



Antillean
ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

PPOHA

"PROMOTING GRADUATE OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH DISTANCE LEARNING"

VOLUME 2

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Take a break, CONNECT!



God is the source of all wisdom. He is infinitely wise, just and good. Apart from Christ, the wisest men that ever lived cannot comprehend Him. They may profess to be wise; they may glory in their attainments; but mere intellectual knowledge, aside from the great truths that center in Christ, is as nothingness. "Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom: ... but let him that glories glory in this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the Lord which exercise loving-kindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth." Jeremiah 9:23, 24.

Welcome to the Quarterly PPOHA Newsletter!

As we wrap up another successful quarter, we are excited to share the incredible progress we have made.

Enhanced Thechnological Infrastructure

New licenses and database acquisitions are going to enrich both teaching and learning experiences.

Facilities Improvement

The modernization of the Graduate Center in the Business Department will provide accessible spaces tailored for academic and professional development.

Expanded Online Presence

The launch of the PPOHA website will boost accessibility and engagement for our academic community.

Expansion of Academic Programs

Continued growth and refinement of academic programs to better serve our graduate community and strengthen our educational adherence.

Commitment to Academic Success

We are currently gathering data from students and faculty to inform and improve professional development opportunities for our faculty and students. We will begin offering psycho-social services aimed at supporting the well-being of our students starting in October of 2025.



Leading the Future: The Impact of Education Beyond the Classroom

My Story: How Teaching Abroad Transformed My Vision of Education

It was during the summer of 2006 when I completed my college degree and embarked on a life-changing flight. I clearly remember boarding my Delta Boeing 787 with nonstop service to Seoul, South Korea. Upon contemplating my future, I wanted to do something completely unusual, to inspire and travel the world; feeling ever so motivated I signed up to teach abroad as an English missionary teacher. It was there in the “Land of the Morning Calm” where I set aside my worries, put into practice everything my very own teachers had taught me, and learned about the true meaning of education. The experience was incredible; so much so that what was originally supposed to be only a six-month endeavor turned into a three years commitment. I taught a variety of ages and groups and made friendships that I still cherish today; and thanks to the incredible opportunity, I gained valuable teaching experience and became the professional I am today.

I share this anecdote to demonstrate that education doesn't only happen within the classroom. Today, in 2025, learning has diversified enormously, with opportunities that transcend national borders and traditional teaching methods. With the digitalization of learning, the rise of remote work, and the automation of jobs, knowledge is acquired in multiple ways: through online courses, work experiences, specialized certifications, mentorships, and even gamification. For centuries, education has been a pillar of socio-cultural development and an economic engine worldwide. Its impact undoubtedly transcends traditional classrooms, shaping not only academic knowledge but also people's ability to adapt to a constantly changing world.

The Future: How Education Prepares Us for the Unknown

Both in Puerto Rico and in the United States, economic challenges, the rise of artificial intelligence, political decisions, and various social crises have highlighted the need for a more flexible, accessible education system focused on developing practical skills. We shouldn't fear sudden changes either, because every challenge presents opportunities we can seize (although, of course, uncertainty brings concerns).

Education isn't limited to classrooms. In Puerto Rico, where the emigration of young talent continues to be a problem and the gap in learning experienced during the 2019 pandemic persists, education is key to creating new opportunities within the island, developing practical skills, critical thinking, and even fostering entrepreneurship. In the United States, the growing demand for technological skills has led to a reconfiguration of the job market. Traditional professions are evolving, and so those who truly wish to make a meaningful impact in education must prepare students not only with theory but with practical tools that allow them to innovate and respond to changes in the global economy.

Certainly, one of the biggest challenges we face today as a society is labor uncertainty. Who hasn't pondered over their future? What opportunities will I have? What will I do? Where will I work? Am I prepared? These are all responsible questions. The automation of jobs and rise of artificial intelligence are replacing certain tasks and forcing workers into constantly reinventing themselves. However, there's good news: it's possible with effort and dedication! To face these challenges, resilience and creativity are also key. Strong education must foster skills such as problem-solving, critical thinking, and adaptability.

Education Reinvented: Adapting, Thriving, and Leading the Future

Moreover, mental health has gained great importance in education as well. Academic pressure, economic instability, and uncertainty about the future requires institutions to promote a type of learning that integrates emotional well-being, demonstrative intelligence, and the development of support networks. **At Antillean, we are working hard to meet this reality by providing our students with essential support and leadership services. The future of academia will depend on its ability to adapt to modern times. Personalized learning, based on artificial intelligence and data analysis, will allow students to acquire knowledge at their own pace. Interdisciplinary education will be key to addressing complex problems that require information from multiple areas.**

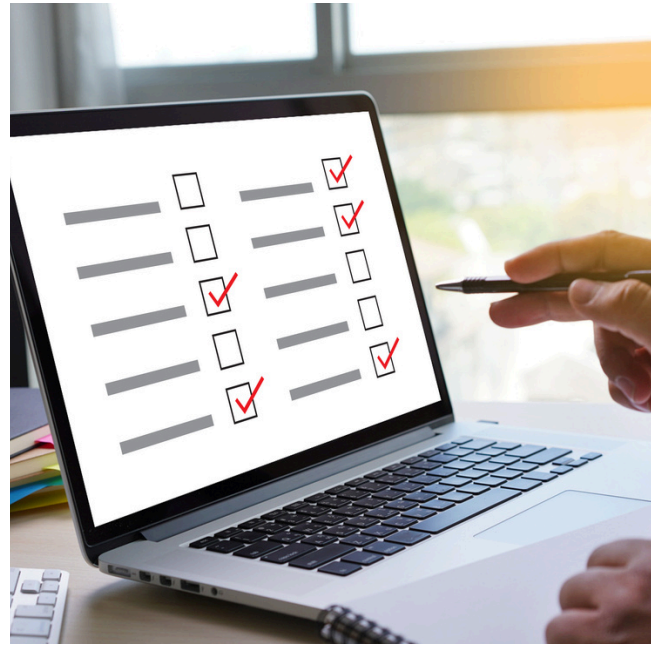
I firmly believe in this ongoing academic reality and personally aspire to be an agent of change. Promoting a support system that our graduates appreciate and helps in reaching personal goals through innovation will undoubtedly make an impact beyond the classroom. On the other hand, the value of a college degrees is also changing. Many companies prioritize practical experience and certifications over traditional diplomas. Educational models such as dual education, intensive bootcamps, and digital credentials are gaining traction as viable alternatives. This is a certainty, and we want to explore its benefits, staying at the forefront of modern pedagogical opportunities. Education is and will continue to be the foundation of progress, but its future depends on its ability to adapt and remain worthwhile. **Facing current challenges with resilience and creativity will be crucial in ensuring that education not only prepares for employment but also for success in life in general. In a world where change is the only constant, learning how to learn will be the most valuable skill of all.**

"YOUR DIPLOMA ISN'T JUST AN ACHIEVEMENT; IT IS A MOST VALUABLE KEY. ONE YOU MAY USE TO OPEN UP LOCKED DOORS, TRANSFORM LIVES, AND BUILD A BETTER FUTURE."

Dr. José Javier Ruiz is a distinguished academic leader at Antillean Adventist University, renowned for his dedication to education and excellence in historical research. As a historian of Puerto Rico and an expert in distance education support, he has devoted his career to shaping new generations, advancing research, and strengthening institutional development through sports, recreation, and historical outreach. His passion for knowledge and unwavering commitment to student learning, combined with his dedication to education grounded in Christian principles, have left a profound impact on the university community.

BE PART OF THIS!

COMPLETE OUR SURVEYS



IF YOU ARE FACULTY

Your voice matters!

WE INVITE ALL FACULTY MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR FACULTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT. YOUR FEEDBACK IS ESSENTIAL FOR SHAPING OUR INITIATIVES AND IMPROVING ACADEMIC RESOURCES. PLEASE TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO SHARE YOUR INSIGHTS AND HELP US ENHANCE OUR SERVICE FOR YOU.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS!



<https://shorturl.at/RCvWF>

IF YOU ARE A
GRADUATE STUDENT

**We want to hear
from you!**

YOUR OPINION IS IMPORTANT! WE ENCOURAGE ALL STUDENTS TO COMPLETE OUR STUDENT NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCES. YOUR FEEDBACK WILL HELP US IMPROVE ACADEMIC SUPPORT AND STUDENT SERVICES.

THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY!



<https://shorturl.at/l4pGR>

PPOHA PROGRAM ACOMPLISHMENTS



We are continually working strong, putting in hours of dedicated effort and collaborating across departments in order to achieve our goals for Y1 of

FIVE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS!

We are pleased to announce that four of the programs are now pending approval from the Puerto Rico Postsecondary Institutional Board (JIP). In the meantime, we are actively preparing the submission of the remaining program, with the goal of launching these new offerings during the Fall Trimester of 2025 (FA25- TRI).

Science in Nursing – Critical Care/ Elderly Care

Submitted to JIP
March 2025

The MSN in Critical Care or Geriatric Care equips registered nurses with advanced expertise to deliver top-notch care to critically ill patients and the elderly. It trains nurses for leadership, education, and teamwork roles within inter-professional care teams. The program blends theoretical learning with practical experience in the chosen specialty.

MBA– Human Resources

Submitted to JIP
Dec 2024

The MBA program with a specialization in Human Resources offers students the opportunity to acquire the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to excel as specialists in human capital management. Students will be prepared to meet the demands of an increasingly complex and competitive business environment at both local and international levels.

Skin and Wound Care Certification

Submission to JIP
Pending

This specialized program is designed for healthcare professionals seeking advanced skills in skin and wound care. Topics include skin assessment, wound identification/classification, acute and chronic wound management, dressing application and pressure injury prevention. Students are thoroughly prepared in this specialty.

Educational Technology

Submitted to JIP
Dec 2024

The Graduate Certificate in Educational Technology empowers educators to integrate technology effectively into teaching. It emphasizes innovative tools and strategies across diverse educational models. Participants develop skills to navigate teaching challenges and foster educational excellence through technology. Completion of the program enhances professionals' competencies in technology education, enabling them to reform and strengthen educational curricula with a focus on 21st-century skills.



SCHOLARSHIPS OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW ENROLLMENT

Are you pursuing a master's degree or a graduate certification at Antillean? The PPOHA Project offers special scholarships of up to \$1,880 (\$626 per trimester) in the first year of enrollment to eligible graduate students enrolled in our new online programs.

Who Can Apply?

- Hispanic students who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
- Those who meet specific eligibility requirements (outlined in the application form).

What We're Looking For

Your application will be evaluated based on:

- GPA
- Financial need (FAFSA)
- Letters of recommendation
- Personal statement

What's in It for You?

- Scholarship funds distributed equally across academic terms (up to one year).
- Opportunities to participate in activities designed to enhance your skills and knowledge in your chosen field.

How to Apply

- Fill out the eligibility form.
- Submit your GPA, recommendation letters, and personal statement.
- The PPOHA Scholarship Committee will review your application and notify you if selected.

Actively engage in the program to maintain your scholarship and grow in your academic journey!



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