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## New Special Ed.Degree at Andrews

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*Andrews University*

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## Teacher in the Spotlight



After 26 years of service at Andrews University, Malcolm Russell will be taking up new responsibilities at Union College.

He rides a bicycle to work, his classroom energy is impressive, and he is known to have postponed dreaded tests to accommodate students suffering from the stress of college life. Malcolm Russell is the kind of professor students call home about. To call Russell student-centered would be an understatement. Despite the responsibilities of bringing out the best in his students as honors program director and professor

of economics and history at Andrews University, Russell smiles as students come into his office. He is always willing to listen, understand, and help.

This school year marks 26 years of service at Andrews University from Russell who has accepted the position of vice president for academic administration at Union College in Lincoln, Neb., and will assume that position next school year. Russell joined the Andrews faculty in 1977.

"I didn't set professional goals; I did things as they came up," said Russell about his time at Andrews. With several articles published in professional journals, he also published a book on Syrian history, and since 1989, has edited an annual survey of the Middle East and South Asia. On campus, Russell has held a range of leadership positions in the honors program and the School of Business, but sees his greatest success in the achievements of his students. In his role as honors director, he is most happy about the dedication that his students have, not only to academics but also to the community and to God. Parting with the students he works so closely with is never easy. "Graduation day has always been bittersweet for me. While I am happy to see my friends achieve milestones in their lives, there's the sorrow that they'll no longer be around."

A chapter has ended, and now it's Russell's turn to leave. Doubtless he will meet his new responsibilities with the warmth and determination for which he will be missed at Andrews.

*Bjorn Karlman, student news writer*

## Faculty and Staff Honored

Andrews University announced the recipients of eight service awards at their annual Board of Trustees banquet on Mar. 9. Each year, the faculty and staff are given the opportunity to vote for salaried and hourly employees that they feel are doing exceptional work for Andrews. This year, Cleon White, vice principal of Andrews Academy, and Ruth Chobotar, food service production manager, received the prestigious awards.

The Daniel A. Augsburg Excellence in Teaching Award was given to one teacher from each of the five schools and the Division of Architecture. Recipients include: Ranko Stefanovic, associate professor of religion, College of Arts and Sciences; Sharon Prest, assistant professor of technology education, College of Technology; Philip H. Bess, professor of architecture, Division of Architecture; David Vlosak, instructor of information systems, School of Business; Candice C. Hollingsead, chair of the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Curriculum, School of Education; and George R. Knight, professor of church history, Theological Seminary.

Patricia Mutch, vice president for academic administration, presented the Teacher of the Year awards and said, "These teachers' excellent work in their departmental environments makes Andrews a very special place to learn. We are very proud to honor them in this way."

*Katie Shaw, University Relations news writer*

## New Special Ed. Degree at Andrews

James Jeffery, School of Education dean, has announced the development of a graduate degree with an emphasis in special education/learning disabilities. The master of science in education degree program is a cross-departmental offering, and it will begin this summer.

"Through this new emphasis, we look forward to serving more of the educational needs of students in the Lake Union and from around the world," says Candice Hollingsead, program coordinator.

The special education/learning disabilities emphasis on the graduate level has been designed to develop special education professionals within public and private educational settings. Courses will be available online and by traditional classroom instruction. For more information about this new degree program, call (800) 253-2874.

*Douglas Jones, education professor*