

FORWARD, EVER

BSC@150

Birmingham-Southern begins plans for yearlong Sesquicentennial Celebration

Birmingham-Southern is turning 150 years old. Let the celebration begin!

Beginning in fall 2005, the college will salute yesterday, celebrate today, and plan for tomorrow during a yearlong Sesquicentennial Celebration.

A Sesquicentennial Committee of alumni, faculty, staff, students, trustees, and friends currently is planning several events that will give the entire college community opportunities to come together to celebrate Birmingham-Southern's storied history of liberal arts education.

Birmingham-Southern is the result of a merger of Southern University, founded in Greensboro in 1856, with Birmingham College, opened in 1898 in Birmingham. These two institutions were consolidated on May 30, 1918, under the name of Birmingham-Southern College.

"The Sesquicentennial will celebrate the 150-year history of the college, its outstanding alumni, its beloved faculty members, its commitment to service, and its value to the world in terms of liberal arts education and the graduates it has sent forth," says Jeanne Jackson, the college's director of leadership and environmental studies and coordinator of the Sesquicentennial Celebration.

Several Sesquicentennial events are being planned.

- A major musical event in October 2005 at the Alys Stephens Center in Birmingham will include music by the Alabama Symphony Orchestra, Artist-in-Residence and pianist Bill DeVan, First Lady and violinist Karen Bentley Pollick, the college choirs, and others. It also will feature works by composers Professor of Music Dr. Charles Norman Mason and Assistant Professor of Music Dr. Dorothy Hindman. The event is being coordinated by Joseph Hugh Thomas Professor of Music Dr. Lester Seigel.
- A 150th birthday party open to the entire college community is scheduled for October 2005.
- A major conference on the role of women in today's society is scheduled on campus in winter 2006. It is being coordinated by Professor of Political Science Dr. Natalie Davis and Sheila Atchison, a member of the college's Arts Council and wife of Mike Atchison, chair of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees.

- A Week of Service through alumni chapters around the world is planned for spring 2006 to highlight BSC's long commitment to serving others.
- An Alumni Reunion celebration in May 2006 that will bring the entire campus community together to look back at 150 years and look forward to the future.
- Special events such as noted speakers, theater and musical performances, art exhibits, and a foreign film series will provide other opportunities for alumni and friends to return to campus to celebrate Birmingham-Southern's history.

Birmingham-Southern also anticipates the launch of a new website design for www.bsc.edu which will include a special section devoted entirely to the Sesquicentennial Celebration and to the history of the college.

More details about the Sesquicentennial events will be announced in the next issue of *'Southern* magazine, as well as through other means such as www.bsc.edu and the college's monthly e-newsletter *From The Hilltop*. To subscribe to *From The Hilltop*, visit www.bsc.edu/communications/hilltop_sub.htm.

Forward, Ever: Birmingham-Southern College at its Sesquicentennial

In anticipation of the celebration of this historic time in the life of Birmingham-Southern, the college has published *Forward, Ever: Birmingham-Southern College at its Sesquicentennial*, a commemorative history written by Donald A. Brown, a 1958 Hilltop graduate and an award-winning career journalist. The title *Forward, Ever* comes from the college's alma mater.

Forward, Ever features 224 pages and more than 600 photographs; seven major sections on college history and presidents, student life, faculty and curriculum, campus development, defining moments, alumni, and college and church relationship; a Foreword by graduate and former Executive Editor of *The New York Times* Howell Raines; and a coffee table book format that is a must-have keepsake for every graduate, friend, and supporter of Birmingham-Southern.

See page 3 of this issue of *'Southern* to order your copy of *Forward, Ever*.