

# Leading Boarding in 2020

*Tēnā koutou, kia ora tātou, Tēnā koutou katoa.*

Greetings from LAC House in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. As we head down the final stretch of 2019 we are very grateful to our awesome God Creator for His blessings and answered prayers throughout this past year.

While our staff have kept busy with boarding demands and expectations, this has also provided immeasurable opportunities of personal growth and development in Jesus Christ. LAC House wish to thank you for your positive influence and presence in the lives of our 2019 boarders.

We would also like to thank Mr Roy Henry for his dedicated service and commitment to LAC Boarding for the past 18 years. We will miss you.

Replacing good volunteer staff each year can be a challenge, but with God all things are possible.

We are pleased to welcome new Boarding Staff – Senior Boys' Dean, Mr Jefferson Souza, and wonderful volunteers from Brazil, USA and New Zealand.

With our House motto – *Kia Puāwai Tātou* – The Lord's plans, Jeremiah 29:11, it is our prayer that we continue to grow lives according to His will.

*For more information on boarding at LAC, please visit [www.lac.school.nz/boarding](http://www.lac.school.nz/boarding)*



**Maria Henry**  
Boarding Director

## Chaplain

Mr Kofi Amoah



"It brings me great joy to say that I'll continue to be a part of the LAC family from 2020 as Chaplain.

For those of you who don't know much about me, I was born in the African Paradise of Ghana, and then moved to Canada at the age of two. When I was in Year 9, I was introduced to the beautiful sport of rugby, the Awesome All Blacks, and the mythical land of New Zealand that I HAD to visit one day.

That plan took a backseat through my secondary school career. I eventually graduated and went to the University of Ottawa, where I completed a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biochemistry, and

then a Bachelor of Education. I proceeded to teach high school Maths and Sciences in schools across my home province of Ontario, until God opened a door for me to come to Longburn Adventist College through the volunteer dean programme of LAC House. August 2017 was when God realized my dream of coming to beautiful Aotearoa!

I've always had a passion for working with young people. I believe that you are currently in the process of deciding big things for your future, but nothing bigger than deciding what role Jesus is going to play in your life. It is my sincere prayer that, as your chaplain, God will use me to introduce you to Him in a way that will challenge and inspire you to walk closer with Him, and choose Him as Saviour AND Lord of your life!

May God bless you as we venture into 2020 together!"

## Senior Boys' Dean

Mr Jefferson Souza

"I am married to Sabrina Souza and we have a 9 year old son named Bryan. Our family and I are originally from Brazil but have been living in New Zealand for nearly 3 years.

My education and professional background are based on a Seventh-day Adventist Education and I have been serving the Lord through Education for 10 years as a head school administrator. I am sure that with my experience and love for God's mission I will contribute a lot to the spiritual growing and well-being of LAC's family and community."



## Assistant Boys' Dean

Mr Lance Stimpson



"While I have already been a dean for the past 6 months I thought it would be an exciting experience to continue on for one more year. I am a local and come from Palmerston North, New Zealand. While I might have started as a dean last year, this is not my first experience of LAC. In 2007 I came to LAC as a day student and completed Year 13 in 2011. I went to the local university to study science and again ended up at LAC as the science technician helping out the science teachers and students. After doing a few more jobs in between I saw the deans' position available and applied for it. They took me onboard and it has been an amazing 6 months. I am eagerly awaiting next year to see what exciting experiences and challenges it will bring for both me and the students. Bring on 2020!"

## Assistant Boys' Dean

Mr Wily Cruz



"I have prayed for about 2 months that you will end the year successfully and that we can meet next year 2020. About ten years ago I decided to dedicate my life completely for God. I had to leave many things, like my old job and college, but in return God has presented me with better and more amazing things, ever since I graduated in theology in Sao Paulo, Brazil. I worked as a missionary in many places in Brazil, including indigenous communities and projects for Christian college students in major cities. I had the privilege of being a Bible worker in Uruguay and Argentina and since 2017 I was called to work as a pastor and chaplain at the Southern Argentine Conference. I confess that I have great affection for the boarding school. There I had the best friendships and great moments of learning. I was Boys' Dean at the Adventist University Center of Sao Paulo for two years and kept good memories.

This year I started praying to God for a new opportunity and a new challenge and I'm thrilled with the opportunity to go to LAC. What motivates me most is that even though we are in such distant and distinct places, our God is the same. I hope I can learn a lot and serve the best I can, God bless you all."

## Assistant Girls' Dean

Ms Lorraine Edwards



Richmond, Virginia USA

"I was raised in the SDA church by parents who never said "no" when asked if their children could participate in service. This was the start of my volunteer service to God through the church and I continue to be actively involved in my local church.

I have a Bachelor's in Psychology and a Masters of Social Work from Virginia Commonwealth University. Prior to following God's call to ministry through service, I was the Area Social Services Manager for The Salvation Army of Central Virginia and directed all the services and program staff in Richmond, Petersburg, and Hopewell, Virginia. In February 2019, I left my position to pursue the call of God that has led me to Longburn Adventist College.

I currently serve as an Elder, the Worship Coordinator, and Singles Ministry Leader at Meadowbridge SDA Church in Mechanicsville, Virginia. I have also served as Virginia Youth Federation President, Youth Ministry Leader at three churches where I held membership, and Health and Temperance Leader. There is no place that I would rather serve than in God's church. I look forward with great anticipation to this year at LAC."

## Assistant Girls' Dean

Miss Kelsey Landa



"For the past several years I have been calling Washington state, USA, my home. I attended Walla Walla University there and subsequently received a Bachelor's Degree in Aviation Technology in 2015. Since then, I have been working as both an aerial photography pilot and a skydiving pilot. When not focused on work, I will either be drawing, making costumes, or playing games with friends. And while I have greatly enjoyed my experiences thus far, I am excited to move on to a year focused on service instead of career.

As a former student at an Adventist boarding institution, I am looking forward to reliving that experience again albeit in a different role. I board the aeroplane to see you in January and I can't wait to say 'Hello.'"