

de Abreu, Nepomuceno Silveira (1929–2021)

THE BRAZILIAN WHITE CENTER – UNASP (2)

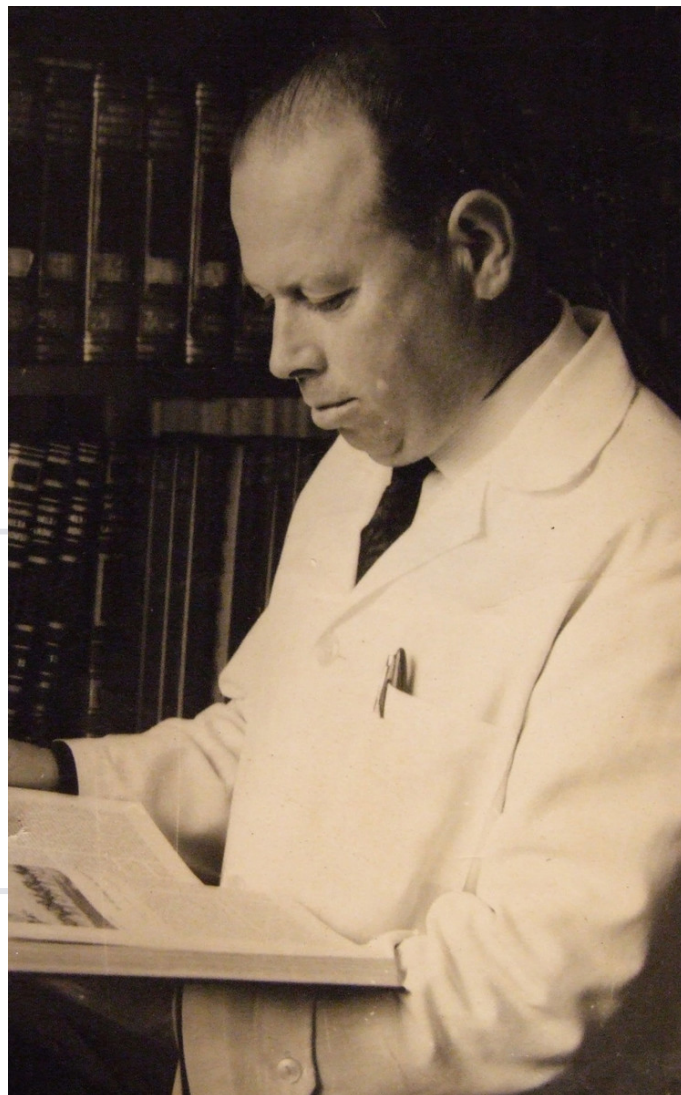
The Brazilian White Center – UNASP (2) is a team of teachers and students at the Brazilian Ellen G. White Research Center – UNASP at the Brazilian Adventist University, Campus Engenheiro, Coelho, SP. The team was supervised by Drs. Adolfo Semo Suárez, Renato Stencel, and Carlos Flávio Teixeira. The following are the team members: Melissa Querido Batista, Priscila Carvalho dos Santos, Allan Sleyter Soares de Atayde, Jonatan Ferreira Nascimento, and Leo Eduardo Menegusso Valenzi.

Nepomuceno Silveira de Abreu was an influential Brazilian Adventist worker who served for 42 years in the Adventist Education system in Brazil, holding various positions throughout his career.

Early Life and Education

Nepomuceno Silveira de Abreu, the firstborn son of Antenor Gauterio de Abreu (1903-1987) and Maria Conceição da Silveira de Abreu (1903-1985),¹ was born on May 14, 1929, in the municipality of São José do Norte, in the state of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil.² His parents converted to Adventism a few months after he was born. Out of their 10 children, six served the Church: Noêmia, Manoel, Maria Conceição, Érico, Antenor, Joaquim, Alba, Milton, and Paulo.³

Nepomuceno completed his primary education at a public school in his hometown.⁴ From a young age, he dreamed of becoming a pastor, so he studied hard. Soon, he passed the entrance exam for the Taquara Academy (now [Cruzeiro Do Sul Adventist Academy](#)), in the same state, in first place, where he finished middle school in 1948.⁵ Later, he moved to the state of São Paulo, where he graduated high school in 1951 at Brazil Adventist College (now Brazil Adventist University São Paulo campus). He later earned a degree in Social



Nepomuceno Silveira de Abreu

Photo courtesy of Brazilian White Center-UNASP.

Sciences from the Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná.⁶ He married Melanie Dassow, on August 7, 1954,⁷ and together they had three sons: Elton, Dalton, and Sérgio, the latter one passed away in his youth.⁸

Ministry

During the first 26 years of his career, he worked in various areas of education at Taquara Academy, Brazil Adventist College (CAB), and the Parana-Santa Catarina Academy (GAP) as a preceptor and teacher of mathematics, science, and the Portuguese language. At GAP (now Paraná Adventist College), he served as vice principal between 1969 and 1971 and as principal from 1972 to 1973.⁹

After his experience at GAP, he joined the administrative team of the former Paraná Conference, where he served as assistant (1974-1978) and later as director (1979-1986) of the Education Department. His final ministerial role was at the South Brazil Union Conference, where he served as director of the Education Department and coordinator of the Home and Family Ministry from 1986 to 1995.¹⁰

Contribution and Legacy

Nepomuceno was also involved in ministerial and educational training activities. In 1960, he assisted in establishing the Training Program for Nurse Aides, held at Taquara Academy from January 20 to February 10, and also participated as a speaker in the program.¹¹ Later, in 1968, he was one of the speakers at the State Youth Congress of Volunteer Missionaries (MV) held from October 17 to 20 at the Central Adventist Church of Blumenau, Santa Catarina, where he presented topics focused on Christian leadership and youth missionary service.¹²

Nepomuceno was the main speaker at the first Adventist Family Meeting, organized by the Central Adventist Church of Florianópolis, held from July 18 to 20, 1986, at the Baptist Church Camp Headquarters in Biguaçu, in the metropolitan region of Florianópolis, Santa Catarina.¹³

Later, alongside Pastor Nevil Gorski, he coordinated three major educational events held simultaneously from January 25 to 31, 1988, at the former Parana Adventist Academy. The events were: the third Meeting of Preceptors of the South American Division (DSA), the first Meeting of Pastors/Chaplains of Schools and Boarding Schools of the DSA, and the first Meeting of Principals and Religious Education Teachers of Elementary Schools of the South Brazil Union Conference. The program brought together approximately 250 educators from eight South American countries, establishing a milestone for continuing education and the integration of Adventist education professionals in the region.¹⁴

He spoke at the Teachers' Council of the South Parana Conference, held in celebration of the International Year of the Adventist Teacher, from September 29 to October 1, 1989, at the Itaipava Farm, the church's camp headquarters in Eldorado, São Paulo.¹⁵ That same year, Professor Nepomuceno was honored and awarded a

medal in recognition of his 37 years of dedicated service to Adventist education, during the inauguration ceremony of the *Colégio Curitibano Adventista* (now Curitibano Bom-Retiro Adventist Academy).¹⁶

In 1990, Professor Nepomuceno participated in the first Quinquennial Assembly of the new [South Brazil Union Conference](#) (inaugurated in 1986),¹⁷ held at the Central Curitiba Church, Paraná, from December 12 to 15. On this occasion, he was elected director of the departments of Education and Home and Family.¹⁸ In 1993, he organized the South Brazil Union Conference's Home and Family Seminar, held from October 6 to 11 in Florianópolis, Santa Catarina. Pastor Ronald Flowers and his wife, Mrs. Karem Mary, representatives of the General Conference, attended this event.¹⁹

Legacy

Nepomuceno de Abreu served Adventist Education for 42 years and, in recognition of his dedication and commitment, received pastoral ordination.²⁰ He retired in 1995, leaving a legacy of influence and inspiration in Adventist Education. In his honor, the auditorium of the Portão Adventist Academy in Curitiba, inaugurated in 2013, was named Nepomuceno de Abreu Auditorium,²¹ with a capacity to hold 800 people.²² Professor Nepomuceno passed away on December 6, 2021, in Curitiba, Paraná, due to a heart attack,²³ and was buried in the city of Almirante Tamandaré, in the metropolitan region of Curitiba.²⁴

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NOTES

1. Elton Dassow Abreu, interviewed by Jonatan Ferreira Nascimento, Centro de Pesquisas Ellen G. White: UNASP campus Engenheiro Coelho, São Paulo, 2025.
2. “MEMÓRIA.” *Revista Adventista*, 117, no. 1384 (August 2022): 41.
3. Elder Hosokawa. “Faleceu Líder da Educação Adventista em Curitiba, PR.” *Facebook*.
4. Elton Dassow Abreu, interviewed by Jonatan Ferreira Nascimento, Centro de Pesquisas Ellen G. White: UNASP campus Engenheiro Coelho, São Paulo, 2025.
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11. D. Peixoto da Silva. “Curso de Enfermeiro Padioleiro no Sul.” *Revista Adventista*, 55, no. 7 (July 1960): 35.
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13. “Três Dias Para a Família.” *Revista Adventista*, 82, no. 9 (September 1986): 28.
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19. "Líderes realizam inaugurações e seminário." *Revista Adventista*, 89, no. 12 (December 1993): 15-16.

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