

**North American Division Young Adult Ministry Advisory
Hyatt Regency Hotel, Dallas, TX
Sunday, March 4, 2007 9:00am – 1:00pm**

Invitees and ex-officio members present:

Tony Avila, Youth Ministries, Texas Conference
Elisa Brown, GODencounters, Illinois Conference
Lane Campbell, Young Adult Ministries, Texas Conference
Steve & Marit Case, Involve Youth & Northern California Conference
Rebecca Clay-Flores, DecideDecide, Houston, TX
Laffit Cortes – Young Adult Ministries, New Jersey Conference
Manny Cruz, Youth/Young Adult Ministries, North American Division
Falvo Fowler, Sabbath School Department, General Conference
Matthew Gamble, Grassroots Productions, Washington Conference
Van Hurst, Youth/Young Adult Ministries, Mid-America Union, Adventist College Network
Chin Kim, Pastor, Southeastern California Conference, Korean American Youth Ministries
A Allan Martin, Young Adult Ministries, North American Division
Cyril Millett, Youth/Young Adult Ministries, Ontario Conference
Japhet De Oliveira, Center for Youth Evangelism, Campus Ministry—Andrews University
Sonia Perez, Youth/YA Pastor, Potomac Conference
Ron Pickell, Adventist Christian Fellowship, North American Division
Tuesday Roberts, Young Adult Invitee,
Lloyd Schanffenberg, Youth Ministries, Greater NY Conf
Alejandra Torres, Youth/Young Adult Ministries, Florida Conference
Sergio Torres, Youth/Young Adult Ministries, Florida Conference
Erik VanDenburgh, Youth/Young Adult Ministries, Arizona Conference
Tara VinCross, Cruise With a Mission, Center for Youth Evangelism
Bill Wood, Youth/Young Adult Ministries, Atlantic Union
Marc Woodson, Young Adult/Missions, Southeastern California Conference
Nick Zork, Andrews Music and Worship Conference

Guests

Robert Hines, Youth Ministries, England Conference
Nicki Carleton, Blissful Ministries

Invitees Sending Regrets:

James Black, Youth/Young Adult Ministries, North American Division
Terry Clem, Young Adult Ministries, Carolina Conference
Bill Crofton, Youth/Young Adult Ministries, Florida Conference
John Grys, Advent House, Georgia Cumberland Conference
Claude Harris, BAYDA
Roy Ice, Campus Ministry, Pacific Union College, SalvationCoach
George Johnson, NAD Communications
Leah Jordache, Loma Linda University Church, Southeastern California Conference
Paul Kim, Vervent, North American Division
Charlyn Kimball, 011007 Advisory attendee
Sam Leonor, La Sierra University, Hey Everybody
Carolyn Macomber, Encounter Sabbath School, Andrews University
Kimberly Maran, Cutting Edge Edition, Adventist Review
Ron Pollard, Young Adult Ministries, Southern California Conference
Brett Schlishner, the 7, San Luis Obispo Church
Mike Stevenson, Youth/Young Adult Ministries, Ohio Conference
Adrienne Townsend, New Life Church, Andrews University
Ron Whitehead, Youth/Young Adult Ministries, Lake Union
Allan Williamson, Youth/Young Adult Ministries, Southern Union

1. Sacred Space: Devotional/Prayer

Sacred Space: not just good at Sabbath chronologically, but also in every day life – making time for the spiritual moments as well. Question – “What are you wanting to put back into you busy life? And what are you willing to give up doing it?” Discussion time/prayer

Jeremiah 24.7

[Definition of Young Adult age group: “post high school-pre parenthood”]

2. Minutes

Minutes were reviewed from 011007 advisory meeting, by consensus accepted with the revision noting Ron Pickell’s presence.

3. Team Appointments

- a. *Recording Secretary*: Chair solicited nominations for recording secretary. Elisa Brown was nominated and by consensus appointed as recording secretary.
- b. *Point Persons*: Important part of creating a network is to appoint “point people” for young adult ministry around the NAD. (* indicates member was not present and has not confirmed willingness.)
 - i. Ron Pickell – North/Central California, Nevada/Utah [Northern portion of Pacific Union]
 - ii. Tuesday Roberts – Southeast
 - iii. Matthew Gamble – Northwest [North Pacific Union]
 - iv. Marc Woodson – Southern California/Hawaii [Southern Pacific Union]
 - v. Lane Campbell – Southwest
 - vi. Elisa Brown – Midwest
 - vii. Sonja Perez – Northeast
 - viii. Cyril Millett – Canada
 - ix. Kirk King* [Cassie Martsching*] - Central/Plains

4. Leadership Development

Leadership training needed for Public Campus ministry – Ron Pickell

- a. Create a NAD organization to give strength and resources for SDA students on public campuses – voted in November 2005 to have a SDA Campus Crusade organization.
- b. Estimated 70% of SDA college students are not in SDA colleges/universities
- c. www.acflink.org - resource for local public college campus – become an official SDA organization of public campuses
- d. Leadership training for young adults on secular campuses – need to focus on SDA young adults but not to the exclusion of others
- e. Suggest a 3-4 day leadership conference before or after the Ivy Jungle (www.ivyjungle.org) conference in November in Orlando, FL.

- i. Pros – opportunity to network w/ national organization and other SDA's in the same position, training for young adults, network for other YA initiatives
- ii. Cons – cost of conference, staying in or getting out of “SDA bubble”

VOTED: To pursue this area of leadership development opportunity for SDA leaders on non-Adventist campuses. Ron Pickell will be the representation person and move forward with communication and planning.

5. Missions

Missions – The Director for Cruise with a Mission, as appointed by the Center for Youth Evangelism (CYE), Pastor Tara VinCross presented the December 16-23, 2007 young adult mission trip. This annual event is offered by CYE and currently sponsored by partners such as: Worthington Kellogg's, North Pacific Union Conference, Lake Union Conference, Florida Conference, Southern Union Conference, South England Conference and the North America Division Young Adult Ministries Department. A vote of appreciation was given to this initiative combining social interaction with service – hence the sub text “vacation with purpose.” For more information please visit www.crusiewithamission.org or call CYE 1-800-Youth-2-U.

a. Ideas for getting the word out:

- Campus ministry networks
- Personal contact w/ friends
- Email database created to use and share Cruise With A Mission headliner
- Connection with friends & young adult faces on the flyer
- MySpace page
- Getting buy-in with point-person in local YA ministries
- Market as “one-stop-shop” for Young Adult mission trip
- Exploiting other databases
- Meet at regular pastor's meetings – get buy-in
- Put the website on your email signature
- Radio spots that targets the demographic – use the artists/speakers as pull
- Market as a Christmas gift to YA they love (HopeChannel & 3ABN)

[Break]

Manny Cruz – “Impact Taiwan” (December 24 – January 5, 2008) presented as an excellent option for Young Adults to get involved. See www.wcyics.org for more information.

Allan Martin – As a segue from Manny's comments, reviewed again the team strategy for young adult ministry across the various cohorts including: (1) Young Adults serviced by the current SDA structures; (2) students on Adventist campuses; (3) students on non-Adventist campuses; (4) Young Adults not serviced by current SDA structures. [As outlined in the 011007 minutes].

6. Resourcing and Networking

Falvo Fowler, Sabbath School Dept. – General Conf.

- a. 'Kaleidoscope' production of different genres of original music from SDA young adults with each CD a different theme fowlerf@gc.adventist.org looking for original art/music/spoken word
- b. 'CQ' used in various settings as a substitute for the SDA quarterly
- c. Sabbath School University – hosted by a panel of young adults as a resource to the weekly Sabbath school lesson. Being filmed at Andrews University. Available on podcasts and the Hope Channel.

Ron Pickell – Roy Ice from PUC on www.salvationcoach.com as an example of current podcasts. Working on developing a consortium for podcasts - 'PeaceFeed' – as a resource of podcasts for young adults and college students.

Van Hurst – online communities... creating a communication network on www.plusline.org where churches and conferences can use the information to communicate. Exploring the idea of developing a SDA online community which would be: networking and connecting young adults built on kingdom purposes.

- i. Discussion re: cons of strictly SDA on-line community site (i.e. MySpace)
 1. Predators
 2. May tune out if they realize it is serious or not a complaint site
 3. Pessimistic with anonymities – may breed negative ranting
 4. Choose something ahead of the curve of the "buzz" of MySpace
 5. Adding one more network to keep up with
 6. Going backwards by scheduling in the culture rather than learning to be one step ahead
 7. Control of content
 8. Lightning rod for nay-sayers
 9. Attracting the "fringe"
- ii. Solutions to the cons:
 1. Colleges & universities be the 'think-tank' to create this point of connection
 2. Creating an addendum to MySpace to tie churches
 3. Utilize www.churchconnect.org
 4. Multiply and let people create their connections – use word of mouth
 5. Capitalize with the well connected young adults already out there on the established networks
 6. Create an informational blog site to be an informational mecca; a community with links to ministries & current efforts

7. Incorporated with #6 have it be a directional place for things like “ask a pastor”, “cruise with a mission”, “GODencounters”, training, discipleship, Bible studies, etc.
8. Notes: be sure our mindset is in tune with the culture; address **why** people are not already connected; don’t try and run the conversation but listen to what they need; look into www.secondlife.com, www.progressiveadventist.com.

Brad Forbes – Came at very end to endorse that AdventSource/PlusLine is committed to provide strong support for the resourcing and networking of young adult ministries.

7. Other Items

- a. Para-Church agencies: i.e. General Youth Conference (GYC) - (GYC is developed from ASI and other sponsors as a response to the “contemporary ministry philosophies”.) The question was posed as to what the “buzz” about the recent GYC gathering and the feedback from the field. [*feedback requested by NAD Youth/Young Adult Ministries*]
 - i. We can’t let it divide the church by being liberal or conservative but just all work for the same goal and emphasize the positive
 - ii. Funds are being directed to this organization rather than to the organized church where we need the support
 - iii. Name causes some confusion
 - iv. If they can do it better, let them
 - v. ‘Small tent’ view of Adventism and if you aren’t there you aren’t right – would like to see more cooperation and less mudslinging
 - vi. Attendee reported phenomenal presentations and rich blessing to him though music and KJV tense were frustrating
 - vii. Overwhelmingly positive, concern to be Christ-like in our relationship with GYC and concern that if everything presented is agreed with by those who attend they will come back and not be able to support what the organized church is doing
 - viii. Negative/conservative so we don’t want to be part of it
 - ix. “Four-letter word” in some areas – same people who go to GYC are divisive in their home church
 - x. Does not support the structure that is in place but with the endorsements of the GC it is confusing to the local leadership
 - xi. Confusion as to whether it is official
 - xii. Theme/emphasis: Purpose for your life and a reason for you to exist – which is good and to be encouraged
 - xiii. Suggest writing to the GC and letting them know what the image is to the local church
 - xiv. When we define our faith by demonizing the other there is a significant issue with that approach. Caution to keep from this tendency which is easy and seductive.

- xv. Note: GC has met with the president of GYC and needs prayer related to how to handle the on-going relationship.

8. Discipleship

Agreed at the Advisory in January that discipleship is key in Young Adult ministry.

GODencounters (GE) was presented as a curriculum to use in addressing this need. GE [www.GODencounters.org] is a place where young adults want to seek a 24/7 experience with God and live lives based on discipleship principles. Currently it is a seven topic series:

- Worship – living in an attitude of worship 24/7
- Gospel – kingdom living begins now
- Grace – reality of grace every day
- Prayer – as part of life and expressed freely
- Sabbath – Sacred Space in life
- Morphing – discipleship
- Jubilee – permission to celebrate Jesus in your life
 - a. Regionally developing around the United States
 - b. Café at JCI on Friday night – modeled after GE café - 400-500 people. Great success!!
 - c. Ask for a concerted effort from this committee to develop this type of effort and use GODencounters as a template
 - d. Consensus was that this was a good model but many would like to see first hand and have more exposure.

10. Adjournment

Chair called for adjournment, Rebeca Clay-Flores concluded meeting with prayer.