For Immediate Release

July 14, 2011

Washington Adventist University Proposed Branch Campus Update

AUC Students Invited to Enroll at WAU’s Maryland Campus

Current and prospective students from Atlantic Union College (AUC) in South Lancaster, Mass., are being notified of a transition plan that will enable them to attend Washington Adventist University (WAU) at the Takoma Park, Md., campus for the fall 2011 semester.

After signing a memorandum of understanding and obtaining support from constituents of both the Atlantic Union Conference and Columbia Union Conference during the spring, leaders of the university have been working to secure approval from required federal, state, regional and church accrediting agencies for the establishment of a branch campus in South Lancaster, Mass.

As of this date, the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education is still processing the application and has not yet given its approval. As a result, the WAU campus will be unable to open in the fall in South Lancaster, but the Atlantic Union College students will be able to attend Washington Adventist University at the Takoma Park campus.

Washington Adventist University will begin educational activities in South Lancaster when the permission to operate in Massachusetts is granted by their Department of Higher Education.

“We’re working through the process and are optimistic that we’ll be able to operate soon after permission is granted by the commonwealth. Moving this process forward keeps our commitment to serve the educational needs of students in 15 states in the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast United States and the islands of Bermuda,” said Weymouth Spence, EdD, president of WAU.

Norman Wendth, PhD, president of AUC, said, “Fortunately WAU has already been working with our students to provide a smooth transition to the Takoma Park campus.”
Next Steps

AUC students who have already applied will receive information about the registration dates, financial aid, residence halls and transferring credits shortly.

Students who wish to continue their education without interruption, and have not yet applied to WAU, should go online to www.wau.edu or www.auc.edu and click on "Apply Online." Students may also call (800) 835-4212 or email enroll@wau.edu for information.

Watch for details and updates soon on the WAU website at www.wau.edu/WelcomeAUCstudents.

Questions and media inquiries should be directed to William Jackson, vice president for Marketing and Recruiting, at Washington Adventist University at (301) 891-4475 or wjackson@wau.edu.