

'Southern

A Publication for Alumni and Friends

Fall 2009 Volume 35, Number 2

Ready, Set, Enroll!

Inside BSC's undergraduate admission process

Editor's Note

It takes a team

BY BILL WAGNON

Much of this issue of *'Southern* magazine is devoted to our growing student body—more specifically to the ever-changing and often-complicated process of recruiting prospective students. The Office of Admission drives this process, but you'll also find out as you read this issue that it is very much a "team" effort. It's a little cliché-ish (like the title of this column), but it's the truth, and teamwork is important to the college's recent (and future) successes.

I just started my 11th year at Birmingham-Southern in September, and I just got what I'll call my first BSC recruit. Sure, the work of the BSC Communications Office of which I'm a member affects the college's recruiting efforts in a very positive way. But, as an individual, I haven't been able to say that I've personally recruited a student to BSC. That is until now.

It's not like I haven't tried. I consider myself a great ambassador for Birmingham-Southern.

I talk about BSC everywhere I go. The main beneficiaries of my sage advice on BSC are the parents on my children's soccer teams. I tell a good BSC story during our many soccer travels. It's hard not to talk about this place when I'm out and about, mostly because when people find out I work for Birmingham-Southern, they initiate the conversation. It seems that everyone has a relative who graduated from the Hilltop, or a son or daughter who they hope looks at BSC when considering a college, or a neighbor who is a BSC graduate and a successful (insert career choice here).

Last fall I reconnected with my best friend from college after some 25 years. At the time, his oldest son was a high school senior, and just beginning to seriously look at colleges. I don't think Birmingham-Southern was even on his radar. Like so often happens, the young man was looking at his father's (and my) alma mater—a large public institution (name omitted here to protect the innocent). One day our discussion turned to BSC's new Division III football team. You see, this young man was a good high school football player. Not necessarily a Division I prospect with aspirations of the National Football League, but a good solid player who loved the game. More importantly, he was a very good student and an even better person with merit-scholarship caliber test scores, high GPA, and a penchant for community service. He was, as we say, the right fit for Birmingham-Southern. Hopefully, I thought at the time, BSC would be the right fit for him.

Suddenly, getting this young man to Birmingham-Southern became my obsession. It was no longer personal (although deep down I needed this conquest). This young man needed to be at BSC; Birmingham-Southern needed this young man. My colleague Sheri Salmon (dean of enrollment management) always says that our chances of getting any prospective student to attend Birmingham-Southern greatly increase if we can get them to visit campus. My next goal was to get my recruit to campus. Let me pause and make it understood that I'm not taking anything away from the admission counselor or the assistant football coach who also recruited this young man. But for the purposes of *my* column, he's going to be *my* recruit! *My* recruit and his family visited campus for the 2008 Homecoming game vs. Sewanee. And as Sheri so aptly predicted, they were sold.

The young man in question is now a freshman at BSC, and I'm pleased to report that he's already making an impact on the football field as a member of the Panther varsity. But this is not a story about football. This is a story about fit. This young man is not at BSC to pursue a career in football. He is here to get the best education he can, and getting to play the game he loves while doing so is just icing on the cake. His dad, my college friend, told me a couple of weeks ago, "This is the best decision this family has ever made."

I'm proud that he came to Birmingham-Southern, but the braggadocio above is all in fun. I'm more proud because this place fits him, and he fits this place. That's what makes it all worthwhile.

This is also a story about teamwork. So now I'm on to my next conquest, my next future BSC student. I'm going after his younger brother, a high school junior and a heck of a student and young man. Oh, and that he happens to be a standout baseball player is just coincidence.



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Inside BSC's undergraduate admission process



On the Cover

When the newest Birmingham-Southern students arrived on campus Aug. 29, they didn't have to go it alone. Several BSC staff orientation leaders and enthusiastic upperclassmen greeted families, provided students with information, and helped them find their new homes away from home—including the Dy family of Clanton. Pictured on Freshman Move-In Day (front row, from left): Tiffany Dy, a junior biology major and Students Offering Support member, and her sister, Abigail Dy, who moved in as a new freshman; and Jon Crook, director of admission operations; (back row, from left): Dr. Ritky Dy; Sheri Scholl Salmon '85, dean of enrollment management; Taylor Binyon, a senior biology major from Newburgh, Ind., and house director of the Bill and Lyndra Daniel Residence Hall; Teresita Dy; and Kristen Poole, a junior biology major from Meridian, Miss., and Students Offering Support member. You can read about BSC's record-breaking traditional undergraduate enrollment this year and get a revealing look at the college's admission process in the Features section on page 14.

PHOTO BY WYNTER BYRD

Major commitment from Kevin and Jane Stump establishes multi-disciplinary entrepreneur programs at BSC



KEVIN AND JANE STUMP are making sure that entrepreneurial spirit and creative thinking are fostered in current and future Birmingham-Southern students.

The Stumps' recent gift to the college's *Destiny: Delivered* comprehensive campaign will endow The Kevin R. and Jane Templeton Stump Entrepreneurial Programs at Birmingham-Southern. The components of these multi-disciplinary programs will engage the entire BSC community to examine and foster the spirit and practice of entrepreneurship so vital to today's global economy.

"This commitment challenges our campus to design programs in entrepreneurship that enhance, and are enhanced by, the distinctive character of the liberal arts," explains BSC Provost Dr. Mark Schantz. "The Stump Programs will provide our faculty and students with the resources and incentive to study and understand the meaning of entrepreneurship in a constantly changing economic environment."

An important element in all Stump Programs initiatives will be social entrepreneurship, which is integrally tied to the mission and ethos of Birmingham-Southern.

"This college's history is deeply rooted in recognizing social problems, and making this world a better place to live for all people," notes Schantz. "The Stumps are committed to ensuring that social entrepreneurship is a core element of their commitment to the college and that we continue to educate students across all disciplines with a passion to change the world."

Schantz says the college already is implementing several of the initiatives of the Stump Programs, and others will be added as the programs grow and funds are available from earnings on the endowment.

Among several initiatives, the programs will create the Stump Scholars to provide scholarships to entering BSC students who have demonstrated an entrepreneurial spirit through their work inside and outside the classroom; faculty workshops to discuss the question, "What is entrepreneurship?"; faculty development grants to develop courses in entrepreneurship or entrepreneurial components within courses; and grants that subsidize cross-cultural Interim trips for students to study entrepreneurship in other countries.

In addition, the inaugural Stump Entrepreneurial Challenge kicked off this fall semester. This annual "creative plan" competition is open to all BSC students, or teams of BSC students, beyond their sophomore years and regardless of major. The competition allows students to submit plans that propose the creative formation of a new entity, from a commercial enterprise to a nonprofit organization, and relating to any field, from business to the arts to social causes to civic support to faith-based. The plans will be judged by an outside executive panel, with first place receiving \$7,500 and second place \$2,500. The competition winners will be invited to a luncheon to discuss their entries with the executive panel.

Kevin and Jane Stump both graduated from BSC after earning scholarships in tennis and voice respectively. They have three children: Mary Katherine, a Georgetown University graduate; Kevin "Richard" Jr., a 2009 BSC graduate; and Templeton, a freshman at Birmingham-Southern.

"This gift is something Jane and I have talked about for a long time," says Kevin, founder, chairman, and CEO of Interconn Resources Inc. in Birmingham. "We wanted to give back to the college and provide students of all socio-economic backgrounds the opportunity to understand and experience entrepreneurship."

"The scholarship portion of this program is really important to Jane and me," he continues. "We want to help BSC recruit independent thinkers who exhibit exceptional entrepreneurial spirit."

Kevin Stump's independent thinking and entrepreneurial drive have led to a successful professional career, so it was only natural that this program create a discussion about and foster interest in entrepreneurship and creativity in the college's future and current students, not just in business, but across all majors.

He credits his liberal arts education for providing him with the capacity to think broadly. After college he went to work in the Marketing Department at Sonat and received his MPPM degree from BSC. Eight years later when the natural gas industry deregulated in the mid-1980s, he opened offices in Birmingham for Kansas Power and Light, and a year later for a Houston-based independent company.

In 1997, at the age of 39, Kevin founded Interconn Resources, which is one of the few private, independent natural gas marketing companies in the nation and has been recognized nationally and regionally for its focus on customer service.

"Today, it's much more common for someone to start their own company or work for a small entrepreneurial company," he explains. "You have to be prepared to take advantage of the opportunities when they present themselves, and Jane and I are confident these programs will help students recognize and be prepared to take advantage of entrepreneurial opportunities."

Key foundation grants support education initiatives

Like the Malone Family Foundation grant (see *'Southern* magazine, Spring 2009), two additional grants to the *Destiny: Delivered* campaign received this year specifically support academic programs at Birmingham-Southern, not just on campus, but in the classrooms of local communities as well.

These grants from the Daniel Foundation and the Margaret A. Cargill Foundation total more than \$500,000 to support completion of the Urban Environmental Park and the development of future teachers.

Daniel Foundation Grant

When you're an urban campus, bordered by city streets and major highways, you have to think creatively about "green space," about designing places that encourage escape from busy days. At BSC, that creativity has been expressed with the completion of the Urban Environmental Park, a place not only for relaxation and socializing, but also for study and research. And the completion of the park is due, in no small part, to a \$450,000 grant from the Daniel Foundation, which provided crucial funds to finish the final stages.

The park, which will officially be dedicated on Nov. 7 at Homecoming/Alumni Reunion 2009, is a hands-on field study environment and model of eco-friendly urban planning. Its design provides an opportunity for research and interdisciplinary study of environmental sustainability. Faculty are already planning to integrate the park into the curriculum, with plans ranging from field research projects on water analysis and quality to the study of algae and protozoa to methods for teaching middle school students.

The park's most significant feature, a lake surrounded by walking paths, contains a central fountain intended to provide aeration. Two watersheds, from Village Creek and Valley Creek, feed into a vernal pond and a rain garden in the park, which allows water to transition into the wetland areas. Two additional storm water demonstration sites showcase erosion control and pollution management techniques.

"The Daniel Foundation has had many opportunities to support projects of Birmingham-Southern College since

the foundation began more than 30 years ago," noted Maria Kennedy, executive director of the foundation.

"Support has been given for many capital projects, faculty positions, and student scholarships, as well as student enrichment activities, and now the newest project, the Urban Environmental Park. The park has the ability to reach not just students and faculty but the community at large and deal with emerging environmental issues and how future generations will be equipped to find necessary solutions."

Cargill Foundation Grant

Margaret Cargill gave generously during her lifetime, and almost always anonymously. She was never widely acknowledged for her philanthropy, but upon her death, she allowed for the establishment of the Margaret A. Cargill Foundation to support causes that were important to her, such as the environment, the arts, education and teachers, families, and others.

Today, her foundation identifies worthy causes and organizations and invites them to apply for grants. Birmingham-Southern received such an invitation, and the college was delighted to apply for and receive a grant that included both cash and a common stock allotment for teacher education programs.

BSC sends forth many of the brightest, most qualified, and well-prepared teacher candidates in Alabama, with a 100 percent placement rate for education graduates. Training includes hands-on teaching in area classrooms from their first education courses and up to 60 percent more time in the classroom than entry-level teaching peers from other institutions. The college was also one of the first institutions in the nation to be accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.

"We can't overstate the importance of grants such as these," said Bambi Ingram, BSC's director of corporate and foundation relations. "Birmingham-Southern is already a strong institution, and with this support, we can do even more to assist our students and faculty in their pursuit of learning. What's particularly rewarding about the Cargill Foundation grant is that they recognized the caliber of our programs and invited us to apply for a grant."



Volunteer leaders steer *Destiny: Delivered* toward Phase I goal

Nearly three years ago, Birmingham-Southern began planning an aggressive comprehensive fundraising campaign to raise much-needed financial support for the college.

Under the leadership of BSC Trustees and National Campaign Co-Chairs Ed Hardin '62 and Mike Atchison '65, the college recruited a core group to serve on the campaign's Leadership Council and National Campaign Steering Committee. Throughout the duration of this campaign's Phase I, the Steering Committee has gathered regularly to set goals and execute plans to raise a target of \$50 million. With \$45 million raised to date, Phase I of the campaign is nearly complete, but the work of the Steering Committee and the six Regional Committees continues as they prepare for Phase II.

"Without such loyal and trusted friends, BSC would not have been as successful in this first phase of our campaign," noted Adelia Patrick Thompson '86, vice president for institutional advancement. "These friends have stepped up individually and have been tireless in their efforts to identify the right approaches for connecting with our alumni and to provide creative guidance for reaching new sources of support. They have certainly helped to elevate the college's stature on the national landscape."

Supporting the Steering Committee, which has met quarterly, are six Regional Committees representing Birmingham, Atlanta, Mobile/Baldwin County Alabama, North Alabama, New York City, and Washington, D.C. In each region, BSC alumni have crafted specific plans to raise funds and awareness and to engage alumni. Going into the fourth quarter of this year, these committees will each meet to establish goals that support campaign objectives, but they will also address needs specific to their regions. For instance, the Atlanta committee plans to focus on supporting admission efforts in its region to grow enrollment from Atlanta-area students. They plan to host social events for high school prospects and their parents to not only demonstrate their support for Birmingham-Southern, but also to tell a more personal story about the BSC experience.

"We know that when our alumni talk to prospects it makes a positive difference," said Sheri Scholl Salmon '85, dean of enrollment management. "When we can bring students and their parents together with our alumni, they can see for themselves the kind of great individuals we produce—and how BSC grads make the world better."

Other regions are focusing on mentoring young alumni, particularly in New York City and Washington, D.C., where professional contacts and networks are key to launching careers. Other regions are focused on building alumni networks to keep connections to the college strong and on improving young alumni involvement.

All in all, nearly 200 individuals serve the campaign in some manner. They have devoted countless hours to attending meetings, making phone calls, and participating in events, all in an effort to provide valuable financial support to Birmingham-Southern College.

"It's our turn now to say 'thank you,'" said Thompson. "We're going to come together in February on campus to celebrate the accomplishments of Phase I. Then as we progress toward the next phase of the campaign, we'll gather annually, rotating our meeting location through the six regions. These meetings will be important to maintaining the energy of the campaign and to creating synergy among the regions."

If you would like more information about campaign activities in your region, contact your regional committee chair at destinydelivered@bsc.edu.

COMMITTEE LEADERSHIPS

National Co-Chairs

Mike Atchison '65
Ed Hardin '62

Mobile/Baldwin County Co-Chairs

Joe Basenberg '67
Emily Bell '90

North Alabama Co-Chairs

Julie and Sean Groark '85
Wimberley '87 and John Watts '86

Atlanta Co-Chairs

Preston Barnett '68
Boyd Johnson '81

New York City Co-Chairs

Evelyn Coleman '03
Byron Mathews '70
Tommy Wilson '70

Washington, D.C., Co-Chairs

Rodney Ferguson '86
Joey Lesesne '87

Birmingham Co-Chairs

Wayne Killion Jr. '72
David Smith '79
DeLynn Moring Zell '86

462

BSC welcomes largest traditional undergraduate enrollment in history

Birmingham-Southern opened the 2009-10 academic year on Sept. 2 with the largest traditional undergraduate enrollment in the college's more than 153-year history. It also welcomed the third largest freshman class in as many years.

The 462 total new students, which include 424 freshmen and 38 transfers, brought fall undergraduate enrollment to 1,508 students attending classes with a 12-to-1 student-to-faculty ratio. Twenty-nine new students joined the college in the spring 2009 term. This year's student body represents the largest total traditional undergraduate enrollment ever recorded at the college. The undergraduate population consists of 20 percent minority students.

The new BSC students are from 23 states and five foreign countries. The academic profile of the new class continues to be strong, with an average ACT score of 26 and an average high school grade-point average of 3.43.

New students were welcomed to campus on Aug. 29 for the traditional "Move-in Day." The students spent the morning moving into their residence halls with the help of their families and returning BSC students. They then joined their parents for convocation that afternoon in Bill Battle Coliseum.

Ground broken for new state-of-the-art residence halls, will provide students with lake view

Excitement is looming on the Hilltop as new ground is broken and construction is under way on the new residence halls.

The \$11 million four-story facilities will be home to some 167 students when they open in late August of 2010. It will be the school's first new on-campus housing since 2003 when Fraternity Row was built.

"As traditional undergraduate enrollment at Birmingham-Southern stands at a record high, the new residence halls will help with recruiting and meet the demands of a growing student body," stated Lane Estes, vice president for administration at BSC. "The buildings will be funded through revenue bonds, which means the money will be paid back through room rent over the life of the buildings."

The new residence halls come on the heels of the college's new Urban Environmental Park that recently was completed. They will take full advantage of the breathtaking view of the park's lake.

So far unnamed, the residence halls will span 65,000 square feet with two buildings, a courtyard in the center, and suite-style rooms for four to five students with kitchen facilities and two bathrooms in each. The new structures also will include amenities such as a common area on the top two floors of each building where students can congregate, study rooms, and a large kitchen in each building.

In keeping with the college's environmental initiatives, several sustainable features will be included in the buildings

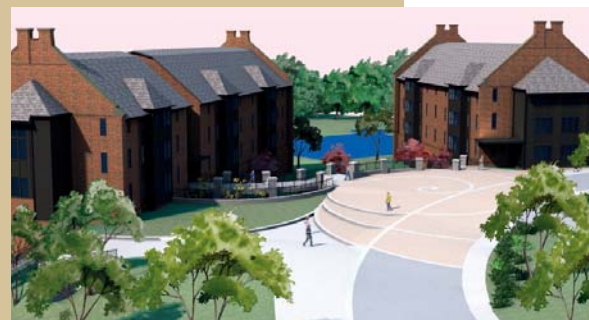
such as Energy Star appliances, day lighting in 75 percent of occupied space, and an air-efficient VRV/HVAC system.

BSC Residence Life Director Jonathan Lucia believes the new residence halls will be a great addition to the college and says he feels the enthusiasm around the campus growing as the new state-of-the-art buildings take shape.

"The announcement alone that we are going to build a new residential facility for our students has caused an obvious excitement across campus," said Lucia. "Students spend a great amount of time in their residence hall environment, so it makes sense that we invest the appropriate level of resources into ensuring that these environments are comfortable."

The two buildings will be geared toward non-first-year undergraduate students. Students in the new residence halls who share a furnished four- to five-bedroom suite also will have laundry, Internet, and cable privileges.

The college selected Derck & Edson Associates and ArchitectureWorks as the architects for the project, and Golden & Associates as the general contractor. Visit the college's Web site for progress updates throughout the academic year.



Site drawing of new residence halls

“dialogue on food”

Dialogue on Food: Creating an appetite for debate, exchange, and vibrant learning

First in a new series of yearlong, campus-wide examinations of significant issues—the “BSC Dialogue Series”—the “Dialogue on Food” began in September 2009 with an array of events including noted guest speakers, concurrent discussion groups, panel presentations, a film screening, a Hunger Banquet, and an old-fashioned dessert potluck.

The series will continue throughout the academic year, with more information and updated event schedules available at www.bsc.edu/dialogue.

Guest speakers appearing in the series in September included:

- Frances Moore Lappé, author of the pioneering *Diet for a Small Planet* and co-founder of the Small Planet Institute
- David Beckmann, president of the Bread for the World Institute
- Ana Sofia Joanes, producer and director of the documentary film *Fresh*
- The Kitchen Sisters: Davia Nelson and Nikki Silva, National Public Radio documentary producers and creators of the popular *Hidden Kitchens* series on *Morning Edition*.

Suggested resources for those interested in the ongoing series include recommended books and films (see Web address noted above for annotated lists.)

First-year students at BSC had a special opportunity to join in the exchange by entering an essay competition designed just for them. Their entries, which addressed the topic of food with a variety of emphases, were presented as written essay, photo essay, or video essay/documentary.

Jeanne Jackson, director of the BSC Hess Center for Leadership and Service and one of the campus figures who worked closely with the development of the program, said “Dialogue on Food” encourages an examination of one issue—food—from a broad interdisciplinary perspective.

“Everyone eats,” she said, “but we wanted students to think of the connections between food and religious rituals, public health, global politics, and ecological concerns.

“We cooked, debated, watched films, struggled with hunger, learned, wrote poems, made documentaries, and, of course, ate. We hope we sparked a lively yearlong discussion of food through classes, speakers, artistic competitions—and sharing meals together.”

Birmingham-Southern ranked No. 1 in Alabama in new Forbes/CCAP survey

Birmingham-Southern is the top ranked institution of higher learning in the state of Alabama in a new survey released in August by *Forbes* and the Center for College Affordability and Productivity.

Released for the first time in 2008 as an alternative to *U.S. News & World Report's* annual rankings, Forbes/CCAP ranks colleges and universities based on “the quality of the education they provide, the experience of the students and how much they achieve.”

According to a release issued by the two organizations, the rankings of 600 colleges and universities are based 25 percent on student evaluations of courses and instructors, 25 percent on post-graduate success, 20 percent on estimated average student debt after four years, and the rest on graduation rate and the number of students or faculty who have won nationally competitive awards such as Rhodes Scholarships or Nobel Prizes.



2009 BSC Commencement speaker Dr. Natalie Davis

Commencement 2009

Commencement 2009 was notable not only for its wet and stormy weather, but for its speakers.

Dr. Natalie Davis, professor of political science at Birmingham-Southern and well-known political analyst, delivered the keynote Commencement Address to the 239 members of the Class of 2009 and hundreds of their family and friends who gathered for the ceremony at Boutwell Auditorium in downtown Birmingham.

"You're not like the boomers of my generation, who are ideologues and tend to listen only to those who share their ideology," Davis told the sea of graduates, families, and friends in her address. "You actually have positive attitudes on the ability of government to play a constructive role in our lives. You want to build coalitions. ... You are networked, and you tweet. And most importantly for our time, you are problem-solvers." She also challenged graduates to "take the giant leap into public service. If good people don't lead, bad people do."

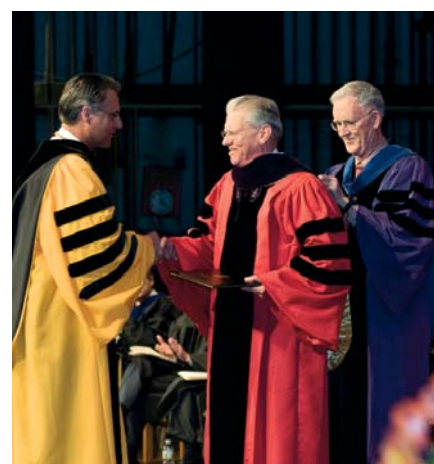
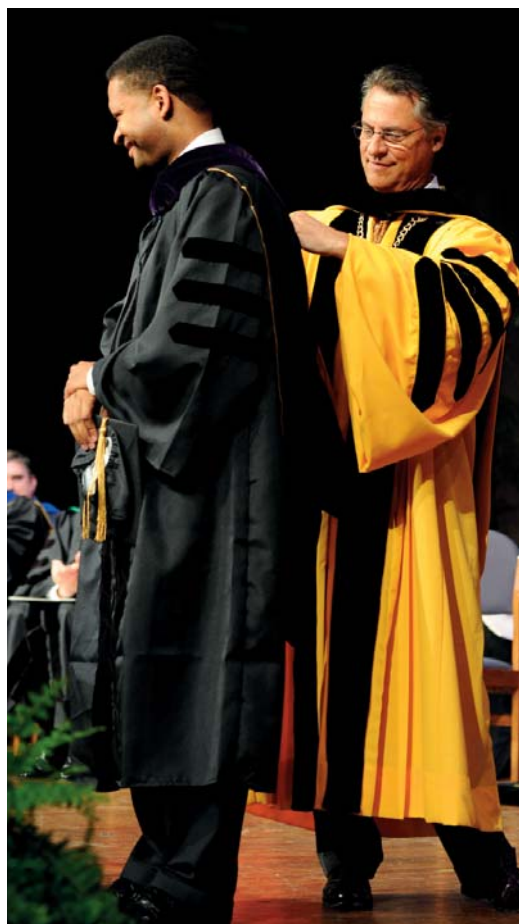
An excerpt from Davis' 21-minute speech was published in the online version of *The New York Times* in June, along with other quotes from the nation's crop of spring Commencement speakers. You can watch her entire speech on BSC's YouTube page at www.youtube.com/Birmingham-Southern.

U.S. Rep. Artur Davis, representing Alabama's Seventh Congressional District, and 1951 BSC graduate and trustee David Baker, a practicing attorney in New York City and Birmingham, who were awarded Honorary Doctor of Laws degrees during the ceremony, also spoke.

Rev. Robin Crews Wilson delivered remarks at the Baccalaureate service that morning at Bill Battle Coliseum on campus. Wilson is pastor at Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Montgomery.



Rev. Robin Crews Wilson delivered remarks at the Baccalaureate service.



U.S. Rep. Artur Davis (photo on left) and attorney David Baker (photo on right) receive their Honorary Doctor of Laws degrees and their scholar's hoods from BSC President David Pollick and Stephen Baker, David Baker's brother (in purple robe), during Commencement.

Upcoming events at

Birmingham-Southern College

There's always plenty to see, do, and experience on the Hilltop—never a dull moment! At our Events & Calendars

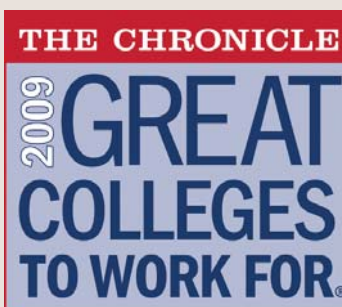
Web link, you'll find the latest BSC campus announcements. Check out our scheduled activities throughout this 2009-10 academic year and plan ahead for upcoming theatre and music group performances, compelling lectures and conferences, Panther games, art exhibitions, and much more. Visit frequently for updates.

www.bsc.edu/events

Admission to most events is free.



BSC one of top 10 small colleges in *Chronicle's* 2009 Great Colleges Program



Birmingham-Southern is one of the top 10 small colleges in America and one of only 39 colleges overall named to the Honor Roll in *The Chronicle of Higher Education's* 2009 Great Colleges to Work For program. The results of the second-annual national survey independently

administered to all BSC faculty and staff were announced during the summer in a special supplement published by *The Chronicle*.

The Great Colleges to Work For program recognizes colleges and universities for specific best practices and policies in the workplace, such as compensation and benefits, faculty-administration relations, and confidence in senior leadership.

The Honor Roll, a new feature to this year's program, highlights the top 10 colleges in small, medium, and large enrollment categories based on the number of times they were named in the 26 individual recognition categories. Birmingham-Southern ranked in the top 10 in 18 of the 26 recognition categories among colleges with fewer than 3,000 students, ranking it at the top of the small colleges category with the University of the Ozarks.

Birmingham-Southern tied for third among all institutions in the survey in the number of top-10 recognitions.

BSC ranked in the top 10 in the categories of: Job Satisfaction, Healthy Faculty-Administration Relations, Collaborative Governance, Facilities and Security, Supervisor-Department Chair Relationship, Overall Satisfaction with Benefits, Tuition Reimbursement, Housing Assistance Program, 403b or 401k, Post Retirement Benefits, Work-life Balance, Confidence in Senior Leadership, Internal Communications, Connection to Institution and Pride, Perception of and Confidence in Fair Treatment, Respect and Appreciation, Tenure Clarity and Process, and Policies, Resources, and Efficiency.

The survey results were based on responses from nearly 41,000 administrators, faculty, and staff members at 247 institutions of higher learning.

Based in Washington, D.C., *The Chronicle of Higher Education* is a leading source of higher education news and information.

Dr. Kathleen Rossmann:

Working to acclimate and inspire first-year students

BY PAT COLE

Dr. Kathleen Rossmann, associate professor of economics and also the new associate dean of first-year programs at Birmingham-Southern, knows from her own experiences that adjusting to college is a major life transition for a young person.

If only every student could sail through that first year of college and be self-reliant and independent and able to easily adjust to whatever comes their way. But the arc of these lessons tends to be longer.



"First-year students are challenged to learn much more complex issues and in much shorter amounts of time, in addition to coping with living on their own and taking responsibility for

their choices," says Rossmann. "That's a big step up, and at the same time, their social world is rapidly changing."

Over the summer, Rossmann was presented with a new title and a new opportunity to help professors and staff members forge deeper bonds with students beginning their first year at BSC. In her capacity as associate dean, she is responsible for the coordination of BSC's first-year curriculum and programs aimed at enhancing the success of new students. She is working closely with the college community, including Provost Mark Schantz and Vice President for Student Affairs Dudley Long, as she gains more insight into the college's first-year student programs and the needs of first-year students.

"It's a very collaborative position that will help bridge the efforts of academic affairs and student affairs," explains

Rossmann, formerly interim associate provost at Birmingham-Southern. "The position encompasses a number of areas, including June Jump Start for incoming students, fall orientation, the peer/faculty/staff advisor program, and required Foundations courses for first-year students. We have many first-year student programs at BSC already, and there are a number of areas we are continuing to develop; this position allows us to pull those programs and people together more effectively."

At this juncture, Rossmann's emphasis rests on addressing the social and intellectual development of first-year students by creating new and appropriate programs, while also being attentive to student retention.

"We're looking for ways to provide better support to our students," she remarks. "It could be taking the time to get to know a student, encouraging them to get involved in service-learning projects, working with them to develop an individualized course that explores a particular passion they have, connecting a student to a study abroad opportunity, or identifying a social problem a student is having that may be interfering with their college success. Faculty and staff are developing relationships with students so that they can identify appropriate challenges, opportunities, and support."

In announcing her appointment, BSC President David Pollick said, "Dr. Rossmann is not only a gifted teacher and scholar, but also a great administrator who really listens. She has definitely earned the respect of her colleagues. Her experience in institutional research and statistical analysis and her ability and knowledge to develop meaningful relationships across campus have positioned her to bring about positive and quality change for new freshman and transfer students. Under her leadership, our goal is that

first-year students will learn to connect the dots between having increased freedom and developing good habits and choices for their futures."

Rossmann grew up in Windermere, Fla., outside Orlando, and completed her bachelor's degree in economics from Furman University, a small liberal arts institution in South Carolina. She earned her Ph.D. from the University of Colorado in Boulder and joined the BSC faculty in 1998.

As a professional economist, Rossmann's expertise encompasses three primary areas: environmental economics, public economics (taxation issues), and economic development. One Alabama taxation issue she studies is how communities with restrictions on alcohol sales suffer economically when compared with communities that have fewer restrictions on alcohol sales.

"Economics is a social science that involves a great deal of empirical work testing theories," she says. "The science of economics is an important foundation for how I teach and what I hope to pass on to my students. I encourage them to develop analytical and critical thinking skills and to question intuition."

Rossmann describes the 'Southern liberal arts environment as unique and special when it comes to the academic nurturing of students.

"When I first learned about BSC and visited the campus, I started hearing about the important role between faculty and students," she recalls. "I thought it was hype and PR then, but I've found it to be very real. The relationships our faculty have with students both in and out of the classroom and the nature of faculty-student collaboration on research projects are much more typical of a graduate program."



New faculty one of fall highlights—Birmingham-Southern welcomed 13 new faculty members to the community at the start of the 2009-10 academic year. Pictured (front row, from left) are Dr. Wayne Shew, associate provost and Ada Rittenhouse Snavelly Professor of Biology; Tyler Dart, instructor of physics; Dr. Loni Delaplane, lecturer in mathematics; Dr. Regina Arnold-Stanton, lecturer in chemistry; Elva González, visiting assistant professor of Spanish; Dr. Christopher Cain, assistant professor of finance; Dr. Kathleen Rossmann, associate professor of economics and associate dean of first-year programs; and Dr. Mary-Kate Lizotte, assistant professor of political science; (back row, from left) are Ryan Davis, instructor of mathematics; Dr. Cullen Clark, lecturer in sociology; Dr. Dan Coyle '87, visiting assistant professor of philosophy; Dr. Richard Rector, visiting assistant professor of psychology; J. Lynn Thompson, visiting assistant professor of music; Dr. Genell Lewis-Ferrell, assistant professor of education; and Dr. Mark Schantz, BSC provost. (Not pictured: Christopher Whaley, instructor of economics.)

Two professors honored with faculty development award

Dr. Amy Cottrill, assistant professor of religion at Birmingham-Southern, and Dr. Heather Meggers-Wright, BSC assistant professor of psychology, were honored this fall for demonstrating excellence in teaching in the preceding academic year.

The 2009 Bob Whetstone Faculty Development Award was presented to the two professors during the annual Opening of School Assembly. The award, named after the professor emeritus and former chair of the Education Division at BSC, provides financial support for faculty development and travel.

Cottrill, who joined the BSC faculty in 2007, earned her doctorate in Hebrew Bible from Emory University.

Meggers-Wright joined the BSC faculty in 2006 and earned her doctorate in clinical psychology from the University of Missouri.



Dr. Heather Meggers-Wright (far left) and Dr. Amy Cottrill received this year's Bob Whetstone Faculty Development Award from Dr. Bob and Janelle Whetstone (on right).

Recently retired BSC professor receives Outstanding Educator Award, will deliver 2010 Commencement speech

Dr. Edward LaMonte, the former Howell Heflin Professor of Political Science at Birmingham-Southern who retired at the end of May, was presented with the annual Outstanding Educator Award during the college's spring 2009 Commencement ceremony.

The award honors an outstanding member of the BSC faculty, in the opinion of his or her colleagues, who is characterized by excellence in all aspects of teaching, including classroom performance and student advising. It includes a cash stipend and an invitation to deliver the Class of 2010 Commencement address.

During LaMonte's 22-year teaching career at BSC, he served as director of the Ellie and Herb Sklenar Center for International Programs, coordinator of the international studies minor, chair of the Behavioral Sciences Division, dean of the former Adult Studies Program, and instructor in the Master of Arts in Public and Private Management program.

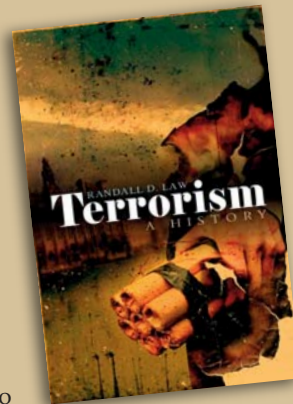
Prior to joining the college's faculty, LaMonte served as senior staff member to then-Birmingham Mayor Richard Arrington Jr. from 1979-87. He received his master's degree and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago and his undergraduate degree from Harvard.



Dr. Edward LaMonte (left) accepts his award from BSC President David Pollick during spring Commencement.

Law's first book focuses on terrorism in a multi-layered context

Dr. Randall Law, BSC associate professor of history, *Terrorism, A History* (Polity Books, 2009). ISBN: 9780745640389. The publisher notes: "Terrorism is one of the forces defining our age, but it has also been around since some of the earliest civilizations. This one-of-a-kind study of the history of terrorism—from ancient Assyria to the post-9/11 War on Terror—puts terrorism into broad historical, political, religious, and social context. The book leads the reader through the shifting understandings and definitions of terrorism through the ages, and its continuous development of themes allows for a fuller understanding of the uses of and responses to terrorism." The book also has received several endorsements, including one by Dr. Gregory Miller, assistant professor of political science at the University of Oklahoma: "This book is timely, well-written, and of high quality. It fills a significant gap in the discipline—there are currently no histories of the subject which match this book's breadth in such a thorough, unbiased way."



Tourific!

Tsao part of dynamic team working to make prospective students feel welcome

BY BRANDON GRESHAM

Richard Tsao always thought he'd go to a big state school. But Tsao, a Birmingham-Southern junior, wanted to compete athletically and he wanted more involvement in school. Those desires helped steer him to the Hilltop.

Three years later, he's on his way to earning a business and pre-law degree, entering his third year competing for the Panthers' cross country and track and field teams, and involved in numerous groups around campus—including the 'Southern Ambassadors.

Tsao credits his admission counselor for playing a key role in his decision to come to BSC. And while his decision to come to the Hilltop was "last minute," he believes the experience of setting foot on a campus before enrolling is invaluable.

"I love meeting new people and telling them about BSC," Tsao says of the tours he leads as an ambassador. "All of the ambassadors are extremely passionate about this school and what it has meant to them."

The Trussville native notices that oftentimes students come to campus for a tour without much of an idea of what they're looking for in a college.

"Prospective students come to campus, take a tour, and realize that the school has a lot of programs and majors to offer that they might not have thought about," Tsao says. "BSC isn't for everyone. But I think we do a really good job at finding students a place to fit in on campus."

'Southern Ambassadors are responsible for nearly all of Birmingham-Southern's prospective



Tsao

student campus tours. Ambassadors welcome high school seniors and juniors to BSC at the Admission Welcome Center, and take them on a walking tour of campus. Throughout the walk, ambassadors point out interesting and unique facts about BSC, share personal stories about their experiences on campus, and answer any questions that prospects or their parents might have.

"The 'Southern Ambassadors are some of the most important people involved in the admission process," BSC Admission Counselor Ashley Frohock '03 says. "Many times prospective students view current students as their most trusted sources of information in the college search process. They rely on 'Southern Ambassadors to give them insight into what being a BSC student is really like."

BSC currently has 43 'Southern Ambassadors, who earn their positions through an intensive application and interview process. Over the past few years, there have been nearly three times as many applications as open spots for the positions. Frohock, who heads up the program for the Office of Admission, says the ambassadors play a key role in each prospective student's decision.

"They play an important part in helping prospective students determine whether BSC is a good fit for them," she remarks.

Tsao says the best thing 'Southern Ambassadors do to help a student decide is tell them about everything BSC has to offer, explain how the school has impacted them personally, and encourage each prospective student to choose a college that will challenge them.

Mobile student selected as Rushton Scholar at Birmingham-Southern

Artem Joukov of Mobile was selected as the Rushton Scholar for the 2009-10 freshman class at Birmingham-Southern.

The Rushton Scholarship honors Col. William James Rushton, a Birmingham life insurance executive, and his wife, Elizabeth Perry Rushton. It is the preeminent scholarship awarded by the college to the most outstanding freshman for each entering class, and it is one of the most prestigious undergraduate scholarships available at any college or university in the U.S.

High school seniors are selected for the scholarship based upon demonstrated merit, leadership, and activism in the community. The selection committee chose Joukov out of 150 candidates who competed in the college's scholarship process. He will receive full tuition and room and board each year, plus a \$2,000 annual stipend to be used for summer travel, internships, study-abroad programs, and special projects.

Joukov is pursuing a double major in math and history at BSC where he plays on the men's soccer team. At the Alabama School of Math and Science where he attended high school, his honors included a string of math and history awards and graduating with an unweighted grade-point average of 4.0. Joukov also was active in varsity cross country and soccer.

"Birmingham-Southern is ranked fairly high as far as liberal arts institutions go," he comments, "and I knew that that is the kind of education that I needed to prepare me for law school, where I hope to end up at the end of my four-year stay at BSC."

Joukov and his family moved to the U.S. from St. Petersburg, Russia, nearly 10 years ago—first to Birmingham and then to Mobile.

"I don't think I can describe in words my happiness for the opportunity this scholarship has granted me," he says. "I could not afford to attend this wonderful college without it, and I am both excited and humbled by the chance I have to study here. All my thanks go to God, without whom I would be nothing, and to my friends, who have supported me even when I deserved it least."



Joukov

BSC student wins Miss Alabama 2009 title

Birmingham-Southern senior dance/pre-med major Liz Cochran of Helena is doing a lot of preparing this fall before she heads to Las Vegas to compete in the Miss America pageant, which will be televised live on Jan. 30, 2010, on TLC.

Cochran was crowned the state's newest Miss Alabama June 6 in Samford University's Wright Center following a weeklong competition. Her talent featured a contemporary dance "He Lives in You" from the Broadway performance of *The Lion King*, and her platform is "With Every Beat," focused on the prevention of cardiovascular disease.

"I was surprised to find that cardiovascular disease is the No. 1 killer of Americans," expressed Cochran. "Until four years ago, I thought cancer was, since it gains so much national media attention. Now I'm working with the American Heart Association to raise awareness as well as funds for research."

Competing as Miss Hoover, Cochran received \$10,000 in scholarship money for her state title. She also won the swimsuit preliminary during the competition.

BSC senior dance major Meredith Ervin of Hampton Cove, competing as Miss Leeds Area, finished in the top 10 of the state pageant.



Cochran. Photo courtesy of Danny Barrett Photography.

A group of approximately 12 students, mostly wearing orange t-shirts, are lined up on either side of a central male staff member. The staff member is wearing a navy blue polo shirt, khaki pants, and a name tag. He is holding a red folder with a white letter 'O' on it. They are standing in front of a brick building with a large arched doorway. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting daytime.

ready set enroll!

INSIDE BSC'S UNDERGRADUATE
ADMISSION PROCESS

BY PAT COLE

ARE THERE MANY OTHER DECISIONS THAT CAUSE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO BITE THEIR NAILS MORE THAN HAVING TO CHOOSE A COLLEGE?

It ranks right up there as one of the most serious choices in life they will face, especially in today's world. Nowadays, prospective college students are just as concerned about the social environment on campus as they are about the academic rigor as they winnow their list of college picks.

While the Office of Admission at Birmingham-Southern works diligently year-round to help these students realize their college dreams and aspirations, it is hardly alone. There's a huge field of competitors vying to attract quality students.

"Ten to 20 years ago, a college applicant would apply to very few schools, maybe three at the most," says Sheri Scholl Salmon '85, BSC dean of enrollment management, who has more than 20 years of experience in college admissions (all at her alma mater where she earned a degree in business). "Now students might apply to 13 schools to keep their options open. It's a different student today and a different recruitment process."

Still, that process can be a fascinating one. And despite the massive amounts of paperwork involved on a college's end, the admission procedure is fairly uncomplicated—conversations with prospective students and parents, mail outs, campus tours, college fairs, academic presentations, e-mail queries, application sifting, and candidate screenings.

Then, there's the other side. There is the search and admission process that involves the prospective

student as they set out on a path of self discovery—first college visits, getting applications in on time, taking and retaking standardized tests, talking to admission counselors, and applying for financial aid.

For both parents and students, the college admission process can be rather stressful at times, and might even seem intimidating. That's why BSC made a substantial investment two years ago to move its undergraduate admission offices into the new Admission Welcome Center on campus, built just a short walk from the college's main entrance.

Visitors are often greeted right at the center's double-sized front door as Birmingham-Southern pulls out the red carpet of hospitality and warmth, striving to make the first impression for student visitors and families a welcoming and memorable one. Manicured green grass and colorful flowers and shrubs line the front of the building, and the first step inside reveals the spacious Hulsey Hall living room area with a beautiful stone fireplace.

"Our campus is not merely a collection of utilitarian buildings," remarks BSC President Dr. David Pollick. "A 'place' is always a unique educational opportunity. Whether it's a welcome center, an athletic facility, a parking lot or an urban park, this opportunity is always present and guides us in all our campus planning. Aesthetics always matters."



Jannese Stallworth leads some prospective students and their families on a walking tour of the Elton B. Stephens Science Center as a then-junior biology student and 'Southern Ambassador.

Pictured (opposite page) is new freshman Morgan Hollis from Germantown, Tenn., and members of the group Students Offering Support.



(Left) The beautiful Admission Welcome Center for prospective students, their parents, and other visitors to campus opened in fall 2007; the Phillips Administration Building (inset) formerly housed the Office of Admission; (center) a 'Southern Ambassador welcomes a parent and student to campus; (right) the Alumni Plaza and Fountain, one of several attractive venues on the BSC campus.

THE CAMPUS VISIT

Birmingham-Southern considers the campus visit as one of the most important first steps of the college search process. It's a means of getting people to come and see for themselves what the Hilltop has to offer.

Not only does the physical footprint of BSC display to students how much they are valued, but so do casual encounters with members of the campus and even those who are connected outside of it. Before visitors even reach the welcome center, they've often come in contact with a campus police officer or a landscaper.

Recruitment is far too important to leave to the Office of Admission alone. Salmon stresses that every person on the campus has an impact on prospective students and must see them as the source of the college's prosperity.

"We're having more visitors now than we've ever had, which is great, because once we get them on campus, our chances of matriculating them go through the roof," she explains. "But the real message the Admission Office tries to send is that it's not just us recruiting, it's everyone else, both on- and off-campus—it's faculty, students, receptionists, coaches, landscapers, custodians, cafeteria workers, and alumni. If we're ever going to be truly successful, everyone has to have a hand in recruiting.

"On campus, we all have to show our best self every moment of the day and take pride in the work we do. First impressions are crucial, and if someone is rude or negative, that's all it takes for a student to say 'no.'"

The Admission Office hosts campus tours and open house sessions throughout the year for prospective students and their families, large groups, and even high school guidance counselors. Most of the tours are led by the 'Southern Ambassadors, composed of junior and senior students. The

tour lasts about an hour and ends with a talk. On one of the tour's stops, students and parents watch a video that highlights on-campus living options.

Then there are Black & Gold Days held twice each fall to familiarize high school seniors with BSC's admission process and requirements, and Preview Day events (for high school juniors and seniors) throughout the year.

Student preview and orientation visits also bring many BSC alumni, who are now parents, back to campus for the first time in years. They are often amazed at the transformation of the campus and what they see and experience.

"Our philosophy and motto at Birmingham-Southern has always been that if we give somebody exceptional customer service during their visit, we put them on our sales force for free," says Tyler Peterson, director of recruiting and one of BSC's admission counselors who oversee specific geographic areas. "That's really important to what we do."

Senior business major William Foster of Alpharetta, Ga., remembers what it was like visiting the Hilltop for the first time as a freshman and applying for admission at the Phillips Administration Building before the new welcome center was built.

"Compared to other colleges and universities I had visited, I thought BSC's campus was one of the most attractive," Foster recalls. "When I was first directed to Phillips to speak with my admission counselor, I remember thinking that the physical aspects of the building were rather antiquated and dreary-looking, and it was poorly lit. Now high school seniors who arrive on campus for the first time enter a place that accurately portrays the beauty of our campus."

(continued on page 18)

PARENTLY SPEAKING

What Mindy Bodenhamer had to say about her daughter's college search



Anna and Mindy Bodenhamer

There's nothing quite like sending a child off to her first year of college. It's akin to waving your conductor's baton for the last time.

Take it from a mom who has been down that road not once, but twice. Mindy Bodenhamer's youngest daughter, Anna, began college this fall as a freshman English major at Birmingham-Southern.

"Don't walk alone late at night," she urged her daughter before her first day of classes. "And be a thoughtful roommate."

The mental processing of D-Day (Departure Day)—when a child enters college—can be tough for parents and can carry some rather tense emotions. It's even harder though if the college admission process has been a nightmare. Fortunately for the Bodenhamers, it wasn't.

"BSC was our family's first experience with a private college," says Mindy, "and it was a good one. Anna felt like she was the only student being considered for admission and that Birmingham-Southern was interested in investing in her."

Though her child's college search took a rather circuitous path following her graduation from Vestavia Hills High School earlier this year, that path eventually became clear. Her daughter had applied to four schools, including BSC, and had already accepted admission at one of them before deciding she needed to back out of her commitment.

"Anna was actually attending the school's freshman orientation in late May when she realized that wasn't where she wanted to be," Bodenhamer relates. "She chose to go with her heart rather than what was more economically feasible at the time. It was a bold move."

As soon as Anna returned home, she contacted BSC Dean of Enrollment Management Sheri Salmon by phone and asked if it was too late to accept an earlier invitation to attend Birmingham-Southern. Just months before, the Bodenhamers had been given an extensive tour of the Hilltop campus and had been paired with Admission Counselor Chris Forsythe, with whom, Mindy says, they had a great personal interaction.

"Chris, Sheri, and the Financial Aid Office really worked with us so that BSC would be a good choice for our family," she expresses. "Anna also qualified for a scholarship. Without that help, my daughter wouldn't be here."

During the college search process, Bodenhamer says she and her husband partnered with their daughter at what they deemed to be the "appropriate phases." Though conscientious in their parental role, they were far from being "helicopter" parents, who micromanage their child's every decision and concern.

"We attended the campus tour with Anna as well as Scholarship Day, a financial aid information session, and an admission counseling session," says Bodenhamer, "and we offered a little advice. But the college search process was driven entirely by her. It was Anna's responsibility to write her own college essay, meet her own application deadlines, and many times, go on her own to meet an admission counselor on campus or talk to a staff person in the Office of Financial Aid. She's learned a lot in the process."

Bodenhamer says she and her husband had always wanted their daughter to find the right fit and be in a college environment where she could grow academically and be comfortable enough to get involved in student life and make her college experience truly worthwhile.

"Since my family lives in Birmingham, we were very knowledgeable about BSC and knew it was a great liberal arts college, a fun place to visit, and a great cultural center with theatre, art, and music programs," she remarks. "Anna especially likes the urban setting of the college, and is looking forward to exploring new dimensions of the city."

A COLLEGE IN DEMAND



Salmon

Birmingham-Southern is steadily growing in popularity, enrolling the third largest freshman class in as many years.

For the first time in history, BSC exceeded its previous record traditional undergraduate enrollment with 1,508 students, compared to last year's 1,401.

The 462 total new students this fall, which include 424 freshmen and 38 transfers were chosen from a record 2,539 applications. (Twenty-nine new students joined the college in the spring 2009 term.) Enrollment has mushroomed every year since the fall of 2007 when there were 450 new freshman students on campus. Salmon says the 2,539 applications BSC received last year represented a 15-percentage point increase from the previous year. And the Admission Office already is seeing a strong start to the applications received for the 2010 entering class.

The entering freshman class this fall also is more diverse than the entering class of 2008. The new freshmen represent seven different cultural and ethnic groups: African, Asian, Caucasian, Hispanic, Indian, Middle Eastern, and multiracial—for a total of 20 percent minority enrollment.

The class is geographically diverse as well, representing 23 different states and five foreign countries.

"It's pretty tough to try to shape an incoming class," Salmon emphasizes. "We focus more on achieving enrollment capacity, and we've been fortunate that diversity has just kind of happened with us."

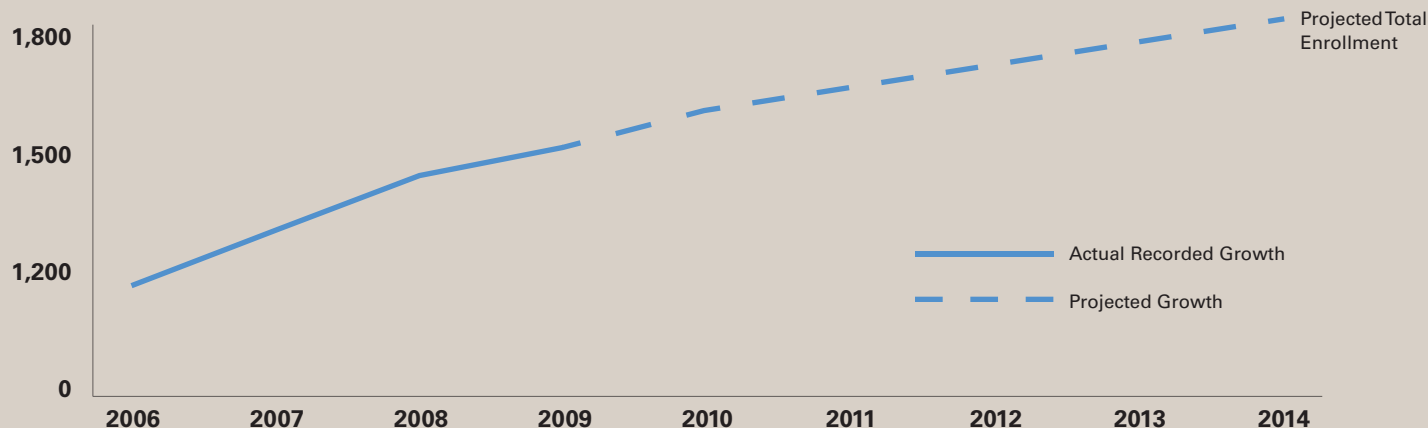
BSC's newest class also represents an unsurpassed academic profile of students attending college in Alabama, with an average ACT score of 26 and an average high school grade-point average of 3.4. The Harrison Honors Program is up by 30 participants this year and eight new students have been named National Merit Scholars.

"We look for students with open minds and who are curious," says Salmon. "This helps to develop an intellectual atmosphere that challenges our professors and boosts the recruitment of top students."

Birmingham-Southern has purposely been growing enrollment the past few years to reach its goal of having 1,800 students by 2014. The larger enrollment will help the college better reflect the larger world into which it sends its students, and will better position BSC as a national liberal arts college.

ENROLLMENT PROFILE FOR ENTERING FIRST-YEAR CLASS, FALL 2006 TO FALL 2009

| | Fall 2006 | Fall 2007 | Fall 2008 | Fall 2009 |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Freshmen | 292 | 450 | 451 | 424 |
| Transfers | 34 | 56 | 52 | 38 |
| Total New First-Year Students | 326 | 506 | 503 | 462 |
| Total Undergraduate Enrollment | 1,207 | 1,339 | 1,412 | 1,508 |





Something altogether different—A gorgeous new 1.5-acre lake has been added to the natural setting of Birmingham-Southern's wooded campus that includes an amphitheatre, walkways, a fountain, and rain gardens for storm water management. The donor-funded Urban Environmental Park will serve as a leisure-time and recreational activity area for students as well as provide a wealth of hands-on learning for Urban Environmental Studies majors. Dedication of the park will be held Saturday morning, Nov. 7, during Homecoming/Alumni Reunion Weekend.

Since the Board of Trustees voted to transition the intercollegiate athletics program at BSC from NCAA Division I to non-scholarship Division III in 2006, the number of scholar-athletes attending the college has doubled.

The three-year pattern of enrollment increases is a sure sign that BSC continues to be an attractive choice for those seeking an extraordinary education

at an excellent price. The college is even realizing growth during a downturned economy, when degrees become that much more important as jobs become scarcer.

Fortunately, philanthropic giving at BSC has remained strong in this economy. The college's *Destiny: Delivered* comprehensive fundraising campaign is providing merit- and need-based scholarship money and adding students to the school.

BSC's rise in enrollment and appeal to prospective students points to many other things as well. New facilities like Panther Stadium and the Urban Environmental Park and landscape renovations have helped boost enrollment by attracting high school seniors and college transfers who are visiting the college. New under-construction, state-of-the-art residence halls and a marching band will serve as big attractions for students next fall.

"The Admission Welcome Center, in particular, sets us up to be successful," expresses Salmon. "Also, we as a staff continue to stretch our markets by introducing BSC first to the counselors at the high schools. We feel that getting them to campus is

FALL 2009 FRESHMAN ENROLLMENT by the numbers

- 1,508** Undergraduate enrollment on the BSC campus
- 2,539** Number of freshman applications
- 1,488** Number of applications accepted
- 424** Number of new freshmen on campus
- 3.43** Average high school GPA of new freshmen
- 26** Average ACT score
- 20%** Minority representation in new class
- 9** International (degree-seeking) students among new freshmen
- 59%** Percentage of new students from Alabama
- 52% male/48% female**
Percentage of male and female new students



Hulsey Hall of the Admission Welcome Center

"Birmingham-Southern, which has long been a collegiate jewel in the South, is increasingly becoming recognized around the nation."

— G. David Pollick

paramount. After visiting, the counselors who had not heard of BSC prior to their visit are just amazed at all the great things going on at Birmingham-Southern and are happy to tell their students if it is a good match for them."

In addition, college referrals are at an all-time high. Many alumni, because of their positive experiences at BSC, recommend the college to family, friends, and acquaintances.

"Birmingham-Southern, which has long been a collegiate jewel in the South, is increasingly becoming recognized around the nation," states President Pollick. "It is truly rare to be able to find a national liberal arts college that offers the range of high quality programs that we do, with such extraordinary personal care, all at thousands of dollars below our national competitors."

ATTRACTING STUDENTS WITH DOLLARS

Toward the end of high school, students scurry to improve their academic record so they can be in the running for financial awards in college.

Birmingham-Southern awards merit scholarships based on GPA and standardized test scores as one incentive to attract students of promise and high achievers. All applicants for admission are considered for merit- and need-based scholarships.

"Birmingham-Southern works very hard at making the right match for students and families," says Salmon, who also oversees the college's Office of Financial Aid. "Financing private education can be a challenge if parents have not planned well. The Office of Admission works together with the Financial Aid Office to use all available resources to assist parents. In-house scholarships, grants, work-study, outside scholarships, and loans all make it possible for many students to attend BSC."

Seeking resources for scholarships and grants has always been a high priority for BSC's fundraising professionals. A strong financial aid program allows

a college or university to recruit a more diverse and talented student body. Increasingly though for many schools and because of the economy, finding available financial aid from the government and other sources is becoming difficult. Phase I of BSC's current *Destiny: Delivered* comprehensive fundraising campaign will add many new endowed scholarships in the coming years, which will help bridge the gap in student tuition and need-based aid.

"The *Destiny: Delivered* campaign has brought forward many caring alumni and friends of the college to make scholarships available to our students," acknowledges Salmon. "They are truly the backbone of our admission efforts."

A Scholarship Day is held on campus each February to determine BSC's top scholars, selected by faculty committees and trustees and administrators. One of the top scholarship packages supported by donors is the Rushton Scholarship, which provides full tuition, room and board, and a stipend.

But prospects don't give up on BSC because they do not get a large scholarship. Ninety-eight percent of Birmingham-Southern students receive some sort of financial aid.

"We wish everyone could win a top scholarship," says Fred Carter, director of the BSC Financial Aid Office. "But by also submitting the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), a student can receive additional financing options. Last year, the college awarded more than \$27 million in financial aid."

For Morgan Rusby, a sophomore art major, it was more than winning scholarship money that sealed the deal for her to want to attend BSC.

"Birmingham-Southern embodied the qualities of college that I wanted such as excellent academics, a lively campus, and a small student-to faculty-ratio," she says. "My scholarships allowed me to focus on my pursuit of an art career, and to also make great friends along the way."

"Last year, the college awarded more than \$27 million in financial aid."

— Fred Carter

APPLYING FOR ADMISSION

Today's prospective student relies increasingly on the Internet for preliminary information about colleges, and they can even fill out their applications online.

The competitive nature of the admission process lies in the increasing number of students graduating from high school in the United States. From October 2007 to October 2008, there were 3.2 million, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; for 2009, the number of high school graduates was projected to grow to 3.3 million, as indicated by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Not only does this offspring of the Baby Boom generation represent the jump in high school graduates, but there are also the factors of increasing numbers of immigrants and the growing realization that a college degree is often the way to financial success in America.



BSC's admission counselors (front row, from left): Dana Porter '03, Charla Brown '02, Ashley Frohock '03, and John Hawkins; (back row, from left): Rebecca Yeager '06, Jon Crook, Chris Forsythe '98, Tyler Peterson, Tyler Davis '06, Sheri Salmon '85, Christa Calvert '05, and Jennifer Waters '86.

"This makes it difficult for us in admission because students are often putting down double, even triple deposits to hold a spot at schools," says Salmon. "That means a student isn't necessarily connected, although it does allow us an opportunity to remain connected with them. That's why we have to continue recruiting. We begin the recruitment process as early as their freshman year in high school to get on their radar."

BSC, along with most colleges, buys names from a database supplier as a primary means of finding students they are interesting in recruiting. The

college's target market for prospective students is Alabama, followed by the states of Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Texas. The outlying states serve as tertiary markets.

"We have four different sources where we go get student names," says Jon Crook, director of admission operations. "We'll look at all of the names and the background of those U.S. students based upon their ZIP codes or neighborhood clusters to see which ones would be a good fit for us—intentionally going back to places that have given us top students."

The admission staff also determines where the stronger alumni bases are located and markets where competitors have a stronghold, indicating that those students have a propensity toward private education. Even test scores are purchased by the office to determine if students fit the college's academic profile, and alumni referrals are often relied on, which give them names of students who would be good candidates for admission.

Along with an application, students are required to submit their ACT/SAT score, an essay, high school transcript, recommendation letter, and résumé. If a student has a GED, a certain score is required.

"The essay is really important," says Peterson. "It tells us who the student really is."

The admission process for transfer students is similar to freshmen. The only difference is that transfer students have to submit college transcripts from any colleges and universities previously attended after earning at least 12 credit hours there.

BSC admission counselors have the sole discretion to admit the majority of applicants, but some, because of their profile, must be reviewed by a faculty and staff committee.

"Not everyone is talented enough to do the work here," Salmon comments. "The college is looking for students who can handle an engaging and rigorous academic program and who are service oriented. GPA and test performance can be strong indicators of future success. We have to be fair and up front with potential students."

Crook believes the college application process as a whole has become much more competitive.

"Students and parents are savvy these days and they ask a lot of good questions," he says. "Usually we have over 30,000 inquiries a year and about 10 percent or just under will apply. We have seen our interest expand into new areas of the country and international interest is also increasing."

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ON AN UPSWING

Crook says he's seen a steady growth in the amount of international students applying to BSC. As Birmingham-Southern's international conduit for recruiting, he works closely with Anne Ledvina and the staff of the Herb and Ellie Sklenar Center for International Programs on campus.

"Our goal is to be more ethnically and geographically diverse," Crook notes, "so certainly we want to increase the number of international students on campus too. "This year, most of the new international students came from

GIVING PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS THE SCOOP ABOUT BSC

There are many advantages to attending a small liberal arts college that help Birmingham-Southern sell itself.

Regardless of the fixation some students have with hooking up to a top-college brand or with a large public university, many prospects find that name recognition and visibility are not nearly as important as the experiences they can acquire during their college years. The Admission Office at BSC believes that finding the right fit between a student and a college is much more important than a school's size or its

"I'm on campus at 3 or 4 a.m. some days to communicate with a prospective [international] student due to the time zone difference."

— Jon Crook

Asia. Since our staff doesn't travel overseas, there's a lot of e-mailing that goes back and forth. I'm on campus at 3 or 4 a.m. some days to communicate with a prospective [international] student due to the time zone difference."

The majority of these students find BSC on their own. Meiqi Wang, a freshman accounting major from China, says the Internet and college guidebooks are what she and her friends used.

"College rankings are the most well-known source for data," she says. "I was attracted to Birmingham-Southern's strong academic program and the expertise of its accounting professors."

BSC has eight active international exchange partnerships that allow its students to pursue degrees at their campuses while their students pursue degrees at Birmingham-Southern.

The Admission Office assists these students with their adjustment to BSC.

Jean Damascene Rugamba, a freshman from Rwanda, Africa, came to BSC to study under the Rwandan Presidential Scholars Program. The international exchange program is a partnership between the Rwandan government and a number of U.S. colleges to better educate Rwanda's best students so they can return to their native country and help rebuild it through education.

In 2007, Birmingham-Southern's international exchange partner, Kansai Gaidai University in Japan, invited the college to establish a dual-degree program that would bring their best students to Birmingham-Southern for two years to graduate with both a liberal arts degree from BSC and an English degree from Kansai Gaidai. Senior art major Reika Uemura will be the first Birmingham-Southern graduate of this program.

place in popular rankings reports.

"We're upfront and honest with prospective students and we tell them that we have a rigorous academic program and they will write a lot at Birmingham-Southern, as well as learn to be critical and creative thinkers," Peterson points out.

"We also sell them on our programs, like the January Interim term and study abroad. And we tell them about our small class sizes, which will cause them to have close interactions with distinguished faculty and other bright students.

"Birmingham-Southern is not for everyone though. One of the first things I say to a student as a reason not to come to BSC is: if you are looking for a place to just sit in the back of the classroom and not get called on, this is not your school. The relationship between our students and professors is an engaged one, and we offer experiences that are challenging in and out of the classroom."

Over and over, the counselors of the Admission Office tell the BSC story to thousands of guests each year and answer questions about life on campus. Associate Director of Admission John Hawkins says he uses this powerful recruiting tool to lift up enhancements to BSC's academic program.

"One of my selling points is introducing them to the Foundations curriculum for general education and letting them know about any new majors or courses we have," he says. "This fall, the college doubled its foreign language offerings. I love telling prospective students about the academic freedom of this campus. With their imagination and guidance from faculty advisors, they can reach their academic goals and their dream careers."

The admission counselors also love to tell students about the college's non-academic environment and that BSC has much to offer—from annual traditions like Homecoming/Alumni Reunion to beautiful spaces like the



Freshman Jean
Damascene Rugamba
of Rwanda, Africa



Associate Director of Admission John Hawkins answers questions and hands out material to a prospective student and her family at the Colleges That Change Lives Fair held in Birmingham in August.

EcoScape and the new lake to all the cultural and sporting events that take place year-round. In addition, there is free roundtrip transportation for students to several popular shopping venues on the city's outskirts, as well as dozens of campus organizations for them to join.

"We also really promote our study abroad program and encourage students to get an international experience while they are at Birmingham-Southern to study for a year or a semester," remarks Peterson. "Many more international travel scholarships are available to students now."

Another great benefit BSC admission counselors share of

living and learning on a rolling Hilltop is the college's connection and its ability to draw on the city that its names implies—Birmingham-Southern. The college's location in an urban setting and in a bigger city is a benefit of the school.

Students can experience a wealth of the city's history and culture, including its global reputation in galvanizing the civil rights movement

and its giant steel industries. Birmingham also offers many internship opportunities, performing arts venues, and sporting events. Also, the beneficial service learning/community projects that students engage in usually focus on the city's urban setting.

Along with sharing all these opportunities that the college and community offer, the admission counselors strive to incorporate the college's values and ideals into the storytelling of the BSC experience.

"We tell them that the greatest part of Birmingham-Southern is in the learning community and the social environment we have," says Peterson. "But there's a transformative process the college focuses on as well; we want students to become future leaders and to really make a difference in the communities out there and in the world."

INSIDE THE MIND OF A PROSPECTIVE STUDENT

Sarah McCune, a sophomore who is double majoring in English and religion, first heard of Birmingham-Southern in 2007 when she launched a Google search with the phrase "liberal arts schools in the South." McCune found BSC at the top of the search results. That piqued her interest and she began doing some research. She also read guidebooks like *The Princeton Review* and Loren Pope's *Colleges That Change Lives*.

Raised in St. Simons Island, Ga., McCune moved with her family to Birmingham her freshman year of high school, and to the state of Montana at the start of her sophomore year.



But McCune says when it came time to search for colleges that she longed to return to her native South. She applied first to a large public university in Alabama, but found that the fit wasn't right.

"Rankings did heighten the appeal for me, but the liberal arts atmosphere and campus size were more important," she remarks. "I believe the liberal arts are important to a well-rounded life because you learn skills in a variety of subjects. I was actually scared to apply to a top-tiered school like Birmingham-Southern. My grades and ACT score were okay, but not outstanding."

McCune finally went with her gut feeling and followed BSC Admission Counselor Rebecca Yeager's urging. Late into



Sophomore Sarah McCune (second from left) and her family

her senior year, she applied for admission, and the very next day, she was accepted as a new student on the Hilltop.

She and her family visited BSC for the first time two days before fall orientation in August 2008. That's when McCune says she felt that she needed to be here.

"A student ambassador led us on the tour that day and really sold the college to me," she relates, "and she did so in a very personal way. After the tour, I knew BSC was the right fit for me. I really liked the small classroom sizes, service learning and Leadership Studies programs, diversity of the city, and the variety of organizations on campus."

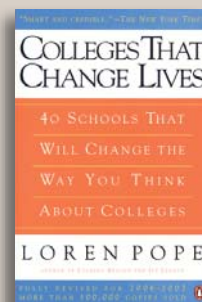
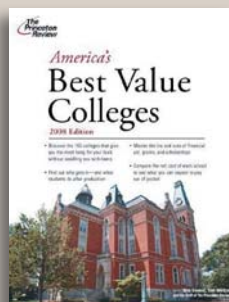
"But I also knew that paying for it would be an issue. My first year was hard, to say the least, being so far away from home, but I kept finding that the positives outweighed the negatives."

Conversations with President David Pollick and the Financial Aid Office proved fruitful and McCune has been making the most of her time at BSC ever since.

The professors on campus love what they do, and they really care about students," she expresses. "When I realized that, I began to participate in student organizations and stepped out of my comfort zone."

McCune is active in several groups, including the President's Service Team and Interfaith Alliance. Already, she says she feels quite invested in Birmingham-Southern.

"I am doing meaningful things, both on and off the Hilltop," she says, "and that means a lot to me."



The 2009-10 'Southern Ambassadors, who promote BSC to prospective students

RECRUITING MILLENNIALS: HIGH TECH

A new and exciting area has merged with college recruiting in the past five years. Enter the age of social media.

Social networking sites such as YouTube, Twitter, and Facebook are very popular, especially with today's youth. In fact, social networking is used by the millennial generation—18 to 29 year olds—nonstop, according to figures by Nielsen Online. In its latest survey, Twitter alone grew 1,382 percent year-over-year in February.

The latest trend among this generation is to move away from e-mail correspondence altogether and just use the messaging systems on social networking sites. The young men and women BSC is recruiting are following suit.

In response to this new online phenomenon, the Office of Admission at Birmingham-Southern has ventured into this new medium and added all of these inexpensive tools to its recruitment strategies. Social networking sites help BSC create brand awareness within the college market, including everything from posting videos, photo galleries, and speeches to recording campus activities and student social/cultural life from a cell phone or computer.



All the social media platforms are interconnected so that what gets posted on Facebook can automatically be seen on Twitter too. Twitter allows for short, instantaneous web updates or “tweets” to be posted. Facebook has “wall postings” where prospective students can leave comments, and it offers a convenient way for prospects to connect with BSC alumni. On the YouTube video page, prospective students can get a “virtual tour” of campus and explore other features of BSC life, many times filmed by current students.

By placing the college’s profile on these sites, BSC can reach and attract prospective students who will interact with the media. Potentially, high school students can invite their friends to participate and help establish a strong online presence for Birmingham-Southern.



Three of a kind—The Stanley triplets of Huntsville—all fraternal—were among the new arrivals to the third largest incoming freshman class at Birmingham-Southern this fall. From left (and in birth order) are Katie, Amanda, and Stephanie Stanley pictured on campus. Katie is majoring in studio art with a photography concentration, while her sisters have not yet decided on a major. The freshman class at BSC this year also includes one set of twins.

“Each year, there is a class Facebook page created for incoming students, which is designed to really encourage them to get out there and talk with each other,” Peterson describes. “Sometimes students can find a roommate or find out who’s going to this or that event, for example. It also allows the admission officers to ‘break the ice’ with prospective students and correspond with them more regularly.”

BSC faculty can set up Facebook or Twitter pages to keep in touch with prospective students and to promote their field or academic program. Using Twitter, they can give prospects a heads up on what to expect as a student on the Hilltop.

“The interesting thing with social networking is that it allows users to generate and manage their own content, so the communication and the conversation is controlled more by the prospective student who wants to communicate with us,” notes Peterson. “We encourage these students to visit us on all social networking sites to learn more and experience more about the college.”

As the admission officers continue to explore these new media, they’ve found that different types of technology appeal to different types of people.

“There are some students who won’t respond to our e-mails or phone calls, but who are on Facebook or on Twitter, and prefer to respond that way,” he says. “We don’t do much texting to students; that hasn’t been as popular.”

COLLABORATION AND TEAMWORK

As Birmingham-Southern places its stamp on one of the most successful years in BSC enrollment history, much of that achievement can be attributed to the collaborative efforts of the campus community. The Admission Office has developed very close working relationships with the many departments on campus that are each a valuable part of the recruitment efforts of the college.

In a new step this year, the Communications and Admission offices—in collaboration with Hobsons EMT—set up a VIP personalized Web page for prospective students at the BSC Web site. The site allows prospective students to personalize their own pages according to their interests and provides them with important information regarding application status, available financial aid, and upcoming campus events. New-look Web sites for the college and the Admission Office will be unveiled later this year that will enhance BSC’s image even more.

The coaches at Birmingham-Southern also are excellent recruiters. They meet with Salmon and her staff at the beginning of the academic year to discuss pertinent issues relative to recruiting students to Birmingham-Southern.

“Recruiting requires good salesmanship skills, and most coaches have such skills, as they are constantly selling themselves, their programs, their philosophies, and of course, our great institution to prospective students,” remarks BSC Athletics Director Joe Dean Jr. “The coaches try to identify students who can perform in class academically and are talented athletes.”

BSC alumni help the Admission Office recruit by hosting students in their homes, calling them once they are admitted to talk about their experience at the college, providing new student recommendations, and attending college fairs, among many other things.

"Though we think of high school graduates today as being worldlier than a generation ago, for most, college is a big unknown," says Boyd Johnson '81, co-chair of the Atlanta Regional Campaign Committee. "How hard will it be to be on my own? Will it be too tough academically? Will I feel comfortable there? A call from an alum is a great way to address these concerns."

Salmon oversees a staff of 25 in the Admission Office, including directors and admission counselors, who specialize in recruiting. Nine of the counselors are BSC alumni. Longtime admission staff member Becky Baxter recently assumed the new position of visit coordinator.

The counselors spend six-to eight weeks on the road each year making face-to-face contacts with people. The bulk of travel for admission counselors is in the fall when college fairs are plentiful, and for private visits, which means going to a school and talking to a class or a student assembly. Counselors know firsthand that prospective students are usually the best recruiters who encourage other students to join them at colleges.

"We have always used very personal one-on-one recruiting with our families, and that tends to resonate well with the students and parents," Salmon notes. "One new plan for the Admission Office is to hire 'regional recruiters' in Georgia and Florida to have counselors based near prospective students. They will actually live there, and their office will be from home."

"Many 'millennial' students and their parents are focused on outcomes, so a lot of their questions are about graduate school statistics and job placement percentages," says Charla Brown, coordinator of admission events. "There is also more of an emphasis placed on campus aesthetics than ever before. Students and their parents want, and frankly expect, state-of-the-art academic and residential facilities, and oftentimes choose a college for this very reason."

That's why Salmon believes it's important that the college be flexible and willing to change.

"Students who come to BSC expect to get the best education in the state. But it's not good enough to just have the best education anymore. For example, students often don't want to share a residence hall room; they want their own room and their own space. The customer expects more, so we are forced into this whirlwind of meeting their expectations.

"We continue to have obstacles of the misconceived notion of what Birmingham is, and its history. Despite this, we continue to use our marketing and publications to promote the good story of Birmingham-Southern and its outcomes."

GOALS AND OUTCOMES

There is no worse feeling than to work hard to find the best and brightest students, only to see them leave the college before they graduate. Birmingham-Southern has placed great emphasis on its retention efforts in recent years, and it is paying off. Six-year graduation rates for four-year private institutions in the U.S. are at 69 percent, compared to 49 percent for public institutions, according to the

"... we also want them [graduates] to appreciate that real fulfillment comes through servant leadership and giving back to help others realize their dreams."

— Sheri Salmon

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Birmingham-Southern's enrollment is growing despite the increasingly competitive applicant pool that thrives on rankings and rapid communication.

High school students tend to be drawn to large public universities, creating the perception that the applicant pool has shrunk on the private, four-year liberal arts end. But the admission process is working at BSC as the college continues to experience rising numbers of applicants each year.

"We will always compete with public universities and community colleges," Salmon pinpoints. "The biggest obstacle for us is their lower cost and their ability to award scholarships to more top students. Also, other private colleges like Birmingham-Southern are not situated like we are; we're sandwiched between the state's big public universities."

Another interesting trend BSC's admission counselors say they've encountered is the higher expectations, needs, and demands of the millennial generation. More and more, students are telling colleges what they want, raising customer service to a whole new level in higher education.

National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities. BSC's graduation rate this year was above the national average at 71 percent, up from 65 percent last year.

The college's first to senior year retention rate is very high as well, and stood at 81 percent this past academic year. The college's excellent advising programs and Four-Year Guarantee allow students to take full advantage of educational resources and complete their degree requirements in a timely manner.

And BSC graduates are sought-after, whether by the nation's most prestigious graduate schools or by nonprofit or multinational companies. BSC annually ranks No. 1 in Alabama and among the nation's best in graduates accepted to medical, dental, and health career programs, and it also ranks high nationally in graduates accepted into law school. Birmingham-Southern's alums are really the best example of what results from a BSC education.

"Students come to BSC for expected outcomes—a return on an investment," says Salmon. "I think we do a tremendous job with that. And while we want our graduates to be successful, we also want them to appreciate that real fulfillment comes through servant leadership and giving back to help others realize their dreams."

KEEPING THE CONNECTION

Twenty-three legacies join Hilltop family as new students

Birmingham-Southern is proud that each year a considerable number of children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren of alumni are found among the new students who've enrolled on the Hilltop.

"While every new student adds a unique presence to our community, a legacy is a truly special gift," says BSC President Dr. David Pollick. "They represent the greatest tangible symbol of confidence that an alumna or alumnus can display in their alma mater. To entrust one's own daughter or son to a faculty speaks to an appreciation of a shared history, while simultaneously expressing a belief in our vision of the future. There can be no higher compliment given a college community."

An effort by the Alumni Office to expand the college's Legacy Program is in the works to keep the children of BSC alumni connected to the college. Under the current program, new arrivals of BSC alumni receive a baby bib, a letter from President Pollick, and a letter from the offices of Admission and Institutional Advancement once they learn of a birth. Under the expanded program, however, the college will create timelines for connecting with alumni children at many other significant milestones in their lives. The goal is for children of alumni to keep BSC in mind when they plan for their college careers.

At Freshman Move-In Day this year, the Alumni Office handed out BSC blankets to all incoming children and grandchildren of Birmingham-Southern alumni. The tag on the blankets read "Your Family Tree Includes BSC."

Although the Office of Admission gives no preference to the children of BSC alumni, most alumni would like their children to attend their alma mater out of their love for the college, the ideals that Birmingham-Southern stands for and its traditions, and the quality of its academic program.

Karlyn and Thomas Head's son, freshman H. Thomas Head of Jackson, Tenn., confirms "My parents were the primary influence. During my college search, mom and dad gave me 'private tours' of the campus and told stories about their experiences at BSC. My mom was always talking about how many friends she made at Birmingham-Southern despite being so shy her freshman year. Dad talked about the academics: the classes are outstanding and unlike anything he had experienced in high school. Add all this to the fact that I was raised here in Birmingham, and the decision to attend 'Southern became an easy one. It was just like coming home."

Members of the 2009 Legacy Class continuing their families' tradition with BSC include:

Alexandra Adams of Smyrna, Tenn., step-daughter of Jack Moore '88; Emily Allen of Vestavia Hills, daughter of Amy Turnage Allen '84 and Andrew Allen '84; Brian Bass of College Grove, Tenn., son of Stephen Bass '78; Stephen Denton of Madison, son of Michele Munsey Denton '85; Vera Ellis of Hoover, daughter of Dr. Martha Baird Ellis '79 and Dr. Neal Ellis Jr. '79; Ed Fay of Brentwood, Tenn., son of Jaydie Gamble Fay '86 and Eugene Fay '77; Scott Ferguson of Prattville, son of Maj. Donald Ferguson '83; Austin Hagood of Huntsville, son of Mark Hagood '85; Nathan Haywood of Fairhope, son of Karen Stanford Haywood '79 and grandson of Kathryn Holder Stanford '51 and Earnest Stanford '51; H. Thomas Head of Jackson, Tenn., son of Karlyn Sharp Head '87 and Thomas Head '85; Asa Hill of Titusville, granddaughter of Edith Sherperd Hill '93; Rachael Hyde of Pinson, daughter of Marcia Strickland Hyde '79; Elizabeth Johnson of Hoover, daughter of Bruce Johnson Jr. '63 and granddaughter of the late Leila Wright Johnson '40 and the late Bruce Johnson Sr. '40; Kathleen Kennedy of Mountain Brook, daughter of Paula Perkinson Kennedy '84; William McCrory of Dozier, great grandson of the late Miriam Mure Stewart '30; Jessica Moore of Trussville, granddaughter of Judy Warner Tribble '75; Caitlin Moran of Huntsville, daughter of Ellen O'Kelley Moran '84 and Stephan Moran '83; Jacob Porch of Easton, Md., son of John Porch '83; John Powers of West Point, Ga., great grandson of the late Woodrow Beaird '37; John Stewart of Homewood, son of Dr. Donald Stewart '81; Templeton Stump of Redmont, son of Jane Templeton Stump '79 and Kevin Stump '80; Bret Thompson of Inverness, son of Rev. Keith Thompson '83 and great grandson of Lafayette Rogers '28; and Elizabeth Urquhart of Anniston, daughter of Dr. Charles Urquhart '81.

If you know of one we've missed, please e-mail us at pcole@bsc.edu, and we'll add it in an upcoming issue. Also, if you'd like to recommend a family member as a prospective BSC student, fill out the simple form at www.bsc.edu/alumni/prospective.htm.

Homecoming/Alumni Reunion 2009: 'Let the Good Times Roll!'



BSC alumni young and old will "Let The Good Times Roll" this fall as Birmingham-Southern celebrates its annual Homecoming/Alumni Reunion Weekend on campus Nov. 6-7.

The planning committee is building off a hugely successful 2008 Homecoming/Alumni Reunion that saw the return of the traditional Panther Homecoming football game for the first time in nearly 70 years.

The Panthers will start a new tradition this year as they welcome fellow Methodist-affiliated Huntingdon College to compete for the Wesley Cup. The two teams will compete each year to see who lays claim to the cup for that season.

In addition to the Homecoming game on Saturday, there will be plenty of events and activities across the Hilltop for BSC alumni and

friends to enjoy. Highlights of the week will include an annual Alumni Awards Luncheon, President's Reception, Friday night class parties on the academic quad, and the Young Alumni Party on Friday.

Alumni receiving awards at this year's luncheon include Hugh Martin '35, Reverend Samuel Mann '62, Dr. F. Cleveland Kinney '67, John Paul Huguley '93, Ginny Phillips '97, and Marta McLellan Ross '02.

Saturday's events also will include the Homecoming game, Class of 1959 Reunion Brunch, and various tailgate parties prior to kickoff. Honors class attendees will be treated to their own tailgate parties, where they can grab a cold drink before kickoff and catch up with fellow classmates.

Following the success of last year's all-alumni service project, alumni attending Homecoming/Alumni Reunion 2009 will have another opportunity to help those in need. Through "Hope from the Hilltop," BSC alumni are encouraged to bring a single plastic grocery bag filled with full-size toiletry items such as shampoo, bars of soap, toothpaste, razors, and lotion, and deliver the filled bags to campus. The bags will be distributed through Urban Ministries to its shelter residents.

For more information about Birmingham-Southern's 2009 Homecoming/Alumni Reunion weekend, including a full schedule of events and registration information, log on to www.bsc.edu/alumni/reunion2009.

www.bsc.edu/alumni/reunion2009



Stockham Parlor receives a makeover

Hundreds of female graduates of Birmingham-Southern fondly remember the Stockham Women's Building as the home to activities specifically devoted to them.

Completed in 1931, the building was named for Mrs. W.H. Stockham, who as chair of the BSC Board of Trustees donated \$75,000 toward its construction. Originally, sororities rented space on the second floor, girls' physical education classes occupied the basement floor, and the first floor housed the well-known and beloved parlor.

The parlor has hosted many special occasions throughout the years—sorority teas and chapter meetings, faculty and staff retirement receptions, recitals, and even baby showers and wedding receptions. Over the years, the room began to lose some of its luster, but demand for its use continued to grow. Lisa Harrison MPPM '85, director of alumni affairs, led the call to give the parlor a fresh new look, and Karen McElroy Carroll '87, incoming president of the BSC Alumni Association, answered the call. With Carroll's extensive design network (she served as editor of *Southern Accents* magazine for 20 years), she helped to secure the services of noted Birmingham decorator Mary Evelyn McKee. Together, they created a beautiful design for the parlor based on a palette of soft dove gray and cream.

Now that the room has been returned to its original splendor, the college's collection of Turnipseed family furniture, the oldest and most historic furniture on campus, has been placed back into the room. The pieces date from the early 19th century and were given by Janice and Ernest Ikenberry in memory of Janice's father, William

Owen Turnipseed, who graduated from Southern University in 1906. Southern University was one of the founding institutions that formed Birmingham-Southern. Future plans include augmenting the Turnipseed family furniture with some upholstered and serving pieces, which will be useful for hosting receptions and other events.

Because of its historic nature, the parlor required a renovation by skilled craftsmen. They repaired the molding, plaster, and doors, and cleaned and repaired the door handles and hinges. The carpet was removed and the original parquet floor restored and repaired. The original light fixtures were cleaned and polished.

A new addition to the parlor is the handsome antique Kaim & Sohn grand piano donated to the college by Dr. Peter Bunting '66 and Derry Brice Bunting '69. The piano was manufactured in Kirchheim, Germany, around 1905, and was the centerpiece of the Buntings' living room prior to their recent move. The Buntings' previous home was built by Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Stockham.

If you are interested in contributing to the Stockham Parlor Renovation Fund, please contact Harrison at 205/226-4912 or lharriso@bsc.edu or Martha Boshers, director of gift planning and policy, at 205/226-4978 or mboshers@bsc.edu.

The next time you're on campus, make a point to stop by and see the parlor. And if you're planning a reception, shower, or other event, the parlor is available by reservation. To inquire about availability and rental fees, contact Anne Curry, director of facilities and events, at 205/226-4904 or acurry@bsc.edu.

Alumni chapter event photos

The national Alumni Association at Birmingham-Southern has 35 active chapters throughout the country. These chapters reconnect alumni to the college, provide a way for alumni to network with college classmates, and aid the college in student recruitment efforts.

Here are photos of some recent chapter events. You can peruse our online calendar for upcoming chapter activities in your area at www.bsc.edu/alumnet. If you are interested in starting a chapter in your region, contact Mallie Searcy '07 at 205/226-4908 or msearcy@bsc.edu.



English Gonzalez '95 and her daughter, Talia Grace, make a butterfly at the "Mommy and Me (and Daddy, too)" event at the Birmingham Zoo Aug. 1.



Anniston/Oxford area alumni gathered for a wine reception Aug. 6 at Garfrerick's Restaurant.



(From left) Danny Potts '88, Gaines Brake '98, Line Ringuette-Brake, and BSC Major Gifts Officer Jessica Lane were among those attending the Aug. 20 Tuscaloosa Alumni Chapter event at Kozy's Restaurant.



Among those in attendance at the inaugural Raleigh/Durham/Chapel Hill Alumni Chapter event Aug. 24 were (from left) Elizabeth Manning '03, Johannes Norrell '04, and Allen Barksdale '93.



Enjoying the camaraderie of fellow alumni in Charlotte Aug. 25 were (from left) Amy Wear Reynolds '00, Greg Reynolds '98, and chapter leader Sean Hair '99.



Alumni in Asheville, N.C., gathered Aug. 26 at Corner Kitchen Restaurant for an intimate dinner.



The BSC Pensacola Alumni Chapter enjoyed a cocktail reception on the upper deck of Hemingway's Island Grill Sept. 10.



Trish House McCluney '97 and Richard McCluney were on the host committee for the Aug. 27 Piedmont-Triad inaugural gathering at Childress Vineyards.



Also enjoying the evening outside at Childress Vineyards were (from left) Mary Helen Ferguson '04, chapter leader Leslie Gunter McPherson '86, and Martha Rose Barden '59.



Alumni from across Arizona met for their inaugural chapter event in Tempe Aug. 29.



Attendees of the Sept. 1 Atlanta Area Alumni Wine Dinner enjoyed remarks by Dr. Sam Pezzillo, BSC professor of classics (second from right). Pictured with him are (from left) Greer Real Tirrill '79, Debbie Klauss Pezzillo '76, and John Tirrill.

Institutional Advancement team welcomes four new members



(From left) Dan Britt, Susan Anderson, Kate Lamar '09, and Ashley Gilbert '08.

Four new members have joined the Office of Institutional Advancement whose roles will help the college continue to raise funding for key academic and campus programs.

Daniel Britt is assistant vice president for institutional advancement, replacing Keith Thompson '83, who is now senior minister at First United Methodist Church of Birmingham. As director of development for Atlanta Lyric Theatre from 2001-04, Britt built its development program from the ground up. He then became executive director and led the company until 2007. His most recent experience is in the for-profit world, serving as vice president of direct selling/media development for Miller Zell Inc., reporting directly to the CEO. He is working closely with the regional *Destiny: Delivered* campaign committees to close Phase I and plan for Phase II.

Formerly editor of *Coastal Living* magazine, Susan Anderson is a major gifts officer. Her extensive communications experience is helping her to develop relationships with alumni and friends of the college. This fall, Anderson is completing a 150-mile bike ride in Tennessee to raise money for multiple sclerosis research, which she hopes can benefit her sister who has MS.

Kate Lamar '09 is advancement researcher, providing research support to both the development and alumni offices. After graduation, Lamar worked as

a marketing coordinator for Physicians Medical Center Carraway before it closed its doors in late 2008, then spent some time as a magazine specialist for Books-a-Million.

Ashley Gilbert '08 is campaign assistant, providing administrative support for the *Destiny: Delivered* comprehensive campaign. Prior to joining IA, Gilbert was pursuing her master's degree in counseling at the University of Montevallo, and she is continuing her studies.

Go green with the Annual Fund!

Birmingham-Southern Annual Fund donors can help the college in yet another cause—by going green! Those interested in giving to the Annual Fund can now do so online, eliminating the need for paper envelopes, pledge cards, and other materials. Visit www.bsc.edu/egiving/.

Additionally, donors will now have the option to receive their pledge receipts and statements via e-mail. Donors can still choose to send and receive their donation materials by regular mail, but the online option is just another way that Birmingham-Southern is dedicated to decreasing its impact on our environment.

Why give to the BSC Annual Fund?

Donations to the Birmingham-Southern Annual Fund impact the lives of our students every day. The money you give goes to ensuring that the college has the resources and the people necessary to deliver the BSC experience.

Every gift to the Annual Fund goes directly towards increasing the quality of our students' education on the Hilltop.

Every dollar helps support essentials such as BSC's financial aid program and scholarships. Thanks to your contributions, 98 percent of our 2009 freshman class is receiving a merit- or need-based grant.

For more information, contact Susan Smith Ellard '88 at sellard@bsc.edu or 205/226-4977. To make a contribution, visit the BSC E-giving Web site: www.bsc.edu/egiving.



BIRMINGHAM-SOUTHERN

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BSC to induct six into Sports Hall of Fame

Six outstanding former Birmingham-Southern athletes are set to be inducted into the BSC Sports Hall of Fame at the annual Hall of Fame Banquet, Friday, Nov. 6, during Homecoming/Alumni Reunion Weekend 2009.

The 2009 inductees are:

Dan Anderson '79 **(men's basketball, 1977-79)**

Dan Anderson was a prominent member of the first two BSC teams to win District Championships and to make the NAIA National Tournament in Kansas City. The 1978 team went 29-5 and was ranked 11th in the nation. Anderson was the second-leading scorer (13 ppg), and scored 15 points in BSC's first national tournament win in Kansas City. In 1978-79, his team repeated the previous year's success: they won 29 games, he averaged 13 points per game, and they advanced to the National Tournament for the second year in a row. Anderson now is the president of Diversified Supply Co. in Alabaster.

Mark Miranda '92 **(baseball, 1980-81)**

Mark Miranda played on two of BSC's most successful baseball teams in 1980 and 1981. Those two teams were a combined 102-24, including one District 27 and one Southern

States Conference Championship. Miranda had a career hitting percentage of .371, with 181 hits in two seasons. He is tied for 10th in career triples (8). Miranda is president of American United Life Insurance Co. in Birmingham.

Dr. Chris Shaver '94 **(men's basketball, 1990-94)**

Chris Shaver was a four-year letterman in a span that saw a record of 100-28 and two appearances in the NAIA National Tournament. He was an NAIA Academic All-American and a two-time winner of the Murray Arnold Scholar-Athlete award at BSC. Shaver is a physician at Birmingham's Brookwood Medical Center.

Dr. Jessica Walker Crowder '99 **(women's soccer, 1995-98)**

With 19 career goals, Jessica Crowder is tied for first in single-game assists (4) and ranks fifth in single-season assists (10) in the BSC record book. She was an NAIA All-American Scholar-Athlete, was named to the NAIA All-Region second team, and was an All-Academic selection. Crowder also was All-TranSouth Conference, All-TranSouth Conference Tournament, and All-TranSouth Scholar-Athlete. She is a neurologist at Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Miss.

John Driskill '01 **(baseball, 1998-01)**

On the career record list of BSC baseball, John Driskill is first in the following categories: games played (247), games started (229), at bats (872), runs scored (235), hits (318 – only player in BSC history over 300 career hits), and doubles (66). He also is 11th on the all-time home run list (24), second in RBIs (217 – one of only two players in history with more than 200 RBIs), and second in total bases (412). A two-time NAIA All-District selection and the leader of the 2001 NAIA National Championship team, Driskill also was a 2000 NAIA Academic All-American. He is a pharmaceutical sales representative in Birmingham.

Lindsay Boyett '04 **(women's basketball, 2000-04)**

Lindsay Boyett is the all-time leading scorer in BSC women's basketball history with 1,603 points and the all-time assist leader with 270. She made 64 consecutive free throws, just two shy of the NCAA record, and was a career 89 percent free-throw shooter. Named Independent Division I Women's Basketball Player of the Year in both 2002 and 2003, Boyett now works as a pharmacist for CVS Pharmacy in Trussville.

Panther sports schedules available online

The 2009-10 schedules for the college's 21 NCAA Division III and Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference sports teams are now posted online. For game schedules and rosters, to review highlights and information from the day's sports action, get ticket information, or keep up with up-to-the-minute scores from our live game tracker, visit the BSC athletics Web site at www.bsports.net.



Goldfarb gets 300th career soccer win—BSC Head Men's Soccer Coach Preston Goldfarb picked up his 300th career win Sept. 6 in the final game of the 2009 Birmingham-Southern Labor Day Classic when the Panthers defeated Mississippi College 3-0. Goldfarb is now several games deep into his 27th season on the Hilltop. In that time, he has compiled a 307-208-37 record (a .590 winning percentage).

Aly Goldfarb wins gold, silver, and two bronze medals at 2009 World Maccabiah Games

Birmingham-Southern senior Aly Goldfarb returned from the 18th World Maccabiah Games in Israel in July with a gold medal in the 4x400-meter relay, a silver in the half marathon, and bronze medals in the 400-meter run and the pole vault.

Goldfarb, who is a member of the BSC track and field team, ran a 1:42 in the half marathon, clocked a 59.82 for her third-place finish in the 400m, and cleared 3.60m for the bronze in the pole vault. Despite not placing in the 800-meter run due to illness, she was able to mount a come-from-behind lead in the relay to help Team USA win gold.

Goldfarb's father, Preston Goldfarb, longtime coach of the BSC men's soccer team, and brother, Sean Goldfarb '08, also were at the games as coaches for the Maccabiah USA Junior Boys Soccer Team, which finished fourth. The 2009 games brought nearly 7,000 Jewish athletes from around the world to compete for gold.



Goldfarb

Four students named BSC Athletes of the Year



(From left to right) BSC Athletics Director Joe Dean Jr. is shown after the awards ceremony with Michael Locandro, Melissa Muehlenfeld, Kayla Backlund, Jordan Hardy, and Kyndall Waters, BSC assistant athletics director.

Birmingham-Southern women's golfer Jordan Hardy and softball players Kayla Backlund and Melissa Muehlenfeld were named the BSC Co-Female Athletes of the Year, while Michael Locandro of men's tennis was tabbed the Male Athlete of the Year this past spring at the annual Athletics Honors Day on campus. Additionally, Forrest Boughner and Kathryn Carroll were honored as the 2009 winners of the Johnny Johnson Most Inspirational Senior Student-Athlete Award.

As a senior from Sylacauga, Hardy helped lead the women's golf team to one of its most successful seasons in program history. The Panthers collected five tournament wins in 2008-09. Hardy collected three

individual tournament wins at the ASU Invitational, the West Georgia Invitational, and the BSC Tri-Match.

As a senior, Muehlenfeld, an Auburn native, broke the single-season and career records for runs scored with 50 and 128 and stolen bases with 38 and 81. She also was selected to the Third-Team All-Region.

Backlund, who is from Aurora, Colo., broke the single-season and career record for triples with 19 and was named Second-Team All-Region in softball. As a senior, she and Muehlenfeld helped lead the Panthers to their best season in school history, going 32-5 overall and 18-1 in Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference play.

Locandro from Kennesaw, Ga., helped the Panther men's tennis team to a 12-4 record during the season. As a junior, he posted a 12-3 record at No. 1 singles and teamed with J.C. Freeman to go 10-4 at No. 1 doubles. Locandro was ranked 12th in the ITA Regional rankings and was ranked in the top 12 in the ITA Region doubles rankings. This is his second consecutive Player of the Year honor.

As a senior from Madison, Miss., Carroll compiled a 7-3 singles record and a 9-4 doubles record with her partner, Lauren Russell. Carroll's singles work garnered her receiving the 11th-spot in the ITA Regional rankings. She and Russell also ranked in doubles at 12th in the ITA Regionals. Carroll's leadership helped her team to a 12-2 record for the season, a No. 7 Atlantic South Region ranking from the ITA, as well as a No. 27 national ranking in all of NCAA Division III.

Boughner, a native of Flagstaff, Ariz., competed on both the cross country and track and field teams for the Panthers this past season. As a senior, he tallied wins in the steeple chase at the Troy Invitational and the Coach O Invitational. Boughner also was named to the SCAC All-Sportsmanship Team. His steady performances helped anchor the Panthers in their first season of track and field on the Hilltop.

The Johnny Johnson Most Inspirational Senior Student-Athlete Award is named for the late vice president for business and finance and avid supporter of BSC athletics.

Gameday: BSC football

The latest installment of the Birmingham-Southern Panthers football team has already hit the gridiron this fall looking to build on the 2008 season. To help make your gameday experience a great one, we've created a *Guide to Football Gameday* containing information on tickets, the Gridiron Club, parking, traffic, tailgating, and more. Visit here for the comprehensive guide: www.bsc.edu/gameday.

Remaining 2009 Varsity Football Schedule

| | | | |
|--------------|--------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| Sat. Oct. 24 | Sewanee* | Sewanee, Tenn. | 1:30 p.m. |
| Sat. Oct. 31 | DePauw University* | Panther Stadium | Noon |
| Sat. Nov. 7 | Huntingdon College | Panther Stadium (HC) | 1:30 p.m. |
| Sat. Nov. 14 | Millsaps College* | Jackson, Miss. | 1 p.m. |

All times are Central and subject to change.

* denotes SCAC Game

HC – Homecoming

FOOTBALL

Four assistant coaches added to staff at Birmingham-Southern

The Birmingham-Southern Athletics Department announced four new assistant coaches over the summer who are filling out the football and women's soccer staffs this season.

Whitney Medlen, who played for the Panthers as a defender from 2005-07 after transferring from Bryan College, is the new assistant women's soccer coach. She was a co-captain on the 2007 team as a senior, earning Defensive Player of the Year Award, and was named Johnny Johnson Most Inspirational Senior in spring 2008.

Demarco McNeil, football defensive line coach, comes to BSC from Auburn University, where he was a defensive graduate assistant from 2007-09 and played for the Tigers from 1999-03. McNeil played professionally for the New England Patriots in 2005 and the Philadelphia Eagles in 2004.

Tim Sanders, football wide receivers coach, brings more than 30 years of coaching experience from a variety of sports and from high schools around the state to BSC. Prior to serving as a volunteer assistant on the Hilltop last season, he was assistant football coach at John Carroll Catholic High School in 2007.

Burt Stuart, football linebackers coach, previously was an assistant football coach at Oak Mountain High School. From 2003-08, he was assistant football coach and co-defensive coordinator at Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference member Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas.



BSC FOOTBALL REVIEW SHOW IN NEW SEASON

BSC football's best analytical take on its season has begun in earnest with the BSC Football Review Show airing on Saturdays this fall on CW-21 (WTT0), in the Birmingham area, following the SEC Network's Game of the Week. The show will record 10 episodes, culminating Nov. 22.

The half-hour, weekly recap gives a behind-the-scenes tour of the 2009 BSC football season. Hosted by veteran radio and television broadcaster Kevin Henslee, each episode features an interview with BSC Head Football Coach Eddie Garfinkle. There also are interviews with players and assistant coaches, footage of practice and workouts, and game replays, as well as a look at some interesting Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference matchups.

The BSC Football Review is sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama, Business Electronics, Dreamland Barbeque, Express Oil Change, First Commercial Bank, Little Caesars Pizza, and Piggly Wiggly.

ClassNotes

BY CAROL COOK HAGOOD '70
chagood@bsc.edu

'40

Julian Brannon of Arab was the subject of an entertaining feature in the April 30, 2009, edition of *The Arab (Ala.) Tribune*. The piece marked Brannon's 96th birthday and reported events of his long life, including his BSC friendship with the late **Randolph Linn '37**, a native of Arab, which led, in turn, to Brannon's 52-year marriage to Linn's sister, Willie Ruth ("Toots"), who died in 2001. Many colorful anecdotes of Brannon's life as a businessman and civic leader in Arab were included.

'50

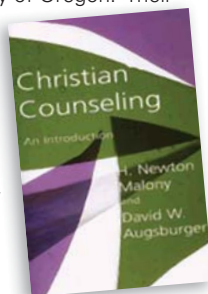
The new foreign language computer laboratory at the University of West Alabama was recently named in honor of **John C. Craiger** of Livingston, an emeritus professor of Romance languages, who taught for 31 years at UWA. At the dedication of the state-of-the-art lab, Craiger was described

by Dr. Pat Beatty, UWA liberal arts dean, as "a true legend in our college." He said Craiger's "commitment to quality teaching and his ability to relate to his students endeared him to us all."

'52

H. Newton Malony and his wife, **Suzanna Davis Malony '54**, have moved to

Eugene, Ore., to be near one of their sons, Allen, who teaches at the University of Oregon. Their oldest son, Larz, lives in Portland, and their youngest son, Michael, lives in Fayetteville, Ark. Malony



AlumNews '44 and '09

Ethel Owen '44 proudly accompanied granddaughter **Rebecca Owen '09** at the Birmingham-Southern graduation this past spring.



retired as senior professor at the Fuller Theological Seminary School of Psychology. The most recent of his many books is *Christian Counseling: An Introduction*, with David Augsburg, published in 2007 by Abingdon Press.

'54

Joanne Alvarez Morin and her husband, Robert, have moved from Glendale, Ariz., to a retirement community in Cedar Park, Texas, a suburb of Austin.

Rev. Elmer J. O'Brien announces the July 2009 publication of his book *The Wilderness, The Nation, and the Electronic Era: American Christianity and Religious Communication, 1620-2000* (Scarecrow Press). This 688-page annotated bibliography contains over 2,400 entries, detailing the history of religious communication in what is now the United States, from colonial times to the present. O'Brien was a theological librarian for 35 years, serving as director of library and information services and professor of theological bibliography and research at United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. He and wife Betty now reside in Boulder, Colo.

'55

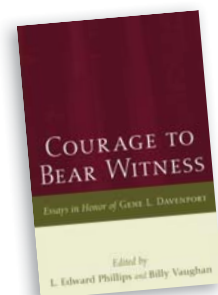
Dr. Bobby Whetstone of Birmingham is author of the historical novel *Crystal Angel: The Church and the Civil Rights*



Struggle in the South, published in December 2008. This third novel joins *Goobar Joe: Coming of Age—A Civil War Novel* and *Grave Dancin'*, two previous works noted earlier in these pages.

'57

Courage to Bear Witness, a recent release from Pickwick Publications, is a compilation of essays in honor of **Dr. Gene L. Davenport** of Birmingham, professor emeritus of religion at Lambuth University in Jackson, Tenn. Edited by L. Edward Phillips and Billy Vaughan, the work honors Davenport's "own witness that the truth of the Gospel entails confrontation with the world that dwells in darkness ... and addresses ... witness in the face of racism, sexism, and religious bigotry."



AlumNews '34



A 95th birthday gathering for **Ollie Cox** was enlivened by a group of family friends who attended as the "Dixie Dairy Queens," adding a special note of festivity to the celebration.



AlumNews '58 and '90

Birmingham-Southern's newest Board of Trustees members are both alumni:

Clay Long '58 of Atlanta and **Kevin Stump '80** of Birmingham.

Long is a general business and corporate attorney, with a concentration in the purchase, sale, and merger of businesses. He earned his law degree from Harvard University and is a founding partner of Atlanta's McKenna Long and Aldridge law firm. He received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from BSC in 2002.

Long

Stump is founder, chairman, and CEO of Interconn Resources Inc., a natural gas and propane marketer and consultant that currently provides natural gas and energy services to industries and municipalities in more than 10 states. A 1980 graduate of Birmingham-Southern, he also earned a Master's in Public and Private Management from the college in 1987. He is married to **Jane Templeton Stump '79**. His son **Kevin "Richard" Stump Jr. '09** graduated from the college this past spring, and son **Templeton Stump** is currently a BSC student.



Stump

Elaine French Palmer of

Magnolia Springs writes that her granddaughter, Sarah Persons, a senior and a business/dance major at BSC this year, is her "best legacy" to the school.

'59

Following graduation at BSC, **Dr. Douglas W. Lamppin** continued his education at Tulane University School of Medicine. A board certified physician, he practiced medicine for 40 years, retiring in 2003. Since that time, he has served as an adjunct professor with the LoneStar College System in Houston, teaching anatomy and physiology, medical terminology, and pathophysiology. He recently was awarded the Adjunct Faculty Excellence Award for the Anatomy, Physiology, Health, Kinesiology, and Natural Sciences Division.

'61

Jonathan Bryan May recently created a Web site (<http://canfordlyrics.web.officelive.com>) to honor his late friend Tom Miller, who wrote under the name of

Tom Canford. The site includes a number of Canford's song lyrics, information about his three published novels, his musical plays, and the full text of his memoir about working as a publicist on movies such as Elaine May's *Mikey and Nicky* and Francis Coppola's *The Cotton Club*. Bryan also has included information about his own published novel *Rumors of Wolves* as well as the full text of his unpublished novel *Siren Song*. In 1989, Bryan returned from New York to live in the house in Sawyerville where he grew up.

'62

Among the books winning awards at the 2009 San Francisco Book Festival, **Albert Clayton Gauden's** *You're Not Who You Think You Are* (noted in the Spring 2009 issue of *'Southern*) took first place in the Spiritual category. Winning books were judged by a panel of industry experts "for general excellence and the author's passion for telling a good story" and "the potential of the work to reach a wider audience." Gauden

is a transpersonal psychologist and founding director of The Sedona Intensive, a personal transformation and alternative therapy program based in Sedona, Ariz.

'65

Melinda M. Mathews of

Birmingham, an attorney with the law firm of Sirote & Permutt, has been selected for inclusion in the 2010 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America* in the area of trusts

and estates. She is a fellow to the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel and an adjunct professor of estate planning at Cumberland Law School.



Actress **Peggy Walton-Walker**

of Nashville appeared last spring in a Tennessee Repertory Theater production of the Pulitzer Prize-



AlumNews '81

Dr. Don Stewart (third from left) has teamed with an energetic group of middle-school students in the New Orleans area who are working to preserve and expand their local wetlands, as part of their class work in environmental science. The efforts of these seventh and eighth graders at Harry Hurst Middle School in Destrehan, La., recently were featured in an ABC television special with Diane Sawyer, and are recorded by their award-winning science teacher, Barry Guillot, at the group's Web site: www.wetlandwatchers.org.

The students recently invited Stewart to visit and work with them in creating a composite picture of an alligator, which they could use to raise awareness for their Wetland Watchers program. They commemorated his visit by presenting him with a painted shrimp boot.

Using their suggestions, Stewart created an alligator drawing in his unique style, prints of which will go on sale this December, with half of the proceeds going to support the work of the Wetland Watchers. Their teacher has added a page to the group's Web site showing the progress of the drawing, from preliminary sketches to the finished ink drawing: www.wetlandwatchers.org/?cat=23.

AlumNews '86



Dr. Brian "Ari" Cole, B.S., M.D., M.P.H., M.P.A./M.C., an intensive care and critical care physician in Central Pennsylvania, who also practices in Hawaii, was featured in an April 4, 2009, interview with Terry Cisse on "TerriTalkRadio" (www.blogtalkradio.com/search/Dr.%20Ari%20Cole). In the hourlong program, entitled "Crossroads of Medicine, Faith, and Politics: America's Future Political Leadership," the Harvard University and Yale University alumnus speaks of his path to date, his political aspirations, and his intent to enter the presidential race in 2016. "TerriTalk" program notes say of him: "His academic accomplishments and political acumen are a source of inspiration for those who seek to use their gifts and talents to make the world a better place." Cole is pictured here in a recent meeting with PBS commentator Gwen Ifill.

winning play *Rabbit Hole*. Reviews proclaimed her "thoroughly engaging" and "a gem," finding the "importance of her character in this show is immeasurable, and full of layers."

'66

Grady Clarkson of Leeds is the subject of a "Meet Your Neighbor" profile in the Aug. 13, 2009, edition of the *Leeds News*. Actor, poet, stage technician, digital audio technician, and much more, Clarkson currently is producer of The Bass House Museum's oral history project "The Voices of Leeds."

'67

Dr. F. Cleveland Kinney, senior associate dean and medical director at UAB, was named to the *Birmingham Business Journal's* "Who's Who in Health Care" in its Feb. 13, 2009, issue.

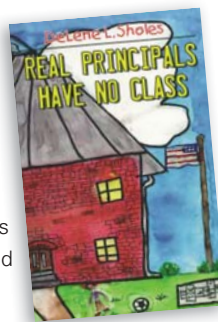
Jan Kinnaid Hill of Birmingham recently was installed as an officer in the venerable Bush Hills Music Club, in ceremonies at the Birmingham Museum of Art.

Kirby Sevier of Birmingham, an attorney at Maynard Cooper & Gale, was recognized as a leader in his field in the 2009 edition of *Alabama Super Lawyers*.

'69

This past June, **Rev. D. Tom Bell Jr.** of Huntsville, superintendent of the Northeast District of the United Methodist Church, was appointed a member of the Alabama A&M University Board of Trustees by Alabama Gov. Bob Riley.

DeLene Logan Sholes of Santa Rosa Beach, Fla., is a freelance writer and a retired curriculum coordinator for the Walton Co. (Fla.) schools. She has recently published a novel, *Real Principals Have No Class*. Reviewer Emily Carmain finds this "a captivating book ... the inside story of a time-worn little school and the new principal who gets caught up in a mission to keep the old school alive and growing, with its special flavor and charm."



'70

Earlier this year, **Emilie Mims** of Atmore was honored by the Atmore Area

Chamber of Commerce with the group's Lifetime Achievement Award. Mims, who served for 17 years as executive director of the Atmore Area Chamber of Commerce, was last year appointed Escambia County Probate Judge by Alabama Gov. Bob Riley.

Jim Pino has been elected president of the Shelby County Bar Association. This is his second time to be elected to this office, the first being in 1988. He and his son, Jeff, are engaged in the general practice of law in Pelham. Their firm handles a wide variety of cases involving both civil and criminal litigation, with an emphasis on family law.

'71

Roberta Breckenridge Arnold of Enterprise retired this past May from 35 years of elementary school teaching, 32 of them in the Enterprise city school system. She most recently was a first-grade teacher at Pinedale Elementary. She says that her favorite moments as a teacher were "listening and watching the children in my classes reading and enjoying books. As a legacy in education, I want children to be true thinkers and love to read." She and

AlumNews '91

The American College of the Building Arts in Charleston, S.C., founded by **John Paul Huguley** 12 years ago, is the subject of the cover story of the September/October 2009 *Preservation* magazine, a publication of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

The school is the only four-year program in the United States devoted to teaching a new generation of building artisans the skills that once created what Huguley has elsewhere called "a beautiful, diverse, and extensive collection of art and craftsmanship" in America's historic built environment.

And this singular school is grounded in the liberal arts, with students balancing class time between rigorous hands-on training in woodworking, metalwork, and stonework, and foundation studies in history, foreign language, and civics. The goal is producing graduates who are respected as educated professionals, with the skills required not only to preserve historic architecture, but to create new buildings worthy of preservation in the future. In May 2009, this remarkable school produced its first small graduating class.





Morgan Murphy, former travel editor for *Southern Living* magazine, has created the first social-networking site for classic and collector car enthusiasts, at www.motorpool.com.

The site features an auto-themed design, from the “dashboard” navigation controls to the “warning light” notification of friend requests and messages, all created to please the estimated 20 million Americans who love vintage vehicles. Visitors can enjoy features such as a car showcase, chatting with “friends” interested in the same types of vehicle, documentation and display of auto restoration work, and “road trips”—photos and stories of adventures on the road in classic or collector cars.

To promote the site, Murphy embarked on a great American road trip of his own, traveling 11,000 miles through 48 states in 80 days. Keepsake shots of his big-finned 1958 Cadillac Eldorado Brougham in classic American settings from Broadway to Big Sur can be found at www.motorpool.com.

husband Mike, a former educator and administrator, have three children and five grandchildren.

'72

The late **Dr. R.E.W. Harrison II** has been honored with a memorial scholarship established by his mother, retired Enterprise educator Gloria Loser, through Christ the King Lutheran Church. Harrison, who held a Ph.D. in neurophysiology from UAB, was conducting medical research at Northwestern University when he died of cancer. Troy University junior Stephanie Meyers was named first recipient of the scholarship named in Harrison's honor.

Wayne Morse, an attorney with Birmingham firm Waldrep Stewart

& Kendrick, has been selected as a monthly contributor to the Litigation Counsel of America's monthly publication, *LCA Commentary*, an online resource and bulletin covering various legal issues past and present (www.litcounsel.org/memphix81/pub_com.htm). Morse's articles will address timely issues affecting commercial law or legation. LCA is a highly selective honorary society composed of America's top trial lawyers.

'73

A feature article in the May 23, 2009, edition of the *Cullman Times* describes the many volunteer efforts of **Patricia “Patti” Vogel Freeman** of Cullman and, particularly, her work with the Committee on Church Cooperation,

which serves individuals in need throughout Cullman County. Freeman's husband is **Dr. Phillip W. Freeman '73**, and her daughters are **Amy Freeman Williams '97** (**Herb Williams '96**) and **Meredith Brooke Freeman '00**.

'75

Dr. Robert K. Glenn, recently inaugurated as the 36th president of Athens State University, has joined the United Way of Athens-Limestone Co. board of directors.

Ann Huckstep, a partner at Birmingham law firm Adams and Reese LLP, was named to the *Birmingham Business Journal's* “Who's Who in Health Care,” in their Feb. 13, 2009, issue.

'77

Susan L. Benton, a principal at Deloitte & Touche LLP, has extended her contract in Asia Pacific until May 2011. She is a risk management leader for 14 Asian countries and is based in Hong

Kong. Her home, however, she says, is on “20 acres of beauty in New York's Hudson Valley.”

'78

J. Eugene Lammers, M.D., M.P.H., of Indianapolis, was elected president of the Clarian Health medical staff for 2009. As medical staff president, he oversees more than 2,500 practitioners at Indiana's most comprehensive health center and one of the busiest hospital systems in the nation.

Jack Narramore, senior vice president and Birmingham regional president at Aliant Bank, was named one of a group of “Heavy Hitters in Community Banking and Credit Unions” in the May 22, 2009, edition of the *Birmingham Business Journal*.

'79

This past winter, **Col. Sheryl Speed Gordon** of Eclectic was named the Alabama National Guard's first female general.

AlumNews '04

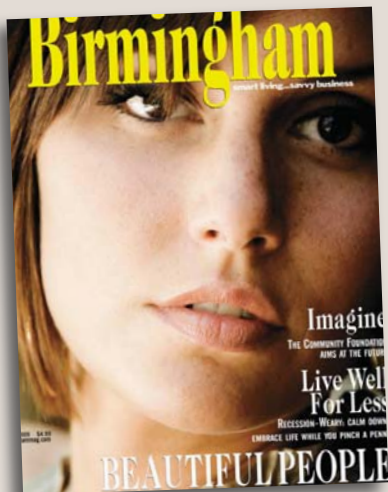


BSC alumna **Meredith Humber** (on left) is a seventh-grade science teacher at Briarwood Christian School in Birmingham. (Her sister, **Melissa Humber '07**, is also a BSC grad.) This past May, Meredith and proud BSC parent Manda Humber (on right) were first-time attendees at the Audubon Mountain Workshop in Mentone, an annual spring event pioneered, with others, by the late BSC Professor Emeritus of Biology Dan Holliman.

Like so many in the 29-year history of the event, the Humbers enthusiastically joined in a long weekend of exploring the natural history and ecology of the Southern Appalachian Mountains, with expert-led classes on animal ecology, stream biology, birds, mammals, insects, reptiles and amphibians, geology and fossils, wildflowers, canoeing, and mountain crafts. Near the end of the

four-day workshop, the first since Holliman's death, the Humbers joined other attendees in a memorial hike honoring his legacy at the event.

AlumNews '06



BSC alumna, artist, and interior stylist **Meg Cook** was pictured on the cover of the June 2009 *Birmingham* magazine—the publication's annual "Beautiful People" review of "faces that stand out in the crowd." Other BSC alumni pictured in the feature were Harvard law school grad and federal prosecutor **Scarlett Singleton '01**; new BSC freshman, dancer and actor **Anna Marie Dobbins '13**; and former BSC student **Pardis Stitt**, who along with her husband, Frank Stitt, owns and manages Highlands Bar and Grill, Bottega, and Chez Fonfon.

Commissioned in the Guard as a second lieutenant in 1981, the former science teacher and assistant principal at Benjamin Russell High School in Alexander City holds a bachelor's degree in biology from BSC, a bachelor's degree in secondary education from Auburn University-Montgomery, a master's degree in education from AUM, and a master's in strategic studies from the Army War College. She previously served the guard as a garrison commander and commander. As brigadier general, she took command of the 62nd Troop Command in Montgomery, the state's largest unit, with about 5,000 troops.

Jim Pool, a shareholder at Birmingham law firm Maynard Cooper and Gale, was named to the *Birmingham Business Journal's* "Who's Who in Health Care," in their Feb. 13, 2009, issue.

'80

Daniel J. Bryant and his wife, Twiana, live in Rocklin, Calif. The two moved to the Sacramento area to work as State Farm agents.

She currently is employed as a business performance consultant for State Farm. His interest in wine-making, originally a hobby, has led to his current career as owner and manager of Running Tigers Wine, which produces a highly-regarded syrah sold and served across Northern California. Bryant is founder of the Association for African-American Vintners. He also is owner of A Color of Grape, a company that organizes wine-tastings and tours for African Americans at wineries throughout Napa, Sonoma, and Mendocino counties.

Dr. Richard A. Hunter of Snellville, Ga., is now in his fourth year as senior pastor at Snellville United Methodist Church, a 4,000-member church located in east Atlanta. His post there gives him the opportunity to pursue his lifelong passion of teaching college students. He currently serves on the adjunct faculties of Candler School of Theology and Emory University, and on the virtual campus staff of Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Ky. His children are now college students at Georgia College and State

University and at the University of Georgia.

Daniel Slone of Richmond, Va., is a partner with McGuire-Woods LLP and represents green businesses and localities across the country in developing innovative and sustainable projects, including new towns, green utilities, and new approaches to zoning. Slone is national counsel for the U.S. Green Building Council and the

Congress for the New Urbanism. Among his public clients are the Seaside Institute, the World Green Building Council Institute, the Form Based Codes Institute, and the Inger and Walter Rice Center for Environmental Life Sciences. He is author, with Doris Goldstein, of *A Legal Guide to Urban and Sustainable Development for Planners, Developers, and Architects* (Johns Wiley & Sons, 2008).

AlumNews '08



Since graduation from BSC, former art major **Juliet Pruitt** has worked as an art conservation assistant on the team of Conservation Technologies Inc. of Birmingham. As outlined in a March 17, 2009, article in *The Birmingham News*, during the past year, Pruitt and others from the group have been involved in a major project—the restoration of the 70x30-foot auditorium mural at Woodlawn High School in Birmingham.

A Works Project Administration mural—the largest WPA mural in the Southeast—the piece was originally designed by Sydney Van Scheck, a painter and aeronautical engineer and painted by artist Richard Coe on linen canvas. The work was completed in 1938. But 70 years of dirt and deterioration had dulled its once-bright colors.

Pruitt and her colleagues have employed painstaking techniques to conserve the piece, gently cleaning, restoring, and in some cases reconstructing the huge painting, small area by area. She is very proud of the work done on the piece thus far, but concerned that funds for restoration, raised by Woodlawn alumni, community groups, and foundations, may run out just as the completion of the work seems almost in sight.



Left, before and after shots of Woodlawn restoration detail.

BSC in service around the world

AlumNews '02

Emily Heck (pictured in center) is a public health student who spent six months in Sierra Leone with Helen Keller International (HKI) studying neglected tropical diseases. A friend and coworker at HKI was Mustapha Sonnie. During one of their trips in the field, the two visited Niagorehun, Sonnie's hometown, a village badly damaged during the civil war that ended in 2002. They found that Sonnie's former primary school was in severe disrepair following the fighting, but still serving more than 500 children and youth.

The two linked with Schools for Salone Project and worked to raise funds for the rebuilding of Niagorehun Primary School, which reopened in ceremonies in August 2009. For more on this story, visit www.schoolsforsalone.org/Pages/ProjectSchools-Niagorehun.html.

The photograph Heck shares here is of a village meeting held in Niagorehun this past December to announce the rebuilding plan. At this time, she says, village members pledged their support of the project, including the provision of granite, sand, sticks, ball stones, and masonry and carpentry work.



AlumNews '08

John L. Croft is serving as a second-year Peace Corps volunteer in Malawi, a small country in southern Africa. He writes, "Over the past year, I have been living in a rural village in Malawi's northern region and teaching physical science, biology, and literature to high school students in a small community school. I have also been helping student-teachers with assignments and working with several students to start an egg-laying business to raise funds for club projects and field trips."

"As I continue to adjust to a different culture and learn to teach across cultural barriers, I realize my experiences at Birmingham-Southern—studying abroad, collaborating with professors and other students, and being challenged in the classroom—have given me the confidence and determination I need to succeed in my work."

AlumNews '09

Gary Crosby has been chosen for the Teach for America 2009 corps, assigned to Greater New Orleans, where he will teach secondary social studies for two years before continuing with plans of entering law school. He says, "With my commitment to living a service-driven life, I hope to fulfill part of my obligation as not only a teacher and role model, but also as a mentor and catalyst for change in the public education system."



Kevin Stump, chairman and CEO of Interconn Resources, is pictured on the cover of the June 19, 2009, edition of *Birmingham Business Journal*, which lists the 100 largest privately held companies in Birmingham in its lead story. Interconn Resources is noted as 12th on that list.

'81

Cynthia Mizell Vice of Birmingham has been named senior vice president and chief financial officer at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama. Vice, a 17-year veteran with BCBS, will now be responsible for managing and directing the company's financial group. She previously served as vice president for audit and security.

'82

Peter M. Goodloe of Washington, D.C., served for over 21 years in the House Office of Legislative Counsel, where he helped write landmark legislation, such as comprehensive FDA reform laws. More recently, he served for almost three years as legislative counsel and parliamentarian for the House Committee on Energy and Commerce under Chairman John Dingell (D-MI). Now he has begun private practice with Sidley Austin LLP, one of the world's largest full-service law firms, which he describes as a firm with "a strong reputation in FDA, health care, and public policy matters."

Dr. Lisa Eidson Greer of Decatur recently retired from public education with the Decatur Board of Education after 27 years of teaching. She taught in elementary grades and as a reading specialist. She is married to Dr. Terry L. Greer, senior pastor of the First United Methodist

Church of Decatur, and they have one daughter, Suzanna Faith Greer, a sophomore at Decatur High School.

'83

Catherine Snow Demers of Gulf Shores recently joined the staff of the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce as director of development. She also coordinates the chamber's youth leadership program.

'84

Jane Dixon Clements, who is lead compensation analyst for Vulcan Materials in Birmingham, has also joined the BSC staff as a Striplin Fitness Center supervisor.

Dr. Gretchen L. Wells, who serves as associate professor of cardiology in the Department of Internal Medicine at Wake Forest University School of Medicine, has been named dean for medical school admission. She has been involved with the committee on admissions for three years. Dr. William B. Applegate, president of Wake Forest University Health Services and dean of the medical school, said "She is one of our most dynamic young physicians, and with her training in cardiology with both an M.D. and a Ph.D. degree [in medical genetics], she is a wonderful role model for our students."

'85

Barry Kay, minister of music at Good Shepherd United Methodist Church in Madison, recently starred as Tevye in a Footlights theater production of *Fiddler on the Roof*, which played in several venues in North Alabama.

Cynthia G. Lamar of Birmingham, an attorney at Maynard Cooper & Gale, was recognized as a leader

in her field in the 2009 edition of *Alabama Super Lawyers*.

Dr. Sam Pierce, optometrist, who has been in private practice in Trussville for over 20 years, was elected to the board of trustees of the American Optometric Association at the 112th annual AOA Congress in June 2009, held in St. Louis. Prior to his election to the board, he served in numerous capacities within the AOA, and was president of the Alabama Optometric Association in 2002.

'86

Susan Brouillette, CEO and president of Alacare Home Health and Hospice, was named to the *Birmingham Business Journal's* "Who's Who in Health Care," in their Feb. 13, 2009, issue.

Chris Wenning Byrum has been named director of communications for BSC. She joined the communications staff in

September 2008 as director of college and special events. In her new role, she takes on expanded responsibilities to help various campus departments create and execute communications strategies. She brings more than 20 years experience in all aspects of communications, including advertising, marketing, and publishing.

Randy Howard has been named vice president of business affairs and treasurer at Ball State University in Muncie, Ind. He joined the BSU staff in 2006, after serving in administrative positions with the U.S. Air Force, including comptroller of the Air Force



Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo. In addition to his bachelor's degree in math and chemistry, he holds a master's degree in operations research from the Air Force Institute of Technology and a doctorate in business administration from the University of Georgia.

'87

Graham "Gray" Byrum III of Birmingham recently launched a new business called Echelon Catering by Design.

Dr. Judy Smith Mannings of

Birmingham retired this past January from the U.S. Postal Service with more than 43 years of service. She recently completed her D.M. in organizational leadership at the University of Phoenix.

James C. Pennington of Birmingham law firm Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak and Stewart PC has been ranked as a leader in the field of labor and employment law in the 2009 edition of *Chambers USA*.

'89

Aubrey Baugh III of Midway, transportation services manager for ABC Transportation, has been named to the Eufaula-Barbour County Chamber of Commerce. He and wife **Margaret Estes Baugh '81** have three children. He is the son of **Dr. Aubrey T. Baugh Jr. '59** of Birmingham.



Leslie Miller Klasing, an attorney with the Birmingham law firm Waldrep Stewart & Kendrick, was

a featured speaker at a seminar presented this past summer by the Alabama Association of School Boards at the Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach. She gave a presentation entitled "Education Law Update" to the Alabama Council of School Board Attorneys. Klasing's practice at Waldrep Stewart & Kendrick is concentrated in governmental, public, and corporate law.

Scott A. Small of Vancouver, B.C., currently serves as the manager of a homeless shelter for the Catholic Archdiocese of Vancouver.

'90

An article in the April 2009 American Corporate Counsel's *Docket* magazine profiles **David M. Benck**, vice president and general counsel for Hibbett Sports, and his work in educating the next generation of in-house counsel. Benck teaches "Practicing In-house" at Samford University's Cumberland School of Law in Birmingham.

'91

Wendi Boyen was named one of Birmingham's "Top 40 Under 40" in the Feb. 27, 2009, issue of the *Birmingham Business Journal*. Boyen, a senior vice president for Regions Financial Corp., leads the firm's north central Alabama public, institutional, and nonprofit group.

Ben Craig, president of the NASDAQ OMX Futures Exchange, based in Philadelphia, has been appointed to the boards of the Nasdaq OMX Futures Exchange and the International Derivatives Clearing Group.

'92

Shanda Melei Beste of Andalusia has opened a new business, All is Well Health & Inspiration, offering

alternative health and wellness products and services for people and animals in her community.

Gov. Mike Beebe of Arkansas has appointed **Dr. Jud Harbin** of Fayetteville, Ark., to the Arkansas Psychology Board, the state agency which licenses psychologists and psychological examiners and registers psychological technicians. Harbin, a licensed psychologist at the University of Arkansas Health Center, was sworn in this past May. His term continues through December 2012.

Jeff Pomeroy was named one of Birmingham's "Top 40 Under 40" in the Feb. 27, 2009, issue of the *Birmingham Business Journal*. Pomeroy, who holds a degree from the Cumberland School of Law at Samford University, is vice president and assistant general counsel for Bayer Properties.

Dr. Michael K. Sanders of Pittsburgh, Pa., has been selected by his peers for inclusion in the Best Doctors in America 2009-10 database, which is a valued resource containing the names and professional profiles of approximately 45,000 of the best doctors in the United States. Sanders currently serves as the chief of therapeutic endoscopy and director of advanced endoscopic training in the Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He specializes in the care of patients with pancreaticobiliary disease, and joined the division in 2006. He is married to **Marjorie Hatcher Sanders '95**.

Robin Horner Shelton of Birmingham and her business partner, Blake Gray, founded PoppySeed Paper LLC in

September 2008. The firm is a paper business selling personalized stationery, enclosure cards, birth announcements, birthday invitations, and more.

Christopher Jack Smith of Birmingham was inducted into the Marion County Sports Hall of Fame this past August. A standout basketball player at Winfield City High School, he later was a four-year member of the BSC Panthers' basketball team, which posted a 101-24 record during his time on the team. He served as team captain in his junior and senior years, was a member of the 1990 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics championship team, and was a three-time recipient of the Murray Arnold Scholar Athlete Award for the highest grade-point average on the team. In 1993, Smith attended the University of Sydney in Australia, where he played club basketball and was a unanimous selection to the national tournament team at the 1993 University Games in Australia. He currently is a financial officer with a radiology management company in Birmingham. He and wife Leigh Ann have one son.

'93

Mark Hampton "Hamp" Baxley was elected to serve on the Alabama State Bar Board of Bar Commissioners for the 2009-12 term. He was chosen to represent the 20th Judicial Circuit, which is comprised of Houston and Henry counties. The Board of Bar Commissioners governs the Alabama State Bar. Baxley also was elected president of the Young Lawyers Section of the Alabama Defense Lawyers' Association. He is a partner in the Dothan law firm of Ramsey, Baxley & McDougle.

Susan Ware Bullock of

Birmingham, formerly senior counsel with Ford & Harrison LLP, has joined Jackson Lewis LLP in its Birmingham office. She practices in all areas of employment law and litigation, including federal and state employment discrimination laws and federal wage and hour laws.

Michael Hemphill

of Elliston, Va., with friend Sam Riddleburger, has co-authored a book entitled *Stonewall Hinkleman and the Battle of Bull Run*, released this past April by Penguin Group's Dial Books for Young Readers. In this book, which seeks to "recapture the imaginations and interest" of middle school students in American history, the main character, a reluctant Civil War re-enactor, finds himself transported in time to the actual battle. Hemphill is co-owner of Civil War Journey Battlefield Tours. He is married to **Dr. Julia Tyra Hemphill '93**.

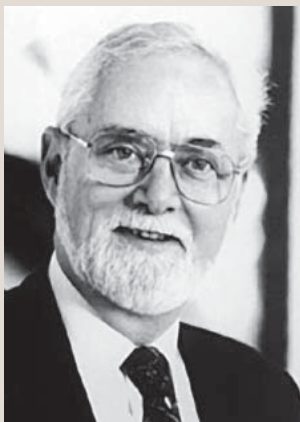


Dr. Margaret R. Jackson of

Dothan, soprano, is an assistant professor of music at Troy University. This past February, she appeared with Metropolitan Opera tenor David Cangelosi in a Montgomery Symphony Orchestra concert, "Evening of Songs," at Davis Theatre for the Performing Arts on the Troy campus.

Carl Lynn was named one of Birmingham's "Top 40 Under 40" in the Feb. 27, 2009, issue of the *Birmingham Business Journal*. Lynn is executive director of Restoration Academy.

BSC alumni win honors



AlumNews '55

Dr. Thomas W. Ogletree, Frederick Marquand Professor Emeritus of Ethics and Religious Studies for Yale Divinity School of Yale University, recently was featured in Cambridge Publishing's *Top 101 Industry Experts*, a listing of "exemplary leaders [who] stay at the top of their fields by possessing unique experience and wisdom, all the while exhibiting innovation in their work." Ogletree taught for 18 years as a professor in the Yale Divinity School and previously served as dean of the school from 1990-96.

AlumNews '02

Birmingham operatic baritone **Daniel Seigel** took first prize in the men's voice category of the National Federation Music Clubs national competition held in Orlando, Fla. this past June. In final rounds, he sang Samuel Barber's "Despite and Still" and Mozart's "Hai gia vinta la causa," from "The Marriage of Figaro." He was awarded a \$10,000 prize and two years of nationwide concert bookings. Seigel is marketing and development associate and chorus master of Opera Birmingham. He sings regularly with Sursum Corda and with Opera Birmingham. He is the son of BSC **Joseph Hugh Thomas Professor of Music Lester Seigel '79** and BSC Personal Counselor **Jane Seigel '79**.



AlumNews '09

Mary Page Wilson has been named a Woodruff Scholar at the Candler School of Theology at Emory University (the third Woodruff Scholar from BSC, with **Sara Glidewell '07** and **Maria Presley '07**, of 10 named at the university in the past two years). Wilson returned from a year of teaching secondary school in Szekesfehervar, Hungary, to begin the MDiv program at Candler. She plans to concentrate on theology and the arts and comparative religion. She is passionate, she says, about "promoting interfaith dialogue, as religion is such a profound way that many individually and collectively interpret our world. Religion is a great source of tension in our world community, and so should also be engaged as a powerful source for peacebuilding."

'94

Terry Smiley, who also received an MPPM degree from BSC in 2005, was named one of Birmingham's "Top 40 Under 40" in the Feb. 27, 2009, issue of the *Birmingham Business Journal*. Smiley is Birmingham operations manager for Alagasco.

'95

Dr. Trey Rosdick has opened a family and cosmetic dental practice located in Vestavia Hills.

Sam A. Scalici Jr. was named one of Birmingham's "Top 40 Under 40" in the Feb. 27, 2009, issue of the *Birmingham Business Journal*. Scalici is managing director for Oakworth Capital Bank.

'96

T. Scott Kelly, an attorney with the Birmingham office of Ogletree Deakins, has been appointed as a committee director for the American Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division. Previously, he held the position of chair of the YLD's Labor and Employment Committee.



'97

Susan Williams recently completed her doctor of musical arts degree in vocal

performance at the Cleveland Institute of Music in Cleveland, Ohio. Her dissertation covered the soprano song cycles "La courte paille" and "Cinq poèmes de Max Jacob" of Francis Poulenc, and her final doctoral recital included works by Richard Strauss, Ned Rorem, Hugo Wolf, and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. This past

April, she performed the role of Gretel in Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel* at Duke University in Durham, N.C. Dr. Williams is one of six sopranos chosen to sing chorus in the upcoming, fully-staged performances of "Le nozze di Figaro" with the Cleveland Orchestra at Severance Hall, Franz Weiser-Möst conducting.

'98

Thomas M. Noon of Birmingham, a financial associate with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, has earned membership in the prestigious 2009 Million Dollar Round Table, based on his sales excellence, outstanding client service, ethical conduct, and professional knowledge. He earlier had qualified for Thrivent's Sierra level for 2008 achievements, based on his outstanding sales and service to members. Noon also received Thrivent's Volunteer Excellence Award, as just one of four individuals selected for the honor from the firm's 2,600 financial representatives nationwide. Among other service efforts, he is active locally in Thrivent's alliance with Habitat for Humanity, has traveled to El Salvador to help develop the Habitat Village in Santa Ana, plans to lead a group to El Salvador in 2010, and this past summer participated in a service trip to Macedonia.

Clayton M. Ryan, formerly an associate at the Birmingham law firm of Maynard, Cooper & Gale, has been named a shareholder at the firm.

'00

Stephanie Campbell Baker of Troy was recipient of the Troy Arts Council's 2009 Volunteer Award. TroyFest, Troy's arts and crafts festival, has seen notable

growth under her leadership as chair for the past five years. Baker is employed at KW Plastics in marketing development.

Daniel Feig has been named assistant director of athletics for compliance at Arkansas State University. He formerly served as an associate attorney with the Birmingham firm Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell.

Dr. Ashley Hanson Gabriel

received her doctoral degree in clinical psychology from the University of Alabama in August 2008. Her work has been published in journals including *Clinical Psychology: Science and Practice*; *Journal of Clinical Psychology*; and *Journals of Gerontology: Series B, Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences*. Gabriel was the lead author of a book chapter featured in *The Use of Psychological Testing for Treatment Planning and Outcomes Assessment: Volume 3: Instruments for Adults* (editor, Mark E. Maruish). Her research has been featured in paper and poster presentations at regional and national conferences, including the annual meetings of the American Psychological Association and the Gerontological Society of America. She currently is completing a postdoctoral fellowship at UAB in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurobiology, with a specialization in health psychology.

Dr. Sima Lal Gupta is now practicing as an optician for Eyedeology Vision Center + Optique in Atlanta.

Dr. John Lee Redding recently graduated from the prosthodontic residency program at the UAB School of Dentistry and has

moved to Moultrie, Ga., to practice dentistry.

Dr. A. Rebecca Rozelle-Stone

received her doctoral degree in philosophy from Southern Illinois University Carbondale this past May. She recently accepted a tenure-track position as assistant professor of philosophy at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. A book she has co-edited with her husband, Prof. Lucian Stone (also an assistant professor of philosophy at SIUE), will be coming out in October. The book is a collection of essays about the relevance today of Simone Weil (1909-43), a French Christian mystic, activist, and philosopher on whom she wrote her dissertation. The book, to be titled *The Relevance of the Radical: Simone Weil 100 Years Later* (Continuum Press) includes a chapter Rozelle-Stone co-authored with her husband, and another chapter which she authored on her own. For more, see www.continuumbooks.com/books/detail.aspx?BookId=133937&SearchType=Basic.

'01

Dr. Clay Campbell, who graduated from the Tuscaloosa Family Medicine's Residency Program at the University of Alabama this past June, was recognized by the UA Rural Medical Scholars Program with an etched crystal achievement award. Campbell has joined the Lakeside Clinic in Guntersville as a family physician. He will also serve on the staff of the Marshall Medical North Emergency Department.

'02

Hill Carmichael, formerly coordinator of the Constitutional Reform Education Campaign of Greater Birmingham Ministries, has left that post for a position in the office of Congressman Artur Davis (D-Ala.), with responsibilities related to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, or stimulus package. As economic recovery coordinator, he serves as a liaison between the congressman's office and the Obama administration on the logistics of needed funds flowing into the state to best impact vital state programs and infrastructure.

Dr. Andrea McNalley Gerwin graduated magna cum laude this past May from the McWhorter School of Pharmacy at Samford University. She currently is doing a residency in pharmacy practice at the University of California, San Francisco.

Former BSC music major **Charles Edgar "Walker" Hayes** is in his third year as a staff writer for TMG (The Music Group, International, formerly Killen Music Group) of Nashville. His wife, **Laney Beville Hayes '01**, formerly served in the BSC Office of Admission as a recruiter.

Marta McLellan Ross has accepted a position with U.S. Senator Jim Webb (D-Va.) as his foreign policy advisor. Webb is chair of the Senate Subcommittee on Asia (under the Foreign Affairs Committee). Ross will be staffing him on the full committee, as well as supporting his leadership of the Asia subcommittee.

Dr. Linsey Steadman Williams recently was featured on the cover

of *KidsLife* magazine, in recognition of her commitment to serve the rural communities of Alabama as a family physician following her graduation from the Tuscaloosa Family Medicine Residency Program. She graduated in June and began her yearlong obstetrics fellowship July 1.

'03

This past May, **Dr. Blake Austin Mann** graduated from the University of South Alabama College of Medicine in Mobile and accepted a residency in internal medicine at the Virginia Mason Medical Center in Seattle.



Dana McArthur Porter, who was a musical theatre major, resident advisor, member of Hilltop

Singers, and president of Alpha Psi Omega during her student days at Birmingham-Southern, is now pursuing an MPPM degree at BSC. She also works as the transfer advisor in the Office of Admission and is active in the Athletics Department as head cheerleading coach for the BSC Panthers. Dana is married to **Lars Porter '04**, who is the head coach of cross country and track and field at BSC.

'04

This past October, a panel of Broadway luminaries, led by Ana Gasteyer of *Wicked* as moderator, met at Zankel Hall in Manhattan for a panel entitled "Revival: Broadway's Next Act." They discussed using new media, from YouTube to MTV, to attract audiences to Broadway, with an afterparty at The Russian Tea Room. The evening was created by The Notables, Carnegie

Hall's membership program for music enthusiasts in their 20s and 30s. Michael Flowers, professor of theatre and chair of the Department of Theatre and Dance at BSC, tells us that **Tyler Armstrong** of New York played a major role in planning this event.

Elizabeth Sharrai "Liz" Gebhart of Huntsville is now employed by Investor's Resource, an independent firm of Raymond James Financial Services, as an executive assistant and junior relationship manager. She holds a master's degree from St. John's College of Santa Fe.

'05

This past May, **Dr. Mary NeSmith Blankenship** graduated from the University of South Alabama College of Medicine in Mobile and accepted a residency in internal medicine at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City.

Kayla Calton of Salem, Ore., who holds a NSCAA National Coaching Diploma, is now coaching the U11 Cascade Futbol Club competitive girls soccer team. She also serves as the assistant women's soccer coach at Willamette University.

This past May, **Dr. Leah Alexis Douglas** graduated from the University of South Alabama College of Medicine in Mobile and accepted a residency in pediatrics at LSU School of Medicine in New Orleans.

This past summer, **Kathryn Holmes** of Birmingham directed a production of *Willy Wonka*, a musical adaptation of Roald Dahl's children's novel *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*—with nods to both Gene Wilder and Johnny Depp's film versions—at Chief Logan State Park in Logan County, Calif.

This past May, **Dr. Jeremy Tyler Johnson** graduated from the University of South Alabama College of Medicine in Mobile and accepted a residency in general surgery at the Orlando (Fla.) Health Systems.

This past year, **Chandler Krison** performed in a production of *Jekyll and Hyde* by Cabrillo Music Theatre, the musical production company of the Thousand Oaks (Calif.) Civic Arts Plaza, and the largest theatre between Los Angeles and San Francisco. At year's end, the show was honored with a 2008 Los Angeles Stage Alliance Ovation Award—one of the most prestigious awards for stage work in the city.

Heather Brie Quinn of Burbank, Calif., is currently employed as a contract coordinator for Warner Brothers.

This past May, **Dr. Julia McMath Stewart** graduated from the University of South Alabama College of Medicine in Mobile and accepted a residency in pediatrics at the University of Alabama Medical Center in Birmingham.

This past May, **Dr. Sarah Katherine Walker** graduated from the University of South Alabama College of Medicine in Mobile and accepted a residency in general surgery at the University of Louisville School of Medicine in Kentucky.

'06

Jennifer Damian Hamrick completed the Certified Public Accountant exam in October 2008. She and her growing family (see "Births") reside in Birmingham.

Wes Kelly, who took the Honors Program Outstanding Senior Award for his class, graduated this past May from Duke Divinity School with an MDiv. He has been appointed pastor at Slocomb (Ala.) United Methodist Church. His new bride, Meghan Steward of Orlando, Fla., has been appointed pastor at a Dothan church nearby. Kelly plans to continue, in the future, with doctoral studies in Hebrew Bible/Old Testament.

Caryn Elizabeth "Cari Beth" Penn of Tuscaloosa attended the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development in Denver this past April, presenting a research paper on "Preschool Child Brain Lateralization in Emotion and Language Tasks." She is a graduate student researcher in neurocognitive psychology at the University of Alabama and teaches an undergraduate lab on research statistics.

'07

When **Kelly Brooks** of Chattanooga married Bradlee Simoneaux this past August, the beautiful formal wedding was filmed by TLC television's "Say Yes to the Dress." Following an auto accident eight years ago, Brooks now makes use of a wheelchair. The Manhattan bridal shop Kleinfeld created a special bridal gown for her, designed to work well with her chair, and complete with a satin and silk train. TLC producers, intrigued with her story and "captivated ... with her vibrant personality" asked to feature her wedding on the show. The new bride, a political science graduate at BSC, is now enrolled at the University of Tennessee College of Law.

Martin Landry of New York both acted in and served as musical director for the off-Broadway success, *Brunch! The Musical*. Reviews call his double-duty performance as the chef "laugh-out-loud funny," a role that "gets the most rambunctious reaction of the evening."

Alissa Carey O'Halloran graduated this past May from Emory University with a master's degree in public health. She has begun a full-time position at Northrop Grumman as a health research analyst in the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion's Office on Smoking and Health at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta.



Matthew Turk of Mobile has been promoted to assistant claims manager at the

independent insurance adjusting firm Integrity Adjusters LLC. Turk says that leadership skills he learned in Strategic Issues in Organizational Theory and Management, a class taught by BSC's Dr. Byron Chew, Monaghan Professor of Management, have helped prepare him for the tasks involved in this new position.

This past May, **Amanda Michelle Usrey** of Huntsville completed a master's degree in art therapy, with an emphasis in counseling, at Mount Mary College in Milwaukee, Wis.

'08

Iralyn Franklin recently joined Morris Haynes & Hornsby's Birmingham office as marketing director. Franklin, who had previously been employed as a marketing intern at Talladega Superspeedway and with the Bruno Event Team, will lead marketing efforts in all Morris Haynes & Hornsby's offices.

Kevin Pearsall of Rumson, N.J., who is employed in advertising with the *Wall Street Journal*, covered the Bonnaroo music festival, which takes place in Manchester, Tenn., for *The Birmingham News* this past June.

This past May, the Etowah Youth Symphony Honor Strings performed a world premiere, at their spring concert in Gadsden, of "Suite for Flute and Strings" by Birmingham composer **Matthew Scott Phillips**. Cheryl Gooden, principal flute of the Denver Philharmonic Orchestra, was guest soloist.

Tyler Powell has joined the Tuscaloosa firm of Way, Ray, Shelton & Co. PC as a staff accountant.

Bentley Turner has joined the inaugural graduate studies program at Singularity University in California's Silicon Valley. The NASA- and Google-sponsored training program will run a series of intensive courses with the aim of sparking ideas and futurist companies among young leaders at the top of various fields, building a cadre of leaders for the future who will understand and facilitate developing technologies to meet humanity's great challenges. The first nine-week course began June 29, 2009. Turner was one

of 40 students accepted from thousands of applicants from over 70 countries.

'09

Susan Chesley Fant, who served as a teaching assistant in the Duke University Talent Identification Program this past summer, is now attending the University of St. Andrews in Scotland, pursuing a master's degree in creative industry management.

This past June, **Brandon Hynick** pitched a seven-inning perfect game for the Triple-A Colorado Springs team, retiring 21 batters and beating Portland 2-0. His performance was the ninth perfect game in the Pacific Coast League's 107-year history.

Anna Kristen Nichols is teaching English at two secondary schools in Székesfehérvár, Hungary—one a liberal arts magnet school and the other a technical school. The city is the oldest one in Hungary, she says, and offers an opportunity to meet locals and be immersed in both the Hungarian language and culture.

Art Richey has accepted a position in the office of Democratic Congressman Bobby Bright of the second Alabama District. He looks forward to this "great opportunity to experience D.C. and the Hill while serving people back home in Alabama."

Miriam Smith of Birmingham is the 2009 winner of the Louise Branscomb Barrier Breaker Award. She is a founding member of the Community Church Without Walls in West End. While a student at BSC, she worked with Urban Ministry as a summer intern in 2006 and 2007. She also

participated in service-learning opportunities in India in 2008 and San Francisco in 2009.

'12

James Edward Bunch has been accepted into West Point Military Academy on a full scholarship. He will begin studies there as a sophomore and will be playing football for the Army team.

MPPM

'96

Christopher Gagliano now is director of advertising and corporate communications at the Alabama Gas Corp. Joining the company in 1989, he previously was manager of marketing communications and brand implementations.

'03

Ralph Q. Mitchell of Ricetown is now serving as Blount County administrator, replacing former administrator Chris Green, who assumed the role of county revenue commissioner on Oct. 1. Mitchell has been involved in an extended on-the-job training period since May 26. He brings to the new position over 20 years experience in operations in the medical transport industry, as well as valuable experience gained as a city council member in Trussville, a volunteer firefighter in Ricetown, an instructor at the University of Phoenix in Birmingham, and the Air National Guard. Mitchell says he looks forward to serving the people of Blount County, and to being an effective problem solver.

Friends

James Y. Carroll of Ozark received special recognition at the 50th anniversary banquet of the Ozark Rotary Club this past February. Carroll, who served as president of the group during its first two years, is the only remaining charter member of the club.

The work of **Drayton Nabers Jr.** as chair of the board at Cornerstone Schools of Alabama is profiled in "Giving Back," a recent profile in *Birmingham* magazine. Nabers is a shareholder at the Birmingham law firm Maynard Cooper & Gale.

Scott Stapler, a former member of the BSC athletic staff, is now director of the Alabama Basketball Academy in Huntsville. He most recently served on the coaching staff of the Coastal Carolina Chanticleers.

Weddings

Laurie Suzanne Young '93 and Leon Roger Storie, March 28, 2009.

Carol Jane Cooper '94 and Christopher Scott Hagan, March 14, 2009.

Diane Nicole Bates '95 and Zach Provonchee, March 21, 2009.

Victoria Lynn McCaig '99 and Dr. Bryan Irby Johnston, Aug. 1, 2009.

Marion Cragin Lyle '00 and Paul Cooper Morrison Jr., June 27, 2009.

Joshua Lee Patrick '00 and Kelly Michelle Barnhill, April 18, 2009.

Peyton Aynsley Caruthers '01 and **James Drysdale '01**, April 18, 2009.

Adrienne Cole '01 and Jeffrey Locke, May 16, 2009.

Suzan-Amanda Ingram '01 and Albert Jinwoo Kim, Oct. 10, 2009.

Sam Gaillard Ladd Jr. '02 and Catherine Blair Hasser, June 27, 2009.

Marta McLellan '02 and Rob Ross, Aug. 16, 2008.

Thomas Stuart Norton '02 and **Anna Belle Wilder '05**, June 21, 2008.

Melissa Leigh Scurlock '02 and Andrew Edward Townson, April 4, 2009.

Christopher Sinclair Lydick '03 and Craig Stephen Hey, June 27, 2009.

Charles Matthew Register '03 and Sally Michelle Linden, July 11, 2009.

Jane Elizabeth Woodson '03 and Kells Tindell, June 23, 2007.

Lindsay Robyn Boyett '04 and James Michael Broome, Aug. 22, 2009.

Jocelyn Carter Forsythe '04 and Wiley Patrick Turnipseed, Oct. 10, 2009.

Brandon Walter Myers '04 and Courtney Griffith, June 13, 2009.

Virginia Durant Nicholson '04 and **Mitchell Dean Winston '05**, April 18, 2009.

Janet Elizabeth Palmer '04 and George Bert Trammell IV, Sept. 19, 2009.

Andrea Nicole Rogers '04 and Dustin Thomas Harris, March 28, 2009.

Marcus "Mark" Wayne Boger '05 and Mary Elizabeth Reeves, May 30, 2009.

Cory August Casella '05 and **Megan Elizabeth Roth '06**, Aug. 8, 2009.

Patrick Michael Mizerany '05 and Kristin Diane Flowers, May 16, 2009.

Justin Hallock '06 and **Melinda Dale Hill '06**, June 20, 2009.

Wesley Gannon Kelley '06 and Meghan Steward, May 29, 2009.

Sammye Letina Martin '06 and Douglas Davis, June 27, 2009.

Jessica Lindsay Neil '06 and Derek Carson, Feb. 7, 2009.

Corinna Bette Anderson '07 and David Mark Sullivan Jr., Sept. 12, 2009.

Mark Bentley Jr. '07 and **Britni Kalin Marks '07**, Aug. 1, 2009.

Kelly Brooks '07 and Bradley Simoneaux, Aug. 9, 2009.

Jordan Elizabeth Duchock '08 and Adam Goad, June 6, 2009.

Maggie Joy Parker '08 and Andrew Garrett Weems, Sept. 19, 2009.

Caroline Elaine Blanchard '09 and Mark Allan Pridgen, Aug. 15, 2009.

Channing Nicole Kennedy '09 and Charles Lewis Bates, Aug. 1, 2009.

Births

A daughter, Kendall Elizabeth, Jan. 21, 2009, to **Wade L. Hartley '91** and wife, **Susan Fisher Hartley '95** (big brother, Houston, and big sister, Sarah).
A son, William Fred, Feb. 24, 2009, to **Shannon Smith Simpson '91** and husband, Derek (big sisters, Kate and Jane).
A son, William Hampton, March 26, 2009, to **Mark Hampton "Hamp" Baxley '93** and wife, Emily.
A son, Tyler Austin ("Ty"), Jan. 8, 2008, to **April Johnson Maddux '93** and husband, Andy (big brother, Lance Andrew).
A son, Liam Patrick Hugh, born Feb. 7, 2009, and adopted by **Erica Wingo Newcomb '93** and husband, PJ (big sister, Luna).
A son, Drew Thomas, Jan. 5, 2009, to **Craig Borden '94** and wife, **Ruth Houston Borden '94** (big sisters, Sara and Hannah, and big brother, Charles).

A son, Jacob Miller, Feb. 20, 2009, to **Elizabeth Gniadek Peters '94** and husband, Matthew (big brothers Joshua and Jonathan).

A son, David Graves ("Graves"), March 2, 2009, to **Anna-Katherine Graves Bowman '95** and husband, David (big sisters, twins Ann Massey and Sara Katherine).

A son, Franklin Harris ("Harris"), Aug. 14, 2008, to **Dr. Mollie deShazo Buck '96** and husband, Brannon (big sister, Emerson).

Twin daughters, Naomi Sabine and Maya Lynn, April 29, 2009, to **John Trest '97** and wife, Breanne. **James Emmette Neel '71**, BSC associate professor of art, and wife, Lynn, are proud grandparents.

A son, Graham Carpenter, Dec. 31, 2008, to **Joanna Livingston Ward '97** and husband, Zachary (big brother, Fletcher). Proud grandparents are **Alan ('70)** and **Susan Livingston '71**; uncle is **Jonathan Livingston '98**.

A son, Benjamin Ryan, Feb. 27, 2009, to **Elizabeth Donald Donsbach '98** and husband, John (big brother, John Jr.).

A son, John Gibson ("Jack"), July 4, 2009, to **Chris Forsythe '98**, a staff member in the BSC Office of Admission, and wife, Tyler.

A daughter, Gretchen Aurelia, March 24, 2009, to **Thomas Michael Noon '98** and wife, Heidi.

A son, Graham John, Jan. 27, 2009, to **Laurel Graham Bailey '00** and husband, John (big sister, Olivia).

A daughter, Sara Gray, July 21, 2009, to **Stephanie Campbell Baker '00** and husband, Matt (big sister, Campbell).

A daughter, Caroline Scott, June 5, 2009, to **Katie Brown Braddock '00** and husband, Scott (big sisters Grace, Shelby, and Julia).

A son, Wilson James, April 6, 2009, to **Russell Neal Parrish '00** and **Carol Jean ("CJ") Alexander Parrish '02**.

A daughter, Elizabeth McLaren, May 1, 2009, to **John Lee Redding '00** and wife, Robin.

A son, George Reid, April 17, 2009, to **Meredith Miller Werdehoff '00** and husband, Steven.

A son, John Edward, March 31, 2009, to **Stephanie Kelly**

Harvey '01 and husband, Stuart (big brother, Liam James).

A son, Mitchell Kendrick, Aug. 11, 2009, to **Brooke Kendrick Maedel '01** and husband, John. (Proud aunt is **Erin Kendrick Stephenson '01**.)

A daughter, Madelyn Paris, April 14, 2009, to **Marie Kelly McCain '01** and husband, Matthew.

A son, Preston James, Nov. 24, 2008, to **Margaret Woodyard Williams '01** and husband, Jim (big sister, Emma, and big brother, Andrew).

A daughter, Lydia Grace, April 2, 2009, to **Michelle Mathis**

Dobrinski '02 and husband, Tim.

A son, Colin Hatch Sawyer, July 29, 2008, to **Christie Wehby Sawyer '02** and husband, Sean.

A son, John Randall ("Jack") Jan. 18, 2009, to **Meredith Randall Underwood '02** and husband, Andrew.

A son, Bryce Christian, Feb. 13, 2009, to **Adam Parrish Tucker '05** and wife, Dawn.

A son, Cole Alexander, March 23, 2009, to **Jennifer Damian Hamrick '06** and husband, Brett.

In Memoriam '36

Dr. Penelope Prewitt Cunningham '36 of Birmingham died March 25, 2009. A dedicated educator, she held a doctoral degree from the University of Alabama, served as a classroom teacher at



Lakeview Elementary School for 22 years, and was speech arts supervisor for the Birmingham Board of Education. She also taught penmanship on educational television. A lifelong supporter of the arts, she was past president and trustee of the Birmingham Music Club, a longtime board member (and honorary graduate) of the Alabama School of Fine Arts, a former member and officer of the Birmingham Civic Ballet, lifetime member of the State of Alabama Ballet, former board member of the Birmingham Children's Theater, and member of the Birmingham Museum of Art. Her service to the arts was honored with the Festival of Arts Silver Bowl Award, the Mayor's Arts Award, and the Governor's Arts Award. She also was an ardent supporter of Birmingham-Southern, and a prized member of the college community, from her student days as May Queen to her service as assistant to the dean of women and alumni secretary, through decades of involvement on campus as a faithful alumna. She was a member of the Fine Arts Society, Fine Arts Council, and Ginkgo Society. She received the Distinguished Alumni Award in 1988. Her husband was the late **Russell McWhorter Cunningham Jr. '36**. Survivors include granddaughter **Anna Cook Cunningham '08**.

In Memoriam '42



Leland Bowen Culligan '42 of Lafayette, La., died March 6, 2009. He was a veteran of World War II, serving as a captain in the U.S. Marine Corps. He was a retired geologist with the Chevron Corp. According to his daughter, Ann Culligan Graves, he was proud to have graduated from Birmingham-Southern, and he remained a loyal and generous supporter of the college. He was a member of the Ginkgo Society. BSC family members include his late sister, **Marjorie Culligan Copeland '39** and nephews **Charles Wesley Copeland Jr. '54** (Doris

Shelton Copeland '56) and the late **Henry P. Copeland '52** (Mona Ivie Copeland '55).

(not son) of **E.B. Norton III '23**, who served as the president of the University of North Alabama. This emendation was shared by Mark Norton's nephew, E.B. Norton IV of Florence.

Elmina "Mina" Elizabeth Peterson Brown '38 of Hoover died July 18, 2009. She taught and sponsored the debate team at Barrett Elementary School.

John Wilson "Tippy" Hodnett '38 of Alexander City died July 28, 2009. He attended BSC on a football scholarship and was a veteran of World War II, serving in the U.S. Army in Europe. He was employed by Liberty National Life Insurance Co. He also owned and operated the Kowaliga Restaurant and Marina for 40 years. He was the former commissioner of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. He and his wife also served as the first house parents at the UA athletic dorms during Coach Bear Bryant's era.

Doris Murphy Marietta '38 of Mobile died March 2, 2009. She taught French and Latin in Alabama

public schools, including Sidney Phillips in Mobile, A.G. Parrish in Selma, and Sidney Lanier in Montgomery until her retirement in 1976. As wife of the late Rev. Don E. Marietta, she served congregations in Port St. Joe, Bay Minette, Eufaula, Pensacola, Troy, Selma, and Mobile.

Verdon Wood "VW" Dorrough '39 of Russellville died April 9, 2009. A veteran of World War II, he served in the 65th Infantry in Europe. He later was a manager for U.S. Pipe and Foundry and was active in community groups, including the Boys Scouts of America, whom he served as scout master of Troop 39 in Russellville. Survivors include wife Louise Dorrough.

Dr. Martha Malone Nez '39 died April 3, 2009, in Knoxville, Tenn. She was a veteran of World War II. She was the first woman to receive a Ph.D. in biology from Florida State University and taught at Pensacola Junior College, where she served as head of the Science Department. Her father was the late **Dr. John M. Malone '09**. Survivors include her brother, **Dr. John M. Malone '41**.

In Memoriam

Rob Floyd Spurrier '29 of Huntsville died Feb. 26, 2009. She was a math teacher in Birmingham for 35 years.

Joseph T. Giardina '30 of Birmingham died Aug. 3, 2009. He was a veteran of World War II, serving overseas, repairing fighter planes.

Marjorie Redus McDonald '33 of Cherry Hill, N.J., formerly of Reform, died June 10, 2009. She taught school at Pickens County High School. She also served as a social worker in Carrollton. BSC family members include her sisters, the late **Irma Adair '30** and **Robbie Howington '32**.

Tolbert G. Griffin '36 of Bessemer, who more recently lived in Kentucky, died March 8, 2009. She was a veteran of World War II, serving as a WAVE. She taught in the Bessemer school system for 30 years and was active in many professional and community

groups. This news was shared by friend **Suella McCrimmon '34**.

Kathleen Pratt Trucks Johnston '37 of Canton, Ga., formerly of Birmingham, died June 16, 2009. She attended both BSC and the University of Alabama, where she was a Corolla beauty. She was active in many community groups, and served as president of the Jefferson County Medical Auxiliary. Survivors include son **James F. Trucks '64**. By request of the family, donations in her memory may be made to Birmingham-Southern College through the Office of Institutional Advancement, BSC Box 549003, Birmingham, AL 35254.

Mark Norton '37, whose death was reported in the last issue of *'Southern*, was the son of the late Methodist minister E.B. Norton II, who taught religion and mathematics at BSC. He was the grandson of E.B. Norton I, also a Methodist minister and member of the North Alabama Conference. He was the brother

In Memoriam '45

Virginia G. Boteler '45 of Birmingham died May 18, 2009. She was a hostess with the Southern Railroad for many years, and also was employed as an agent with Liberty National Life Insurance Co. While a student at BSC, she sang with the Starlight Opera and appeared in Town and Gown productions. She remained a lover of opera until her death. She was a member of the Endowment Builders Society. *By request of the family, donations may be made to the Music Department at Birmingham-Southern College through the Office of Institutional Advancement, BSC Box 549003, Birmingham, AL 35254.*

In Memoriam '47



Martin P. "Marty" Knowlton '47 of Ventura, Calif., died March 12, 2009. With friend David Bianco, he co-founded Elderhostel, a program that pioneered learning vacations for mature adults, that has grown into an international enterprise which has served more than 4 million people. Knowlton was director of a youth hostel program at the University of New Hampshire, where Bianco was director of residential life, when the two developed the idea of serving older students who could fill unused dorm rooms in the summer. The program began in the summer of 1975 on five college campuses in New England, with six persons studying local and oral history and the Old Testament book of Job. By 1977, the program had become a nonprofit organization, and Knowlton and Bianco stepped away from its management.

In the 1990's, they founded the Center for Studies of the Future, an Elderhostel affiliate. During his career, Knowlton also taught at the University of Carolina, where he held a master's degree, and was an administrator at Yale and a secondary schoolteacher in Maine and Massachusetts.

Elizabeth Jackson Pugh '39 of Birmingham died June 1, 2009. She received a lifetime Alabama teaching certificate and was active in community groups.

Pattie Smith Crocker '40 of Birmingham died July 9, 2009. She served in the Red Cross in the Pacific during World War II. A graduate of Tobe-Coburn School for Fashion Careers in New York (where she received an award for outstanding alumnae), she was a retail executive in New York, Chicago, and later Birmingham for 25 years. During her career she worked for Bloomingdales, J. Walter Thompson Advertising, and Carson Pirie School. Locally, she was a buyer for Loveman's and a manager for Parisian-Eastwood Mall. She was married to the late **J. Torbett Crocker '38**.

Janet Robinette Smith '40 of Birmingham died Aug. 12, 2009. She was employed for many years in management at Bell Telephone and later AT&T.

Kenneth Reid Crotty '42 of Birmingham died April 30, 2009. He was a veteran of World War

II, serving with the U.S. Army and receiving a Purple Heart and Bronze Star. He retired from the American Cast Iron Pipe Co. with 42 of years of service.

Paul Friedman Sr. '42 of Mountain Brook died Aug. 14, 2009. Succeeding his father in business in 1942, he became president, CEO, and, in later years, chair of the board of City Paper Co., one of Birmingham's oldest family businesses. Active in community and professional affairs, he was president of the Young Men's Business Association in the 1960s. Survivors include wife Janis Monsky Friedman.

Ann Elizabeth Reynolds Larkin '42, of Redmond, Ore., formerly of Fairfield, died May 1, 2009. We received news of her death from her daughter, Marsha Marani, who says that her six children greatly value the legacy of her education at Birmingham-Southern.

Margaret "Peggy" Sudduth '45 of Birmingham died July 21, 2009. She was active in church and community affairs, and with her husband, the late Joe

Sudduth, was a strong advocate for Alabamians with arthritis.

Ann English Preston '46 of Charlotte, N.C., died May 8, 2009. She was an active volunteer in her community and a past president

of the Charity League of Charlotte. Survivors include husband **James B. Preston '42**.

Lenora Carter Hamilton '47 of Huntsville died March 4, 2006. Her husband was the late **L. Fulton Hamilton '47**. Their son, Fulton S. Hamilton, who shared the news of her death, says both spoke fondly of their experiences attending Birmingham-Southern in the 1940s.

Louis Edward Hoene Jr. '47 of Mobile, formerly of Birmingham, died Aug. 11, 2009. He was a veteran, serving in Korea with the U.S. Army. He retired from U.S. Steel in Birmingham as research and development director in metallurgy. He organized and led the Boy Scouts of America Explorer's Metallurgy Troop 510 in Fairfield. He was a member of various professional and community groups.

In Memoriam '48



Suzanne McNamee Dominick '48 of Homewood died May 17, 2009. She was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of BSC. Active in church affairs, she served the Catholic Diocese of Birmingham through her work as director of evangelization, parish council president, and contributions to the Catholic Week newsletter. She was founder of Catholic Horizons bookstore. She was the wife of the late **Frank M. Dominick Jr. '41**, a Life Emeritus member and past chair of the BSC Board of Trustees. Their seven

children include daughters **Susan Dominick Doughton '74** and **Betsy Dominick Pautler '86**, and son **Frank McNamee Dominick '91**. Granddaughter **Sara Doughton '04** serves as assistant director of the Bunting Center at BSC. Other BSC family includes sister-in-law **Sara Dominick Clark '38**. She was a member of the Ginkgo Society and Endowment Builders Society.

In *Memoriam* '56

T. Denson Hinton '56 of Hoover died May 18, 2009. He was owner of Hinton Construction and Willoughby-Hinton Real Estate. A gifted athlete, he was a member of the Sports Hall of Fame at both Walker Co. High School and Birmingham-Southern. BSC Athletics Director Joe Dean Jr. says, "In all my years working at Birmingham-Southern, I never met anyone who was more passionate and loved BSC more than Denson Hinton. He served in many different capacities

as an alumnus of the college, and brought many alumni and friends back to campus to support the college. He had a strong interest in our Sports Hall of Fame program and was a member of the selection committee for many years. His legacy and love for the Hilltop continues to live on in the many people he touched along the way." Survivors include daughter **Tracy Hinton Walters '86**.

James Randolph McIver '48 of Fayetteville, Ga., died Sept. 11, 2007.

Curtis Logan McCoy Jr. '49 of Homewood died May 14, 2009. He was a veteran of World War II and served in the U.S. Navy at the Battle of Iwo-Jima. Survivors include wife Mary Allen McCoy.

Enoch Lafayette Northcutt Jr. '49 of Demopolis died July 17, 2009. A veteran of World War II, he served in the U.S. Army in Europe as an infantry officer in the U.S. Army 28th Infantry Division, receiving two Purple Hearts. A POW at Oflag 63 in Poland, he escaped, with three others across the Black Sea, Egypt, Italy, and back to Great Britain. Most important to him from his WWII years, his family says, was his war bride of 61 years, the late Mary Lloyd Northcutt, from Wales. He retired from the Vanity Fair Corp. after 35 years, serving as plant manager in Butler, Jackson, and Demopolis. He was active in many community

groups, particularly the Demopolis Rotary Club, where he was director of its Crippled Children's Golf Tournament and recipient of the Paul Harris Fellowship Award.

Elizabeth Verdier Wall Smith '49 of Montgomery died April 10, 2009. She taught school in Autauga Co., at St. James School, and at Maxwell Elementary. Survivors include husband **Harold Bert Smith '49**.

Thomas W. Palmer '50 of Roswell, Ga., died July 17, 2009. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the Army Air Corps in the Pacific theater. Following the war, he remained a member of the Active Reserve as a sergeant major and intelligence specialist. During the Korean Conflict, he was called to active service as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force. He served as treasurer and assistant comptroller with Southern Company Services, and treasurer and assistant secretary of the Southern Co., retiring as director of

In *Memoriam* '60

Don Cecil Smith '60 of Birmingham died April 28, 2009. With diverse business interests, he made his career in sales, real estate, construction, and investments. He was the owner of Diversified Construction Services. He was a member of the BSC Fine Arts Society. Survivors include wife Georgina Haddad Smith.

audit and management services in 1977. Survivors include wife Nancy Palmer.

Emily Lokey Fincannon '52, formerly of Birmingham, died May 1, 2009. After college, she moved to New York with her sister and was employed in accounting. Later she taught elementary school. Her husband was the late Samuel L. Fincannon Jr.

John Vernon Waddy '52 of Birmingham died Aug. 7, 2009. He was a veteran of World War II. He was employed at Stockham Valves and Fittings and began Aliceville Casting Co. A talented speaker, he served as Stockham's Toastmaster Club president and director. He also was chair of the National Foundry Club and American Foundrymen's Society, and president of the Aliceville Rotary Club and Aliceville Country Club. He was a member of the BSC Sports Hall of Fame based on his college basketball career, and held the record for most points scored in a single game for over 30 years following his graduation. Survivors include wife **Margaret Cooper Waddy '51**.

Dr. Gaynelle Williams '53 of Richmond, Va., died April 19, 2009.

Bonnie Phillips Spradley '55 of Birmingham died Feb. 27, 2009. She was a veteran of WWII, serving in the U.S. Coast Guard, and later was a caring homemaker.

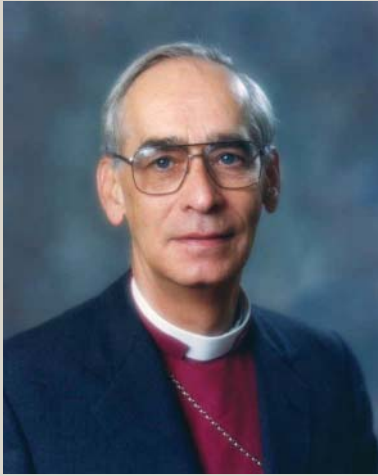
Nora Mullane Bosak '56 of Greenbelt, Md., died April 15, 2009. She lived for many years in California and was an early specialist in the computer industry, serving for almost 50 years as an analyst and programmer. Survivors include her sister, **Elizabeth M. Ard '74**.

Robert Laurance Cross Sr. '56 of Chatsworth, Ga., died March 5, 2009. He was a retired executive director for the YMCA and a former senior marketing director of the Shoals Area Chamber of Commerce. Survivors include wife **Lois Butler Cross '57**.

William E. "Bill" Cunningham Sr. '56 of Gadsden died May 15, 2009. He was a minister in the Christian church for more than 70 years, a noted speaker throughout the South, and a past president of the Alabama Convention of Christian Churches. Survivors include wife Judy Cunningham.

James Bruce Fort Jr. '58 of Vestavia died Aug. 4, 2009. During

In Memoriam '61



Right Rev. Robert O. Miller '61 of Birmingham died June 29, 2009. He was the Ninth Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Alabama. He was elected and consecrated suffragan bishop in 1986 and elected diocesan bishop in 1988, serving until his retirement in 1998. During his episcopacy, he emphasized ministry to children and young adults. He was instrumental in the development of Birmingham Campus Ministries and the formation of the Diocese of Alabama's AIDS Task Force. His ministry began in 1963 as a pastor in the Methodist Church, where he served as associate minister at First United Methodist Church in Anniston and director of the Wesley Foundation at Jacksonville State University. He was ordained a deacon and priest in the Episcopal Church in 1967, and, prior

to his election as bishop, served churches in Marion, Uniontown, Montgomery, and Indian Springs. He received the Distinguished Alumni Award at Birmingham-Southern in 1991. Survivors include wife Peggy Fisher Miller.

his long career as a banker, he worked at Birmingham Trust National Bank, SouthTrust Bank, and was president of Troy Bank and Trust and Deposit Guaranty Bank in Hattiesburg and Laurel, Miss. He retired from AmSouth Bank in Birmingham. Survivors include wife Becky Fort.

Rev. John Wesley Burch '59 of Portage, Ind., died July 11, 2009. An ordained elder in the Church of the Nazarene, he pastored congregations in Indiana, the Carolinas, Missouri, Florida, and Alabama from 1947 until his retirement in 1984.

Dr. Joe G. Hardin Jr. '59 of Mobile died May 7, 2009. He was retired as a professor of internal medicine at the University of South Alabama and had served on the staff of the University Medical Center in Mobile. Earlier he had served as a Navy doctor in Vietnam. His numerous career recognitions include the Leonard Tow 2005 Humanism in Medicine

Award at the University of South Alabama College of Medicine and a Lifetime Teaching Achievement Award. The USA Medical Alumni Association presented him with the 2006 Distinguished Service Award, and the medical class of 1988 named him "Best Clinical Professor." Survivors include his sister, **Sherrell Hardin Waddle '69**, and his brother-in-law, **Chris Waddle '66**.

Milton H. Crouch '60 of Burlington, Vt., died May 5, 2009.

Nancy Cather Bracewell '61 of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. died June 10, 2009. Survivors include her sister-in-law, **Judith Kulberg Bracewell '62**.

Charles J. Collins '61 of McCalla died March 17, 2009. He was a longtime employee of Royal Cup Coffee. Survivors include wife Theresa Collins.

John Marvin Kitchens '61 of Ann Arbor, Mich., formerly of Decatur, died Oct. 12, 2008. He was an

actor and professor of performing arts. During his time on the staff of Birmingham-Southern, he was involved, with **Dr. Arnold Powell '37**, in the design of the college's remarkable theater. Survivors include his wife, **Dr. Elizabeth Sulzby Kitchens '63**. News of his death was shared with us by **Dr. Mack Finney '61**.

Emmett Winston McKay Jr. '63 of Dothan died May 5, 2009. He was a graduate of the Georgia Institute of Technology and Auburn University, and did additional graduate work at Birmingham-Southern. An educator with more than 30 years of service, he retired as principal of Girard Middle School in Dothan. Survivors include wife Bonnie Penn McKay.

Robert Davis Rainer '69 of Eveleth, Minn., formerly of Dothan, died Jan. 27, 2009. A computer systems analyst, he traveled widely in his career, which included a role with Health Care Systems.

Mickie Sue Watson Ellis '73 of Birmingham died July 3, 2009. She taught at Fairfield High School for 14 years and was named Alabama Teacher of the Year. An active member of the local theatrical community, she was the winner of an Obelisk Award.

Walter Lawrence Agee '74 of Jackson, formerly of Pine Hill, died May 15, 2009. He managed his family business, Alabama Wholesale Co. Inc., in Pine Hill, until his retirement in 2007.

Dr. Anne Marie Cragon Mason Kouns '75 of Uria, formerly of Birmingham, died May 21, 2009. A graduate of the University of Alabama School of Medicine, she served as a family physician in Birmingham and Central Alabama for a number of years. Survivors include her husband, Dr. George Kouns of Monroeville.

Michael Epsman '76 of Tuscaloosa died April 21, 2009. Having completed graduate studies at the University of Alabama, he was a petroleum geologist. He also served in the Tuscaloosa Civil Air Patrol. Survivors include wife Lynn Epsman.

Anamaria G. Estrada '80 of Clearwater, Fla., died March 25, 2009. She was a former agent for the Internal Revenue Service.

Nick Reynolds '11 of Birmingham died July 8, 2009. He will be remembered for his love of art, his sincerity, and his abundance of humor and wit. Survivors include his mother, Neal; father, Dudley; sister, Nina; and grandmother, Helen Tucker.

In Memoriam Friend



Felix Drennen II, Friend, died June 23, 2009. A longtime Birmingham businessman and philanthropist, he began his career at Drennen Motor Co., but moved into the area of real estate. He was owner of Drennen Real Estate, developer of the Cherokee Bend area of Mountain Brook and other properties, and later was associated with LAH Real Estate. He was a member of the BSC Fine Arts Society.

Survivors include wife Marilyn Drennen.

In Memoriam Friend

Julia M. Edwards, Friend, of Harbor Springs, Mich., died May 4, 2009. She enjoyed a successful career in real estate and was active in volunteer and community affairs. She and her late husband, **William J. Edwards '38**, a Life Member of the BSC Board of Trustees, were loyal and generous supporters of Birmingham-Southern. They established the William J. and Julia M. Edwards Scholarship at the college in 1989, and, in 1999, made possible the 85-foot tall Edwards Bell Tower on the campus academic quadrangle.

In Memoriam Friend



Joel P. Smith Sr., Friend, of Eufaula, died July 30, 2009. A newspaperman for five decades, he began his career at *The Birmingham News-Post Herald* in 1953, later serving as editor of *The Geneva Reaper*. In 1958, he moved to Eufaula as editor of *The Eufaula Tribune*, and became owner of the newspaper in 1974. During his tenure, *The Tribune* won numerous state and national awards, including the APA's Community Service and General Excellence awards. Smith and his wife, who worked with him at the *Tribune* for many years, were each honored with the Alabama Press Association Lifetime Achievement Award. He was a Life Member of the Board of Trustees at Birmingham-Southern, serving for more than 25 years. Survivors include wife Ann Sutton Smith, sons **Abb Jackson Smith II '93** (**Barclay Bell Smith '95**), who succeeded him as editor of *The Tribune* from 1999-2006, and **William Sutton Smith '96**.

Photo courtesy of *The Eufaula Tribune*.

Col. Thomas Barnett Deramus Jr., Friend, of Tuscaloosa, died Aug. 4, 2009. A former assistant professor of French literature at Birmingham-Southern, he was a graduate of West Point, a decorated veteran of the Korean conflict, and a retired officer with 30 years of service in the U.S. Army. He was a graduate of the U.S. Army Language School, fluent in Italian, French, and German, and later earned a doctorate in French at the University of Alabama. Described by BSC Professor Renée Norrell as

"a wonderful colleague with a love for life and all things French," he had a gift for encouraging students. Former student **Tory Green '95** says that he was "a mentor and an inspiration, largely responsible for my studying in France, getting my Ph.D. in French literature, and ultimately becoming a French teacher myself." Survivors include wife Elizabeth Lanier DeRamus.

Charles Owen Parrish, Friend, of Birmingham died July 13, 2009. A veteran of World War II, he was

awarded the Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster, a Bronze Star, and a Silver Star for his service as a medic in the four major battles of the European theater. Later he achieved a highly successful career as a realtor and was known to many as "Mr. Downtown Birmingham" for his love of the area. He served as president of the Birmingham Board of Realtors in 1970 and as director of the National Board of Realtors in 1971. Professional honors include the

Silver President's Cup from the Birmingham Board of Realtors for 45 years of dedicated service and a Lifetime Achievement Award from Operation New Birmingham. By request of the family, memorials may be made in his name to the McDorman Class Scholarship Fund at Birmingham-Southern through the Office of Institutional Advancement, BSC Box 549003, Birmingham, AL 35254.

The more things change, the more they stay the same

BY KAREN MCELROY CARROLL '87

Over the past year, through my involvement with the *Destiny: Delivered* comprehensive campaign and the Alumni Board, I've had the pleasure of spending more time on the Birmingham-Southern campus than I have since my own graduation a number of years ago. As I recently drove through the Bruno Entrance on Freshman Move-In Day, I was reminded of the proverb, "The more things change, the more they stay the same."

On the surface, things surely appear a lot different than they did when I was in college—new buildings, new academic majors, new athletics programs and facilities, a brand new Urban Environmental Park that opened this fall, wireless Internet in every building. There even are more traditional undergraduate students on campus this fall than ever before—in 153 years. Our college is growing—and starting to receive the national recognition it has so long deserved.

As our institution grows and prospers, so, too, does the support of our alumni who are reconnecting with their institution in record numbers and in very important ways. For example:

- We now have alumni in 35 cities or geographic areas across the nation who have agreed to either serve as chapter leaders or host events. That's triple the previous year, and it continues to grow.
- We soon will have an online discussion group for alumni in Europe, at their request. We are going global with our alumni involvement.
- There were a record 37 alumni events around the country during the college's last fiscal year, and already more than that planned for this current year.
- More than 1,730 alumni registered for Alumni Reunion/Homecoming 2008, up from the previous high of 1,014. All told, some 4,500 people attended events over the three-day weekend last November.
- Alumni called more than 200 admitted applicants for the fall 2009 entering class to share their BSC experiences and to answer questions.

The more I get involved at BSC, the more I now realize what I didn't back in the day: the impact that alumni like you and I will have in shaping the collegiate experiences of today's undergraduates over their four years. And it's not just about attending events or making calls. Ninety-eight percent of the 2009 freshman class is receiving a merit- or need-based scholarship. Generous contributions are funding everything from new academic programs to faculty research to Interim travel.

But while many changes are occurring on the Hilltop (and with our alumni involvement!), some things always stay the same: the look of excitement on the faces of the new students (and yes, a hint of nervousness, too), and the dedication that the BSC faculty and staff have in providing students with a first-rate education and a sense of service that will encourage them to make the world a better place when they leave these gates.

I have such fond memories of my time at 'Southern—I remember it as being among the best days of my life. But I take great satisfaction in knowing that the best days for the college are still ahead. Exciting things are happening all around us. If you haven't done so already, I challenge each one of you to connect or reconnect with BSC through recruiting new students or sending your own son or daughter to BSC, making a consistent annual gift, attending an alumni event in your area, or returning to campus for Homecoming/Reunion, a lecture, or theatrical performance. Unfortunately, it won't turn back the clock and make you feel 18 again. But I promise it will make you proud of the education you received, and comforted in the knowledge that the next generation will be poised and ready to be future leaders. I look forward to seeing you around the Hilltop.

Editor's Note: Karen McElroy Carroll, a 1987 BSC graduate, is the new president of the Birmingham-Southern College Alumni Association beginning Nov. 1 and a member of the college's National Campaign Steering Committee. She is an editor and vice president of Southern Progress Corp., and for 20 years served as editor of *Southern Accents* magazine.



Carroll



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Welcome, new students!—Members of the Class of 2013 joined the Birmingham-Southern family Aug. 29 by moving their possessions into their freshman residence halls with the help of current students, parents, and friends. Pictured on what's traditionally known as "Freshman Move-in Day" (from left) are Zach Guyse, a junior history major from Decatur; Stephen Davis Jr., a freshman from Nashville, Tenn.; and Katie Adams, a sophomore Spanish major from Anniston. The 462-member first-year class represents 23 states and five foreign countries. This year's class is part of a record traditional undergraduate enrollment at BSC.