

Official press release from the  
World Headquarters of the  
Seventh-day Adventist® Church



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**First woman to chair business session for Adventist world church Session**

ATLANTA – Vice President Ella Simmons, the first woman to serve as a vice president of the world Seventh-day Adventist Church, is still making firsts. She now holds the distinction of being the first woman to chair business sessions during the Adventist world church business Session.

An educator throughout her career, Simmons has served in departments of education as chair (Kentucky State University), associate dean (University of Louisville), and professor (Oakwood College, La Sierra University). She also has administrative experience as academic vice president of Oakwood and provost and academic vice president for La Sierra. Simmons has been a prominent member of accreditation and corporate boards within the church and in the community. She holds her graduate degrees from Andrews University (Master's) and the University of Louisville (Ph.D).

Simmons and her husband, Nord, a retired high school teacher, have two adult sons Daryl and Christopher, also educators.

Simmons chaired one of the Church's business sessions on Thursday, June 24. She will serve as chair again on Thursday, July 1 at 2 to 3 p.m. and 3:30 to 5 p.m.

If you are interested in this story, please call George Johnson Jr., at 240-338-2219.

**About General Conference Session:**

The 59th General Conference Session is a business meeting of the global Seventh-day Adventist Church from June 24 to July 3, 2010 in Atlanta. Occurring every five years, General Conference Session gathers representatives from the church around the world to elect leadership and determine the focus of mission. The Seventh-day Adventist Church is a mainline protestant denomination with over 16.3 million members in 206 nations around the world. The Church's headquarters is in Silver Spring, Md.

**End**