

## ADVANCED DEGREE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

The 2007-08 year was a busy one for the Advanced Degree Students Association (ADSA) as it ran many programs and worked hard to establish new administrative patterns for the future.

The ADSA continued its professional development seminars. This year seminar topics included applying for scholarships, publishing, the job market, and teaching tips. Once again the seminars were very successful and well attended. Special this season was the appearance of Dr. John Kutsko, the Director of Acquisitions of Abingdon Press in Nashville. Dr. Kutsko came onto campus to conduct a professional development seminar on Publishing and also to lead an intensive workshop with junior faculty and those who were close to finishing their dissertations. This was highly beneficial and several publications resulted from the effort.

Last year the ADSA made a major advancement with the partnership with the English Writing and Language Support (EWLS) of the school of graduate studies at the University of Toronto. This program granted Advanced Degree students access to the writing lab and classes offered through the department. The services were not used as much as anticipate and we have been in the process of renegotiating the relationship between the two bodies. According to our agreement with EWLS we also need to re-evaluate the relationship at the end of the coming year and hold a student referendum to determine the future of this arrangement. The ADSA made several advances to the SGS in order to develop a closer relationship between our students. These efforts will continue into the follow year.

Works and Wine was continued again this year but was reduced to twice a semester with a special joint session held with the biblical seminar at the end of the year. The format was also varied with panel discussions and traditional papers. This process appeared to be more successful than last year.

The ADSA Board hosted three social events, one at the beginning of each semester and one at the end of the year in conjunction with our AGM and election. These had high turnouts of both students and faculty.

Last year the ADSA began a two-stage process of changing our constitution into two documents. Each constitutional change requires a student referendum, so last year we brought the constitution up-to-date. This year, we used this foundation document as the basis for a true constitution and a separate document containing by-laws. The two documents were presented to students and both were approved in a student referendum with a greater than two-thirds vote.

The ADSA has also committed to supporting two departmental seminars (Patristic and Biblical, \$50 each), and the Lonergan student conference annually (\$100). The Board continued to offer travel grants to student conference presenters. There were three awards granted in each semester for \$200 each. At the end of the year the Board was in the black.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ellen White  
*President, ADSA Board*