



1856 TOUR

1856 TOUR

FORWARD, EVER

"Forward, ever!"

Be our watchword;

Conquer, and prevail,

Hail, to thee our alma mater

BSC, all hail!



The words "Forward, Ever" are in our "Alma Mater" at BSC and we use these two words around campus, posted on the banners at the entrance of campus, to remind us that BSC is helping us to always move forward. Birmingham-Southern prepares you for graduate school and life after BSC. You have chosen this place for a specific reason. That reason may be different; but, in the end, you will have the tools to learn for a lifetime and move forward in life successfully.

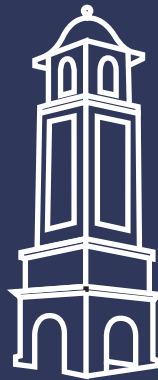
CAMPUS CATS



Our campus is not only home to the students but also to some frisky felines. From the campus police gate to The Attic you can find our campus cats. We do not know exactly how these cats came to find a home on the Hilltop, but their presence continues to help create the sense of community that BSC is known for.



BELL TOWER



The William and Julia Edwards Bell Tower is the heart of the academic side of campus. Dedicated October 14, 1999, it has become special because of the BSC seal underneath, symbolizing our institutional pride. The bells in the tower ring on every hour and half hour, and at 5 p.m. chime the "Alma Mater." At the end of Fall Orientation, you will walk through the bell tower and around the seal to symbolize the start of your time here on the Hilltop. You will once again walk through the bell tower and step on the seal following your graduation.



THE SEAL

Though Birmingham College (established 1898) and Southern University (established 1856) merged in 1918 to form Birmingham-Southern College, the official seal in use today was not created until the 1956 centennial celebration. The motto on the seal, *Pro Christo et Republica*, was suggested by Chancellor Guy E. Snavely, and the symbols each represent their respective facet of BSC's purpose: the eagle, alluding to the United States of America; the lamp, standing for the pursuit of knowledge; and the book, the Bible in reference to BSC's affiliation with the United Methodist Church. As an ongoing tradition, students — after their first-year orientation experience — do not step on the seal under the Edwards Bell Tower again until after they graduate. BSC lore claims that students who step on the seal early will not graduate on time (unless they jump into the Norton Fountain to cleanse themselves of the unlucky fortune).

ALUMNI FOUNTAIN AND THE DASH

The official name of our institution isn't Birmingham Southern, it's Birmingham-Southern. One small dash represents the merged roots of the two trees of our beloved college all the way back to 1856. On May 30, 1918, Birmingham College and Southern University merged on the Hilltop. Since the merger, the college has continued to grow and has become a nationally ranked liberal arts college with an innovative curriculum and a commitment to student success. While the Edwards Bell Tower is increasingly used as a visual symbol for the college, the fountain on the plaza is still very much the center of daily life, as it has been since the 1960s. From lunchtime meetups, Fridays at the Fountain programs, to post-baccalaureate dives (in full regalia), the fountain persists, like BSC's own Old Faithful, despite its size shrinking significantly with the construction of the Norton Campus Center during the 1997-1998 academic year.



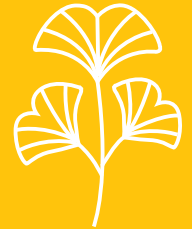
THE CAF

As one of the most iconic locations on campus, The Caf (the students' shortened name for the cafeteria located inside the Norton Campus Center) is home to BSC's nine dining stations. Still, it is so much more than just a dining hall: whether you are getting a tuna poké bowl from the International Station or chicken and dressing from the Homestyle Station, you will enjoy delicious cuisine and always be greeted with a smile from all the men and women who work there. As a student, you quickly learn The Caf is a place where community is genuinely fostered and where you can always find friends hanging out, doing homework, or just enjoying some of the warm, freshly baked chocolate chip cookies.



THE GINKGO TREE

As a symbol of beauty, strength, and hope on our campus, the ginkgo tree serves as a living fossil that inspires students and embodies the peace and contemplation evoked by nature. The trees have existed on the campus for over 50 years, giving rise to many campus legends. The scenes they form from the peak of the green spring to the start of the fall create iconic depictions of Birmingham-Southern and remain strong in the memories of thousands of alumni.



Spread near Munger Hall, these ginkgoes are part of our past and of our future. It seems fitting, then, that the ginkgo — our ginkgoes — should be a symbol of appreciation for that dedication. They grace the Hilltop and represent enduring qualities of generations of Birmingham-Southern alumni — the loyalty and generosity that nurture the continuing mission of our college and assure its success in an uncertain future.

THE HILLTOP

In 1898, the North Alabama Conference College opened on a hilltop west of the young city of Birmingham; in 1906, the school changed its name to Birmingham College. On May 30, 1918, Southern University, based in Greensboro, AL, merged with Birmingham College on that hilltop location. "The Hilltop" has been a nickname for the College based on its location on the top of that hill since the idea for a college was born here.



THE VULCAN

Outside Hulsey Hall (Admission Welcome Center) stands Birmingham-Southern's very own miniature version of the great Roman god that watches over the City of Birmingham. Painted by BSC art students, the statue is decorated with symbols of the college and also represents academic majors that BSC offers. The statue is a part of the Vulcans on Parade art project, celebrating the culture and history of the city of Birmingham.



CAMPUS POLICE AKA CAMPO

They'll even feed your fish. Really! BSC's campus police force, also known by the students as Campo, is second-to-none. The sixteen-officer team provides 24-hour security for the campus 365 days a year, with patrols on foot, bicycles, and in vehicles. They're the main reason BSC has been ranked one of the safest college campuses in the nation. But they go way beyond the basics, providing car safety checks before each holiday break, and even picking up students in distress within a 100-mile radius, if staffing permits. Campo is always there with a smile and a wave when you come into campus.

ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHTS

1-G

The 1-G Club promotes a sense of community and support. The purpose of 1-G is to develop and establish additional support for first generation students, whose parent(s) have not attained a 4-year college degree. 1-G is dedicated to developing ways to support BSC first-generation students to adjust to new environments, lifestyles, and academic traditions. The club is also devoted to being a support group and resource for BSC students to help them understand and utilize their academic and community resources. 1-G is open to all BSC first-generation students.

Black Student Union

The Black Student Union at Birmingham-Southern College was formed to advocate for Black students by cultivating a community on campus that creates an appreciation for Black heritage as well as serve as a liaison between faculty and staff. By building a network with the local Black community in Birmingham, the Black Student Union seeks to provide resources that will help retain students of color and support them in their efforts academically, socially, and professionally. This organization desires to foster a sense of unity that will improve the quality of life for BSC's Black students.

C3

The Cross Cultural Committee (C3) is BSC's multicultural umbrella organization responsible for planning and organizing Hispanic cultural events, Asian cultural events, International Student programming, African American cultural events, LGBTQ+ programming, Women's programming, and Middle Eastern cultural events. C3 helps promote awareness and an appreciation for the diversity represented at Birmingham-Southern College by creating informative and engaging programming for the campus community.

Commuter Student Union

The Commuter Student Union is a group which represents all commuter students. Their purpose is to create a friendly atmosphere that promotes sharing of knowledge, creativity, experience; and hear the perks, ideas, and suggestions of commuters in an attempt to enhance the college experience for commuter students. Commuter students also have their own lounge on the first floor of Norton Campus Center.

Greek Life - Sororities

Birmingham-Southern College is home to six National Panhellenic Sororities. Our chapters are governed by the Panhellenic Council. The Panhellenic Council strives to develop women through academic success and service. We promote women's leadership, diversity, and strong relationships between each chapter. The sororities on BSC's campus are Alpha Chi Omega, Alpha Omicron Pi, Chi Omega, Kappa Delta, Pi Beta Phi, and, Zeta Tau Alpha.

Greek Life - Fraternities

Birmingham-Southern College is home to seven nationally recognized fraternities. Chapters are governed by the Interfraternity Council. The Interfraternity Council at BSC exemplifies what Greek organizations should be. BSC fraternities seek students who have a commitment to our college and its rigorous academic tradition. Joining a fraternity is a lifelong commitment to brotherhood, service, leadership, and scholarship. The chapters on the BSC campus are Alpha Tau Omega, Kappa Alpha Order, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Sigma Chi, Sigma Nu, and Theta Chi.

Honor Council

Members of the Birmingham-Southern College community operate under an Honor Code, pledging they will not lie, cheat, or steal. One of the Student Government Association's most significant responsibilities is the selection of the Honor Council, which handles any cases involving students who are accused of violating the Honor Code. Through this system of self-governance, students play an integral role in providing a campus atmosphere of profound trust in which each individual may develop intellectually and socially with maturity and a sense of self-esteem.

Quest II

Quest II is Birmingham-Southern's student programming board. They provide BSC students with unique on-campus events as well as opportunities to get off-campus and explore what the city of Birmingham has to offer. Quest II encourages students to maximize their time in college by enjoying a wide variety of free entertainment offerings and by interacting with a diverse group of fellow students, while hopefully learning something in the process!

Religious Life

Religious Life supports and enriches the education that BSC offers by empowering students of various religions and no religion to wrestle with questions of meaning, purpose, and vocation as they practice their faith in a religious climate that is open and diverse. Birmingham-Southern's Chaplain and Office of Religious Life exist to provide opportunities for community worship, study, pastoral care, and interfaith dialogue.

'Southern Ambassadors

'Southern Ambassadors work with the Admissions Office to provide prospective students and their families a glimpse into the life at Birmingham-Southern College. Ambassadors have the opportunity to connect with potential BSC students while touring them around campus. They also serve as our main connection between current and prospective students at Admission Office events and through various forms of communication. The organization strives to deliver a transparent understanding of life here on the Hilltop and assist prospective students through their college decision process.

Student Government Association

Student Government Association (SGA) is an elected, student-run organization that serves the BSC student body and represents student interests to the college. SGA is the official voice of the student body and strives to better the student experience. Meetings are held at 5:30 pm on Wednesdays are open to anyone to attend. First-year representatives are elected to the SGA in the fall semester.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

1-G First Generation Club
Alabama College Democrats
American Chemical Society
American Marketing Association
Arabic Student Society
Art Student League
Association of Music Students
Black Men's Union
Black Student Union
Black Women's Union
BSC Aviators
Cheerleading
Chinese Club
Circle K International

College Republicans
Commuter Student Union
Cross Cultural Committee (C3)
Dungeons and Dragons Club
EnAct
Film Club
Harrison Honors Program
Health Occupation Students of America
Hilltop Investment Management Group
International Student Association
Love Asia
Martial Arts Club
Math Club
Muslim Student Association

One-A-Chord Gospel Choir
Panthers Serve
Panther_Code
Philosophy Club
Planned Parenthood Generation Action
Quest II Student Programming Board
Soccer Club
Society of Physics Students
Spectrum
Stump Entrepreneurial Scholars
Tennis Club
The Social Justice Club
Unique and Included
We The Neighbors

Greek Organizations

Interfraternity Council
Alpha Phi Alpha
Alpha Tau Omega
Kappa Alpha Order
Sigma Alpha Epsilon
Sigma Chi
Sigma Nu
Theta Chi

Panhellenic Council
Alpha Chi Omega
Alpha Omicron Pi
Chi Omega
Kappa Delta
Pi Beta Phi
Zeta Tau Alpha

Honoraries

Alpha Epsilon Delta Pre-Health Society
Alpha Lambda Delta Academic Honor Society
Alpha Psi Omega Theatre Honor Society
Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society
Kappa Mu Epsilon Math Honor Society
Mortar Board Scholarship, Leadership, and Service Honor Society
Omicron Delta Kappa Leadership Honor Society
Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law Honor Society
Psi Chi Psychology Honor Society
Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society

Student Publications

Bagheera News Magazine
Compass Leadership Journal
Quad Literary Magazine
Southern Academic Review

Service Groups

Bonner Leaders
Honor Council
Student Government
Association
'Southern Ambassadors

Religious Organizations

BSC Fellowship of Christian Athletes
Hillel BSC Jewish Student Group
Reformed University Fellowship (RUF)

Southern Catholics
Wesley Fellowship

RESIDENCE LIFE AT BSC

When arriving to campus in the fall, our 50+ staff members are readily available to assist you. Each building is staffed by a Community Coordinator and Resident Advisors (RA) who act as role models, advocates, mentors, and peer leaders to our residential students. Our staff is trained to be dependable, mature, and solid leaders who are knowledgeable of campus and community resources to help you in your personal and academic success.



First-Year Resident Advisor: Kazia Taylor

“When I was a first-year student in Margaret Daniel, I had two amazing RA’s. Since I was blessed with a great experience in my first year, I wanted to give first-year girls the same experience that I had, so I had to become an RA. I really love working in the first-year area because I get to develop residents to be the best they can be and provide fun programs for them to attend. I try my best to be there for all of my residents when they need me!” – Kazia Taylor, Margaret Daniel Resident Advisor (2018-2019), Cullen Daniel Community Coordinator (2019-2020)



DO'S AND DON'TS OF LIVING ON CAMPUS



Do's

Do: Talk with your roommate before you arrive about who is bringing what, to eliminate the doubling of items.

Do: Buy command strips to hang items on your wall. Be sure to take them off carefully.

Do: Buy Twin XL bedding. Sleep is important in college and the correct size bedding will help you drift away into a deep sleep...

Do: Get a shower caddy to carry your shower stuff in. No one likes getting caught without shampoo.

Do: Introduce yourself to your RA immediately. This is a great start to the year and if you ever have to go for help, they will already know who you are.



Don'ts

Don't: Bring everything in your closet and room with you. This will only lead to stress on where to put everything, and a not so happy roommate when they have no room for their belongings.

Don't: Bring hotplates, toaster, or any cooking devices with an open coil heating system – these are against Residence Life & Housing Policies.

Don't: Bring extra furniture. Your room will come with a bed frame with a mattress, a desk, a chair, a small dresser, and a wardrobe. This is standard for most college residence hall rooms. You will be able see this on your residence hall tour.

By sticking to these guidelines, your transition into the residence hall should be seamless and easy. Just remember to keep an open mind to your surroundings, and do your best to make connections that you will keep through college and possibly through life.



