

The State of Libraries in Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) Institutions of Higher Learning: A Comparative Analysis by Administrative Divisions.

Raúl Cervantes
Montemorelos University
June 1, 2011

The purpose of this work is to find out how university libraries in the Seventh-day Adventist educational system are coping with the challenges of the digital age.

For this work I went through all of the SDA university libraries' Websites to gain an insight as to their electronic access (Website, catalog, databases, etc.).

I'm interested in the creation of a SDA virtual reference global cooperative in order to reduce the discrepancies that exist between SDA libraries from the developed world and those from other nations. As an employee at Montemorelos University, who is in charge of virtual reference services, I'm able to provide first-hand information in this area gained during my almost three years experience in this position.

It is my hope that the research findings here presented would allow those in leadership positions to realize the needs and the possibilities.

The content of this paper was taken from two works of my authorship: *Two End-Time Churches; Two Library System Styles and Selected globally distributed library cooperation and their strategies for access to digital resources: Goethe-Institutes, Instituts Français, British Council libraries and the Seventh-Day Adventist Church academic libraries* and adapted to be presented at ASDAL's 31st annual conference to take place at Pacific Union College in Angwin, California on the 19th to the 23rd of June, 2011.

Adventist education –and libraries by extension, exist to transmit doctrines, culture and a special worldview (Egbert 1988). This scenario situates the SDA libraries at a different angle when compared with other organizations. The SDA libraries support the goals of the SDA church: Not a religion in the raw sense of the word, but a cosmic vision and a way of life (Clouten 1992, 48).

The administrative structure of the SDA Church is governed by a democratic form of government created from the bottom up at each of its four levels: the local church, the local conference, the union conference and the general conference, which is divided into 13 worldwide autonomous divisions. Each division decides by itself on the best policies for their overall functioning, including those affecting their educational systems. The General Conference, the church's highest governing body headquartered in Maryland, USA exerts a hands-off approach when it comes to internal matters of each division. Policies which are enforceable in one division are not in another. The internationalization of the church, being a 19th century movement with origins in the United States, demanded the kind of church structure still in operation today; a “conference” system (Mustard, 11). The driving force was a desire to decentralize the decision making process. Currently, the SDA church is present in 203 of the 232 countries officially recognized by the United Nations (Seventh-Day Adventist Church: World Statistics 2011). The current state of access provided by SDA libraries across the world requires cooperation projects that transcend the individual divisions in order to create a benefit for all; “a multiplier effect, a broader interest, so that it can contribute to reaching the threshold beyond which change can occur” (Iljon 1998, 152) This does not mean, that divisions would compromise their autonomy nor that new hierarchical structures need to be created, but rather the

conceptualization of mechanisms which would allow the SDA libraries to cooperate at a global level via the existing organizational structures.

THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

The Seventh-Day Adventist Church's educational system is the largest protestant school system in the world. According to the Department of Education of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, the church has the following statistics to report. (Seventh-Day Adventist Church: World Statistics 2011).

	Schools	Students
Elementary	5,899	1,085,177
Secondary	1,748	457,934
Worker Training	47	8,076
Colleges and Universities	110*	122,641
TOTAL	7,804	1,673,828

*104 institutions Website links were available in the Church's list; hence, only 104 were considered.

The following table presents the degree of electronic access Adventist libraries currently offer (up to December, 2010). Since then, changes to the reported facts might have changed. The results are grouped by administrative divisions and were obtained by visiting each Website of the 104 SDA universities. It was sought if a university had Internet presence, if the school library had a Website and if the library provided access to its OPAC (Online Public Access Catalog) via the Internet.

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
ECD	Adventist University at Lukanga	Butembo, Nord Kivu, Democratic Republic of Congo	YES	NO	NO
<p>Under the Documentation tab there is a link to the Library page, but there is no information as to databases information or a catalog. The library page is empty.</p> <p>http://www.uniluk.org [16.07.2010]</p>					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
ECD	Adventist University of Africa	Nairobi, Kenya	YES	NO	NO
<p>Overall the university Website has a simple but functional layout. It is not at all overcrowded and things are easy to find. There is no mention of library or catalog.</p> <p>There is a link to restricted articles which requires authentication and a brief list of links to articles and research aids or guidelines.</p> <p>http://www.aua.adventist.org [16.07.2010]</p>					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
ECD	Adventist University of Central Africa	Kigali, Rwanda	YES	YES	NO
<p>The university Website is simple, but well arranged. There is immediate access to the library's Web page which provides information about their policies. The following policies stand out: "The library is fully modernized by the computerized of its services".</p> <p>However, there is no information about databases or a catalog. Such modernization might be on-site, but not available for remote access.</p> <p>http://www.auca.ac.rw/library.html [16.07.2010]</p>					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
ECD	Bugema University	Kampala, Uganda	YES	YES	NO
<p>The university Website has is informative. Its layout is somewhat loaded, but functional.</p>					

The library Web page is under the Services tab. There is no direct visible link from the main university Website. The library page itself provides information about the library's resources and services. There is a library mission statement and vision. Besides that, there is no remote access to any of the services and resources the library provides.

<http://www.bugemauniv.ac.ug/library.html> [16.07.2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
ECD	Ethiopia Adventist College	Shashamane, Ethiopia	NO	NO	NO
ECD	The University of Arusha	Usa River, via Arusha, Tanzania	YES	NO	NO

<http://www.theuoa.com/>

ECD	University of Eastern Africa Baraton	Eldoret, Kenya	YES	YES	YES
-----	--------------------------------------	----------------	-----	-----	-----

The university Website has a direct link to the library and it is easy to locate. The library has a log in box allowing patrons to authenticate before they start searching for library's resources if they so wish. There is an OPAC and a list of journals and databases. The items On Reserve are not available online yet. The library publishes a bi-annual newsletter which, by the way, it is overdue since the latest available was for the period of Jan-June 2009. Overall, the library's page is decent and functional.

<http://www.ueab.ac.ke/library/index.php> [16.07.2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
EUD	Adventist University of France	Collonges-sous-Saleve, France	YES	YES	YES*

*The library's OPAC claims to be available via the Web, but my attempts fail to open it.

There is information about the information services and resources. However, access seems to be available on campus mainly.

<http://www.bibavaucher.net/> [16.07.2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
EUD	Bogenhofen Seminary	St. Peter am hart, Austria	YES	YES	YES
<p>The library link on the main page is visible; therefore, it provides direct access to the library page. The library page has a catalog and information about locally produced documents of a theological nature. Basic information as to services, hours is available. There is no access to commercial databases (at least not online).</p> <p>http://bibliothek.bogenhofen.at/startseite/index.php [16.07.2010]</p>					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
EUD	Bulgarian Theological Seminary	Sofia, Bulgaria	YES	YES	NO
<p>The library's page has only a brief description of their services. No OPAC access or to any electronic databases or resources. OPAC only for internal use only.</p> <p>http://www.sdabg-college.org/main.php?menu=library [16.07.2010]</p>					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
EUD	Friedensau Adventist University	Friedensau, Germany	YES	YES	YES
<p>The library page is found under "Einrichtungen". The link to the library is not as direct as if a link to it titled "Bibiliothek" were to be right on the school's Website. A unique feature of the library is its live camera showing the outside structure of the library. A sophisticated catalog is available along with access to databases and locally produced research in the area of social science and theology where the school emphasis is in.</p> <p>http://www.thh-friedensau.de/de/einrichtungen/020_bibliothek/index.html [16.07.2010]</p>					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
EUD	Italian Adventist College "Villa Aurora"	Florence, Italy	YES	YES	YES
<p>The library's page is found under Services. Again, not visible at first sight. There is a functional OPAC though it does not offer functions such as access to personal library</p>					

account access via the Internet or the possibility to place items on hold. It is a beautiful and functional Website.

<http://www.villaurora.it/eng/index.php> [16.07.2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
EUD	Romanian Adventist School of Nursing	Braila, Romania	YES	NO	NO

No library or other related resources are mentioned.

<http://www.scoalasanitara.braila.net/#> [16.07.2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
EUD	Romanian Adventist Theological Institute	Ilfov, Romania	YES	YES	YES

The library link on the school's Website is prominent, but it only leads to the catalog. It is a basic catalog without personal account access. No additional information is provided regarding other sources of research information.

<http://www.institutadventist.ro/> [16.07.2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
EUD	Sazava Theological Seminary	Sazava, Czech Republic	YES	YES	YES

The main Website has a prominent link to the library's page which has a catalog with basic functions and information about additional library's services. There is also a downloadable list of theses. Much of the information is in downloadable Word documents. It would be better to simply post the information on Web pages to make it easier for user to navigate.

<http://www.tscasd.cz/> [16.07.2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
EUD	Spanish Adventist Seminary	Sagunto, Valencia, Spain	YES	YES	NO

There is a page with basic information about the library and the services it offers.

Nothing more. No access to a catalog or databases.

<http://www.el-cas.org/> [16.07.2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
ESD	Ukrainian Institute of Arts and Sciences	Bucha, Kiev Region, Ukraine	YES	YES	NO

The library link is under a tab. In it there is only a brief description of the library service. Neither OPAC nor databases access is provided.

www.ugi.edu.ua [16.07.2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
ESD	Zaoksky Adventist University	Zaoksky , Tula Region, Russian Federation	YES	YES	NO

The library page is kind of hidden. One has to go to the About the University tab then to the Agencies and Departments categories. One would think it would be under Student Life, Academic Life or Service, but it is not.

The library page has not only information about its service, but also about its mission, objectives and tasks. No OPAC or database access available over the Internet.

<http://www.zau.ru/about/?depts=lib> [16.07.2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
IAD	Antillean Adventist University	Mayaguez, Puerto Rico	YES	YES	YES

The university Website is bilingual (English/Spanish) in its entirety reflecting the political status of Puerto Rico as a free associated state of the U.S. The library Website has a catalog in four different languages (English, Spanish, French and German) where the patron can log in to his/her account to manage his/her account via online, there is a description of services, recommended/suggested links and a list of databases which are accessible via online.

There is a link to the Adventist Virtual Library, a library cooperative created for the

purposes of obtaining access to sources of information at the lowest price possible and to support the educational objectives of the Department of Education of the Inter-American Division of the Seventh-Day Adventist institutions.

The Adventist Virtual Library or AVL offers its patrons the following indexes/databases:

- Ebsco Index: ATLA American Theological Library Association, Enfermería al Día (nursing in Spanish), Fuente Académica (multidisciplinary database in Spanish), MAS Ultra School Edition (high school level), Primary Search (elementary school level), Vent e Gestion (business resources in French)
- E-Libro (e-Books in Spanish)
- Océano: Administración de Empresas (Business Administration), Aula de Padres (Classroom for Parents), Diccionarios (Dictionaries French/Spanish, German/Spanish, English/Spanish, Portuguese/Spanish), Medicina y Salud (Medicine and Health), Saber (Knowledge), Universitas
- Britannica Online (in English), Britannica Universal (in Spanish), Britannica Universalis (French)
- H W. Wilson or Wilson Web (multidisciplinary)

To avoid repetition, for the rest of the universities which make up the IAD the reader will be asked to refer to this description of the Adventist Virtual Library databases.

The Antillean Adventist University library offers additionally the following databases:

Ebrary (e-Books), Gale Infotrac

<http://bva.interamerica.org/> [18 July 2010]

<http://www.uaa.edu/eng/index.php/academics/library> [18 July 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
IAD	Central American Adventist University	Alajuela, Costa Rica	YES	NO	NO

The first impression of the school's Website is that it is elegant, easy to navigate, its layout facilitates searches. It is well proportioned.

As to the indication to the library there is none. Once has to scroll down on the page to find the logo of the Adventist Virtual Library. There is no information as to services provided by the library, hours, suggested links, etc.

The library does not have its own page or Website. Neither is there a catalog that could be accessed over the Internet.

As part of the Adventist Virtual Library AVL, the library provides the same databases as described above under the Antillean University section. Please, refer to the list there or the following link for further information.

<http://bva.interamerica.org/en/databases.html> [19 July 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
IAD	Colombia Adventist University	Medellin, Colombia	YES	YES	YES

On the home page of the school there is a linked image to the library's Website.

Clicking on it opens a commercial pop up window though. The library Website is loaded with images and applications. Besides standard information about the library's services, the library provides information about its activities and other sources of interests to its patrons. It looks like the library puts an extra effort to give life to the library page. One can sense a creative spirit and a desire to be part of the patron's learning experience. The patron can log in to his/her account on this page. There is a catalog and access to databases. It is a "lively" library Website.

<http://biblioteca.unac.edu.co/> [27 July 2010]

As part of the Adventist Virtual Library AVL, the library provides the same databases as described above under the Antillean University section. Please, refer to the list there or

the following link for further information.

<http://bva.interamerica.org/en/databases.html> [19 July 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
IAD	Cuba Adventist Seminary	Havana, Cuba	NO	NO	NO

Most likely due to the political situation in Cuba, there is no online access to this school.

IAD	Dominican Adventist University	Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic	YES	NO	NO
-----	--------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-----	----	----

There is a link to the Adventist Virtual Library on the school's main Website.

<http://unad.edu.do/home/>

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
IAD	Haitian Adventist University	Port-au-Prince, Haiti	NO	NO	NO

No Website presence

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
IAD	Inter-American Adventist Theological Seminary	Miami, Florida	NO	NO	NO

As part of the Adventist Virtual Library AVL, the library provides the same databases as described above under the Antillean University section. Please, refer to the list there or the following link for further information.

<http://bva.interamerica.org/en/databases.html> [19 July 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
IAD	Linda Vista University	Chiapas, Mexico	YES	YES	NO

The library page is found under Services on the school's Website. There is no online catalog available. It only lists two virtual libraries: The Adventist Virtual Library AVL (mentioned in detail above under the Antillean Adventist University Section) and the Virtual Public Library of the State of Chiapas.

In addition to the databases provided by the AVL, the school provides its patrons access to the following major databases via the state of Chiapas' virtual library:

Infotrac One File, Business and Company Resource Center, Ebrary, Informe Académico, Testing Reference Center, Literature Resource Center, IGI Global, Sabin Americana, Psychology Collection, Humanities & Social Sciences, History Resource Center World, Tourism Database.

This palette of databases makes the Linda Vista University the institution within the Inter-American Division with the most access to electronic databases.

<http://bva.interamerica.org/> [19 July 2010]

<http://www.bibliotecachiapas.gob.mx/> [19 July 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
IAD	Montemorelos University	Montemorelos, Mexico	YES	YES	YES

The university Website has a direct link to the library which has information about its services. It is noteworthy to mention that this library is subscribed to a cooperative reference service which provides reference assistance 24/7 in English and in Spanish the most part of the day. The library has integrated social media on its Website. Below the reference widget there is access to the local and global knowledge bases.

The library provides access to the Adventist Virtual Library (mentioned above under the Antillean Adventist University section) for the purposes of database access. In addition, the school is part of CUDI (University Corporation for the Development of the Internet) and through it gets database credits from Ebsco.

There is a catalog which provides basic search functions. There is no access to personal library accounts meaning all patron-related transactions must be done by library employees.

<http://biblioteca.um.edu.mx/> [19 July 2010]

<http://www.cudi.edu.mx/> [19 July 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
IAD	Navojoa University	Navojoa, Sonora, Mexico	YES	NO	NO

There is a link to the Adventist Virtual Library which provides access to the electronic databases (See the Antillean Adventist University section above for more details). There is not a dedicated Web site for the library and no OPAC either.

<http://www.unavojoa.net/index.php>

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
IAD	Northern Caribbean University	Mandeville, Jamaica	YES	YES	YES

The library Website is perhaps the most sophisticated in the Inter-American Division. Patrons can log in from to their library accounts. There is an OPAC and besides the databases found in the Adventist Virtual Library (see Antillean Adventist University section above for more details), the library subscribes to additional major databases such as NetLibrary (e-books), Communication and Mass Communication Medic Complete (Ebsco), Phych Info (Ebsco), Gale Databases, JSTOR and Proquest. The Q&A section reveals a security issue. Students complain that their bags are checked when they leave the library. This is done as a measure to lower the incidence of “lost” materials. The library goes beyond providing basic information about its services; It educates patrons in the way they should search and provides helpful guides to successfully search the library’s resources.

<http://www.ncu.edu.jm/library/> [19 July 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
IAD	University of The Southern Caribbean	Port-of-Spain, Trinidad	YES	YES	YES

The library’s Website is very efficient and complete. It has a section for items on reserve

and tutorials. The library has a catalog that can be accessed online. The communication flows as evident in their announcements page. It has information about their services and its collections. It is a beautiful Website. The colors used do not overwhelm the viewer and there is not an over-abundance of information. One does not find superfluous information or that can be outdated. All the information is relevant. Probably, this school has the best designed Website in the IAD. In addition to the databases provided via the Adventist Virtual Library, the library also provides access to Gale Databases and NetLibrary.

http://www.usc.edu.tt/lib/index.php?option=com_frontpage&Itemid=1 [19 July 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
IAD	Venezuelan Adventist University	Yaracuy, Codigo, Venezuela	YES	NO	NO

Although the school is part of the IAD and therefore a member of the Adventist Virtual library, there is not link to it on the school's Website.

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
NAD	Andrews University	Berrien Springs, MI	YES	YES	YES

The architecture of the library's Website is robust. By this it's meant it contains all the major parts a library offers: catalog, databases, journals, and a list of other services. It is a mature library as one would expect from a U.S. institution. It does lack some creativity though. It could also integrate social media and widgets to make the users' visit more "lively". As it is, is a serious Website. Ironically, the only library promotional video it recommends is one titled "spice", produced by BYU (a LDS university).

Since 1995 a program within the James White Library called SAIL (Services to Adventist International Libraries) provides books, newsletters, periodicals, photocopies to more than 50 members around the world.

Since 1971 the Adventist Periodical Index is published providing citation indexing to over forty Adventist journals and magazines. The index also contains obituary citations and it produces an annual cumulative CD-ROM.

The Association of Seventh-day Adventist Librarians (ASDAL) was founded in 1981. It holds an annual conference, publishes a journal (ASDAL in Action), awards a scholarship and sponsors the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index.

The Adventist Library Information Cooperative (ALICE) facilitates group purchases and database licensing for its members.

The James White Library is the leader in the area of library issues within SDA institutions around the world.

<http://www.andrews.edu/library/index.cgi> [27 July 2010]

<http://www.asdal.org> [1 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
NAD	Atlantic Union College	So. Lancaster, Massachusetts	YES	YES	YES

A link to the library is not available on the library Website's main page. It is found, rather, under the Academics tab. The library's Website is simple and not very inviting. It has the necessary information about its services though. It contains access to a catalog, databases (among the most outstanding: Ebsco, Infotrac, Gale, Grove, Art Online, Lexis Nexis, NetLibrary, Newsbank,). There is not a list of journals (in print or in electronic form).

http://my.auc.edu/ics/Depts/Academic_Support/Library/Home.jnz [1 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
NAD	Canadian University College	Lacombe, Alberta, Canada	YES	YES	YES

The link to the library is a bit hidden. It was not found under the Student Services

section, but rather at the bottom of a list on the left column on the main page of the school's Website. There is access to a catalog, e-journals and databases. The databases are listed by subject, but there was no list of all the database indexes or databases the library subscribes to. There is information about the library services. The library's Website is decent in its structure and presentation.

<http://www.cauc.ca/library> [1 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
NAD	Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences	Orlando, Florida	YES	NO	NO

There is no library Website. Apparently the library resources are available on campus only as stated on the school's Website: "Contributing to academic excellence on-campus is a Learning Resource Center and the Robert Arthur Williams Library containing outstanding collections of print and video information in nursing and allied health fields."

<http://www.fhchs.edu/> [1 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
NAD	Griggs University	Silver Spring, Maryland	YES	NO	NO

No information about library services was found probably due to the fact that the school has a tradition of home-based learning.

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
NAD	Kettering College of Medical Arts	Kettering, Ohio	YES	YES	YES

Both the school's and the library's Websites are agile, dynamic, well-structured and with all possible accesses and information. The link to the library is visually well-positioned (main page). The selection of databases and e-journals are representative of the degrees offered.

<http://www2.kcma.edu/LearningCommons/Library/index.html> [1 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
NAD	La Sierra University	Riverside, California	YES	YES	YES
<p>The library link is not prominently displayed on the school's Website but easily found under the Academics tab. The library page itself is condensed, succinct, but contains all types of information and accesses one would expect from a school with such a large number of degrees. The selection of databases is arranged in an intuitive and logical manner and they are representative of the programs offered.</p> <p>http://www.lasierra.edu/library/ [1 August 2010]</p>					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
NAD	Loma Linda University	Loma Linda, California	YES	YES	YES
<p>The library link is positioned on the main page of the school's Website and it is easily identified. The library Website has information about its services and access to a catalog, e-journals, databases, social media outlets (blog, news), educational resources, technical issues assistance. Overall, it is a respectable library.</p> <p>http://www.llu.edu/library/index.page [2 August 2010]</p>					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
NAD	Oakwood University	Huntsville, Alabama	YES	YES	YES
<p>The link to the library is under the Academics tab and it is easy to find. The library Website has all a library in a developed country has in terms of information and access. Additionally, the library has a digital collection of historical documents called OU Goldmine.</p> <p>http://www.oakwood.edu/academics/library [2 August 2010]</p>					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
NAD	Pacific Union College	Angwin, California	YES	YES	YES

The library link is under the Campus Services tab (not prominently displayed on the main page of the school's Website). The library Website is simple in its design and presentation, but contains all major areas of information, services, and access. The databases are listed in three options (All, Multidisciplinary, By Subject) allowing flexibility. The collection of databases corresponds to the large spectrum of learning disciplines the school offers.

<http://library.puc.edu/library/index.shtml> [2 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
NAD	Southern Adventist University	Collegedale, Tennessee	YES	YES	YES

The library link is found under the Academics tabs. In regards to information about services and access to a catalog, e-journals, databases, the library complies with what could be considered standard resources. The number and type of databases corresponds to the academic degrees offered by the institution.

<http://library.southern.edu/cms/> [3 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
NAD	Southwestern Adventist University	Keene, Texas	YES	YES	YES

Under the Academics tab, there is a link to the library. The library is fully equipped with access to a catalog, e-journals and databases. Information about services and policies are also provided. As to the number and type of databases, they correspond to the areas the schools offers degrees in.

<http://www.swau.edu/academics/library> [3 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
NAD	Union College	Lincoln, Nebraska	YES	YES	YES

To find a link to the library one has to go to Current Students then to Services. That is,

the library link is not prominently displayed on the school Website.

Although the library Website is simple in its layout and it is not overloaded with information it, nonetheless, succinctly informs the user about the services and access. Once again, the kind of access to information sources corresponds with the breath of degrees offered.

<http://www.ucollege.edu/library> [4 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
NAD	Walla Walla University	College Place, Washington	YES	YES	YES

The library's link is found under academics. There is a main library and three other libraries which support specific programs such as nursing and social work. The library Website has information and services and access to books, journals, databases, reserves, etc. As to the number and diversity of databases subscriptions, the list shows a diversified collection of electronic sources of information in agreement with the fields in which the school specializes.

<http://www.wallawalla.edu/academics/libraries/> [4 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
NAD	Washington Adventist University	Takoma Park, Maryland	YES	YES	YES

The library link is found under the Academics tab. As with previous NAD libraries, there is information on services, resources, training, access (catalog, e-journals, databases, etc.). The subscription databases are numerous and representative of the degrees offered by the school.

http://www.wau.edu/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=144&Itemid=148 [4 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
NSD	Hong Kong Adventist College	Sai Kung, New Territories, Hong Kong	YES	YES	NO
<p>The library link is not found under the Academics tab or the Student Services tab, but rather under the Buildings tab! There is information about the library's collections and services. There is no remote access to any electronic resource.</p> <p>http://www.hkac.edu/D_Library.html [5 August 2010]</p>					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
NSD	Sahmyook Health College	Seoul, Korea	YES	?	NO
<p>In theory there is a library, but the icon leads to a broken page.</p> <p>http://www.shu.ac.kr/english/ [5 August 2010]</p>					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
NSD	Sahmyook University	Seoul, Korea	YES	?	?
<p>By looking at the high quality of the school's Website, however, it seems very likely that there is a library Website, but due to language constraints, it could not be verified.</p> <p>http://eng.syu.ac.kr/sub1.html [5 August 2010]</p>					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
NSD	Saniku Gakuin College	Chiba-ken, Japan	YES	?	?
<p>The library link to the library could not be located on the school's Website. This might be due to language constraints.</p> <p>http://www.saniku.ac.jp/ [5 August 2010]</p>					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
NSD	Taiwan Adventist College	Nantou County, Taiwan	YES	?	?

The link to the library opened an error page.
<http://www.sdatac.org.tw/> [5 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SAD	Bolivia Adventist University	Cochabamba, Bolivia	YES	YES	?

The library Web page has a brief description of the library resources. An access menu box provided access to online resources.
http://www.uab.edu.bo/uab/site/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=115&Itemid=203 [5 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SAD	Brazil Adventist University (three campuses)	Engenheiro Coelho, Hortolandia, Sao Paulo, Brasil	YES	NO	NO

There is no link to a library on the school's Website.
<http://www.unasp.edu.br/> [5 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SAD	Chile Adventist University	Chillan, Chile	YES	YES	YES

The library link is found on the main page of the school's Website. The library Website has information about its services, policies and access to a catalog and both Open Source and subscription databases. Most resources are OS; those by subscription are E-Libro (E-book), Proquest, Doyma (Elsevier).
<http://biblioteca.unach.cl/> [6 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SAD	Ecuador Adventist Superior Technical Institute	Pichincha, Ecuador	YES	YES	NO

The link to the library was not found easily. It was necessary to do a search on the

search box to locate it. The library page has a brief description of the library functions and mission statement. There is no information about a catalog, or databases. So, there is no remote access to any online resources.

http://www.cade.edu.ec/cade/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=110:biblioteca&catid=48:campus&Itemid=86 [6 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SAD	Minas Gerais Adventist Institute	Lavras, MG, Brazil	YES	YES	YES

The library Webpage has information about the library's services and policies. There is access to catalog and a list of online journals. There is not a list of databases though.

<http://www.fadminas.org.br/a-fadminas/biblioteca/> [5 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SAD	Latin-American Adventist Theological Seminary	Brasilia, DF, Brazil	YES	?	?

The link to the library is prominently displayed on the school's Website, but when clicked it opened a blank page.

<http://www.salt.edu.br/> [6 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SAD	Northeast Brazil College	Cachoeira, BA, Brazil	YES	YES	YES

The link to the library is prominently displayed on the school's Website. It is a well-designed and developed Website. It has information about the services and policies of the library presented in a creative way. There is a catalog and lists of resources by area of study (faculties). There seems to be mainly sources of a public or open source nature.

<http://www.adventista.edu.br/biblioteca/> [6 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SAD	Northern Argentina Adventist Institute	Misiones, Argentina	YES	NO	NO
There is not link to a library. On the main page there is a link to the Royal Academy of the Spanish Language and to Wikipedia. Nothing else regarding library resources. http://www.iajba.edu.ar/ofertas.html [7 August 2010]					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SAD	Paraguay Adventist University	Asuncion, Paraguay	NO	NO	NO
Approved by the Paraguay government, but without Internet presence as of yet.					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SAD	Parana Adventist Institute	Parana, Entre Rios, Argentina	NO	?	YES
The link to the library provides access to the catalog and a list of links grouped by topic. http://www.iap.org.br/index.php?option=com_wrapper&view=wrapper&Itemid=136 [7 August 2010]					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SAD	Peruvian Union University (three campuses)	Nana, Lima; Juliaca, Puno; Morelos, Tarapoto; Peru	YES	NO	NO
Despite the large number of degrees offered (undergraduate and graduate), there was no link to a library. http://www.upeu.edu.pe/go/facultades [7 August 2010]					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SAD	River Plate Adventist University	Entre Rios, Argentina	YES	YES	YES
The library link is displayed on the main page of the school's Website under the					

Resources box. The library Website is well-organized and provides information about its services and access to a catalog, e-journals and databases. The list of databases contain indexes and databases such as Ebsco, JStor, Springerlink, Wilson Web and other databases based on Open Access. The library databases are listed according to faculty.

http://www.uap.edu.ar/biblioteca/bases_datos [7 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SPD	Avondale College Limited	Cooranbong, N.S.W. Australia	YES	YES	YES

Although the library is at the top on the main school Webpage, the font is too small and it could be overlooked. The library Website has information about access to a catalog, e-journals and databases along with information about its services and policies.

<http://www.avondale.edu.au/library/> [7 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SPD	Fulton College	Suva, Fiji	YES	YES	YES

A link to the library is shown at the top and center on the main page of the school's Website. There is information about the library's policies and services. In order to access the databases or the catalog, a link called "Library Online" needs to be clicked. When clicked another page with access to an OPCA and the databases opens. Some of the databases acquired are Ebsco, JStor, ProQuest, and Science Direct.

<http://www.fulton.ac.fj/Library> [7 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SPD	Pacific Adventist University	Boroko, Papua New Guinea	YES	YES	YES

The link to the library can be found under the "Current Students" and "Services & Facilities" tabs. The library has remote access to a catalog and databases.

<https://library.pau.ac.pg/Liberty3/gateway/gateway.exe?application=Liberty3&displayform=frame> [7 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SPD	Sonoma Adventist College	Kokopo, Papua New Guinea	NO	NO	NO
No Internet presence. Probably a campus of Pacific Adventist University (see above).					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SID	Adventist University Zurcher	Antsirabe, Madagascar	YES	NO	NO
There was no information about library services and/or access. http://www.uazurcher.org/indexen.htm [7 August 2010]					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SID	Helderberg College	Cape, South Africa	YES	YES	YES
The library link is found under the Campus Life tab. It has a detailed description of the services and policies. The catalog is online within the campus only. Regarding database access, the library is a member of SABINET, a national consortium and of FirstSearch of OCLC, a worldwide library cooperative. There is also information about Open Source journals and links. http://www.hbc.ac.za/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=75&Itemid=85 [8 August 2010]					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SID	Solusi University	Bulawayo, Zimbabwe	YES	NO	NO
No link to the library was found although the department exists as the name of the director is found in the personnel directory. http://www.solusi.ac.zw/ [8 August 2010]					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SID	Zambia Adventist University	Monze, Zambia	NO	NO	NO
No Internet presence.					

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SUD	Flaiz Adventist College	Andhra Pradesh, India	NO	NO	NO
No Internet presence.					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SUD	Lowry Adventist College	Bangalore, Karnataka, India	YES	NO	NO
No information about library services was found on the school's Website. http://lowryinstitutions.org/undergraduate.htm [8 August 2010]					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SUD	METAS of Seventh-day Adventist College	Surat, Gujarat, India	YES	NO	NO
No information about library services was found on the school's Website. http://www.metasofsda.in/index.aspx [8 August 2010]					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SUD	Northeast Adventist College	Jaintia Hills, Meghalaya, India	NO	NO	NO
No Internet Presence					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SUD	Roorkee Adventist College	Roorkee, India	YES	NO	NO
No information was found regarding library services. http://www.rac.org.in/ [8 August 2010]					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SUD	Spicer Memorial College	Pune, India	YES	NO	NO
No information was found about library services. http://www.spicermemorialcollege.org/ [8 August 2010]					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SUD	Vellore Adventist College of Education	Otteri, Vellore, India	NO	NO	NO

No Internet presence.					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SSD	Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies	Silang, Cavite, Philippines	YES	YES	YES
<p>The library link is displayed prominently on the main page of the school's Website. The library Website contains information about its services, resources, access, instructions, reference, etc. There is remote access to the catalog and databases, some of which are Proquest, JStor, Ebsco and other Open Source databases.</p> <p>http://www.aiias.edu/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=109&Itemid=18</p> <p>5 [8 August 2010]</p>					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SSD	Adventist University of the Philippines	Silang, Cavite, Philippines	YES	YES	YES
<p>The library link is found on the main page of the school's Website, but somewhat at the lower part, so it was not very prominent. There is a library Website and apparently access to a catalog, but for the time being not accessible (Site Temporarily Unavailable). No further information was found regarding additional library resources.</p> <p>http://www.aup.edu.ph/library/ [8 August 2010]</p>					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SSD	Asia-Pacific International University	Muak Lek, Saraburi, Thailand	YES	YES	YES
<p>Under the Services tab, the library link is listed. Few library Websites can strike a balance between simplicity and effectiveness as this one. The information is not only presented in a soothing way, but also in a logical manner. The general feeling created when navigating the Website is one of lightness. A pleasurable experience, indeed. The Search and Find section has links to the catalog, databases, and Internet Search. The</p>					

About the Library section has information about the unique character of the library and the Library Services lists the ways the library responds to the needs of its patrons. The database page lists the databases by provider and scope (multidisciplinary or subject specific). Some of the main databases listed are Ebsco, Proquest, and ERIC.

<http://www.apiu.edu/library/index.html> [8 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SSD	Bangladesh Adventist Seminary and College	P.O.Gowalbathan, District Gazipur, Bangladesh	NO	NO	NO

No Internet presence.

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SSD	Central Philippine Adventist College	Negros Occidental, Philippines	YES	NO	NO

Much of the school Website is under construction and no information about the library services or access was found.

<http://www.cpac.edu.ph/> [8 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SSD	Indonesia Adventist University	Bandung, Java, Indonesia	YES	NO	NO

It was not easy to find information about the library. The user needs to click on the Life at UNAI, then to Facilities & Infrastructure and then to Learning Facilities. There is a brief description of the library's collection and services, but no remote access to any resource.

<http://www.unai.edu/node/28> [8 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SSD	Klabat University	Sulawesi Utara, Indonesia	YES	?	?

There is a link to a Research page, but not to a library.

http://www.unklab.ac.id/home/					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SSD	Manila Adventist Medical Center and Colleges	Manila, Philippines	YES	NO	NO
No information about library services or access found.					
http://mamcci.ning.com/ [8 August 2010]					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SSD	Mindanao Sanitarium and Hospital College	Iligan City, Philippines	YES	NO	NO
No information about library services found.					
http://www.mshcollege.com/ [8 August 2010]					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SSD	Mountain View College	Valencia City, Bukidnon, Philippines	YES	?	?
The link to the library is found under the Services tab, but when clicked the Website is not available.					
http://www.mvc.edu.ph/main/index.php [8 August 2010]					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SSD	Myanmar Union Adventist Seminary	Myaungmya, Myanmar	NO	NO	NO
No Internet presence.					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SSD	Naga View Adventist College	Naga City, Philippines	NO	NO	NO
No Internet presence.					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SSD	Northern Luzon Adventist College	Pangasinan, Philippines	YES	?	?
The school has a list of open source journals, but no library Website.					
http://www.nlac.edu.ph/onlinejournal.php					

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SSD	Penang Adventist College of Nursing	Penang, Malaysia	YES	NO	NO
Under Missions and Facilities is found a line of information and an image about the library: http://www.pah.com.my/acn/index.asp?page=2 [8 August 2010]					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SSD	South Philippine Adventist College	Davao del Sur, Philippines	YES	NO	NO
Under the Services tab there is information about the library's services and policies, but no remote access to any library resource is provided. http://spaonline.org/portal3/ [8 August 2010]					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
SSD	Surya Nusantara Adventist College	Sumatra Utara, Indonesia	NO	NO	NO
No Internet presence.					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
TED	Adriatic Union College	Marusevec, Croatia	YES	NO	NO
No information was found regarding library services or access. http://www.adventisti.hr/atf.html [8 August 2010]					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
TED	Belgrade Theological Seminary	Belgrade, Serbia	YES	NO	NO
The library link is found under Academics. There is a description of the library's services and collection, but no access to any of the library's resources. http://www.tfb.edu.rs/biblioteka.htm [8 August 2010]					
DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
TED	Hungarian Theological Seminary	Pecel, Hungary	YES	YES	YES

There is a brief description to the library and access to an online catalog. No further information is provided regarding additional online resources.

<http://atf.adventista.hu/konyvtar/index.php> [30 December 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
TED	Middle East University	Beirut, Lebanon	YES	YES	YES

On the main page of the school's Website there is a link to the library Webpage. This Webpage has information about the library's policies, services. There is remote access to a catalog and to the Ebsco Index of databases.

<http://www.meu.edu.lb/article.php?id=47> [8 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
TED	Newbold College	Berkshire, England	YES	YES	YES

The library link is prominently displayed on the main page of the school's Website. The library Website has information about the library's resources (E-books, E-Journals, Catalog, and Databases) and services (Document Delivery, Citation Software, etc). There is also general information about the library itself (Hours, Contact, Blog, and Staff).

<http://www.newbold.ac.uk/article.php?id=41> [8 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
TED	Pakistan Adventist Seminary	Punjab, Pakistan	YES	NO	NO

There was no link to the library and no information regarding the library's services and resource access.

<http://www.pasc.edu.pk/admissions/programme-of-studies> [8 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
TED	Polish Senior College of Theology	Podkowa Lesna, Poland	YES	YES	YES

As part of the Virtual Library of Science –a Polish government effort- the school provides

access to its users to databases such as Elsevier, Web of Knowledge, Springer and Ebsco. There is remote access to a catalog and additional online resources. The library page has also contact and policies/regulations information.

<http://www.wsth.pl/38201/index.html> [8 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
WAD	Adventist University Cosendai	Yaounde, Cameroon	YES	NO	NO

There is not information about library services or access to electronic resources.

<http://www.uacosendai.net/index.php?pagecourante=index.php> [8 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
WAD	Babcock University	Ogun State, Nigeria	YES	?	?

The URL does not open.

www.babcockuni.edu.ng [8 August 2010]

DIVISION	Institution	Location	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
WAD	Valley View University	Airpot-Accra, Ghana	YES	NO	NO

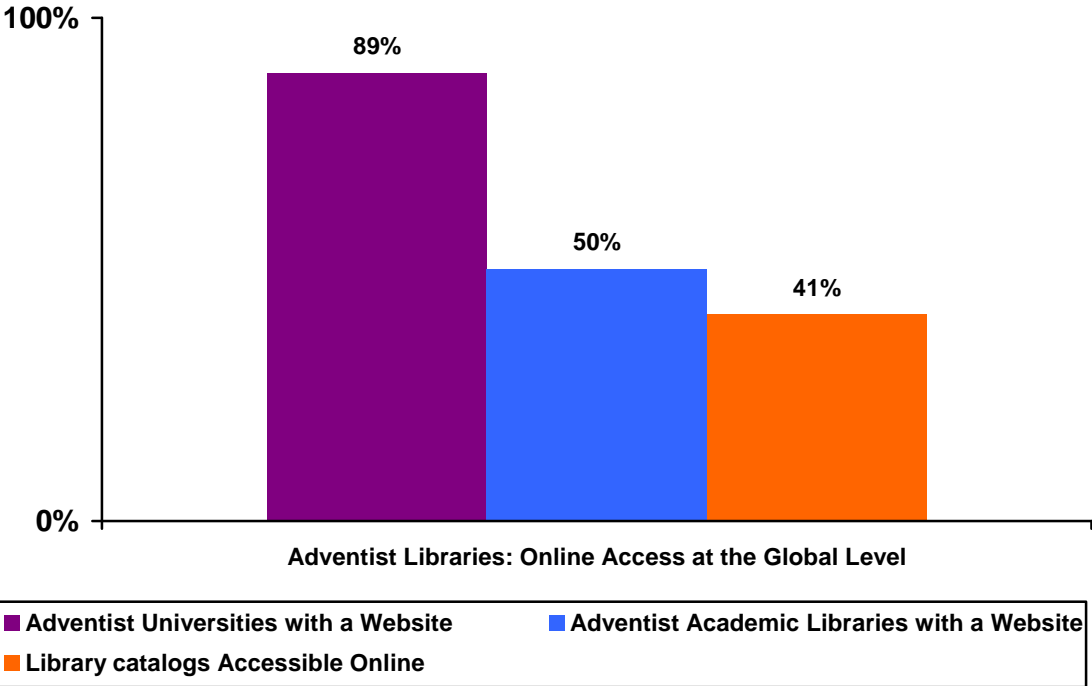
In order to have a better glimpse of the situation by division, the following table presents raw data about the number of institutions of higher learning in each division and the same parameters presented above in an individual case. The figures are seen here as a whole and broken down by division.

DIVISION*	# of colleges & universities	Institution Website	Library Website	Remote OPAC
ECD	7	6 of 7	3 of 7	1 of 7
EUD	9	9 of 9	8 of 9	6 of 9
ESD	2	2 of 2	2 of 2	0 of 2
IAD	13	10 of 13	6 of 13	5 of 13
NAD	15	15 of 15	13 of 15	13 of 15
NSD	5	5 of 5	1 of 5	0 of 5
SAD	12	10 of 12	6 of 12	5 of 12
SPD	4	3 of 4	3 of 4	3 of 4
SID	4	3 of 4	1 of 4	1 of 4
SUD	7	4 of 7	0 of 7	0 of 7
SSD	16	12 of 16	3 of 16	3 of 16
TED	7	7 of 7	4 of 7	4 of 7
WAD	3	3 of 3	0 of 3	0 of 3
WORLDWIDE	104	89 (85%)	50 (48%)	41 (39%)

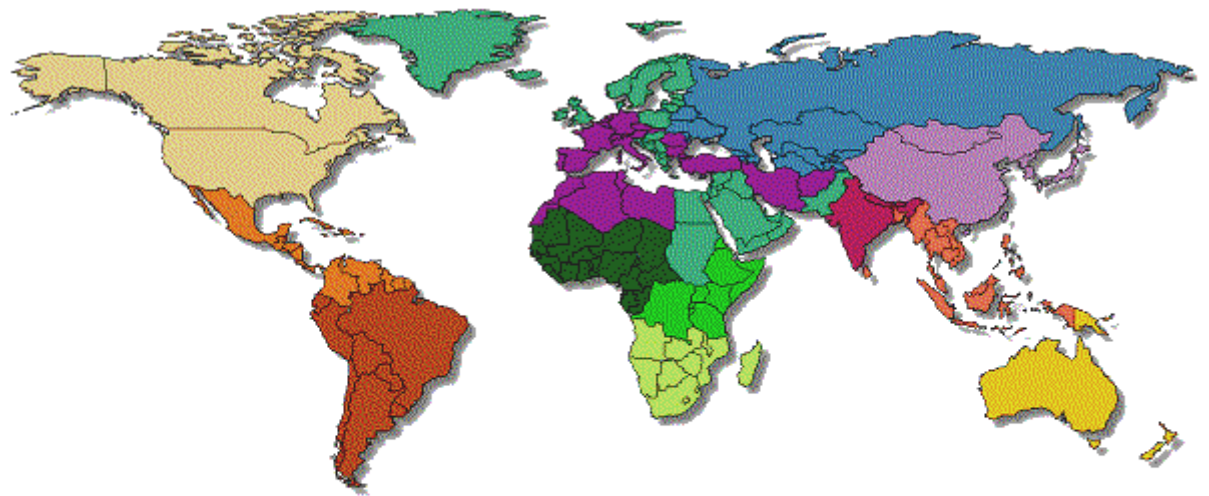
* see map below to locate each division listed here.

These results by division from the table above are presented in the charts below in order to provide a graphic comprehensive comparative view. A map showing the thirteen administrative division of the SDA church are presented in order to provide a point of geographical reference.

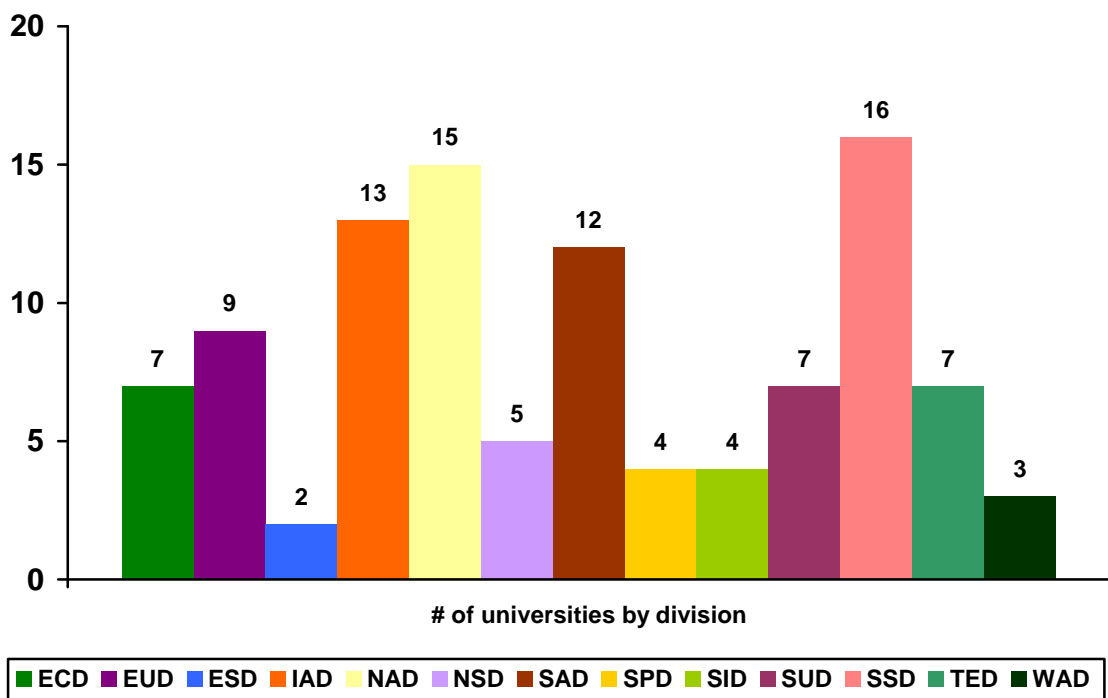
SDA UNIVERSITIES AND LIBRARIES' ONLINE ACCESIBILITY



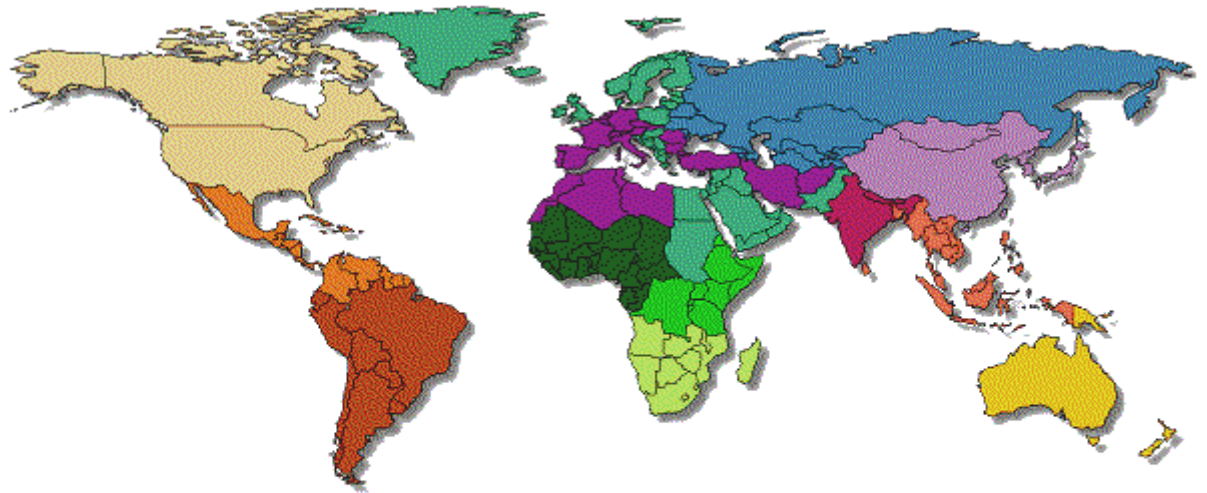
NUMBER OF INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING BY DIVISION



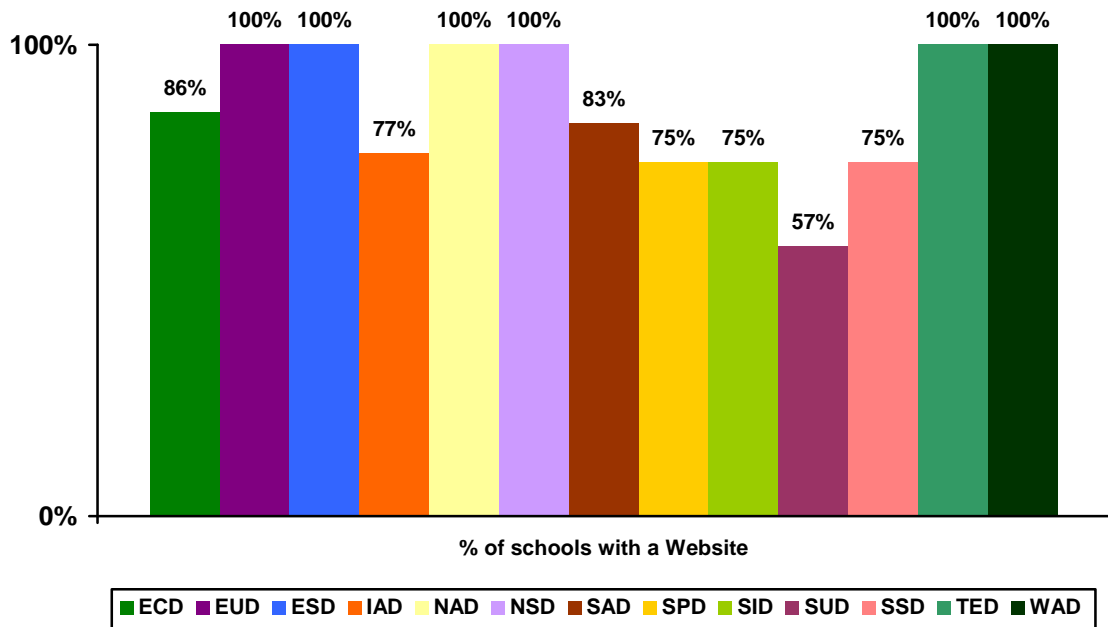
Geographical Divisions of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church (Seventh-Day Adventist Church: Map 2011)



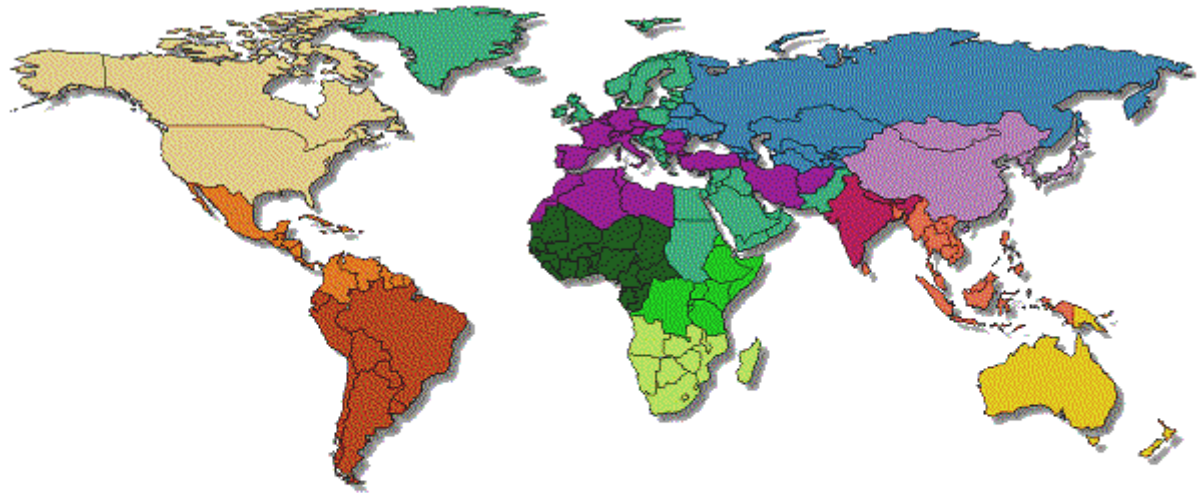
PERCENTAGE OF SCHOOLS WITH INTERNET PRESENCE



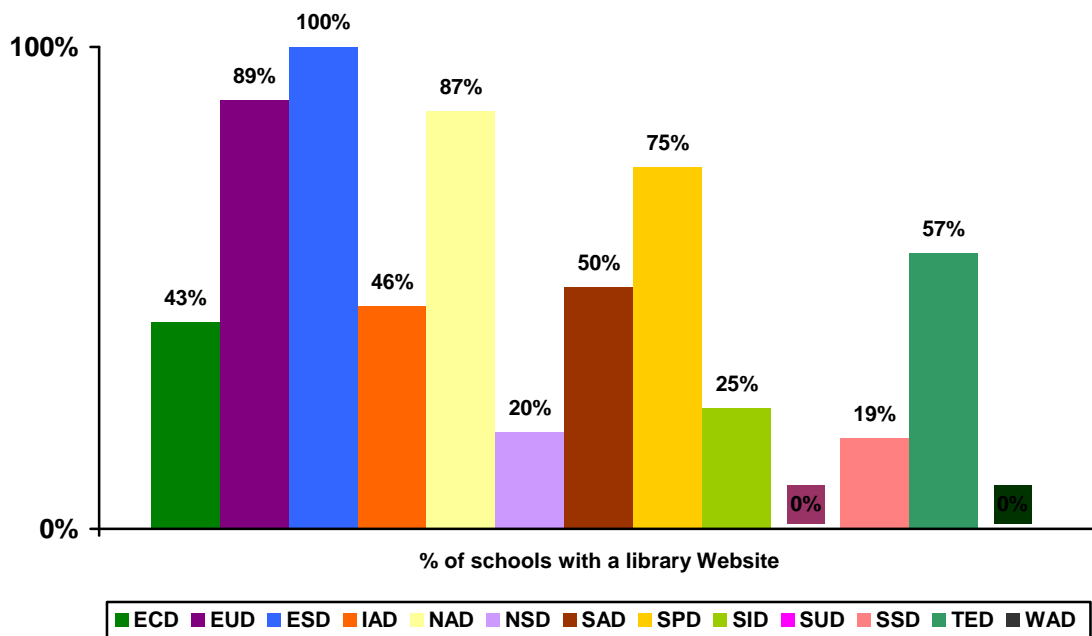
Geographical Divisions of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church (Seventh-day Adventist Church: Map 2011)



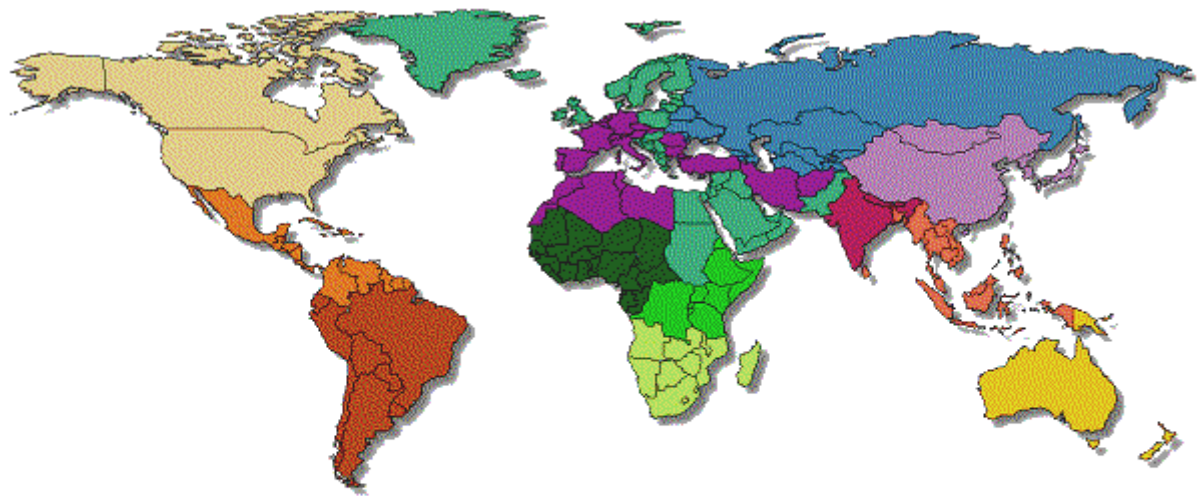
PERCENTAGE OF SCHOOLS WITH A LIBRARY WEBSITE



Geographical Divisions of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church (Seventh-day Adventist Church: Map 2011)

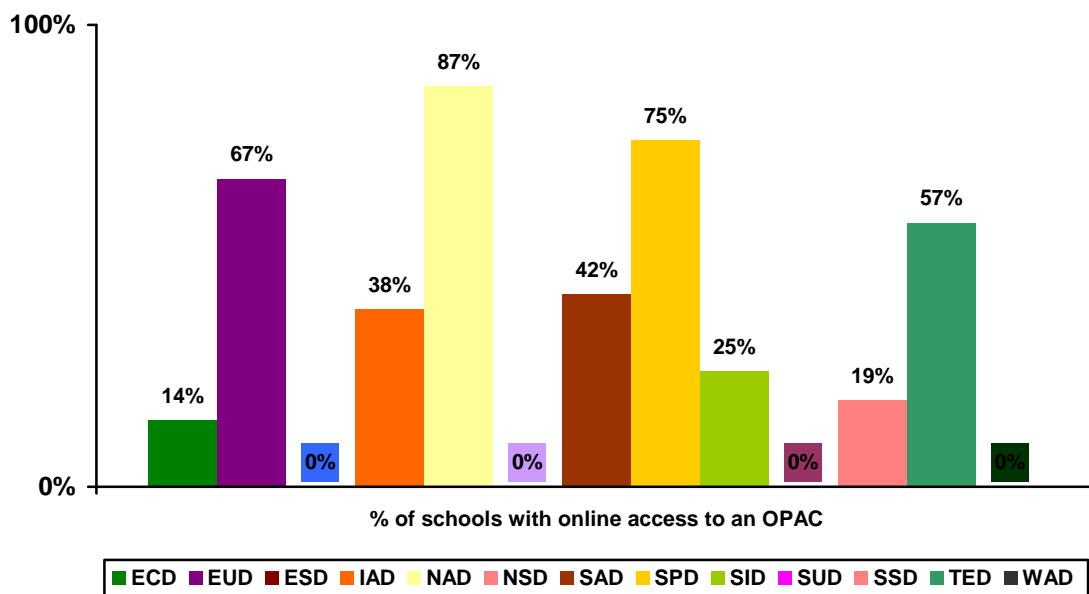


PERCENTAGE OF LIBRARIES WITH A CATALOG THAT IS ACCESSIBLE
VIA THE INTERNET



- | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Inter-American (IAD) | East-Central Africa (ECD) | Euro-Asia (ESD) |
| North American (NAD) | Euro-Africa (EUD) | Northern Asia-Pacific (NSD) |
| South American (SAD) | Southern Africa-Indian Ocean (SID) | South Pacific (SPD) |
| | Trans-European (TED) | Southern Asia (SUD) |
| | West-Central Africa (WAD) | Southern Asia-Pacific (SSD) |

Geographical Divisions of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church (Seventh-day Adventist Church: Map 2011)



The great challenge for the SDA library system, as a whole, is to work towards achieving less inequality among the different SDA libraries around the world.

Granted, the same autonomy that has allowed the SDA Church to extend itself farther outside is, at the same time, an apparent impediment for achieving more uniformity among all SDA libraries in terms of technical expertise and access to electronic resources. As evidenced on the tables and graphs above, each SDA library and organizational division reflects the social, political and economic conditions in which they operate. Some libraries do not have a Website or a remotely accessible catalog; others have a minimum or no remote access to subscription-based sources of information.

From a global point of view, the SDA church has potential and a great opportunity in bridging the gap that exists among its academic institutions and libraries around the world. This kind of leadership does not necessarily have to emerge from the United States. The Adventist Virtual Library (AVL) of the Inter-American Division is an example of how access to the information can be conquered to the benefit of all involved parties (Adventist Virtual Library 2010). The Inter-American Division runs thirteen universities in countries where Spanish, English and French are the official languages. This is reflected on the Adventist Virtual Library's Website's interface which can be viewed in all three languages. Regarding content, the AVL provides access to E-brary E-books and to major database indexes such as Ebsco and Wilson. To a lesser degree it also provides access to resources in Spanish and French. Most of the content, however, is in English (Adventist Virtual Library 2011). There needs to be a concentrated effort among the different SDA divisions towards a similar end. Without affecting the autonomy that SDA divisions enjoy, an overseeing agency at the General Conference level could help in facilitating guidance,

expertise and resources. A possible solution could be the creation of an agency/office within the Department of Education of the General Conference of SDAs towards this end. Library cooperation agreements could include different divisions or regions. For example, libraries from the Inter-American Division, the South American Division and the Euro Africa Division could work together to acquire database subscriptions in Spanish as it is one of the languages spoken in those divisions. As it is currently, Spanish resources acquired by the Inter-American Division are not shared with Spanish speaking countries in the South American Division because they are administered separately. That is, the current autonomy in SDA administrative organizations does not seem to be allowing a dynamic flow of cooperation and it may be a source duplication of efforts and a waste of financial and human resources. (Lee 2000). The purchasing of database access, at the global level, would have the effect of leveling off the current disparities regarding access to electronic information resources among SDA university libraries around the world.

On the positive side, ASDAL, the Association of Seventh-day Adventist Librarians, holds an annual conference which, in turn, has a European chapter, publishes its own library journal called *ASDAL in Action*, awards a scholarship to advance the library profession, and sponsors the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index. It also hosts a union catalog which currently searches seven U.S. SDA university catalogs. Updates have rendered other seven SDA university catalogs unsearchable though (ASDAL 2008) evidencing a lack of uniformity of technical standards. ASDAL, however, needs to take a more active and leading role beyond North America and Europe. It needs to promote library science as a career option since currently only two SDA universities do so: A Bachelor of Library and Information Science (Adventist University of the Philippines 2011) and a Masters in

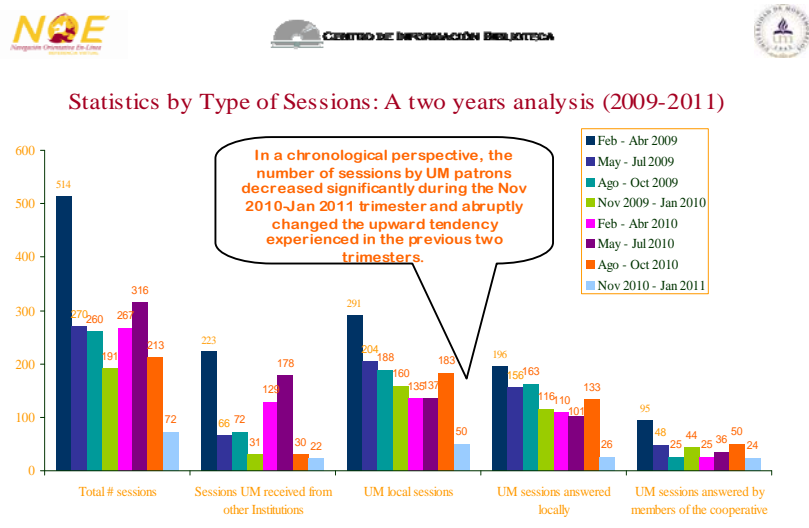
Education with an emphasis in Library Administration (Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies 2011). Also, the Montemorelos University in Mexico is about to launch its new career option in library and information systems (Universidad de Montemorelos 2010).

Another SDA library cooperation project is ALICE (Adventist Library Information Cooperative) which is in charge of negotiating access to subscription-based content for its members. It reports to ASDAL at its annual conference. Its seventeen members represent seven countries: the Philippines, USA, Germany; Canada, Thailand, the UK, and Mexico (Montemorelos University). ALICE also participates in the International Coalition of Library Consortia. Some of the database acquisitions ALICE has negotiated for its members are: ABI/Inform, Academic Search Elite/Premier, ATLA, College Source, CINAHL, ERIC, Medline, PsychInfo and Social Work Abstracts Plus which reflect the main discipline emphases of the SDA education system: Business, Social Work, Medicine, Nursing and Education (ASDAL 2004). Seventeen ALICE members is, by no means, substantial membership taking into account that the total number of SDA university libraries is 104.

A more comprehensive collaborative and cooperative project aiming at a more global scope is CIRCLE or Curriculum and Instruction Resource Center Linking Educators. It is a Website portal with interfaces in English, Spanish, French and Portuguese and which provides resources targeted to students, faculty and researches in support of the missions of the Department of Education of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. This project is sponsored by the North American Division of SDAs, supported by the General Conference Office of Education, managed from Andrews University (the SDA Church's flagship academic institution –based in

Michigan), hosted by Walla Walla University (Washington State), and in collaboration with Montemorelos University in Mexico (CIRCLE: Sponsors 2011)

The Montemorelos University in Mexico participates in QuestionPoint's global 24/7 virtual reference cooperative in English and Spanish which uses proprietary software from OCLC (CIB Universidad de Montemorelos 2011). It can be safely said that Montemorelos University is the only SDA university library participating in a global cooperative with non-Adventist partners. OCLC's QuestionPoint allows the creation of virtual reference cooperatives via its Base Management Environment and Service Unit Profiles (OCLC 2011). This means, SDA libraries could form a world wide virtual reference cooperative using proprietary software such as OCLC's QuestionPoint and Montemorelos University could share with them its two year experience which is summarized in the following chart-and indicating underutilization given the high potential of an OCLC product.



(Biblioteca Universidad de Montemorelos 2011).

The underutilization of a research tool could have different causes. The case of Montemorelos is representative of SDA university libraries in Latin America where, historically, research has been considered a financial burden and viewed as a luxury (Gregorutti 2010, 12). Academic life consists of teaching and researching. However, since research requires financial investment, SDA universities place a heavier emphasis in the teaching aspects of education due to limited financial resources and a lack of a research culture. Universities in developed countries have sought funding by way of connections with businesses and foundations to sponsor their research projects (Gregorutti 2010, 12) and, likewise, could the SDA universities do. The implementation of strategies aimed at increasing the production of knowledge via connections with outside sponsors would bring in fresh capital, a catalyst in the incubation of ideas and execution of meaningful research projects. A natural starting point of connection and collaboration for SDA university libraries would be to work among themselves in projects that include not only access tools, but also research endeavors.

An appropriate pilot test of a regional cooperative (at the division level of the SDA church administration) in the area of virtual reference would be the integration of QuestionPoint onto the Adventist Virtual Library Website which would add meaning to its claimed virtual attribute. In this respect, the library at Montemorelos University in Mexico finds itself in a leadership position, among SDA libraries, in the field of virtual reference cooperation not only regionally, but also globally. The latest statistical report on the coverage and activities of QuestionPoint service under the January *Questions of Note* section mentions Zentral- und Landesbibliothek in Berlin and the University of Montemorelos as two of several libraries who contributed outstanding sessions to QuestionPoint's global knowledge base (QP Blog 2011).

The ultimate goal would be to unite the SDA libraries via virtual reference services just as the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities Virtual Reference Project does via Tutor.com, a competitor of QuestionPoint (Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities 2009). Granted, the scope of the AJCU Virtual Reference Project is national only and this in the United States where technology solutions abound. The great challenge and opportunity for the SDA libraries under the leadership of Montemorelos University is to take virtual reference to the next level: to a truly global SDA virtual reference cooperative.

CONCLUSION

The latest world report on Adventist membership growth and country penetration indicates that the church has been growing in membership figures and that its finances are in good shape notwithstanding worldwide financial crisis. Leaders alert not to remain too confident and relax their proselytizing efforts. They report that in the last 20 years only 2 new countries were entered. At this pace, they say, it will take the church 290 years to penetrate all official countries. Most of these un-entered countries are in an area called the 10/40 window which includes Northern Africa, the Middle East and East Asia where, in the most part, proselytism is illegal (Adventist News Network 2010b). What venues, could the SDA church employ to accelerate its country penetration tempo?

The most obvious and natural venue could be its humanitarian development and relief agency, ADRA “a signatory of the Code of Conduct for The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief, which states that ‘aid will not be used to further a particular political or religious standpoint’, that ‘aid is given regardless of the race, creed, or nationality’, and that organizations ‘shall respect culture and custom.’” (Adventist News Network 2010a). Notwithstanding

ADRA's commitment to these principles, at times, it has been ordered to leave a country (Somalia, for example) accused of "acting as missionaries under the guise of humanitarian work" (Adventist News Network 2010a).

In other countries, where the church has a minimal presence or no formal presence at all, health and English instruction courses, are used to attract people in order to establish such presence (Adventist Frontier Missions 2011). So far, there is no solid indication that the SDA church is using its library system beyond the schools they serve. In fact, it has not fully tapped into faith-based artistic and cultural diffusion –within the context of religion- as a way to advance its cause. The suggestion, for the time being, is to use libraries as a missionary tool to reach out to people in order to introduce them to the Adventist faith. Adventist libraries should work with local authorities and provided library services which are much needed -at least in some countries. After all, the Adventist population has been of interest to some United State governmental research agencies (the Environmental Protection Agency, for example) which have funded several studies including those on diet and smoking as large segments of the Adventist population consumes a vegetarian diet and abstain from drinking alcohol and smoking. Adventists tend to live longer than the general population (Loma Linda University 2011). So, it seems the Adventist lifestyle pays off and it could be used to educate people live healthier lives via reading rooms and libraries. The SDA church has an established publishing tradition. It runs 13 media centers and 63 publishing houses and branches worldwide (Seventh-day Adventist Church 2011).

The use of reading rooms by religious organizations is not new. The Church of Christ, Scientist, contemporary of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and publisher of one of America's most respected newspapers, the Christian Science Monitor

(Encyclopaedia Britannica 2011), uses this strategy for “the exploration of spirituality, prayer and healing”. These rooms provide a collection in several languages and religious literature for adults and children in various formats. A directory of locations is provided and it is searchable by location or Zip Code in the United States (Christian Science 2011).

Another religious organization which is also a contemporary of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, runs a network of visitor centers which are a museum/gallery type of centers where a visitor is exposed to the history, beliefs and doctrines of the church. Some visitors provide a theater room where a visitor can watch a video of his or her choice or use a quiet room to read or pray. Copies of the Book of Mormon, considered authoritative by Latter-Day Saints (LDS), are also available in different languages and free of charge (The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints 2010).

The SDA university library system and that of the LDS church make a good pair for the purposes of comparison given their striking similarities. After all, religious organizations have a more “limited” field of action delineated by moral values, doctrines, etc. as opposed to cultural organizations which take advantage of everything that can be considered art or culture and, therefore, have a more ample degree of maneuver. Both educational systems are sponsored by two contemporary (late 19th century) religious movements with origins in the United States and with similar worldwide membership (Reeves 2009, 128). The LDS church is run in a hierarchical fashion and authority is concentrated in the church’s headquarters in Utah, USA. On the other hand, the SDA church has a democratic form of government which grants autonomy to its different levels of organization. As a result, the LDS church has created a small number of institutions of higher learning with very robust

libraries (4 of them to be exact-all based in the United States). The SDA church, following a different pattern and rhythm, has created a large number of universities worldwide (110) and has a more evenly distributed global presence (Reeves 2009, 141-142). The SDA library system reflects the variations in socio-economical development of the countries in which its universities are based and when compared to library systems of similar organizations –such as the LDS library system, the SDA library system reveals a lack of global cooperation and uniform development.

The LDS library system is small but robust while the SDA library system is larger, but uneven in terms of online access and the number and type of information resources it provides. Their respective type of church government and belief systems have had an impact on how these two very similar church bodies have created very different university and library systems approaches (Reeves 2009, 141-142).

In terms of penetration, the SDA church has a large global presence. Can SDA libraries become missionary institutions? Are they viewed as such? Within the SDA church there seems not to be a conscious concentrated effort in providing an avenue for visitors to come in contact with the church apart from the house of worship. The church runs Ellen G. White centers dedicated to make available to any researcher historical material of the church. Most recently, Creationism Centers are being planned, but traditionally the SDA church has not used these centers or its libraries as a marketing tool the way other comparable churches do such as the ones mentioned before. It is, therefore, suggested that the SDA church begins delineating plans to embark upon this strategy.

SDA libraries face the constant challenge not only to provide up-to-date content, but to do so at the convenience of the user. Online access to a library's resources, request for document delivery services, and 24/7 live reference assistance

are becoming basic expectations of contemporary library patrons. The advent of the Internet and its availability in remote locations, make online access to information an urgent matter. In this respect, SDA libraries could benefit from a global virtual reference service available 24/7 similar to QuestionPoint developed by OCLC. Unlike interlibrary loan agreements and subscription-based database acquisition cooperatives, a virtual reference service cooperative does not deal directly with copyright and licensing issues. It provides a field for cooperation among libraries of the same worldwide organization or outside of it, if so desired. SDA libraries would need to work in the acquisition of global online database subscriptions in an effort to smooth out the contrasting differences in access to online content among its different libraries –especially outside of North-America- in order to eliminate duplication of regional subscriptions to the same source. SDA libraries have ample potential to improve the type of access they provides to their clients –to use a more business-like term. All are to benefit when the successes of the others are considered, shared and applied in a given library system’s own context and reality

WORKS CITED

- ASDAL. 2004. ALICE. *Adventist Library Information Cooperative (ALICE)*. November 30. <http://www.asdal.org/alice/>.
- . 2008. SDA Library Union Catalog. September. <http://www.andrews.edu/library/vcat/sdaunionlist.html>.
- Adventist Frontier Missions. 2011. Adventist Frontier Missions: Service Opportunities. https://afmonline.org/service/service_all.php.
- Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies. 2011. Master of Arts in Education. http://www.aiias.edu/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=173&Itemid=297.
- Adventist News Network. 2010a. Somalia's ruling militant group orders ADRA to leave country - Adventist News Network. <http://news.adventist.org/2010/08/somalias-ruling-mili.html>.
- . 2010b. Membership, financial audits key to Adventist Church growth, leaders say - Adventist News Network. Juni 26. <http://news.adventist.org/2010/06/membership-financial.html>.
- Adventist University of the Philippines. 2011. Library Science Department | Adventist University of the Philippines. http://www.aup.edu.ph/5/curricular_info/undergraduate/cast/library_science.
- Adventist Virtual Library. 2010. Adventist Virtual Library. *Interamerica*. <http://bva.interamerica.org/en/index.html>.
- . 2011. Adventist Virtual Library: Databases. März. <http://bva.interamerica.org/en/databases.html>.
- Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities. 2009. AJCU Virtual Reference Project. August. http://academic.scranton.edu/department/wml/ajcu_vr/index.htm.
- Biblioteca Universidad de Montemorelos. 2011. QuestionPoint Use Statistics 2009-2011. *NOE*. Februar 28. <http://blogs.um.edu.mx/refvirtual/>.
- CIB Universidad de Montemorelos. 2011. Centro de Información Biblioteca - Inicio. <http://biblioteca.um.edu.mx/>.
- CIRCLE: Sponsors. 2011. CIRCLE. *Curriculum and Instruction Resource Center Linking Educators*. <http://circle.adventist.org/help/?topic=sponsors>.
- Christian Science. 2011. Reading Room | Church. <http://christianscience.com/church/readingrooms/>.
- Clouten, Keith. 1992. The Library of Faith: An Exploration of the Role of the Library in a Seventh-Day Adventist College. In Lincoln, Nebraska, USA, Juni. http://www.aiias.edu/ict/vol_07/07cc_039-054.pdf.
- Egbert, Robert. 1988. The Psychodynamics of Religious Education. In . http://www.aiias.edu/ict/vol_01/01cc_065-085.htm.
- Encyclopaedia Britannica. 2011. The Christian Science Monitor (American newspaper) -- Britannica Online Encyclopedia. <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/115192/The-Christian-Science-Monitor>.
- Gregorutti, Gustavo. 2010. Producción Intelectual en las Universidades Adventistas Latinoamericanas: Una Situación Paradógica. In Montemorelos, Mexico.
- Iljon, Ariane. 1998. "The International Perspective--The European Union Experience in Library Co-operation". *The Journal of Academic Librarianship* 24 (2) (März): 151-154.

- Lee, Harold. 2000. "Proposals for Structural Change". *Adventist Review Online Edition* (Millennium Special Issue).
<http://www.adventistreview.org/thisweek/millenn5-1.htm>.
- Loma Linda University. 2011. Adventist Health Studies - LLU Adventist Health Study: Related Investigations / Future Plans. <http://www.llu.edu/public-health/health/future.page>.
- Mustard, G. Andrew. Seventh-Day Adventist Polity: Its Historical Development. <http://biblicalresearch.gc.adventist.org/documents/Ecclesiology/AMustard-SDA%20polity.pdf>.
- OCLC. 2011. Ordering [OCLC - QuestionPoint].
<http://www.oclc.org/questionpoint/ordering/default.htm>.
- QP Blog. 2011. Monthly Report for January 2011. *QuestionPoint: 24/7 reference services*. Februar 4.
http://questionpoint.blogs.com/questionpoint_247_referen/2011/02/monthly-report-for-january-2011.html.
- Reeves, Daniel. 2009. "The Global Distribution of Adventists and Mormons in 2007". *Acta Universitatis Carolinae Geographica* (1-2): 125-144.
- Seventh-day Adventist Church. 2011. Seventh-day Adventist World Church Statistics. März. <http://www.adventist.org/world-church/facts-and-figures/index.html>.
- Seventh-day Adventist Church: Map. 2011. Seventh-Day Adventist Church: World Divisions Map. <http://www.adventiststatistics.org>.
- Seventh-day Adventist Church: World Statistics. 2011. Department of Education: Seventh-Day Adventist Church, World Statistics.
<http://education.gc.adventist.org/edstats.html>.
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. 2010. Visitors' Centers.
<http://lds.org/placestovisit/eng/visitors-centers>.
- Universidad de Montemorelos. 2010. Oferta educativa.
http://www.um.edu.mx/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1302&Itemid=550&lang=es.