

AAA/Higher Education Commission Staff & Contact Information

Lisa M. Beardsley-Hardy, PhD, MPH, MBA, AAA Board Chair; email: beardsleyl@gc.adventist.org



Lisa M. Beardsley-Hardy is Director of Education at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists World Headquarters where she oversees the work of education worldwide. She was elected in 2010 and reelected in 2015, and before then, served as Associate Director of Education from 2006-2010.

Born in England, **Dr. Lisa Beardsley-Hardy** completed two years of theology at Newbold College (UK) and earned a Bachelor of Theology from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, Far East (now Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies) in the Philippines. Her graduate degrees include MPH (Loma Linda University, USA), PhD in educational psychology (University of Hawai'i at Manoa, USA), and MBA (Claremont Graduate University, USA). Her clinical pastoral education was at the Methodist Medical Center of Illinois. She holds ecclesiastical endorsement as an associate chaplain in healthcare from the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists. She also provided spiritual care as a healthcare chaplain at Lakeland Medical Center, Michigan.

Dr. Beardsley-Hardy has been an educator since 1980, having taught at primary, secondary and tertiary levels in public and private schools in Finland and the U.S.A. She has served on over 100 accreditation visits, been a commissioner for the Western Association of Schools and Colleges Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities in the U.S.A., and served as an Honorary Auditor with the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (Australia).

Mike M. Lekic, PhD, MPH, MDiv, AAA Executive Secretary; email: lekicm@gc.adventist.org

Liaison for higher education to the East-Central Africa Division, Euro-Asia Division, Inter-European Division, and Southern Asia Division



Native of the former Yugoslavia, **Dr. Mike Mile Lekic** also has US and Canadian citizenships and speaks English, French, German, Serbo-Croatian and some Spanish. He holds a diploma in theology from Adventist University of France, Collonges-sous-Salève and a teaching certificate of French as a second language from Alliance Française, Paris, France. He earned an MDiv, M.A. (educational and developmental psychology), and a PhD in Education from Andrews University, USA, and an MPH in International/Global Health from Loma Linda University, USA.

Dr. Lekic served as teacher/academy principal/department chairman and president of Haitian Adventist University in Haiti, superintendent of schools in Quebec, Ontario and New Jersey conferences, and Director of Education for the SDA Church in Canada. He is an ordained pastor and certified educational administrator with endorsements as a principal, supervisor of instruction, and superintendent of schools. In 2010 he was elected General Conference Associate Director of Education, a position to which he was reelected in 2015. He served as liaison with and advisor of the Education Department of the General Conference from 2010-2015 to East-Central Africa Division, Euro-Asia Division, Middle East and North Africa Union, Northern Asia-Pacific Division, and Trans-European Division. Prior to the present position, he was the Southern Asia-Pacific Division Director of Education. He is an experienced accreditor, having served on K-12 accreditation work in North America and Southern Asia Pacific for over 17 years and on numerous accreditation visits at the tertiary level around the world, especially since 2010. His special interests include educational excellence, quality assurance and continuous quality improvement.

Hudson Kibuuka, DEd, AAA Staff, kibuukah@gc.adventist.org

Liaison for higher education to the Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division and the Southern Asia-Pacific Division; and editor, College and University Dialogue.



Dr. Hudson Kibuuka was born in the Republic of Uganda and holds a B.Sc. with majors in Mathematics and Chemistry and a minor in Physics, as well as a concurrent Diploma in Education (Mathematics Education and Primary Teaching Methods), and the Master of Education (Educational Administration & Planning) from Makerere University, Republic of Uganda. He also earned a Bachelor of Education, Doctor of Education (both in Educational Management), and a Certificate in Business Management, all from the University of South Africa. Dr. Kibuuka spent some time of immersion in the French language at the Adventist University of France, Collonges-sous-Salève, and also speaks Luganda and Swahili in addition to English. He has been an educator since 1979.

Dr. Kibuuka's experience includes service as secondary science teacher, registrar, college and university lecturer, Director of Education for the SDA Church in Uganda, Division Director of Education for the Eastern Africa Division and since 2003, Director of Education for the East-Central Africa Division. In 2010 he was elected General Conference Associate Director of Education, a position to which he was reelected in 2015. His numerous presentations and publications focus on educational administration, board training, leadership and integration of faith in math and education. He served as liaison with and advisor of the Education Department of the General Conference from 2010-2015 to the South Africa Indian Ocean Division, Southern Asia Division, and Southern Asia Pacific Division. He is a sought-after graduation and seminar speaker with a special interest in equipping students for public campus ministry.

Julian Melgosa, PhD, AAA Staff, MelgosaJ@gc.adventist.org

Liaison for higher education to North American Division, the South American Division, and Trans-European Division



Dr. Julian Melgosa was born in Spain and graduated with a bachelor's degree with majors in education and psychology from the University of Madrid (Spain). He earned an MA in psychology from the same institution and a PhD in Educational Psychology from Andrews University (USA). Dr. Melgosa is a Chartered Psychologist and an Associate Fellow of the British Psychological Society. He is a prolific author in the area of emotional and mental health for professional and semi-popular press publications, including widely spread books such as *Less Stress* and *Positive Mind* and *Adult Bible Study Guide—Jesus Wept: The Bible and Human Emotions*, that was used in every Seventh-day Adventist Church Sabbath School class around the world.

Dr. Melgosa has taught at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels. He has served as Dean of the School of Graduate Studies at the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies (AIIAS) where he also went on to serve as president. Most recently, he served as Dean of the School of Education and Psychology and Professor at Walla Walla University. He has served the Seventh-day Adventist educational system in five divisions: the Inter-European Division (Sagunto Adventist Academy and College), Trans-European Division (Newbold College, UK), Southern Asia Pacific Division (AIIAS, Philippines), North American Division (Andrews University, Walla Walla University, USA) and Inter-American Division (visiting professor at Montemorelos University, Mexico). He has been an accreditor with the Philippine Accrediting Associations of Schools, Colleges and Universities and for the Adventist Accrediting Association. He was elected General Conference Associate Director of Education in 2015.

John Wesley Taylor, PhD, EdD, AAA Staff; email: taylorjw@gc.adventist.org

Liaison for higher education to Inter-American Division, South Pacific Division, West-Central Africa Division, Middle East and North Africa Union, and Northern Asia-Pacific Division



Dr. John Wesley Taylor V was born in Puerto Rico and has served as teacher and administrator in various institutions, including Montemorelos University (Mexico), the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies (Philippines), and Andrews University and Southern Adventist University (USA). He has taught at the elementary through graduate levels, in a dozen different countries. He holds bachelor's degrees in health science and in religion, master's degrees in educational administration and in instructional technology, and doctorates in curriculum and instruction (Andrews University), and in educational psychology—gifted and research (University of Virginia).

In 2010 Dr. Taylor was elected General Conference Associate Director of Education, a position to which he was reelected in 2015. He served as liaison with and advisor of the Education Department of the General Conference from 2010-2015 to the Inter-American Division, South Pacific Division, and West Central Africa Division. Over the years, Dr. Taylor has made presentations at international conferences, written articles in various professional publications, chaired master's and doctoral theses and dissertations, and served at a national research center and on evaluation and accreditation teams. He is a frequent speaker at youth events, educational seminars and workshops, and graduations. Areas of professional interest include the philosophy of Christian education, data-driven decision-making, quantitative and qualitative research methods, spiritual leadership, and strategies for high-level thinking and for nurturing faith.

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