

## **1.00 Introduction**

Birmingham-Southern College is a liberal arts college of the United Methodist Church. As a collegiate institution rather than a university, the College is fundamentally concerned with undergraduate education. Its purpose is to offer to the baccalaureate student a liberal arts curriculum of traditional breadth and distinctive quality. Any complementary programs instituted by the College are expected to contribute substantially to this baccalaureate program.

### 1.01 HISTORY OF THE COLLEGE

Birmingham-Southern College was created in 1918 by the merger of Southern University founded in Greensboro, Alabama in 1856, with Birmingham College, opened in 1898 in Birmingham, Alabama. These two institutions were consolidated on May 30, 1918 and the new institution opened its doors in Birmingham on September 11, 1918. Birmingham-Southern College has consistently sought academic distinction. In 1937, its standards were recognized by the nation's leading academic honor society, Phi Beta Kappa, which granted the College a charter to establish Alabama Beta.