful that he was serious about playing in their little band.

When he showed up at rehearsals, "I was expecting some star," said Marcus, 44. "But he acted just like us and endeared himself to everybody. He was so humble."

Norwine, 54, said he didn't consider acting any other way.

The two became good friends, neither looking for more than that. Each had been married and divorced,

and Marcus was trying to enjoy life to the fullest after recovering from a bout of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

"I was very close to dying," she said. "They took out most of my stomach. There's a tumor all around my heart they left there."

The ordeal left her with a new perspective on her life – including the relationship she was in at the time.

"When you don't know if you're going to live or die and you're contemplating life, you realize what's important and what's not important," she said.

Norwine, who has a 14-year-old son from his marriage, said he also wasn't thinking of Marcus in a romantic way, mainly because "I didn't want anything to mess up the friendship."

Not long after they became friends, Marcus was offered a new position with her company, NAS Recruitment Communications, which would require her to move to Nashville. She had told Norwine about it, and he didn't know how to react.

"I thought, I don't want her to move," he said, but he also didn't want to deter her from her career. "I said, 'Hey, if you don't go, you'll always wonder what would have happened.'"

Not what she wanted to hear.

"I felt this draw to him," she said. "We were such good friends and both had this warped sense of humor. I felt like I couldn't leave him. It was the weirdest thing."

When she turned the job down and stayed in Los Angeles, Norwine was relieved.

The two continued to pal around, often meeting for lunch. One afternoon in 2004, as they ate, "I confessed to her that I had a little crush on her," Norwine said.

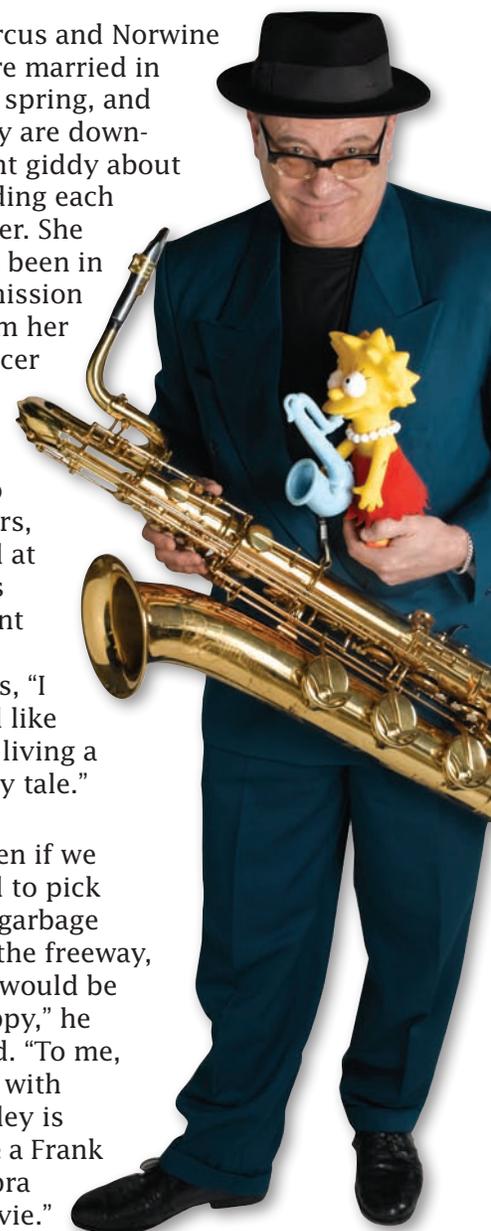
That led to their first kiss, right after lunch while standing in the elevator.

Afterward, "he looked like he'd been hit by a two-by-four," she recalls with a laugh. "The look on his face – he was in a daze. I fell in love with him that very day."

Marcus and Norwine were married in the spring, and they are downright giddy about finding each other. She has been in remission from her cancer

for two years, and at this point she says, "I feel like I'm living a fairy tale."

"Even if we had to pick up garbage by the freeway, we would be happy," he said. "To me, life with Kelley is like a Frank Capra movie."



NEWS FLASHES

'92

Shanon Lusk, an assistant principal at Walhalla Elementary School, was named by the Oconee County school board as the new principal of Tamasee-Salem Elementary School in Salem, S.C.

'07

David Heilman has been promoted to director of business development at Franklin Funding. He will be responsible for expanding the reverse-mortgage specialist's operations into other areas of South Carolina. He has a bachelor's degree from Winthrop University and a master's degree in business administration from Southern Wesleyan University.

'08

Amanda Susan "Amy" Ray, an education graduate, submitted a research report to the Education Resources Information Center for peer review and had it accepted. The report examined the correlation between HSAP scores and various measures of classroom achievement such as overall GPA, end-of-course scores and SAT/ACT scores of Berea High School students in the classes of 2005-2006 and 2006-2007. ERIC is an online digital library of education research and information sponsored by the Institute of Education Sciences of the U.S. Department of Education. ERIC provides ready access to education literature to support the use of educational research and information to improve practice in learning, teaching, educational decision-making and research.

'08

Danni Williams has accepted a position as general manager of Renaissance Atlanta Hotel. She received her bachelor's degree in business management from SWU. She began her career with Marriott in 1981 and was most recently named general manager of the Renaissance

Charleston Hotel, Historical District, in Charleston, S.C.

WEDDINGS

'07

Nastassia Jo Lecia Gilbert and **Jerans O'Ryan Rapley** were married on Oct. 25, 2008.

'08

Leah Sue LeCroy and **Christopher Wayne Blackwell** were married on Oct. 18, 2008.

OBITUARIES



'45

Betty Joe Jones Johnson, 81, of Mentone, Ala., passed away Dec. 19, 2008. She is survived by

her husband of 62 years, James Johnson; daughter, Betty Sue and Dr. Claude Rickman of Clemson, S.C.; son, Fred and Susan Johnson of Rainsville, Ala.; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

Johnson attended Southern Wesleyan University (formerly Wesleyan Methodist College) in 1945, and then married her childhood sweetheart in 1946 upon his return from Army service in WWII. In addition to her in-home responsibilities, she rendered invaluable assistance with her husband's private accounting practice for more than 50 years.

She was a leader in the auxiliary organization of the Board of Trustees of Southern Wesleyan University during the two decades in which her husband served as a trustee. She was a dedicated Red

Cross volunteer at DeKalb Regional Hospital for 28 years. She served as an active member and officer of the Mentone Rhododendron Club.

She was a devout Christian and life-long member of the Mentone Community Church where she served in many leadership roles. On a church denominational level, she served as a regional officer of the Wesleyan Women's Organization of the South Coastal District and delegate to the WW General Quadrennial Conventions. She served as church pianist for 60 years.

Memorials may be made to Southern Wesleyan University Chapel and Fine Arts Center, where a music practice room is to be named in her honor. It is hoped that this lasting legacy will not only commemorate her lifetime commitment to use her God-given talents in ministry, but will also encourage aspiring young musicians to follow her example.

Condolences and memorial messages may be expressed online at www.wilsonfhinc.com

'58

Nelle Holden Evans, Central, S.C., Nov. 11, 2008.

'60

Iris N. Kendrick, High Point, N.C., Nov. 15, 2008.

'62



Beulah Hunter Lee, Deltona, Fla., Dec. 7, 2008.

Love Links connects children to loving families

Love Links is a foster placement and adoption agency that began its work in January of 2007, under the leadership of **Joy Haithcock** ('76) and a board of directors.

Haithcock and her husband **Randy** ('77) had a great desire to provide a home for a needy child. About seven years ago, they felt the time was right. They felt that God was leading them to give a child within the state's foster system a home. They soon welcomed a daughter into their hearts, home and lives, and

say they feel blessed to have her.

Haithcock said she felt content for a while that she had done what God asked her to do. However, it was not too long before God began to prick her heart again. The couple decided to begin providing foster care for children. During the past 2 years, they have had several children come through their home.

To find out more about Love Links, please contact Haithcock at (336) 259-2512.



SWUSICAL

A musical revue and tribute to all past musical theatre shows performed at SWU

MARCH 19-21, 2009 (THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY)

AT 7:30 PM IN THE NEWTON HOBSON CHAPEL AND FINE ARTS CENTER

We will be celebrating the alumni of the SWU musicals, through music from each show accompanied by video, pictures, memorabilia and a reception. Have you ever been involved with a SWU musical? Do you have memorabilia, funny stories or thoughts about what the SWU musical meant to you? If so, please contact **Melanie Rowell** at (864) 644-5416 or at mrowell@swu.edu

Please join us Saturday, March 21, for a special alumni evening of dinner and theatre. Ticket price for dinner and theatre: \$20.

Seating at 5:30 p.m.

Dinner at 6 p.m.

Performance at 7:30 p.m.

Contact **Joy Bryant**, (864) 644-5385, in the Alumni Center for dinner/theatre tickets.

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For details,
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Plan to attend the
2009 Alumni Awards Banquet

May 9, 2009,

at the university's campus in Central.

Banquet seating starts at 5 p.m., with dinner served at 5:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$15

Awards will be presented after dinner.

All nominations for
Alumnus of the Year, Professional Excellence and Young Leader
are due to the Alumni Office by March 13.

Send your nomination today to:

**The Alumni Center at SWU
SWU Box 1875 • P.O. Box 1020
Central, SC 29630**

*For details, contact the Alumni Center
at 1-800-282-8798, ext. 5384, or e-mail jcrain@swu.edu*