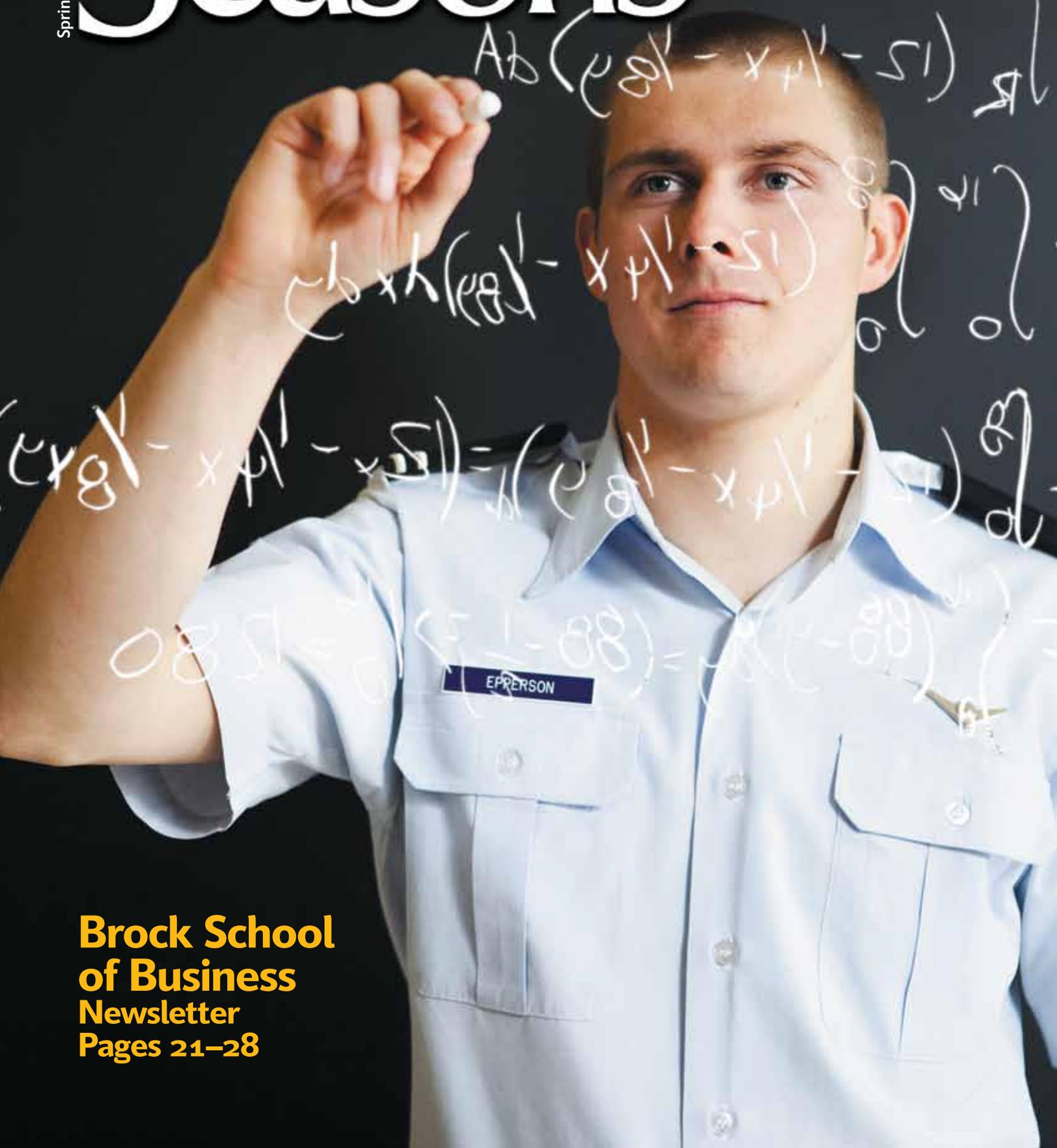


Spring 2010

Samford University

# Seasons



**Brock School  
of Business  
Newsletter  
Pages 21-28**

# spring features

## 8 Curry Comes Home

The statue of early Samford president J. L. M. Curry stood in the nation's capitol for a century. Now, the imposing seven-foot marble likeness resides in the entranceway to Beeson University Center. Curry inherited a post-Civil War college in dire straits, leaving after two years. He made his national reputation as an advocate for public education for everyone.



## 10 Leadership Team

Samford's vice presidential leadership team is responsible for all areas of the university—academics, business affairs, enrollment management and student affairs, operations and planning, and advancement (fund-raising and communication). Learn more about the team in this series of short profiles.

## 18 Reconsecrating a Sacred Place

Fifteen years ago, in 1995, Samford consecrated its divinity school chapel as "a hallowed place to the glory of God." Beeson Divinity School students and faculty recently reconsecrated the chapel, with its spectacular demonstration of Protestant sacred art. It was named Andrew Gerow Hodges Chapel in 2002.



## 30 Focusing on Student Success

New Alabama community college chancellor Freida Hill understands the needs of students in the system she heads. Many have to work their way through school, as she did. Her primary goal is to help those students meet their goals, says the 1973 Samford cum laude graduate.



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Cover: Samford math major and Air Force ROTC cadet Zac Epperson works on a calculus problem in this composite photo by Rob Culpepper. See page 3.



Dudes-a-Plenty shows off its sweepstakes-winning Step Sing routine. See page 40.

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Produced by Samford Office of Communication

# Growing in Intellect and Spirit

Samford University is an extraordinary community of learning and faith. We embrace a bold vision for recognized achievement within the ranks of America's most influential universities.

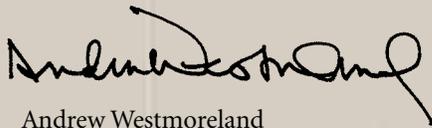
As you will read elsewhere in this publication, Samford was selected a few weeks ago by *USA Today* and the *Princeton Review* as one of the 50 "best values" among four-year private universities in the nation. The listing highlights 50 private and 50 public institutions that provide high-quality academics at a reasonable price.

Many universities boast of high-quality academic programs. A handful strive to combine these programs with a Christian mission.

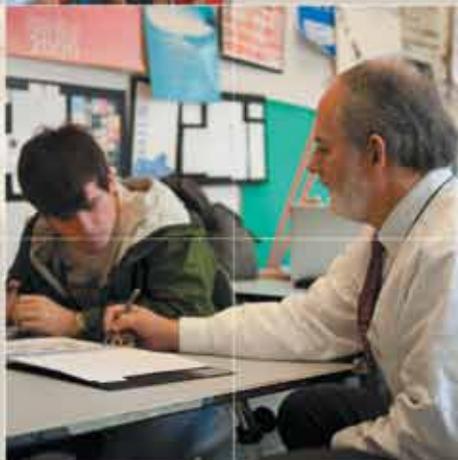
I'm fond of saying that, despite the beauty of our campus, Samford is not the collection of buildings on Lakeshore Drive. Samford is devoted professors who willingly commit the time and energy necessary to teach and to inspire. Samford is curious and diligent students who are serious about growing in intellect and spirit. Samford is staff members who embrace their work as a vocational calling. Samford is friends and supporters who generously help sustain and expand our mission. Samford is the host of energized graduates who carry our vision to bless the world to places both extraordinary and commonplace.

As we build up the university, the university is better equipped to develop and inspire each of us. Please reflect on your role in the Samford family; be thankful, and justifiably proud. We need your help to ensure that Samford continues to be a place that "nurtures persons for God, for learning, forever."

As always, please keep Samford in your prayers.



Andrew Westmoreland  
President



# SAMFORD report

## Students Rack Up Awards in Variety of Disciplines

Samford students claimed a variety of awards and honors during the late winter and early spring, ranging from an appointment to a highly competitive summer program in cyber security and an NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship to awards in pharmacy professionalism, journalism, psychology research and broadcast.

**Zac Epperson** (cover), a junior math major and member of Samford's Air Force ROTC detachment, is one of 25 cadets across the United States invited to the Advanced Course in Engineering [ACE] Cyber Security Boot Camp in Rome, N.Y., this summer. ACE is described as "an elite program for developing cyber officers," and teaches cadets how to defend the nation's defense system. Cadets receive education in information operations fundamentals, network defense, cryptography, computer security and digital forensics, and mentor with Air Force experts in these areas. In addition to being an honor student, Epperson has been a pole vaulter on the Samford track-and-field team for three years.

**Megan Wilderotter**, a senior on the Samford women's basketball team, earned a Women's Enhancement Postgraduate Scholarship from the NCAA. The exercise science and sports medicine major is a member of the Southern Conference All-Academic team. She hopes to become a physician's assistant for an orthopedic surgeon or university team doctor. The scholarship award is \$6,000.

**Emily Morris Hawes**, a fourth-year pharmacy student, received the Joseph O. Dean, Jr. Student Professionalism Award presented by the Alabama Pharmacy Association. The award goes to a student with a high degree of professionalism who is a leader in pharmacy and nonpharmacy endeavors. Hawes was a varsity soccer player and earned a degree in sports medicine in 2006. She spent five weeks in the



Megan Wilderotter

Emily Hawes

summer of 2009 as the first McWhorter School of Pharmacy student to serve an international rotation at a hospital in Jakarta, Indonesia.

**Jennifer Davell**, a 2009 graduate, won first place in the journalism research paper category, and **Kaitlin McCulley** was named best television journalist at the 2010 Southeast Journalism Conference. These were the top awards in their categories at the annual competition, held this year at Southeastern Louisiana University. Altogether, Samford journalism students won 12 awards in the competition involving 32 schools.

**Adrienne Hampton**, a recent graduate, won a top award at the National Institute for the Teaching of Psychology for her senior directed research project comparing the effectiveness of different methods of sequencing teaching examples on student learning. She found that a new technique called "structural sequencing" led to better learning.

**Jordan Gotfredson, Jacqueline Long** and **Lauren Womack** won first-place awards in the 2009 National Broadcasting Society regional student production competition presented in December. Gotfredson won for best radio sports story, Long for best radio news wrap and Womack for best radio magazine. The programs aired on Samford radio station WVSU 91.1 FM. ■

## Samford Attracts National Merit Scholars

Samford University did "exceptionally well" in attracting National Merit Scholars for the 2009–10 academic year.

Thirteen National Merit finalists enrolled as freshmen at Samford for the fall 2009 semester, outpacing all other Birmingham area universities and comparing very favorably with Samford's other peer groups, according to R. Phil Kimrey, Samford's vice president for enrollment management.

Samford now has 36 National Merit Scholars enrolled, including the university's first-ever National Hispanic Merit Scholar and the second National Achievement Scholar. Eight of the 13 first-year students are enrolled in Samford's University Fellows, a two-year-old undergraduate honors program.

"We did exceptionally well this year in recruiting, admitting and enrolling some of the top scholars in the U.S.," Kimrey said. "This affirms our strong national reputation academically, and the hard work of our faculty and staff in helping these top students make Samford their college choice. The new University Fellows program also is a major factor in attracting students seeking an academically rigorous education."

Only about 10 percent of the nation's four-year institutions enrolled first-year National Merit Scholars in fall 2009, putting Samford in elite company, Kimrey noted.

Samford's 13 scholars were the largest group among private universities in the state and among four Birmingham-area schools. Samford was ahead of the University of Alabama at Birmingham, 9; Birmingham-Southern College, 8; and the University of Montevallo, 1. The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, had 95, Auburn University had 64 and the University of South Alabama had 1. No other Alabama schools were listed.

Among historically Baptist universities, Samford trailed only Baylor University in Waco, Texas, with 69. Nine Baptist schools, all members of the International Association of Baptist Colleges and Universities, were on the National Merit list.

Furman University in Greenville, S.C., with 26, led six Southern Conference member schools that had National Merit Scholars, followed by Davidson College, 14, and Samford. ■

For a comparison chart, go to [http://www.samford.edu/uploadedFiles/News/Press\\_Releases/National\\_Merit\\_Scholars\\_chart.pdf](http://www.samford.edu/uploadedFiles/News/Press_Releases/National_Merit_Scholars_chart.pdf).

# Retired Banker Yother Finds Varied Ways To Support Samford

by Mary Wimberley

**R**etired Birmingham banking executive Al Yother appreciates balance. And it is Samford's commitment to academic excellence with attention to personal character and values that compels him to direct his own time, resources and influence to the school.

"Our country needs the type of students that have the academic training to be effective leaders, but who also have the capacity to look at things with a strong desire to act in an ethical and moral manner," said Yother, who retired in 2008 as chief financial officer of Regions Financial Corporation.

"I believe that this is what the university is trying to accomplish," he said. "There has to be a balance in the process of accomplishing this goal. It is a difficult goal, but I sense that Samford attempts to be true to its calling to be faithful to Christian principals, and to also deliver a quality education.

"It is this balance that attracts me to Samford."

As the father of 2003 Samford graduate Paul Yother, the elder Yother already knew of the school's many merits but learned even more through his service on Samford's Brock School of Business Advisory Board.

"I appreciate the effort being made in Brock School of Business to provide students with academic excellence as well as challenging them to seek ethical, moral and spiritual excellence," said Yother. "I also believe this is true of the university as a whole."

The veteran banker was instrumental in securing a generous commitment from Regions to sponsor a business plan competition for the business school. He, along with fellow advisory board member and Regions executive Keith Herron, a 1986 Samford graduate, approached the corporation about the sponsorship.

"They could not have been any

more supportive," Yother said of his former employer. "Regions has always made a major commitment to support education, so this was something that they could support without reservation."

The inaugural Regions New Venture Challenge, held in spring 2009, gave Samford undergraduate and graduate business students an opportunity to design and pitch business plans to a judging panel. Judges assessed the plans on the basis of market viability, potential business competitiveness and other criteria.

The competition is one in a series of new programs aimed at making Brock School of Business a leading school for students seeking to become entrepreneurs.

On a more personal level, Yother supports the business school's social entrepreneurship program, which is offered as a concentration to business majors and as a minor to nonbusiness majors.

The program is near to his heart because he believes strongly in the work that social and charitable organizations do in communities.

"It has always struck me that there needed to be an improvement in the understanding of the business aspect of these organizations by the people who ran them that so that money contributed to them could be used as effectively as possible," said Yother.

"These are wonderful, gifted people who want to do the right thing, but often do not have a business background. I believe that if good, sound business principles are taught and practiced that every social organization can realize improvement in the way it utilizes the resources it has," said Yother, a University of Alabama finance graduate who began his college career on a basketball scholarship at Wallace State Community College in Selma, Ala.

Yother uses his personal life

experiences to help many individuals maximize their own talents and resources, whether it is business, family or spiritually related.

For years, he and his wife, Patti, have been involved in mentoring and discipling young adults and couples in ministry settings. He draws from his vast banking experience to mentor Samford business students.

Yother is especially pleased that a former "mentee" and recent graduate continues to meet with him outside the formal school of business mentoring program to discuss his plans for graduate school, career and upcoming marriage.

"I hope, most of all, that I am able to share not only about business and careers as I mentor, but more about life in general, and where careers and jobs should fit into life," he said. ■



# Samford Influence Benefits Its City and the World Beyond: Watson

by Mary Wimberley

As a Samford University graduate, parent and trustee, W. Clark Watson has had many opportunities to get to know the school well, and that familiarity has only increased his appreciation for the school.

Watson, who was first elected to the board of trustees in 2003, served as vice chair for a year before being elected chair in 2007.

As his experiences as a trustee have grown, he says, so has his appreciation for the university's true commitment to its motto, "for God, for learning, forever."

"The more you learn about this school, the more you want to do for it," said Watson, citing its commitment to Christ-centered excellence in education, research and overall student experience.

He points to Samford's regional and national recognition for academic excellence. "These rankings will only get better as the resources of the university are increased," said Watson, a member of the Steering Committee for a Campaign for Samford University.

"In a culture where character, commitment and accountability are often minimized and seldom taught, Samford is a rare crucible for the development of Christian commitment among college-aged men and women," said Watson. "This combination of academic and Christian excellence results in Samford graduates becoming admired leaders throughout the world in a variety of industries, vocations and professions.

"The metro-Birmingham area and the state of Alabama have no greater ambassador and contributor than Samford University," he said, referencing the school's significant economic impact on the area.

"This combination of academic and Christian excellence results in Samford graduates becoming admired leaders throughout the world in a variety of industries, vocations and professions."

W. Clark Watson

But Samford's influence, he notes, goes far beyond the city and state. "Students come from a variety of states and countries, and Samford graduates are recognized achievers throughout the world," Watson said.

For several years, his connection to Samford was closer to home when his daughter, Elizabeth Ann Watson Hill '07, M.S.E. '08, was enrolled.

"I could not have been more pleased with her experience," he said. "Not only did she have a great academic experience, but the relationships that she developed with other students and faculty members will be of long-lasting value."

One of his earliest ties to the school was as a student at Cumberland School of Law, where he graduated magna cum laude in 1981 after compiling an impressive list of academic and national moot court honors.

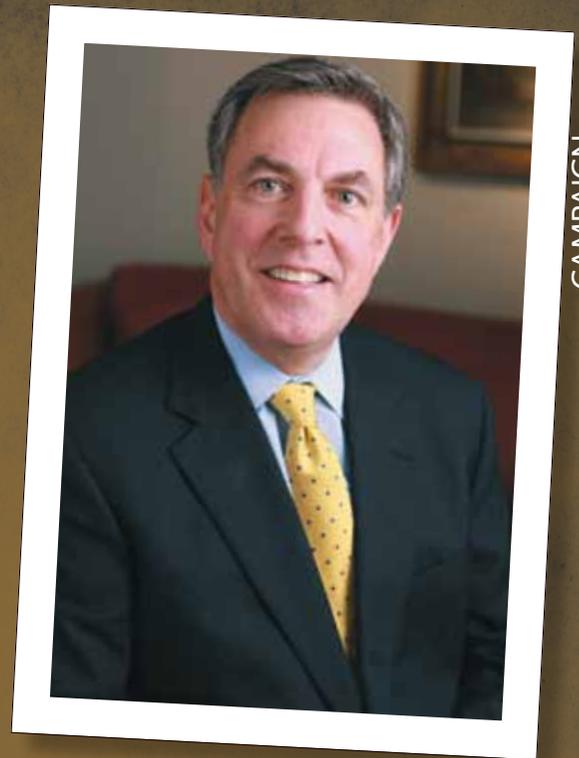
As a partner in the Birmingham law firm of Balch & Bingham, he is one

of the state's most respected specialists in banking, bankruptcy and creditors rights. His busy law practice, and his active involvement at The Church at Brook Hills, would seem to leave little time or energy to devote to a university fund-raising campaign.

Just as he considers his own giving to Samford to be a wise investment in the future of its students, he is sure that the school's strengths he appreciates so well will strike a chord with other campaign donors.

"Both past contributors and new friends of Samford should participate enthusiastically," he said. ■

*For more information about a Campaign for Samford, go to [www.samford.edu/campaign](http://www.samford.edu/campaign).*



# Scholarship Named for Birmingham Pastor, Civil Rights Leader

by Philip Poole

Samford University has renamed its minority student scholarship for the late John T. Porter, who served as pastor of Birmingham's historic Sixth Avenue Baptist Church for nearly 40 years. The name is now the Rev. John T. Porter Minority Scholarship.

Porter served on Samford's board of trustees from 1991 until his death in 2006, the first African American selected as a Samford trustee. Porter also was awarded an honorary doctor of divinity degree in 2001.

The scholarship announcement was made Feb. 26 at a luncheon for Porter's family, members of his church and representatives of the Samford faculty diversity committee. Porter's widow, Dorothy, noted that the family had a long connection with Samford. A grandson participated in the university's preparatory music program for children even before Porter became a trustee.

"We had so many wonderful experiences with Samford," Mrs. Porter said, "and I thank the university for initiating and carrying forward with this project. My heart is overflowing with thanksgiving, knowing that [Porter's] legacy and his work with students will be carried forward through this scholarship."

The scholarship fund was begun in 2003 through the efforts of then-Samford undergraduate student Jewel Littleton. Initial efforts raised about \$7,000, and the first scholarships were awarded about three years ago. The fund has now grown to more than \$21,000.

Littleton approached Samford's then-president Thomas E. Corts about starting a scholarship for minority students in any major field of study. She had received a similar scholarship that was designated specifically for education majors.

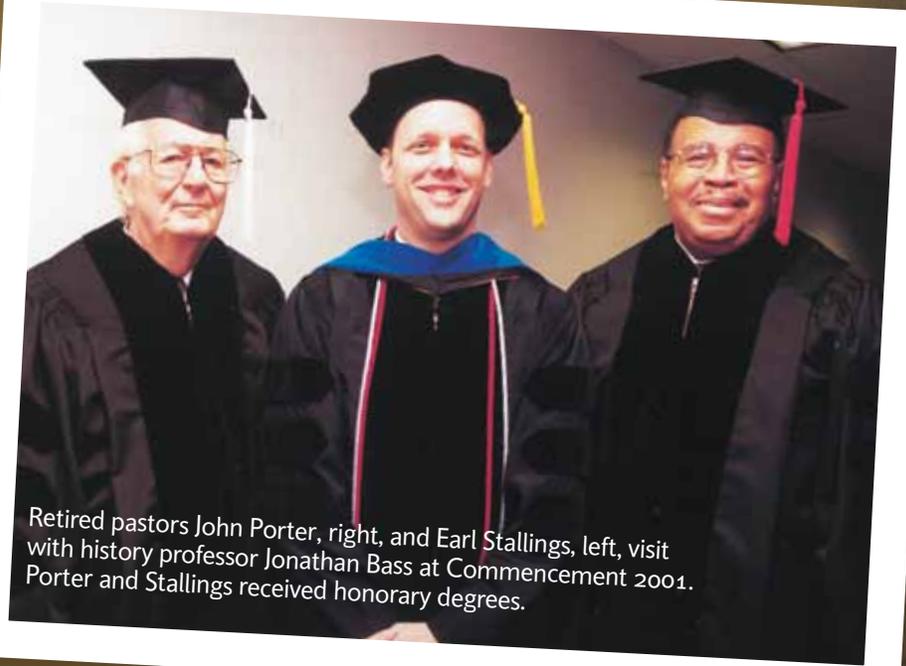
"I wanted to make it possible for any minority student who might not otherwise be able to attend Samford to do so," Littleton said. "I would walk the

campus every day and thank God for the chance to attend Samford. I want others to be able to do the same thing."

The 2009-10 recipients are Lisa Daniels, a senior accounting major from Birmingham, and Alberto Coutoumanos, a sophomore undeclared major from Irondale, Ala. Both were present for the announcement.

Honoring Porter was an initiative from the diversity committee. Former committee chair Joe Scrivner, assistant professor of religion, is a member of Sixth Avenue Church and was a friend of Porter's.

"We wanted to name the scholarship after a person who would bring more recognition, prestige and awareness to the cause, not only to the African American community, but to the Birmingham community at large," Scrivner said. "Our goal is to enhance diversity, not just racial and ethnic, but diversity of ideas at Samford. Who better to honor with that than Dr. Porter?"



Retired pastors John Porter, right, and Earl Stallings, left, visit with history professor Jonathan Bass at Commencement 2001. Porter and Stallings received honorary degrees.

Porter was a leader in the Civil Rights Movement. His church often hosted mass meetings of activists, and Porter led protest marches in Birmingham. He is immortalized, along with other leaders, in a sculpture in Birmingham's Kelly Ingram Park.

"To be a Christian in the American South means grappling with a history of racism, the lingering effects of segregation and a lot of injustice," Scrivner said in an interview with Samford's student newspaper, *The Crimson*. "So, if we're going to be a Christian institution in Birmingham, Ala., a place that used to be called 'Bombingham,' it is morally imperative that we are serious about racial diversity." ■

*Blake Tommey of The Samford Crimson contributed to this story.*

# Best Value

## Samford One of Nation's Top 50 Private Schools

Samford University was named one of the 50 Best Value four-year private universities in the nation in the annual *USA Today Princeton Review* listing. The listing highlights 50 private and 50 public schools that provide high-quality academics at a reasonable price.

Samford "is in many ways an ideal mix of different college environments," according to *The Princeton Review*, which compiled the listing in conjunction with *USA Today*. "Just like at a small college, you get accessible professors who are dedicated to undergraduate teaching for all your classes. There are no massive lecture halls, and there are zero graduate assistants. Just like at a big university, you get tons of academic and research resources and a lot of majors to choose from."

Samford President Andrew Westmoreland said, "To be part of this latest ranking affirms the efforts of our

students, faculty, staff, trustees, alumni and friends who work every day to make Samford the top university that it is. *The Princeton Review* has acknowledged the things that we see as the ultimate Samford experience—accessible faculty, rigorous academics, academic and research options, and living and learning experiences beyond the classroom."

Outstanding disciplines at Samford include English, journalism, nursing, pharmacy, business, music and theatre, according to the listing. Samford offers a mandatory core curriculum that ensures a well-rounded education, it noted.

The online publication described Samford as "distinctly Christian," and added that religious groups are popular on campus, and many students are involved in campus ministries.

Samford works hard to keep its tuition low, and its costs are about 25 percent less than other private schools of its caliber, said the listing. One way it

does this is by offering need-based and merit-based scholarships. Samford tuition, room and board is about \$27,000 per year, but a variety of financial aid opportunities and Birmingham's comparatively low cost of living balance this out, said the publication.

Samford regularly appears in *The Princeton Review's* list of the 371 Best Colleges and Universities in America and is ranked in the top tier of national doctoral research universities by the widely acclaimed *U.S. News & World Report* annual college rankings. ■

The "Best Value" story is online at <http://www.usatoday.com/news/education/best-value-colleges.htm>.



# Curry's Return Recalls Hard Times After Civil War

by Sean Flynt



“Let us lay violent hands upon him, and let us say to him ‘Here, brother, is the task we commit to your hands.’”

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J. L. M. Curry's statue now resides in  
Samford's Beeson University Center.

**S**amford's third president has returned, bigger than life, like a martyred patron saint of university development officers. In late November 2009, Samford installed in Beeson University Center a seven-foot marble statue of Jabez Lamar Monroe Curry. Dante Soldini's sculpture of Curry, one of two Alabama notables on display in the U.S. Capitol Statuary Hall since 1908, has been replaced there by the more universally recognized Helen Keller.

Curry was actually more important to the South as a region than to Samford (then Howard College) as an institution. In fairness, though, Howard College gave him an almost impossible task.

### **Barely Surviving**

The Civil War devastated Howard College, then located in the Black Belt town of Marion, Ala. Students, faculty and even college president Henry Talbird abandoned the school to fight for the South in 1861. Conscription further dried up the supply of prospective students.

The college was barely surviving in 1863 when trustees allowed the Confederate government to convert campus facilities into a military hospital. As a military facility, the college was subject to outright confiscation by the federal government at the war's end. Howard avoided that catastrophe, but still faced crises of economy and leadership. When president Talbird declined to return to his post, Howard's trustees sought a new president whose primary responsibility would be rebuilding the college's shattered endowment.

At the Alabama Baptist Convention's annual meeting in November 1865, Samuel R. Freeman, chairman of the committee on education, named the school's choice. The language has the fire and flavor of an altar call, but the plan seems remarkably modern and pragmatic. The scene, as set by historian Mitchell Bennett Garrett:

Let us select from our brethren a man highly endowed by nature and cultivation for the presidency of Howard College. Let him be commissioned to go among the Baptists of the state and spend one year, and if need be, two years, in the work of resuscitating the endowment and stimulating the enterprise and liberality of our brethren in behalf of this institution. It needs no lamp of Diogenes to find this man. He is already among us. Let us lay violent hands upon him, and let us say to him "Here, brother, is the task we commit to your hands. We lay upon you the onus and the honor of rescuing this important instrumentality of usefulness to man and to the glory of God from the dust. In the name of our God and our cause, we call you to this trust, and we pledge ourselves to sustain you."

Curry, then presiding over the convention, was the object of this "violent" laying-on of hands.

### **Lawyer, Soldier, Statesman**

Curry was a relative newcomer to Alabama. Born, raised and educated in Georgia, he attended Harvard Law School before settling in Talladega, Ala., in 1845. He won a seat in the state legislature in 1847 and advanced to congress in 1857. Curry seceded from the Federal government alongside his adopted state and served in the First Confederate Congress before mounting up with the Fifth Alabama Cavalry. Like Talbird, Curry turned to ministry after the war, and thus ran headlong into Freeman's committee.

The recently widowed warrior-statesman answered Howard's call and moved to Marion, where his daughter was already a student at Judson College.

He had two years, at best, to save one small boat in the path of a socioeconomic hurricane. This Jabez didn't have a prayer. Howard accepted all comers, but Curry couldn't find the large gifts needed to sustain the college. By the fall of 1866, the trustees had lowered the bar, reporting that Curry would be able only to "prepare the way for this work when the time shall come."

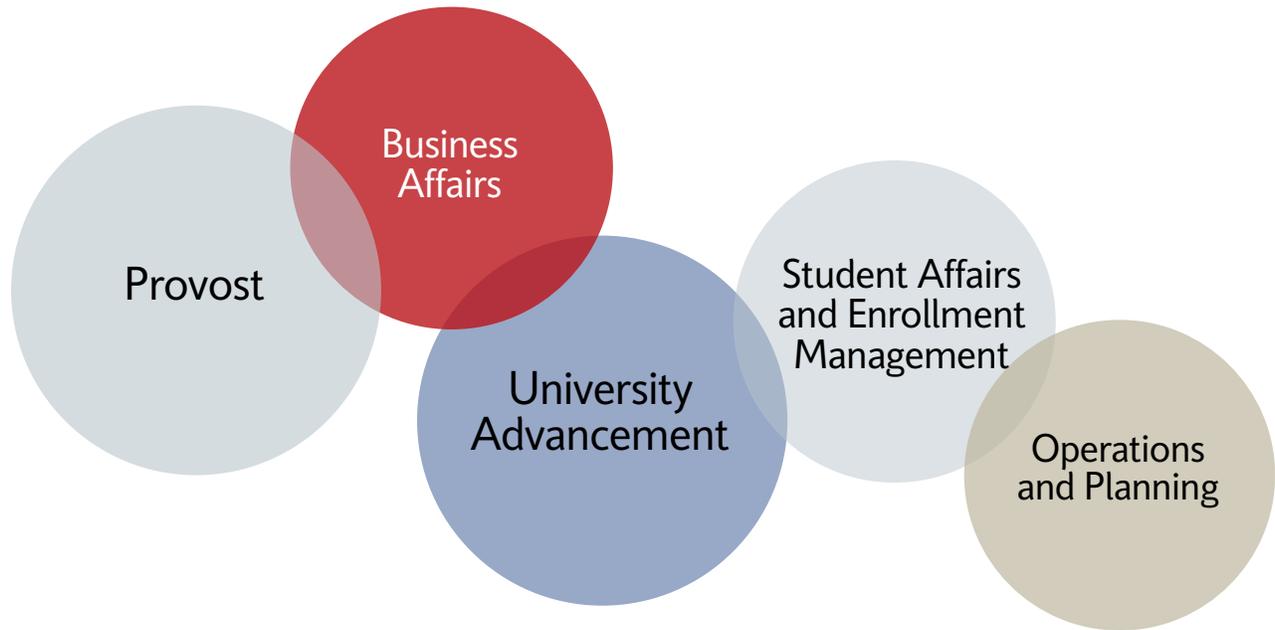
For Curry, at least, the time did not come. He remarried in the summer of 1867 and departed for a European honeymoon. Richmond College called him to a departmental chairmanship in October. Curry accepted the offer and left Howard, Marion and Alabama the next spring.

### **Education for All**

Curry built his national reputation in the decades after his troubled tenure at Howard College. There is good and bad in his writing and work, reflecting the mainstream of his culture, age and privileged race. Among the bad is his disdain for black suffrage. Among the good is his advocacy for public education for all citizens. After leaving Alabama, he served as agent for important educational grant-making foundations and helped found the Southern Education Board in 1901, two years before his death. Samford is among the educational institutions that honor him for that good work.

Jabez Lamar Monroe Curry departed from Samford during economic crisis and returned in economic crisis. Although he might sympathize with current university leaders, the health and size of the university now under his gaze likely would astonish him and all others who in their own time struggled merely to keep the doors open.

For Samford, it is enough that he was among those who tried. ■



# ‘Team Chemistry’ Characterizes Samford Leadership

by Philip Poole

Leadership Profiles by Jack Brymer

Each day brings you opportunities to raise important questions, speak to higher values and surface unresolved conflicts. Every day, you have the chance to make a difference in the lives of people around you.”

In a casual interview several weeks ago, Samford University President Andrew Westmoreland cited this passage from *Leadership on the Line* by Ronald A. Heifetz and Marty Linsky as the challenge for his senior administrators. Since becoming Samford’s president in June 2006, Westmoreland has used normal attrition, reorganization and strategic decisions to build a diverse, experienced executive leadership team.

“It was important to make full use of talent already in place,” Westmoreland said, while also using the “natural transition of several key administrators nearing retirement to think strategically about the university’s needs.”

Westmoreland stressed that “team chemistry” was important in shaping the leadership group. Now, the group works regularly through President’s Cabinet meetings, which includes several other key administrators, and the University Council, a larger group that also includes all eight academic deans and

leaders of the Faculty Senate and Staff Advisory Council.

J. Bradley Creed has been provost since 2002. Westmoreland added the role of executive vice president to Creed’s responsibilities soon after becoming president. Creed “understands the breadth of Samford’s academic standing and integrity,” Westmoreland said.

The newest executive officer is R. Phil Kimrey, vice president for student affairs and enrollment management. He was named to that post last summer and previously was dean of admission. Kimrey understands the “holistic thread from when students are first recruited through the time our graduates find their jobs,” Westmoreland said.

Sarah C. Latham is vice president for operations and planning. Operations and planning is a new division that “shakes up the paradigm of many functions that might not naturally fit together,” Westmoreland said, “but [Latham’s] personality makes it work.” Latham has been at Samford since 2002 in several administrative and teaching roles.

Two new vice presidents served on Samford’s board of trustees and made

the transition from the corporate world to higher education, something that Westmoreland sought in individuals to serve as chief financial officer and chief development officer.

Harry B. “Buck” Brock III became vice president for business affairs after serving as a bank and corporate CEO. Westmoreland said he wanted someone who understood the importance of fiscal stability and also could understand the complexities of “an institution like Samford.”

For the chief fund-raising officer, Westmoreland chose W. Randall Pittman, who became vice president for advancement in April 2008 after a 30-year career in banking and corporate finance. “It was important to find someone who was locally connected and would not have to build a set of relationships,” Westmoreland said of Pittman, “and who was ready for an exciting challenge.”

Westmoreland had high praise individually and collectively for the role the vice presidents are playing at Samford. “They are people who understand and are inspired by the mission of this place.” ■

# 'I Relish the Complexity of the Job'

Dr. J. Bradley Creed  
Executive Vice President and Provost

**B**rad Creed's education, training and experience focused on the pastorate, but he is convinced they were "great preparation" for the three hats he wears at Samford: those of provost, executive vice president and religion professor.

Creed's primary responsibility as provost, or chief academic officer, is to make sure Samford academics are "front and center," and that the university continues to offer quality education so that it can recruit the best students, faculty and programs possible.

The Texas native and graduate of Baylor University first learned of Samford while completing his Ph.D. at Southwestern Baptist Seminary, where some of his fellow students were Samford graduates. Later, during his tenure as dean of Baylor's George W. Truett Theological Seminary, he was impressed with the educational background of Samford graduates enrolled at Truett.

After 10 years at Samford, he remains impressed with the institution.

"This is a caring community," he said. "People here work well together and are collaborative. There is a sense of belonging."

Creed stresses the need for Samford to honor its historic relationship with the church.

"One of the best ways to enhance that relationship is to be a top-notch university in learning, scholarship and critical teaching," he said. "These are

concerns that strengthen and help students mature in life and faith."

One of the most challenging and complex of his duties as provost, according to Creed, is working with the eight schools that make up the university. "I relish the complexity of the job," he added. "It is fulfilling but sometimes frustrating."

As provost, Creed also is responsible for and to the faculty, supporting them as they pursue their calling as teachers and scholars.

**"One of the best ways to enhance that relationship is to be a top-notch university in learning, scholarship and critical teaching."** Brad Creed

"Most faculty, based on their education and training, could choose any career and be successful," he said. "They choose education not for financial gain, but for higher ideals such as making a contribution to a student's academic scholarship. They are truly valued professionals."

For that reason, Creed has a strong interest and responsibility in Samford's current fund-raising campaign.

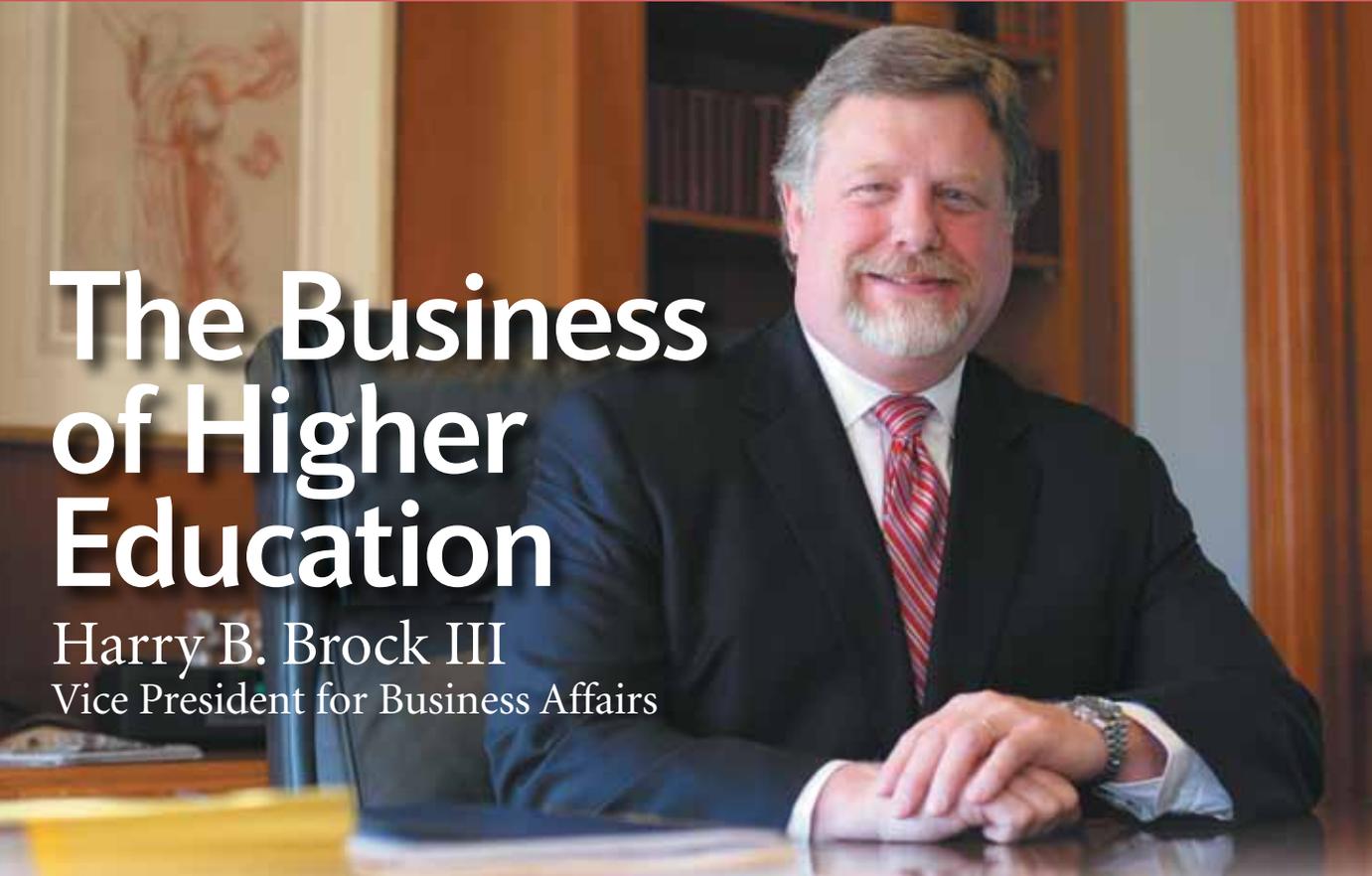
"While some of the campaign is



dedicated to brick-and-mortar projects, most of it is related to academics," he noted. "We are seeking financial resources as a more tangible way to prove that."

Creed also enjoys teaching. Although his job description does not require him to teach, "I couldn't perform my role as provost without teaching," he said. "I need interaction with students." He teaches Western Intellectual Tradition III: Reformation, Revolution and Enlightenment in the University Fellows program, and Cultural Perspectives I and Biblical Perspectives. He also enjoys interacting with students through campus organizations, and by inviting them into his home.

Despite the complexity and occasional frustration of his role, the position "is not just a job to me," Creed said. He cited among the many benefits the opportunity to work with the deans, "each outstanding in their own way," as they work to help Samford become a better university, and its students to learn and strengthen their Christian faith. ■



# The Business of Higher Education

Harry B. Brock III  
Vice President for Business Affairs

**H**arry B. Brock III earned a degree in banking, and spent 16 years in the banking industry and another 13 in business. Now, the Birmingham native views all that experience simply as preparation for a calling he currently answers: vice president for business affairs at Samford University.

Even though the worlds of business and higher education are very different, Brock finds similarities that enable his former experience to stand him in good stead in his present role.

“From a business perspective, a university whose product is high-quality private education, whether you call it that or not, is subject to all the forces of the economy as all other businesses,” said Brock, known by his nickname of Buck.

“It’s competitive as is business,” he said. “There are a lot of colleges and universities out there, and a lot of choices that students and parents make. Which college they are going to invest in can be significant.”

The biggest difference in business and college is in processes, said Brock. A university is much more collaborative and deliberative in decision-making and implementation than is business, he said.

Brock’s banking and finance degree is from the University of Alabama, but he has known about Samford since childhood days. His father, Harry B. Brock, Jr., has been a Samford trustee since 1955 and one of Samford’s most loyal supporters over the years. Samford’s Brock School of Business is named for Brock, Jr.

**“My mission is to help ensure that we are the best stewards of our limited resources today and in the future.”** Buck Brock

Buck Brock’s knowledge of Samford began to increase exponentially in 1998, when he was elected to the school’s board of trustees. He served on the board until 2007, when he joined Samford’s administration as vice president. His daughter, Jane, graduated from Samford in 2009. He describes Samford as “a wonderful institution in every respect . . . great people committed to the long-term mission of Samford and maintaining the environment to train students and build on high quality.”

Brock said his mission is “to help ensure that we are the best stewards of

our limited resources today and in the future.”

He notes that, “All of us have dreams and aspirations, but none is free, and most are expensive. We are continually looking at what we do and asking ourselves if we could do this differently and be better stewards with equal or greater outcome.”

Brock joined Central Bank, now BBVA Compass, out of college, and by the late 1980s had risen to the presidency of the bank’s Huntsville, Ala., operation. In 1993, he left the bank for a more entrepreneurial career path, establishing a private company that invested in, among other businesses, Express Oil Change, including 12 locations in Atlanta, Ga.

By 2006, he was ready to do something different. He sold his business, and he and his family returned to Birmingham. About a year later, he learned of an opportunity for which he seemed the ideal candidate. Samford President Andrew Westmoreland discussed the possibility of his taking the business vice presidency at Samford.

Reflecting on their discussion, Brock decided that all his banking and businesses experiences had come together to prepare him for one mission: to serve in Christian higher education at Samford. ■

# Stressing the Value of a Samford Education

Dr. R. Phil Kimrey  
Vice President for Student Affairs  
and Enrollment Management

One of Samford University's ongoing challenges is to identify students and families interested in its combination of academic rigor and Christian environment. As vice president for student affairs and enrollment management, Phil Kimrey is charged with meeting that challenge.

Kimrey heads Samford's student recruitment program, and it is a responsibility for which the Marianna, Fla., native is ideally equipped.

Kimrey has felt called to a Christian vocation since high school

**“For some, the Christian distinction is the first priority, and for others, it's academics. At Samford, the two go hand-in-hand.”** Phil Kimrey

days. He intentionally prepared himself to meet that calling, not as a pastor, but as an educational administrator, earning degrees at Baptist-related William Carey University and New Orleans Baptist Seminary. He holds a doctorate from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Kimrey has recruited students to Baptist universities for 25 years, the last 17 at Samford.

Many parents of students today are seeking “a school with a Christian environment that challenges a student's faith but does not ridicule it,” he said.

“Parents expect academic rigor within a Christian context,” he said. “For some, the Christian distinction is the first priority, and for others, it's academics. At Samford, the two go hand-in-hand.”

Kimrey believes Samford is “an incredible value.” He points out that *The Princeton Review* and *USA Today* recently agreed, selecting Samford as one of the top 50 best values among the nation's private schools (see page 7). Even so, he and his recruiting staff

must continually stress that a Samford education is affordable and that Samford can help with financial aid.

Currently, Kimrey noted that Samford is enjoying an increase in student enrollment due to a couple of factors. First, the department revised its financial assistance awarding in merit-based scholarships as well as continuing its need-based assistance program. Second, the department became more proactive in communication with admitted students and their families.

Samford's current capital



campaign will provide a boost to recruitment by providing more scholarship assistance for families, said Kimrey. “Through the campaign, new scholarships will be created and provide more funds for students,” he said.

Brick-and-mortar projects provided by the campaign also should positively impact recruitment, he noted, adding, “The campus visit is the most critical aspect for a student in the decision process.”

Kimrey said he is amazed that alumni five to 25 years beyond graduation tell him of a faculty mentor who meant so much to them or what a great place Samford is.

“It is almost unbelievable,” he said. “Really, it takes me back to think I'm a part of something really big. We shouldn't take our responsibility lightly. It is much bigger than we are.”

The Kimreys are active members of Dawson Baptist Church, where they teach engaged/newlywed couples Sunday school class, and Phil is an ordained deacon. Both their daughters, Caroline and Grace, are Samford students. ■

# Looking at Samford from a Different Perspective

Dr. Sarah C. Latham

Vice President for Operations and Planning

**S**arah Latham's role as vice president for operations and planning gives her a perspective that few others have of Samford University. She is responsible for capital planning and improvement, event management and space utilization, facilities, institutional effectiveness, public safety and emergency management, and residence life and university services.

The work of her division touches the lives of students daily. It does the same for Samford employees and visitors to the campus.

Adding to her perspective, Latham teaches a course in political science each spring, alternating between American Public Policy and Public Administration.

She has been at Samford for eight years. She left her position as educational policy director for the Florida legislature to become director of institutional research in 2002. She was named assistant to the president in 2006 and was appointed vice president in 2008.

Latham graduated summa cum laude from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and earned master's and Ph.D. degrees from Florida State University. She grew up in California and knew little if anything about Samford before her family moved to Birmingham while she was in high school. But that has changed.

"Samford is on a trajectory like no other organization of which I have been a part," she said. "Every week, it seems like a faculty member or student or department has achieved something great. Our name continues to spread, and our reputation continues to grow. I am proud to be a part of this amazing organization."

Latham says she has the "awesome opportunity" to interface with students regularly, and finds it imperative to have regular and transparent communication. "They are, after all, the reason

all of us are here. Students give wonderful feedback and can provide ideas that can improve our university."

She also relates to parents whose feedback and concerns have helped to frame many of the safety and education initiatives of the department.

"A college education is a major investment, and our families expect a return on that investment," she said. "They expect us to communicate well with them and continually strive to provide the best environment possible for their sons and daughters. They entrust their children to us, and every year, the issue of safety continues to grow in the list of major concerns expressed by parents."

The higher education environment in which Samford operates "is becoming increasingly competitive, accountability driven and customer focused," according to Latham. "Our biggest challenge will be our ability to cut through the clutter and communicate why we are a great investment and why a Samford education makes a difference."

Her goal is to continue to be an effective part of that process.

Because of the broad responsibilities of her department, Latham faces many challenges. "My job can be daunting at times," she said. "However, those moments are brief because I am surrounded by an amazing group of people in operations who are devoted to excellence." ■



# Solidifying the Future of a Great School

W. Randall Pittman  
Vice President for  
University Advancement

**R**andy Pittman's first knowledge of Samford University was as a 7-year-old, when he and his father went to a Samford football game with trustee Jim Stivender of Gadsden, Ala. Since then, he has seen Samford from a variety of viewpoints—as a volunteer, an overseer, a trustee, a parent of students and, since 2008, as vice president for university advancement.

This multiplicity of experiences has convinced Pittman of one thing: Samford is a strong institution with positive momentum in every way—in its academic rigor, curriculum, scholarship, research, student involvement in active learning, even athletics as a member of the Southern Conference.

Pittman spent 32 years in business. An Auburn University graduate and certified public accountant, he served as chief financial officer for three Birmingham companies and as executive vice president of a bank. Now, his job is to sell Samford, especially to prospective donors, students and their families.

That can be done, he believes, by letting the public know “the kind of citizens Samford creates.”

Pittman discovered that up close while his two daughters, Kelly and Allison, were Samford students. At least 250 Samford students visited his home to dine and wash clothes during

the seven years his daughters were students. Both daughters married Samford graduates.

“The caliber and quality of the students impressed me so much,” he said.

Pittman got to know the university even better when Samford President Andrew Westmoreland joined Shades Mountain Baptist Church, where Pittman serves as a deacon and teaches a Sunday school class attended by the Westmorelands.

As time passed, Westmoreland

**“Samford’s Christian mission. It’s the only reason I came.”**

Randy Pittman

talked with Pittman about moving from the business world to Samford’s administration. Pittman listened, admitting that he had spent about 80 percent of his time in business “selling the company’s vision and products.” In the spring of 2008, he decided to join the Samford administration.

What convinced him to do so?

“Samford’s Christian mission,” he said. “It’s the only reason I came.”

Pittman suggested that Samford’s greatest challenge in the long term is not to allow “mission-drift” from its role as a Christian institution, and to secure adequate resources to ensure



that doesn’t happen. One way to do this is to emphasize the school’s incredible value as a strong but moderately priced private university, “one of the shining stars in Alabama and the Southeast.”

Pittman joined Samford at a critical juncture, when the school was preparing to kick off the largest fund-raising campaign in university history—\$200 million over five years.

Despite the current economic picture, Pittman believes the time is right for the campaign. He cites several reasons:

“The students are deserving, and their academic quality merits support; endowment is needed for scholarships; and funds are needed to support programs, chairs and salaries to attract quality teachers. Plus, the magnificent campus is filled with 50-year-old buildings that need to be maintained.”

He believes it is imperative that Samford attract the donors and students to keep the institution strong “so that 40 years from now, Samford will still be a great institution.” ■

# Aviation History

by William Nunnelley



Dr. Julie Williams

## Williams Chronicles Wright Brothers' First Flying School in Montgomery

During the spring of 1910, aviation pioneers Wilbur and Orville Wright opened the nation's first civilian flying school on the outskirts of Montgomery, Ala., at what later became Maxwell Air Force Base. Just seven years after their historic first flight at Kitty Hawk, N.C., the brothers moved south from snowy Dayton, Ohio, to establish their school in the warmer and more hospitable climate of central Alabama.

Now, with the centennial of that founding, Samford University journalism professor Julie Hedgepeth Williams has chronicled the story in a new book, *Wings of Opportunity: The Wright Brothers in Montgomery, Alabama*, published by NewSouth Books of Montgomery. Publication of the 168-page trade paperback in January of 2010 coincided with the centennial of the founding.

Dr. Williams looks at the short life of the flight school through the eyes of Alabama newspapers, whose reporting and occasional misreporting "reflected the misconceptions,

hopes, dreams and fears about aviation in 1910," when flight was "untested, unsteady and unavailable to most people," she notes.

Forward-thinking Montgomeries heralded the school as a way for their city to rise above the shadow of the Civil War, from which the South was only 45 years removed.

"Montgomery in 1910 was attempting to market itself as a progressive city, no longer the cradle of the Confederacy," Williams said. "City



The Wright flyer takes wing over a cotton field near Montgomery, Ala. Right: Students W. R. Brookins and Arch Hopsey test controls.





fathers eagerly grabbed hold of the Wright flying school as the way to make this message plain. Even better for Montgomery, the Wright brothers' patents on the airplane had legally grounded all non-Wright airplanes. For a while in 1910, the only place anyone could see an airplane in the United States was in Montgomery."

As a result, she added, local businessmen planned charter tours to bring airplane tourists to Montgomery and set up special shuttle trains to the flying field.

The Wrights were eager to train pilots who would fly in exhibitions and teach airplane buyers how to fly. Wilbur arrived in Montgomery Feb. 15, 1910, to look for a suitable location for their airfield. He found it west of the city on the plantation of Frank Kohn, and work began to clear a landing strip and build a hangar. The Wright flyer was shipped to Montgomery in seven large crates, arriving March 15, and the first flight occurred March 26.

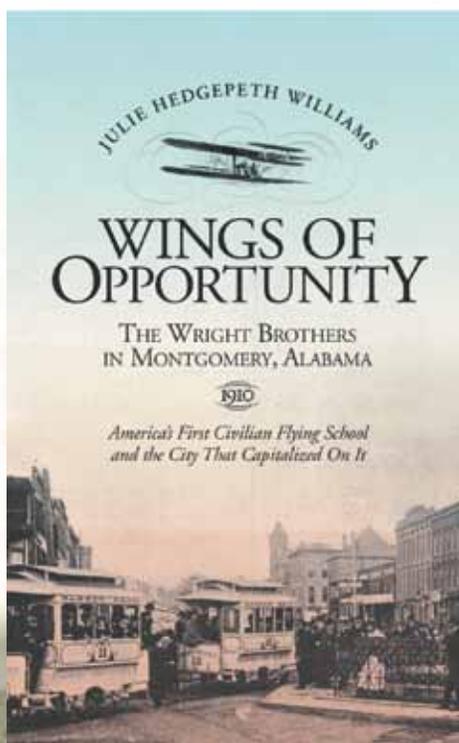
After a string of repair problems and weather delays because of high winds, the flight school finally got under way. Students were taught how to manipulate the engine and levers that made the aircraft turn, climb and descend. But mechanical breakdowns and high winds continued to plague the flyers, and ultimately, the school became a short-lived venture.

The Wrights returned to Dayton in early May to prepare for other exhibition tours that would begin in June, leaving Walter Brookins, the

school's first graduate, to train several other students. The school finally closed May 26, but not before Brookins and his students had accomplished the first night flights in history. Flying activities disappeared in Alabama until World War I brought aviation back to the site that ultimately became Maxwell Field in 1922. ■

*Wings of Opportunity* is available at bookstores, online retailers and from NewSouth Books at [www.newsouthbooks.com](http://www.newsouthbooks.com).

Left: Students push the flyer from its hangar. Above: Orville Wright, center, works on the flyer.



# sacred space

## Divinity Reconsecrates Hodges Chapel on 15th Anniversary

**B**eginning at the statue of benefactor Ralph W. Beeson on Samford's Centennial Walk, dozens of Beeson Divinity School faculty and students processed across campus Jan. 26 for the reconsecration of Andrew Gerow Hodges Chapel.

They paused along the way for scripture reading and prayer at Beeson Green, site of the groundbreaking for Divinity Hall.

The occasion was the 15th anniversary of the opening of Hodges Chapel at the start of Samford's spring semester. Students, faculty and guests filled the chapel to celebrate with litany, prayers and song.

"Fifteen years ago, we gathered here to consecrate this hallowed place to the glory of God, and now, we are here to recommit ourselves and this sacred space," said divinity school dean Timothy George. He added that the event marked a time to "chart a new beginning in the work of God and in our own lives."

The divinity school, established in 1988, dedicated its distinctive chapel featuring a spectacular demonstration of Protestant sacred art in 1995. In 2002, the chapel was named for Andrew Gerow Hodges, a longtime trustee and supporter of Samford and close friend of Beeson.

The chapel features the work of Romanian artist Petru Botezatu, who painted

the *Great Cloud of Witnesses* within its dome and panels in the chancel apses that celebrate the person and work of Jesus Christ.

In his sermon, Dr. George recalled major episodes in Christian history that began in church settings: the Protestant Reformation that followed Martin Luther's posting the 95 Theses on a German church door in 1517; the religious revolution that stemmed from a woman's protesting the English Book of Common Prayer in a Scottish church in 1637; and the beginnings of Methodism after John Wesley felt his heart "strangely warmed" in a small chapel in 18th-century England.

All three events were rooted in a sacred place, George noted. What God did in Germany, Scotland or England, "he may do in Birmingham," he said.

George noted that the chapel, even though it sits in the heart of a campus, is not to be considered an auditorium or meeting hall.

"We come here not to escape from the world, but to be changed."

The service also included the dedication of the chapel's new curator, Victoria Gaston, and chapel attendants Robert Crouse, Whitney Faucett, John Lambuth and Laura Zappia. ■

*Andrew Gerow Hodges Chapel is open weekdays, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m., and Saturdays 9 a.m.–12 p.m. for tours, personal prayer and meditation. Tours can be scheduled through the curator's office at 205-726-2227.*



Beeson Divinity School Dean Timothy George preaches during an earlier Hodges Chapel service.

# Technology Brought Radical Change: Macon Winner Persall

by William Nunnolley

**A**re there natural-born teachers? It's not that simple, according to Samford education professor Maurice Persall.

"There are teachers who have natural instincts that make them excellent," he said, "but in today's environment, the requirements for success are so complex, teachers have to continuously improve their knowledge and skills."

Dr. Persall has been chair of graduate studies in Samford's Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education and Professional Studies since 1993, and held leadership positions in Alabama public schools for 28 years before that. He received Samford's 2010 George Macon Memorial Award for outstanding performance as a teacher, counselor and friend to students.

Technology has brought the most radical change to classroom teaching during his tenure in education, said

Persall. These affect both teachers and students.

"The major trends that impact the teaching profession at present are technology and research-based teaching strategies, both of which are positive," he said. "But they also add to the knowledge and skill requirements of educators."

"The major changes in students have been their comfort with, and reliance on, every technological change and innovation. This makes it extremely hard to engage students and keep them interested in classroom work."

Persall says good teachers "must first of all love children and be committed to their growth and development," but also "need to know their subject, be adept at using the latest instructional strategies and be skilled in classroom management techniques."

What surprises young teachers the most about their profession?

"One of the most difficult concepts is that the job is more challenging than they anticipated," he said. "The overall demands of the job, the constant pressure to meet externally imposed accountability requirements,

the nonteaching duties that take time away from teaching are among the most frustrating experiences of teachers."

Persall has seen Samford's graduate education program grow from 32 students to 230 during his 16 years as chair. He says there is "a high level of satisfaction to be gained" from teaching graduate students.

"They are already working in their chosen profession, and are motivated to prepare themselves to do a better job and to gain credentials they need for advancement. They are anxious to learn concepts and strategies they can use in their practice."

In presenting the Macon Award, Samford Executive Vice President and Provost Brad Creed noted that Persall "causes his students to think about their personal leadership and their abilities in new ways." He "avoids the simplistic and urges his students to confront difficult issues," Creed added.

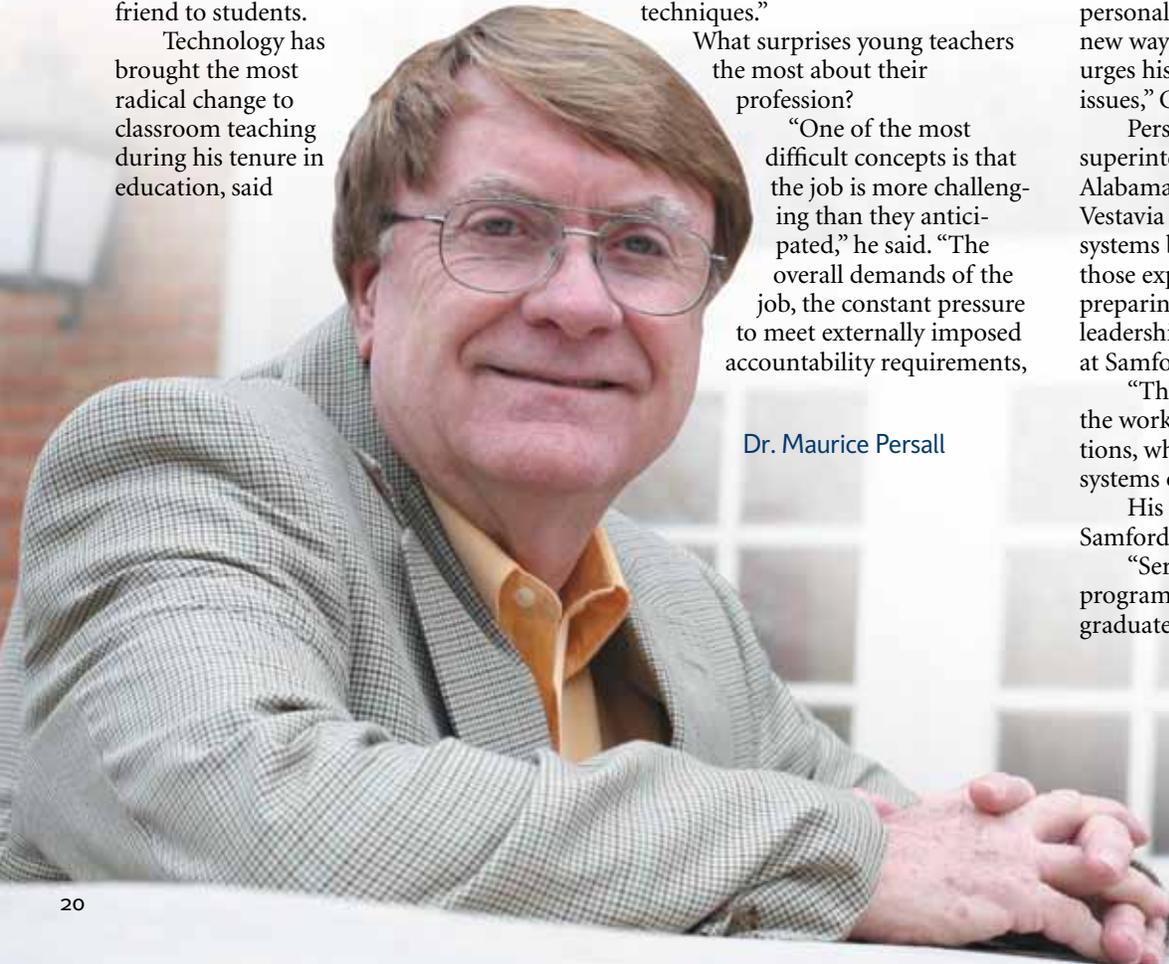
Persall was an assistant state superintendent of education for Alabama, and superintendent of Vestavia Hills and Arab city school systems before joining Samford. He said those experiences were valuable in preparing him to teach educational leadership courses such as those offered at Samford.

"There are numerous similarities in the work of building effective organizations, whether they be schools, school systems or graduate programs," he said.

His most gratifying experience at Samford?

"Serving students, building new programs and working to make our graduate program distinctive." ■

Dr. Maurice Persall





# Samford **Business**

THE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER OF THE SAMFORD UNIVERSITY BROCK SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

# Another Milestone for the Business School



*Brock School of Business Dean Beck A. Taylor, second from left, meets with AACSB reviewers, from left, Bryan McKinney, Patrick Raines and Homer Erikson.*

There are many ways to mark the passage of time. In academia, we use terms like academic year, semester and commencement to recognize some of the important milestones in our professional and personal lives. In each case, these important markers provide an opportunity for reflection, celebration and thanking.

Recently, Brock School of Business had the opportunity to celebrate a very important milestone in the life of the school, one that provided our stakeholders with the opportunity to think reflectively and to celebrate all of the wonderful things happening within the business school and at Samford. In February, our accrediting body, the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business [AACSB International], sent three deans to our campus from other reputable business schools around the country. Their purpose was to mark the passage of 10 years since our initial accreditation visit in 1999. Importantly, they used the occasion to make another independent assessment of the quality of our business programs.

Although the final report from AACSB won't be available until late April, the overwhelming response from our reviewers was that in every area, the school is meeting the very high expectations of AACSB. More importantly, the school is well on its way to achieving many of the shared aspirations of its students, faculty, alumni, donors and professional communities.

Because the AACSB peer review team specifically examined the previous

five years of the school's history, I have listed below some of the school's major accomplishments since 2005. In doing so, we celebrate the tremendous dedication and excellence of our school's faculty, staff and administration who have worked so diligently to build outstanding programs worthy of distinction. We also celebrate the countless achievements of our undergraduate and graduate students who provide the inspiration to all of us as we dedicate our lives

to educating the next generation of business leaders. Finally, we celebrate all of those who have partnered with us to make these achievements possible, including our alumni and donors, as well as the business community.

## Major Accomplishments, 2005–10

- The school was renamed Brock School of Business in December 2007 to honor Harry B. Brock, Jr., and his generous service and financial commitments to the school.
- New majors were created in economics, entrepreneurship, finance and marketing. A new major for University Fellows, called the Brock Scholars Program, came online in 2009.
- New concentrations were developed for business students in social entrepreneurship and international business.
- The Samford Business Network was created to involve alumni in the life of the school, with active chapters in Atlanta, Birmingham and Nashville.
- Annual giving to the school increased from approximately \$56,000 in 2005 to approximately \$740,000 in 2009.
- *The Wall Street Journal* readership program was implemented school-wide with the support of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama.
- The business school's historic evening M.B.A. program was redesigned to meet the needs of modern working professionals.
- A new Brock School of Business Advisory Board was established with 45 members.
- The Bulldog Investment Fund, a donor-enabled student investment fund,

was created. The fund currently has a market value of approximately \$1.1 million.

- Brock School of Business launched a volunteer student mentoring program utilizing professionals from the Southeastern United States.
- The Frances Marlin Mann Center for Ethics and Leadership was established, enabled by a significant gift from alumnus Marvin Mann and his late wife, Frances Marlin Mann.
- The business school established the Office of Executive Education and hired an experienced director to develop programs for professionals and organizations.
- The school hosted its first business plan competition, the Regions New Venture Challenge, awarding \$20,000 in prize money.
- A new speakers series, the Brock International Business Speakers Series, hosted ambassadors and consuls general from several countries.
- The state's largest nonprofit membership organization, Alabama Association of Nonprofits, moved to Brock School of Business, providing important connections for students and faculty to the nonprofit sector, and complementing the school's innovative social entrepreneurship program.
- The school's social entrepreneurship program was recognized by Ashoka as one of the top 28 programs of its kind in the world.
- The school's entrepreneurship program was recognized in 2010 as the top emerging program in the country by the U.S. Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

Thanks for celebrating with us, and thank you again for your support!

Beck A. Taylor, Ph.D.  
Dean, Brock School of Business

*For more information about the business school, go to [www.samford.edu/business](http://www.samford.edu/business), follow "@brockbusiness" on Twitter, search "Samford's Brock School of Business" on Facebook or join the Brock School of Business Group on LinkedIn.*

# Internship Program is 20 Years Strong



Intern Matt Glover, right, studies a chart with Shannon Waltchack Real Estate officials Len Shannon, left, and Andrew Patterson '05.

This year, the Brock School of Business Academic Internship Program celebrates 20 years in matching business students for hands-on, preprofessional practice with opportunities in companies and organizations around the world. The internship program links theory with practice and turns experiences into applied learning beyond the academic institution.

Director Carrie Anna Pearce began this experiential education program in 1990. Students experience an inside view of the business world while contributing to meaningful work in a variety of

organizations. Upon graduation, they are better prepared for competing in the job market.

"Internship programs can be very important for helping students to realize their true potential," said Pearce. "The program has been instrumental in helping students to choose a path toward a rewarding career."

Participating organizations describe Samford business students as honest, competent and eager to learn.

"Our student intern has been more than an asset to our organization; he has been a lifesaver!" said Kelli Keith, director of marketing and development

for Birmingham Area Easter Seals. "His performance speaks volumes about the education and values instilled in students that have the opportunity to attend Samford University."



Students Victor Hart and Julie Fort look over internship materials.

Approximately 85 percent of business students participate in the program. Almost half of internship students receive a permanent job offer from the company or organization in which they interned.

Internships are a transitional step between the classroom and the business world. Both students and employers benefit in this win-win relationship. ■

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

## Business Cosponsors Visit by Chick-fil-A President Cathy



Dan Cathy

Chick-fil-A President and Chief Operating Officer Dan Cathy led a fast-paced mix of music, faith and business wisdom at Samford March 9, cohosted by the university's School of the Arts and Brock School of Business.

Cathy, leader of one of the nation's most popular restaurant businesses, also is a dedicated musician who takes his trumpet wherever he goes, including to Samford's Reid Chapel, filled to capacity for his appearance. "The

real calling of my life is to be a church musician," he said.

Music was the heart of Cathy's presentation. He pointed out that music is the only universally understood language, which he demonstrated by performing with a full band with only minimal rehearsal.

Cathy said music was very important to his family. He became so skilled with his trumpet that he was playing professionally by his late teens and touring with musician Phil Driscoll. But that took him into a honky-tonk culture that troubled him, he said, and he turned away from that road and toward his family's growing business in 1970. He never gave up his music, though, and he finds in that passion threads that connect his work and faith.

Following the program, Cathy visited with business students and others in a luncheon on campus. ■

# Samford's Brock School of Business Recognized Nationally for its Entrepreneurship Program



*Dr. Franz Lohrke lectures an entrepreneurship class.*

Samford University's Brock School of Business Entrepreneurship Program received national recognition this past winter when it was selected as the 2010 Outstanding Emerging Entrepreneurship Program by the U.S. Association of Small Business and Entrepreneurship [USASBE]. USASBE is the largest independent, professional, academic organization in the world focused on promoting entrepreneurship. It created the award to recognize outstanding, innovative programs that were begun in the past three years.

Although the business school officially launched the program in August 2007, a course in entrepreneurship has been taught on campus since 1982. The course was taught by Dr. Marlene Reed, now professor emeritus and Brock School of Business Advisory Board member, when she first joined the faculty. Reed taught the course every year until her retirement in 2005. She helped establish a culture of entrepreneurial thinking that provided current faculty with fertile ground on which to build and grow the program.

Before launching the program, the faculty researched leading entrepreneurship programs in the country to establish long-term goals. They faced several challenges, including the business school's relatively small size, but they also had several strengths on which to build, including the university's mission, motivated faculty, the Academic Internship Program and strong connections with the local business community.

"Based on our benchmarking, we realized that the best programs not only train students in the important business skills needed to start a business, they also inspire an entrepreneurial mind-set in students by exposing them to opportunities early in their academic careers, often during the freshman year," said Dr. Franz Lohrke, Brock Family Chair in Entrepreneurship. "Top programs also provide students with significant experiential learning opportunities such as

internship and mentoring programs, and they remove many roadblocks that students face in starting a business by sponsoring business plan competitions and providing them opportunities to

B. Brock, Jr., pledged his support in building a world-class entrepreneurship program within the school recently named for him. The faculty built the entrepreneurship concentration into a major, added a social entrepreneurship minor for nonbusiness students and created the entrepreneurship experience in the freshman Introduction to Business course in 2008. Faculty added several cocurricular activities, including the Regions New Venture Challenge Business Plan Competition, in 2009.

The program began receiving increasing attention, such as recognition in 2008 by Ashoka, a leading social entrepreneurship organization, as one of only 28 social entrepreneurship programs in the world.

Although the program has come a long way in three years, faculty have additional plans for initiatives to help train aspiring entrepreneurs. Plans are



*Student entrepreneurs at Regions Bank, left, gather with, at right, Bill Horton of Regions Bank, Business Dean Beck A. Taylor and Brock School of Business Advisory Board member Philip Hodges.*

network with business people while in school."

In 2007, the program included concentrations in entrepreneurship for students interested in running small or family businesses, and social entrepreneurship for those interested in running nonprofit or other socially minded organizations.

Long-term goals were quickly revised in December 2007, when Harry

underway this semester to integrate entrepreneurship with other majors across campus, to provide students with funding to start microbusinesses while in school, and to work closely with the Alabama Association of Nonprofits (formerly the Nonprofit Resource Center of Alabama), which recently moved into Brock School of Business. ■

# Celebrating Brock Scholarships



*Brock School of Business benefactor Harry B. Brock, Jr. and his wife, Jane, gather with some of the dozens of Samford University students who benefit from scholarships provided by the Brocks. The occasion was a dinner last fall in the Samford Rotunda Club.*

## Stressing Ethics in a World of Business



*Dr. John Knapp*

In the United States and around the world, there is growing recognition that ethical leadership is more crucial than ever. The Frances Marlin Mann Center for

Ethics and Leadership promotes the vital connection between ethics and good leadership in business, government, social services and classic professions.

“Leadership in the 21st century requires more than just effectiveness in getting things done,” explained John C. Knapp, university professor and director of the center. “Tomorrow’s leaders must be distinguished as people who, in the leading of their own lives, provide examples worth following.”

Based in Brock School of Business, the Mann Center has a university-wide mission, and is a point of collaboration for scholars and practitioners seeking to address issues in business, health care, law, education and other fields of practice. Its innovative educational offerings meet the needs of learners from the university classroom to the corporate boardroom.

Established in 2008, the center was made possible with support from Samford alumnus Marvin Mann, retired chairman and chief executive officer of Lexmark Corp. Its name honors the memory of his late wife.

The Mann Center supports teaching and curriculum development across the campus, and conducts cocurricular programs on a wide range of current issues. It also works with local, national and international organizations to develop initiatives addressing often-daunting challenges of our increasingly complex society.

The Frances Marlin Mann Center

for Ethics and Leadership is a catalyst for the development of ethical leaders for the 21st century:

- Promoting the moral formation of students and equipping them for leadership in vocational, community and family life.

- Serving as a center of teaching excellence, empowering faculty with the methods and resources to integrate ethics effectively into all facets of the curriculum.

- Fostering productive moral discourse around challenges facing individuals, the professions and society.

- Encouraging cross-sector collaboration to address complex challenges facing society.

- Engaging the professional and business communities for mutual learning and the advancement of ethical values and practices. ■

# Brock School of Business Partners Social Entrepreneurship and Alabama Nonprofits

The Nonprofit Resource Center of Alabama [NRCA] became the Alabama Association of Nonprofits [AAN] and relocated its Birmingham headquarters to Samford's Brock School of Business during late 2009. Its goal was to enhance professional development opportunities, build stronger member benefits, and incorporate group buying power and greater advocacy of sector issues.

In addition, AAN formed a state-wide consortium of leading colleges and universities dedicated to strengthening the nonprofit sector. Partners initially committed include Samford and the University of Alabama. The consortium of higher education experts representing diverse fields will work together to form stronger professional development tracks for members, generate ongoing research and economic study regarding the nonprofit sector, and serve as a vehicle by which AAN members can gain certification in core competencies needed to excel in the sector.

The alignment of the program is fitting for Samford and Brock School of Business because AAN's mission closely resembles that of Samford. Students in the business school can choose to major in social entrepreneurship, which focuses on businesses and nonprofits, and gives students firsthand theory and experience in managing a nonprofit like a business.

"The faculty and students of the school are extremely excited by this innovative partnership with the association," said Beck A. Taylor, dean of Brock School of Business. "Collaboration between the state's nonprofit organizations and our faculty and students will bring renewed excitement and a greater level of service to the nonprofit sector. We also look forward to working with other institutions of higher learning throughout the state to bring new resources to the nonprofit sector."

AAN President and CEO John Stone joined the organization in late 2009 after a five-year career with one of the state's larger nonprofit organizations, Children's Hospital of Alabama. A board member of the former NRCA, Stone saw firsthand the increased demand for the organization's services



*Business Dean Beck A. Taylor, left, and Samford President Andrew Westmoreland, right, visit with Alabama Association of Nonprofits board members, from left, Sandy Killion, AAN President John Stone, Sue McInnish and Stephen Black at the relocation announcement.*

during the increasingly difficult atmosphere of lower donations, heightened demand for service and increased costs of doing business.

"The nonprofit sector suffered a number of challenges in 2008 and 2009, which left many organizations scrambling to learn how to do more with less," Stone said. "The association's board recognized the need for providing a level of professional development and support unlike any the organization had ever offered before, and the partnership with Samford University was a perfect and natural fit for our desire to be the best in all aspects of nonprofit leadership and capacity building."

The new reality for nonprofits is the ever-decreasing support for nonprofits and the ever-increasing demand for their services. Demands on the nonprofit sector have grown substantially since the economic crisis in 2008. In June 2009, Guidestar conducted a survey that revealed 58% of nonprofits nationally reported an increased demand for their services. Fifty-two percent reported a decrease in contributions, and 8 percent of all of those surveyed reported that they were in imminent danger of shutting their doors.

With these demands on nonprofits increasing every day, AAN takes on the responsibility of providing the more than 19,700 nonprofit organizations in Alabama with the very best professional development, advocacy and sector-based support so that they can meet the needs of their communities and provide much-needed services to those in need. ■

*AAN can be reached at 205-879-4712 or [www.alabamanonprofits.org](http://www.alabamanonprofits.org). Follow AAN via Facebook at "Alabama Association of Nonprofits" and Twitter at "@Alnonprofits."*

# New Brock Scholars Program Takes Learning to New Level



*Brock Scholars Coordinator Dr. Betsy Holloway*



*Kley Sippel*



*Caroline Noland*

New to Brock School of Business this year is the Brock Scholars program, an imaginative, demanding and competitive program for University Fellows who desire to major in business.

The students who participate in the program are chosen annually through a rigorous application process. The program gives students the flexibility to create their own unique curriculum, including international travel and hands-on experiences through internships in local and international settings, all culminating in a senior research project.

Most importantly, the program entails a high degree of faculty involvement, including independent studies and collaborative research projects. The Brock Scholars program is open to students in the University Fellows program, which was initiated in 2008.

Dwight M. Beeson Chair in

Business Betsy Bugg Holloway serves as coordinator of the Brock Scholars program.

“Brock School of Business is pleased to offer a unique, creative and highly competitive academic major for the University Fellows who wish to pursue academic study in our school,” said Dr. Holloway. “The Brock Scholars major builds upon the core competencies we offer in the business school with an emphasis on student research, one-on-one tutorials with our faculty, academic internships and social enterprise. I aim for this program to become a noteworthy distinction for our school in the years ahead.”

Caroline Noland and Kley Sippel are sophomore members of the inaugural class of Brock Scholars.

Noland entered the program to pursue her dream of owning an orphanage overseas after she graduates. “Dr. Holloway introduced me to the Brock Scholars program, which is giving me opportunities that cannot be found anywhere else on campus,” she said. “I will be taking upper-level classes in sociology, psychology, and family studies in addition to my business classes. The Brock Scholars program allows me to

put my heart and my mind together so that I can achieve my goals in life.”

Sippel’s career goal is to work in social entrepreneurship in some capacity. “The program is a tangible realization of the mission at Samford University,” he said. “The program goes far beyond what is thought of as traditional corporate responsibility and working in nonprofits. It boldly ventures into what I consider an entirely new field and market: social entrepreneurship.”

To Sippel, the program focuses on business and the sustaining of life, and because of the two internship requirements, he feels his career has already begun. By the time he finishes the program, he will have almost a year and a half of work experience.

Coursework in the program is closely guided by each student’s faculty team on an individual basis. Much of this interaction occurs outside a traditional classroom setting, including Oxbridge tutorials and substantive independent studies. ■

# M.B.A. Program Reports Record Enrollment



*Professor Larry Harper lectures an M.B.A. class.*

The Brock School of Business part-time evening M.B.A. program has seen record enrollment since changing to a schedule of two 15-week semesters and one 10-week summer term. The program has experienced the largest enrollment in

seven years, with a maximum of 157 students enrolled. The changes were made to give students more time to study and to introduce new curriculum that encompasses all business functions, stressing a complete management experience.

“Our main goal with the program is centered around focusing on serving students,” said Larry Harper, director of graduate programs. “Our program also allows professionals in our program the flexibility of attending one night a week.”

One of the attributes of the part-time program is that it is values-based, giving students the opportunity to learn and make ethical business decisions. The M.B.A. curriculum covers a wide range of business disciplines, including accounting, finance, economics, marketing,

management information systems, operations, human resources and strategic management.

The program also has an international component that offers students an opportunity to study in London during Jan Term. There are plans to include an M.B.A. trip to Japan in the summer of 2010.

“We constantly strive to offer the programming our students are looking for,” said Harper. “We have surveyed the students in order to determine what courses they are most interested in so that we can adapt our program to meet their needs.”

The graduate program also offers a juris doctorate/M.B.A. degree as well as the master of accountancy.

Applications are accepted three times a year in January, June and August. ■

*For more information about the M.B.A. program, go to [www.samford.edu/mba](http://www.samford.edu/mba).*

## A Note from the Office of Advancement



*Robert Blakely*

I thank the donors who have invested in Brock School of Business over the years. It is an exciting time for students, staff and faculty as we continue our rapid ascent, transforming the

school into a nationally recognized program.

Your investment—whether through involvement, networking, career assistance or financial support—has allowed our program and our mission to maintain its forward momentum. Brock School of Business continues to pioneer cutting-edge fields of study and exciting cocurricular programs, while steadfastly remaining firmly grounded in the ethics and values that make Samford University so special.

As we continue to move forward

with the Campaign for Samford, my hope is that you will recognize the bright young leaders who are nurtured into young professionals at the business school. These young adults will change Birmingham, this region and our nation by remaining true to the principles and concepts taught at Brock School of Business. It’s through your support that we are able to give students the chance to join and flourish at the university.

There are many avenues through which you can become involved with the business school:

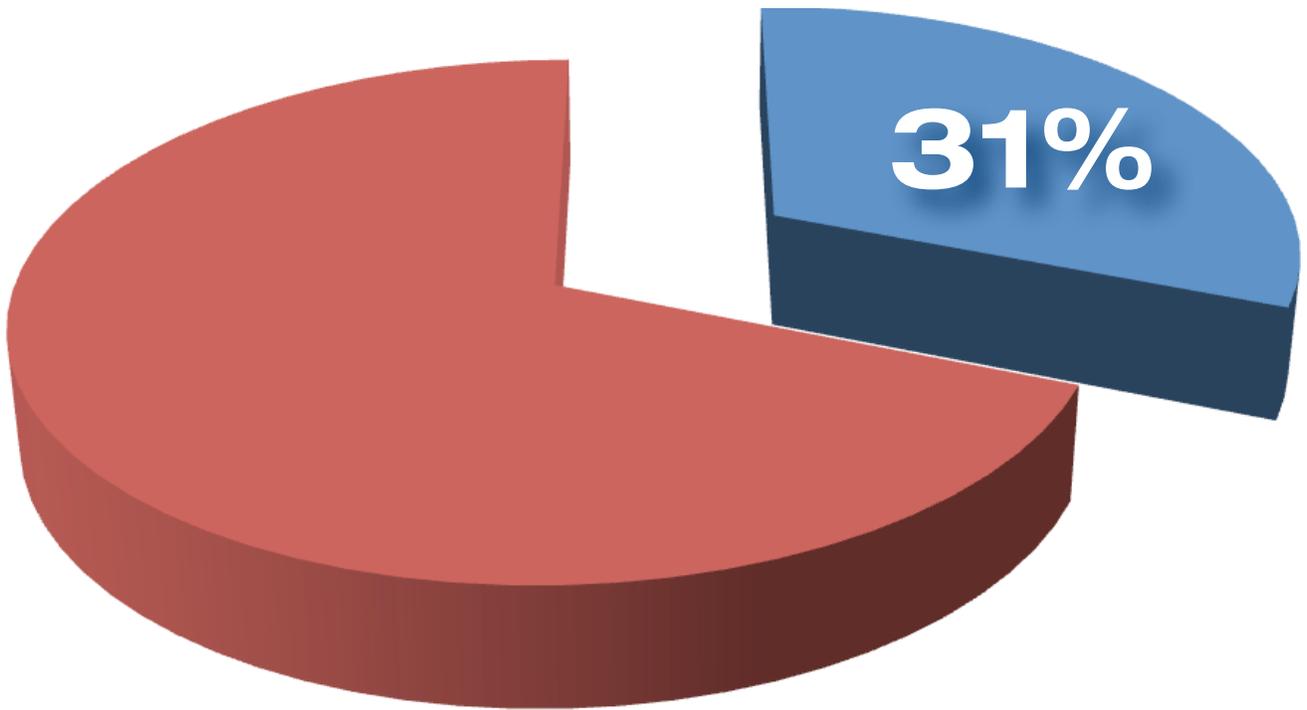
- Attend Brock School of Business events, including Samford Business Network
- Make a financial gift
- Provide an annual scholarship to a deserving student
- Endow a permanent scholarship
- Make Brock School of Business part of your estate plans, the most profound level of support one can offer

In the coming years, I hope and expect that you will want to continue to be updated on the school’s progress as

our programs garner more recognition and we achieve our goal of becoming a nationally recognized thought leader in business and ethics. Not only will the school receive the recognition, but so will the people who work tirelessly to help make Brock School of Business world-class. On behalf of the students, staff and faculty, thank you!

Please don’t hesitate to contact me with any questions or ideas. ■

*Robert Blakely, advancement officer for Brock School of Business, may be reached at [rblakely@samford.edu](mailto:rblakely@samford.edu), 205-726-4108 or 205-999-9077.*



**Your piece of the pie**

**Thank You!**

On March 8, 2010, we celebrated Philanthropy Difference Day. This is the theoretical day that Samford ceases operating on tuition revenue and begins operating on donor gifts.

Our fiscal year began July 1, 2009, and tuition dollars cover only 69% of the cost of operating the university through the end of our year, June 30, 2010. The other 31% has to come from funds that have been donated by alumni and friends such as you.

Thanks to your generosity and the generosity of others like you, the Samford experience is possible for this generation of fine students.



# New Alabama Community College Head Identifies with Students Who Must Work

by William Nunnelley

Dr. Freida Hill '73 returns to her alma mater to speak at fall commencement.

When Dr. Freida Hill '73 spoke at Samford's fall commencement in December, she urged graduates to "Fear not" as they headed into a world filled with doom-and-gloom reports on every side.

The new chancellor of the Alabama Community College System said she drew on her own experience as a University of Georgia doctoral student as she thought about what to tell the graduates.

"I remember my dissertation defense and the fear that I would not be able to answer a question posed to me," she said recently. "One of my committee members, Dr. Tom Valentine, told me not to be afraid. He said, 'You completed the research, wrote the words and know more than anyone on the committee about your topic.' I went into the defense and passed with flying colors.

"Of course, it helped that I said a little prayer beforehand."

Hill assumed her new post Dec. 1, 2009, after serving in various leadership roles in the Technical College System of Georgia since 1981. She was deputy commissioner at the time of her appointment after serving as president of Southwest Georgia Technical College during 2001-06.

Her goal as Alabama chancellor is to focus on student success, "and that means that we help students meet their goals," she said. That goal might be completing courses to transfer to a four-year college or university, completing a short- or long-term certificate or associate's degree, or even completing courses for a job promotion, she said.

Hill identifies with students who must work to meet their goals, because she worked and put herself through two years at Hiwassee Junior College in Tennessee before transferring to Samford for her undergraduate degree.

"My parents couldn't afford to send me [to college], no counselors encouraged me, although I made good grades, and I didn't know how to do it on my own," she recalled. "While working in a bank, I was encouraged by a customer to pursue my dream. I enrolled and worked to put myself through."

She learned later that the customer, a businessman, had provided a partial scholarship during her first two years. She has since funded a nursing scholarship to repay his generosity.

Hill said her 10th grade English teacher inspired her desire to become a teacher. She majored in English and minored in history at Samford.

"My classes and professors at Samford were superb, and I honestly enjoyed going to class," she said. "Dr. Hugh Bailey [history professor] was so interesting that students hated for the class to end. I met Dr. Bailey years later when I was president at Southwest Georgia Technical College and he was president of Valdosta State University."

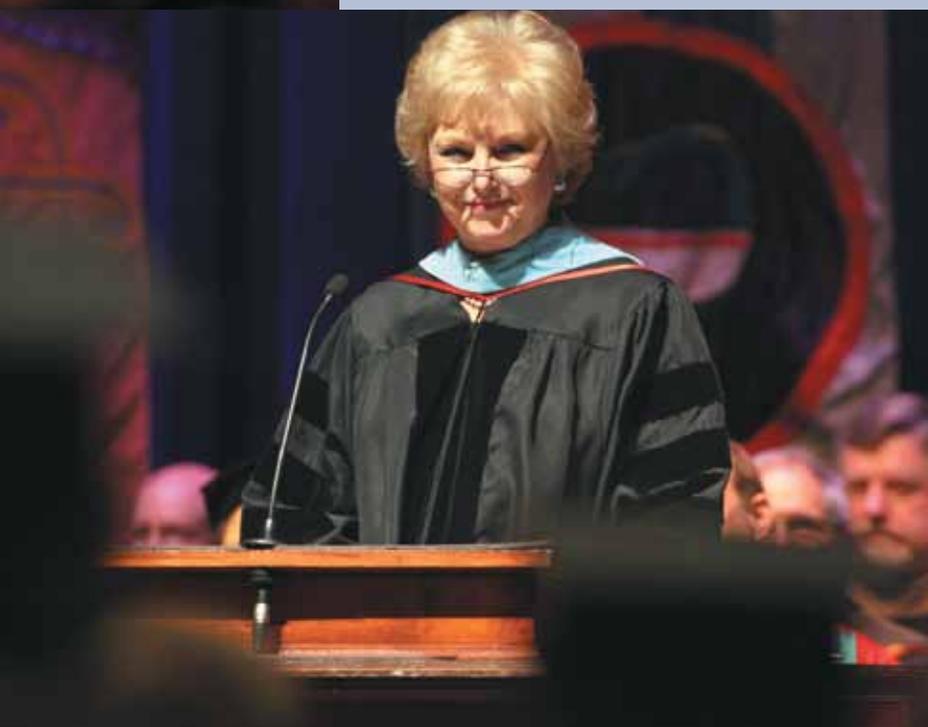
After earning her Samford degree cum laude, Hill taught English in grades 10 and 12 in Maryville, Tenn., city schools. She then taught English at Athens (Ga.) Technical College before moving into administration as an information specialist, and later as dean of continuing education and vice president of economic development at Gwinnett Technical College in Lawrenceville, Ga.

Hill wants to strengthen Alabama Community College System collaborations with K-12 schools, and four-year colleges and universities as well as business and industry.

"I believe everything we do in the community college system is about workforce and economic development," she said. "It is important for business and industry to know the types of programs and courses we provide, and it is equally important for us to know what skills and knowledge they require of their workforce."

Leadership skills are the key to solving many problems in education and industry, Hill believes. How has she developed her skills?

"I have developed my skills over time by taking the best of what I have observed and experienced," she said. "I read and I ask questions of other leaders. I believe it is important to share leadership by allowing others to be involved in decision making." ■



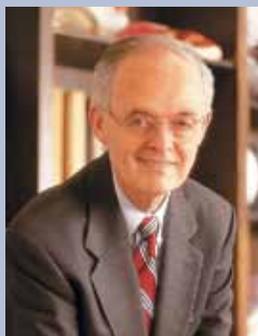
# CLASSnotes

Let us hear from you!  
1-877-SU ALUMS  
205-726-2807  
samnews@samford.edu

This issue includes Class Notes received through Feb. 11, 2010.

- '48 **Freda Roberson Noble** and her husband, Ted, will celebrate their 57th wedding anniversary in May. They lived for many years in Chico, Calif., where they were educators before retiring to Gualala in northwest California. They have three children.
- '50 **Julian Richard Campbell** of Cullman, Ala., celebrated his 90th birthday in February. He retired from the U.S. Air Force as a lieutenant colonel in 1969 after 28 years of service, and had a second career as a real estate broker and instructor at Wallace State Community College. He is the author of two books, *Memories That Must Not Vanish* and *Innocent Victims*. He and his wife, Marie, have four daughters.
- '51 **Roy Anderson** of Birmingham was aboard the Nov. 4, 2009, Honors Flight that took World War II veterans to visit the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. In August, he traveled to Washington state to watch a grandson play on the championship team from Tallahassee, Fla., in the Babe Ruth Little League World Series.
- '55 **R. Clayton McWhorter** received the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee's 2009 Joe Kraft Humanitarian Award for his "visionary leadership and dedication" to the well-being of Middle Tennesseans. He is chairman of Clayton Associates, LLC, venture capital firm, and board chairman of PharmMD. He serves on the Samford board of overseers and the McWhorter School of Pharmacy advisory board.
- '57 **T. A. Prickett** of Owensboro, Ky., has written three books since retiring in 1999 after a 34-year tenure as pastor of Seven Hills Baptist Church in Owensboro. His titles are *We Preach Christ: the Man, the Method, the Message* (Author House 2004), a book of his memories, *A Cold Day in July* (2007) and a book on the Sermon on the Mount, *For Our Age of Anxiety* (Author House 2009).
- '61 **Norman Rice** is a former Samford baseball player and faculty member, and was selected for inclusion in the Marshall County (Ala.) Sports Hall of Fame. He and his wife, **Julia Alice Granade Rice '61**, live in Vestavia Hills, Ala. They are parents of Samford graduates **Jim Rice '90** and **Geoff Rice '94**.
- '62 **Robbie Tarrant Brandt** and her husband, Ralph, wrote and produced a church-themed parody of *The Music Man*, which was staged by the chancel choir of First Presbyterian Church, Honolulu, Hawaii.
- '67 **Perry Neal**, an evangelist based in Wetumpka, Ala., is in his 51st year in the preaching ministry.
- Rebecca Wilkins Pierce** was inducted into the Alabama Association for Career and Technical Education Hall of Fame in 2009 and named Distinguished Teacher of the Year for Alabama by Iota Lambda Sigma professional workforce development honor society. She and her husband, **Doyle Pierce '69**, live in Clanton, Ala., where she has been organist at West End Baptist Church for 35 years. They have three children and eight grandchildren.
- '68 **Martha Fay Bryant Carter**, a retired teacher, lives in Fairhope, Ala. She and her husband, Gary, have three children.
- '69 **Mike and Linda Hastie Garver** of Mobile, Ala., recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary by touring four countries in eastern Europe. He is a general dentist and she teaches high school English. They are the parents of Samford graduate **Mary Michael Garver Kelley '00**.
- '70 **Ron Mims** of Birmingham recently was elected to the board of directors of the Southern Seniors Golf Association. He retired from Eli Lilly and Company.
- '72 **Joe Francis Garner** is a physician with Boone Dermatology Clinic in Boone, N.C. He and his wife, Melissa, have four children.
- N. Craig Sanderson** is a member of the Irondale, Ala., city council, and serves on the Alabama League of Municipalities' Finance, Administrative And Intergovernmental Relations Committee. He is a senior revenue officer with the Internal Revenue Service in Birmingham.

## Alabama Sports Hall of Fame Honors Newsome



Mickey Newsome

**M**ickey Newsome '62 of Birmingham, executive chairman of Hibbett Sporting Goods, was named the Distinguished Alabama Sportsman for 2010 by the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame. He will be honored at the 42nd annual Alabama Sports Hall of Fame Induction ceremonies in Birmingham May 22.

Newsome began his career with Hibbett in 1965 when the company was opening its second store in Huntsville, Ala. Two years later, when Hibbett opened its third store in Birmingham, he moved to the city to be district manager.

After serving as regional manager for 10 years, Newsome became president of Hibbett in 1980, when it had 13 stores. The chain grew to 82 stores by 1996,

when it went public. Now, Hibbett has 770 stores and had sales of \$590 million in 2009. Newsome retired as president and moved to his present position in March.

Newsome takes pride in his collection of sports memorabilia. It includes the first issue of *Sports Illustrated* magazine (1954) signed by home run slugger Eddie Mathews; baseball gloves signed by Yogi Berra, Whitey Ford, Don Newcomb and other baseball greats; and a collection of books and memorabilia from the 1936 Olympics in Berlin. ■

'75 **A. Michael Stimpson** of Goodlettsville, Tenn., is in sales with Dunlap & Kyle Tire Company. He has four children.

'76 **Rex Hammock** was named Social Media/Blogger of the Year by the Nashville Technology Council, an affiliate organization of the Nashville, Tenn., area Chamber of Commerce. Founder and CEO of the content marketing and media firm, Hammock, Inc., he has maintained RexBlog.com since 2000, writing news about media, community and technology.

**J. Larry York** received the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Public Health's 2009 Distinguished Alumnus Award for his work as CEO of Memorial Baptist Hospital in a medically needy part of Brazil. A retired career missionary with the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, he earned a master's in public health from UAB. He and his wife, **Karen Hanks York '75**, live in Dora, Ala.

'77 **Mary Burnett Burt** of Millbrook, Ala., is program director of Parkview Adult Day Health Services in Montgomery, Ala.

'79 **Kathy Davis Bolton, M.B.A.**, of St. Augustine, Fla., recently completed the senior executive fellows program at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. She is deputy commander of a Department of Defense activity that oversees aircraft maintenance and consists of 500 personnel located in eight states.

**Mary Johnson Goodwyn** of Lapine, Ala., is a K-3 reading coach with Montgomery public schools.

**Mike McCormick** and his wife, Linda, live in Wedowee, Ala., and travel throughout the Southeast singing with the Southern gospel group, New Hope Quartet.

**Linda Pickard** of Birmingham retired from St. Vincent's Health System after a 36-year career. She was most recently occupational health nurse and manager of employee health for the system's 5,000 employees.

**Billie Jean Young, J.D.**, was inducted into the Southern Rural Black Women Hall of Fame in November. She is artist-in-residence at Judson College in Marion, Ala. She is an actor, poet and playwright.

'80 **Jeffrey Clayton** is chair of the vocal department at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts in Jacksonville, Fla. The school has been named by the Grammy Foundation twice as the

second-best high school music program in the nation. His Chorale Women were selected to sing at the 2010 Southern Division American Choral Directors Convention in Memphis, Tenn.

**Caynor A. Smith, Jr.**, was elected mayor of Wise, Va. He is a pharmacist with CVS in Norton, Va.

'84 **Melinda Sue Gunn Poole** of Alexander City, Ala., is a trustee of Shocco Springs Baptist Conference Center. She and her husband, James, have three children, Joshua Eric, Caleb James and Lindsey Grace.

'85 **Annesley H. DeGaris, J.D. '88**, was appointed to the national advisory board of the Association of Plaintiff Interstate Trucking Lawyers of America. He is a founding partner of the Birmingham law firm Cory, Watson, Crowder & DeGaris, P.C.



Bill Foster

**David W. "Bill" Foster, J.D. '88**, was recently elected mayor of St. Petersburg, Fla., where he is a partner in the law firm Foster & Foster. He and his wife, **Wendy Holt**

**Foster '85**, have two children, Christine and Will.

**Jeffrey Nolan Willoughby** of Birmingham is a revenue examiner with the State of Alabama.

'87 **Lauri Sitton Rogers** is coordinator of volunteers for Better Basics, a nonprofit children's literacy program based in Birmingham. She and her husband, **Wayne Rogers '84**, live in Hoover, Ala. They have three children.

'89 **Robert Gordon** is pastor of Legacy Baptist Church in Huntsville, Ala. He and his wife, Angie, have two children.

'90 **Tresa Ray House** of Columbiana, Ala., is a pharmacist with Medaus Pharmacy. She and her husband, Ben, have a son, William Mitchell.

'91 **Tom R. McDougal, Jr.**, is chief executive officer of University of Alabama at Birmingham West Hospital.

'92 **Sharna Spillman Dixon** lives in Spokane, Wash., with her husband, Travis, and two daughters, Brooke Danielle, 5, and Briana Lynn, 1.

**David Mize, M.B.A.**, is continuous improvement manager with Vestavia Hills, Ala., schools. He and his wife, Jan, have a son, Jackson, 2.

**Jeff Styres** recently was appointed to a seat on the Mississippi Board of Bar Admissions. He is in-house counsel for Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company in Jackson, Miss., and is an adjunct professor at Mississippi College.

**Lee Hale**, an administrator at Choctawhatchee High School in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., was named Florida's 2009 Assistant Principal of the Year by the Florida Association of School Administrators. Since joining the faculty as a substitute teacher in 1995, he has taught, coached baseball and football, and led the night school program. He assumed his present post four years ago. He will travel to Washington, D.C., in April for the national award ceremony.

'95 **Chad Kendall Klauser**, a physician, is an associate with Maternal Fetal Medicine Associates in New York, N.Y.

'96 **Alina Coppens Aneja** is a senior professional sales representative with Vistakon-Johnson & Johnson. She and her husband, Aman, live in Longwood, Fla.

**Jennifer Danielle Crumpton** is pursuing a master's in divinity at Union Theological Seminary, New York, N.Y.

**James Roger Davis** of Birmingham is senior vice president and executive director of ministry events for Student Life. He and his wife, **Rebecca Butler Davis '95, M.Div. '98**, have a daughter, Murray Ellen, born in November.

**Susan Garrett Lotz** and **John Paul Lotz, M.Div. '97**, live in West Barnstable, Mass. He is senior pastor of Christ Chapel, an interdenominational church in Centerville, Mass. They have four children, Hannah, Phoebe, Abigail and John Denton.

**Aimee Denise Maudlin Williams** of Tuscaloosa, Ala., a teacher at Echols Middle School, earned a master's degree at the University of Alabama in May. She and her husband, Lonnie Jason, have four sons.

'98 **Samuel Charles Corbin** of Hoover, Ala., is a graphics specialist with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama. He and his wife, Sandy, have one child, Alley.

**John C. Richardson** of Chelsea, Ala., is an account executive with MediaVenue, Inc. He and his wife, Lynn, have a daughter, Nona Elinor, 1.

# Coutu Inducted into Canadian Hall of Legends



Francois Coutu

**F**rancois Coutu '81 and his father, Jean, were inducted into Canada's Marketing Hall of Legends Jan. 25 for their work in creating an iconic Canadian

brand. Jean founded the Canadian drugstore that bears the Coutu name. Francois is chief executive of the firm today, which has 366 franchised stores across Quebec, Ontario and New Brunswick, Canada.

The company has expanded south of the Canadian border by purchasing the Brooks Drug Store chain and Rite Aid.

The Coutus were recognized for their work as marketing visionaries through their creation of a company brand. Francois said the key to their success is a good relationship with employees.

The son of a pediatrician, Jean graduated from Montreal University's pharmacy program in 1953 and opened his first discount pharmacy in 1969. Francois decided to come south for his education in the late 1970s and chose Samford. After graduation, he worked as an intern with a Walgreens pharmacy in Hollywood, Fla., before joining the family business in 1983. ■

'99 **Rob, Pharm. D., and Christy Self Lucas, Pharm.D.,** live in Maryville, Tenn., where he is clinical pharmacist at Blount Memorial Hospital and she is a pharmacist at Kmart. He retired in September after 21 years with the U.S. Army Reserves. They have three children, Megan, 5, James, 3, and Jack, born in January.

**Jennifer Lyn Collins Welch** is a paralegal with Taylor & Taylor in Birmingham. She and her husband, Jason, have three children.

'00 **Britton Brooks** and his wife, Kristin, live in Louisville, Ky., where he is an account

manager with Thomson Reuters health-care business.

**Chad Eggleston** earned a Ph.D. in religion (Old Testament/Hebrew Bible) at Duke University in December. He and his wife, Mandy, live in Montgomery, Ala., where he is assistant professor of religion at Huntingdon College.

**Taylor Hanson Haley** is a partner in the Brunswick, Ga., law firm of Gilbert, Harrell, Sumerford & Martin, P.C. She and her husband, Reese, live in St. Simons Island, Ga.

**Craig D. Lawrence, M.Acc.,** of Hueytown, Ala., earned a Ph.D. degree in higher education administration from the University of Alabama in December. Director of financial services at Lawson State Community College, he also is treasurer and board member of the Alabama College Bookstore Association. He teaches M.B.A. accounting as an adjunct faculty member at Bryan College in Chattanooga, Tenn.

**Dana Lynne Fountain Mostashari** of Birmingham teaches with Kaplan Test Prep firm. She and her husband, Darian, have one child, Raines, 2.

'01 **Lucas Dorian** is minister of students and activities at College Park Baptist Church in Orlando, Fla. He serves on the Samford Alumni Council. He and his wife, Emily, have a son, Joseph Nash, 1.

**Laura Christine Gardner Geiger** and her husband, Philip, live in Raleigh, N.C. They have one son.

'02 **Donna Marcum, M.S.E.M.,** of Coker, Ala., is an analyst with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

**Thomas Watson Scott III** of Hoover, Ala., is infrastructure services center of excellence leader with Computer Technology Solutions, Inc.



Allison Sprouse

fields and given back to the community. She is owner of Modern Hostess, an event design and planning company, and Abode home furnishings store.

**Allison Henn Sprouse** is a recipient of the *Greater Knoxville Business Journal's* 2009 40 Under 40 Award. The honor recognizes young east Tennesseans who have excelled in their

**Lauren Windle Townsend** teaches piano at Bruno Montessori Academy in Birmingham, and piano and Kindermusik classes at Cherubs Clubhouse in Pelham, Ala. She and her husband, Marc, have two children, Tyson, 3, and Alexandra, 5.

'03 **Donald Anderson, Pharm.D.,** is a district manager with CVS Pharmacy. He and his wife, Alaina, live in Montgomery, Ala.

**Christin Beasley Brown** is physician communications specialist in the department of physician services with the University of Alabama at Birmingham Health System.

**Emily Moore Hall** of Christiansburg, Va., is a graphic designer with Virginia Tech University. She and her husband, Tim, have a daughter, Reese Elizabeth, 1.

**James Bradford Lewallen** and **Julie Benedict Lewallen** live in Nashville, Tenn., where he is a resident at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. He earned a doctor of dental surgery degree at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2009, and a master's degree in public health research at the University of Edinburgh in 2005.

'04 **Mike Monsarrat** of Bartlett, Tenn., is assistant manager of Monsarrat Pallet Co. He and his wife, Jennifer, have a daughter, Abigail, 1.

'05 **Ashley Brooke Watford Altazan** and her husband, Blake, live in Baton Rouge, La. She graduated from Mississippi College School of Law in 2009.

**Ellen Marie Robinson** married Geoff Price in November. They live in Northport, Ala. She earned a master of divinity in missions and world Christianity at Baylor University in 2009.

'06 **Hannah Woods Bourgeois** and her husband, Greg, live in Birmingham. She is a commissions accountant at Highland Capital Brokerage. They have a son, Jackson Peter, born in September.

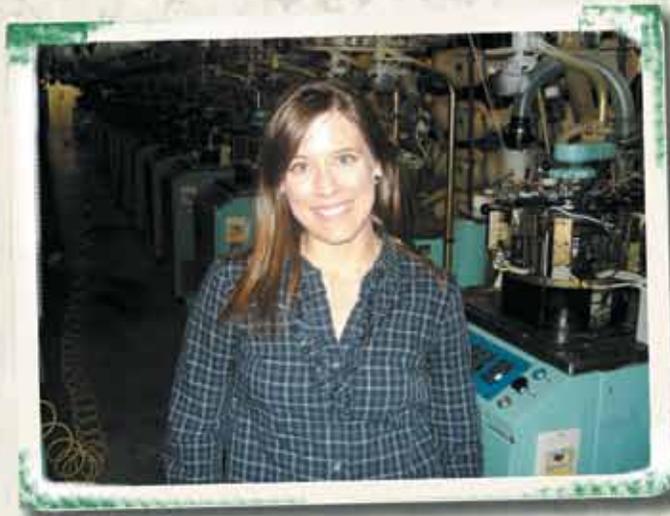
**Ashley Diane Sharpe Hawk** and her husband, Joshua, live in Lexington, Ky., where she is a law student at the University of Kentucky.

**Chelsey McEntire** earned the LEED accredited professional designation from the U.S. Green Building Council for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. She is an interior designer with Davis Architects in Birmingham.

**Sara Marie Terry Moody** and her husband, John Matthew, live in Kennesaw, Ga. She is a teacher with Fulton County Schools.

# Locklear's Business Offers Socks Grown the Organic Way

by Mary Wimberley



Gina Locklear visits a sock-knitting mill.

Samford business graduate Gina Locklear '02 was a proponent of organic and green living long before she found a way to incorporate the passion into a business that has as its slogan "Be Good. Feel Good."

That her new organic cotton sock business, Zkano, helps carry on a family tradition of entrepreneurship and domestic sock manufacturing in challenging economic times is an added bonus.

Zkano socks are manufactured at her parents' established company, Emi-G Knitting, in Fort Payne, Ala. Known for decades as the "sock capital of the world," the northeast Alabama town, like many American manufacturing centers, recently took a hit by free trade with foreign countries.

Locklear's business adventure began several years ago when she spied organic cotton socks for sale at a whole foods market. It didn't take long for her to decide that she could produce a similar,

and better, product. Basic research soon followed.

"At that time, I had already adapted my lifestyle to fit the philosophies of organic and green living," said Locklear, who was pursuing a real estate career in Birmingham. "But I knew I needed to learn more, so I took the time to learn everything I possibly could

about the organic and green industry, and specifically, certified organically grown cotton."

The result is that Zkano socks are made from 100 percent certified organic ring-spun cotton that is grown without the use of pesticides, chemicals or toxins. Her website, [www.Zkano.com](http://www.Zkano.com), states that the socks are sweatshop-free and finished without the use of harmful heavy-metal dyes.

During the product development phase, she leaned on her dad's 20-plus years in the business.

"He already knew what the best-selling styles were, and he knew what our opening line-up needed to be," she said of her dad, Terry Locklear. "We decided on the styles we would make and began making samples.

"Once we made a few changes and perfected the quality of our products, we had created our line and immediately began production."

Her company name, she explains, comes from "Kano," a Native American word that means "a state of being good."

"We feel that we embrace this by offering a product that is good to the environment, good to the people who are involved with the growing process, and good to the people who wear them. Hence, our slogan, 'Be Good. Feel Good.'"

Locklear attributes part of her early success with the company to lessons learned in the business school's internship program. The semester she spent as an assistant to the CEO of a public relations company, she says, was especially helpful.

"When you start a company, you have to wear all of the hats in the beginning, and doing my own PR has been one of those many hats," she said.

"The real-world experience I gained from learning how to form client relationships at the company where I interned has helped me greatly with forming and maintaining relationships within my own company."

Her current emphasis involves getting her socks, now available only via the Internet, placed in retail markets. It's a challenge she enjoys and believes in.

"It's an honor and privilege to carry on my family's tradition of entrepreneurship and sock manufacturing," Locklear said. "Also, creating a company that embodies so many principles I strongly believe in, such as sustainability and U.S. manufacturing, is very fulfilling." ■

**Jeremiah and Mary Garea Mosley** live in Ann Arbor, Mich., where he is enrolled at the University of Michigan law school and she is an educator.

**Lauren Nash** earned a master's degree in medicine at Trevecca Nazarene University. She is a certified physician assistant in general and vascular surgery in Nashville, Tenn.

**Jennifer Eileen Holder Rutherford** lives in Dupont, Wash., with her husband, Stephen, and son, Elijah Jordan, 1.

'07 **Alireza Farrokhroo, Pharm.D.**, is pharmacy manager at Rodeo Pharmacy in Los Angeles, Calif.

**Martha Grace Holifield Gray** and her husband, Matt, live in Oxford, Miss. A photographer, she is pursuing a master's degree in fine arts at the University of Mississippi.

**Lindsay Pierce Lancaster and Danielle McDonald Davis '08** have opened a Pure Barre exercise studio and active wear retail space in Homewood. The chain has locations in Nashville, Tenn., owned by Samford alumna **Kady Decker '08**, and former Samford Bulldog **Cortland Finnegan**.

**Dan Carroll Russell** is a technician with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Birmingham.

**Kelley Vincent** is a nurse at Brookwood Medical Center in Birmingham.

'08 **Jasmine Michelle Bolden, M.Acc. '09**, is a financial support worker with the State of Alabama Department of Human Resources in Birmingham.

'09 **Mallory E. Morgan** is enrolled in the surgical physician assistant program at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

**Rebecca Mosley** is a staff accountant at Carr, Riggs & Ingram in Birmingham. ■

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# births

'89 **Melisa Goodwin Phillips and John Phillips '90** of Nashville, Tenn., a son, Sawyer Kain, born Oct. 29, 2009.

'92 Travis and **Sharna Spillman Dixon** of Spokane, Wash., a daughter, Briana Lynn, born May 28, 2008.

Jan and **David Mize** of Birmingham, a son, Jackson, born Jan. 3, 2008.

'94 Amy and **Matt Mitchell** of Raleigh, N.C., a son, Mylo Scott, born Aug. 27, 2009.

'95 Bryan and **Angie Goode Barcus** of Newark, Ohio, a son, Benjamin Edward, born April 10, 2009.

Bart and **Heather Poor Copeland** of Nashville, Tenn., a daughter, Kavi Randall, born June 25, 2009.

**Rebecca Butler Davis, M.Div. '98**, and **James Roger Davis '96** of Birmingham, a daughter, Murray Ellen, born Nov. 11, 2009.

'96 Brian and **Meg Nowell Harris** of Collierville, Tenn., a son, Henry Preston, born Nov. 3, 2009.

**Susan Garrett Lotz and John Paul Lotz, M.Div. '97**, of West Barnstable, Mass., a son, John Denton, born Sept. 24, 2008.

Josh and **Melissa Hagins Osborne** of Birmingham, a daughter, Madelyn Abigail, born Oct. 26, 2009.

Paul and **Mary Abigail Sessions Reinhardt, J.D. '02**, of Kingsland, Ga., a

son, James Beauregard, born Nov. 30, 2009.

**Jay, J.D. '01**, and **Rebecca Siera Woods, J.D. '03**, of Chattanooga, Tenn., a daughter, Madeline Carol, born July 20, 2009.

'98 **Adam Shea Gober, J.D. '04**, and **Michaelyn Sasser Gober, J.D. '04**, of Gardendale, Ala., a son, William Shea, born Feb. 6, 2009.

Lynn and **John C. Richardson** of Chelsea, Ala., a daughter, Nona Elinor, born May 13, 2008.

'99 Jackeline and **Jason Grant** of Suwanee, Ga., a daughter, Kayde Alana, born Nov. 3, 2008.

**Benjamin Thomas "BT" and Mary Michael Garver Kelley '00** of Birmingham, a son, Thomas Henry, born Oct. 21, 2009.

**Rob, Pharm.D.**, and **Christy Self Lucas, Pharm.D.**, of Maryville, Tenn., a son, Jack, born Jan. 25, 2010.

'00 Woody and **Dana Groover Baugher** of St. Augustine, Fla., a daughter, Chloe Jean, born Sept. 14, 2009.

Jason, and **Lauren Woodlief Beckner** of Vestavia Hills, Ala., a daughter, Hadley Grace, born Aug. 7, 2009.

Clay and **Audrey Reitz Channell, J.D.**, of Birmingham, a son, Luke Alexander, born Oct. 12, 2009.

Andy and **Melissa Rosenbaum Platt** of Nashville, Tenn., a daughter, Taylor Ann, born Sept. 3, 2009.

'01 Jeremy and **Jessi Wardle Downing** of Conroe, Texas, a daughter, Morgan Laine, born Nov. 17, 2009.

Todd and **Heather Shea Hatfield** of Chattanooga, Tenn., a daughter, Caroline Marie, born Aug. 31, 2009.

David and **Claire Battle Hoaglund** of Alabaster, Ala., twin daughters, Ava Grace and Hailey Ann, born Nov. 19, 2009.

Gabriel and **Irene Moody Rieger** of Athens, W.Va., a daughter, Margaret Irene, born June 16, 2009.

Brian and **Kasey Thomas Sartin** of Dyersburg, Tenn., a son, Thomas Grant, born Feb. 19, 2009.

'02 Travis and **Alison Huckle Hendley** of Greenville, S.C., a daughter, Annie Joy, born Oct. 8, 2009.

'03 Tim and **Melissa Butler Pedersen** of Murfreesboro, Tenn., a son, Erik Sterling, born Oct. 2, 2009.

'04 Mehdi Saeidi and **Bita Farrokhroo, Pharm.D.**, of Irvine, Calif., a son, Ashkon Saeidi, born March 5, 2009.

Jennifer and **Mike Monsarrat** of Bartlett, Tenn., a daughter, Abigail, born Feb. 25, 2009.

'05 Andrew Robert and **Bridget Lea Officer Patterson** of Birmingham, a son, William Andrew, born Sept. 9, 2009.

Brandon and **Melissa Johnson Pharo, Pharm.D.**, of Hoover, Ala., twin daughters, Addison Grace and Ava Kate, born Oct. 19, 2009.

**Kevin, Pharm.D.**, and **Allison Haigler Sexton Pharm.D.**, of Oneida, Tenn., a son, Davis Bane, born May 20, 2009.

'06 Greg and **Hannah Woods Bourgeois** of Birmingham, a son, Jackson Peter, born Sept. 30, 2009. ■

# in memoriam

'27 **Alta Lee Coker Baker**, age 102, of Birmingham, died Oct. 28, 2009. She was active in church activities, and was secretary treasurer for her Woman's Missionary Union group for 40 years. Memorials may be made to the Samford Auxiliary Scholarship Fund, Samford University, 800 Lakeshore Drive, Birmingham, AL 35229.

**Martha Pauline McCown Penick**, age 102, of Birmingham, died Dec. 24, 2009. Involved in church and community activities, she was named Most Outstanding Citizen of Shades Valley. At Samford, she was active in Phi Mu social sorority and Beta Pi Theta French honor society.

'34 **Clarence Howell Bennett, Sr.**, age 96, of Dothan, Ala., died Oct. 31, 2009. He retired as sales manager with Borden Company after 30 years of service. He served with the U.S. Army combat engineers in World War II.

'35 **Angeline Howell Florence** of Birmingham died Nov. 5, 2009. A longtime teacher in Birmingham area schools, she was a member of Delta Kappa Gamma education honor society and Delta Zeta sorority.

'38 **Grace Martin Golsan**, age 93, of Birmingham and more recently of Albuquerque, N.M., died in December 2009. She had a long teaching career in Alabama, and after retirement taught Navaho students in Arizona and Cherokee students in North Carolina.

'40 **Dorothy Bell Brigance**, age 89, of Mobile, Ala., died Dec. 14, 2009. She was an artist and fourth grade teacher. She was a member of Phi Mu sorority.

**Mildred Newell Nichols**, age 92, of Birmingham, died Dec. 7, 2009. She was active in her church and community.

**Cathryn McKibbon Nielsen**, age 90, of Fillmore, Utah, died Nov. 29, 2009. She was active in the community and the Latter-Day Saints Church.

'42 **Helen Sue Blanton Vaughan**, age 88, of Winchester, Ky., died Nov. 20, 2009, of cancer. She retired from the Tennessee Valley Authority.

'44 **Carolyn Clemmer Hilson**, age 85, of Sylacauga, Ala., died Dec. 3, 2009. She taught in Sylacauga schools for 29 years. She was a member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority and Alpha Delta Kappa education sorority.

**Louise Thompson Riddle**, age 87, of Gadsden, Ala., died Dec. 21, 2009. A longtime teacher in Gadsden schools, she worked mostly in special education.

**William K. Stephenson**, age 87, of Hartselle, Ala., died Nov. 29, 2009. He was pastor of First Baptist Church of Decatur for 30 years, and remained as pastor emeritus. In later years, he served as interim pastor in 22 churches across north Alabama. He was active in the Alabama Baptist State Convention and was a member of the Samford board of trustees.

'46 **Wilda Goss**, age 83, of Boaz, Ala., died Nov. 7, 2009. She retired as head of dietary services at Medical Center East in Roebuck after a 44-year career as a registered dietitian. She was named a Court Appointed Special Advocates Volunteer of the Year for her service as a driver in north Alabama.

'47 **Lillie Mazzara Baldone**, age 83, of Birmingham, died Dec. 16, 2009. A pharmacist and administrator of the Indigent Mental Health Drug Program for Jefferson County, she was active in professional associations and president of Lambda Kappa Sigma pharmacy fraternity.

**Terrell Medlock Nelson**, age 87, of Center Point, Ala., died Dec. 6, 2009. He co-owned Nelco Service Company and retired from the Eye Foundation Hospital. His college career was interrupted by World War II, during which he saw action with the U.S. Army in the Battle of the Bulge.

**Mary Isgett Ogburn** of Birmingham died Nov. 24, 2009. A nurse, she was a member of the Cadet Nurse Corps Honor Roll, and was active in political, professional, church and community activities.

'48 **Cecil Jimmie Brigance**, age 83, of Mobile, Ala., died Oct. 21, 2009. He was a church organist and an avid Bridge player.

**Gildo S. "Ben" DiBenedetto**, age 89, of Homewood, died Nov. 11, 2009. He was owner of Belview Pharmacy and a pharmacist at Big B Drugs in Bessemer, Ala. During his service with the U.S. Navy in World War II, he was in the Battle of Okinawa.

**Roy Lee Mundy**, age 87, of Birmingham, died Nov. 27, 2009. During a 27-year military career, he served with the

Office of Strategic Services in China during World War II, and helped develop the first kidney dialysis treatments for wounded soldiers during the Korean War. He was head of the pharmacology department at Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, and later taught at the University of Alabama School of Medicine.

'49 **Jesse James Mitchell, Jr.**, age 84, of Fayette, Ala., died Nov. 8, 2009. He entered the Navy program at Samford prior to service in World War II and returned to graduate in religion and mathematics. His 60-year ministry career included pastorates at Baptist churches in Alabama, Tennessee, Texas and Michigan.

'50 **John William Eddins, Jr.**, age 84, of Kill Devil Hills, N.C., died Feb. 6, 2010. He was a retired professor of theology at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C. He was a veteran of the U.S. Naval Air Corps and the U.S. Army Reserve. During his career, he was a student or interim pastor at 35 churches.

**Jane Ellen Gaines** of Talladega, Ala., died Dec. 31, 2009. She was a Baptist missionary in Jos, Nigeria, for 26 years.

**William H. Inman, J.D.**, age 83, of Morristown, Tenn., died Jan. 31, 2010. He was former chancellor of the 15th Chancery Division, commissioner of Tennessee insurance and banking, and a senior judge. He was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II and the Korean War.

**Ted Juan Noles**, age 82, of Fort Payne, Ala., died Oct. 3, 2009. He taught, coached and was an administrator in DeKalb County and Fort Payne schools for more than 30 years. He served in the U.S. Army at the Pentagon during World War II and was in the U.S. Air Force Reserve during the Korean War. At Samford, he was on the basketball team and played in Alabama's first live televised sporting event.

**Gene Radford Oldham**, age 80, of Carthage, Tenn., died Dec. 24, 2009. Retired owner of Oldham's Pharmacy, he was active in the Lions Club and was chairman of the Smith County Board of Education.

'51 **Elwood Lee Hyden, Sr., J.D.**, age 84, of Allsboro, Ala., died Nov. 26, 2009. A former commissioner in Shelby County, Tenn., he served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II.

**Jesse Blankenship III**, age 78, of Lewisburg, Penn., died Dec. 10, 2009. He was chaplain at Laurelton and Danville state hospitals, and for 31 years

was the unofficial chaplain of the local high school football team. He was a pastor at many area churches.

- '53 **Herschel O. Hester**, age 97, of Montgomery, Ala., died Dec. 2, 2009. During his 19 years as pastor of Eighty-Fifth Street Baptist church in Birmingham, he managed the ministerial assistance fund for Howard College "preacher boys," and received an honorary doctor of divinity degree. As director of special missions for the Alabama Baptist State Convention, he was its liaison with the National Baptist Convention during the 1960s and '70s. He preached the dedication service for Birmingham's rebuilt Sixteenth Street Baptist Church after its bombing in 1963.
- Billye Walker Hinds**, age 83, of Spanish Fort, Ala., died Jan. 2, 2010. She was a teacher, mostly in Shelby County, Alabama, for 30 years. At Samford, she was a Phi Mu.
- '55 **Troy Pope Scogin, M.A.** '73, age 77, of Chevy Chase, Md., died Jan. 3, 2009. He was a Baptist minister and a vice president of Houghton Mifflin Company, and in retirement taught college English. He was a longtime resident of Dallas, Texas, where he worked with the Latino immigrant community.
- '56 **Verda Burrow Roberts**, age 94, of Jasper, Ala., died Nov. 2, 2009. She taught at Curry Elementary School.
- '58 **Ralph Patrick Moore**, age 79, of Mobile, Ala., died Dec. 26, 2009. He retired from the Alabama Department of Revenue after 30 years. He was a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean War.
- '59 **William Wiggins**, age 74, of Tuscaloosa, Ala., died Jan. 13, 2010. He was founder and owner of Billy Wiggins Ford and Miss Melissa's Café. He played football at Samford and later traveled with the U.S. Marine Corps' Quantico Marine football league.
- '60 **Perry Levy Callis**, age 77, of Hermitage, Tenn., died Dec. 31, 2009. He retired after 23 years as a pharmacist at Summit Medical Center. He served in the U.S. Air Force before attending Samford.
- Joan Patrick Glenn**, age 70, of Pinson, Ala., died Jan. 31, 2010. She was a retired teacher.
- '61 **Thomas William Repass, J.D.** '71, age 75, of Birmingham, died Nov. 15, 2009. He was tax manager at Southern Natural Gas for 30 years. After retirement, he worked for Regions Bank during tax season.

- '66 **Linda Bowdon Vest**, age 65, of Birmingham, died Jan. 5, 2010. She was a social worker for the Jefferson County Department of Human Resources and University of Alabama at Birmingham's genetics department.
- '68 **Bobbie Jean Walker Cline**, age 78, of Sylacauga, Ala., died Nov. 9, 2009. She was an elementary school teacher.
- '71 **Samuel Lamar Adams, J.D.**, age 62, of Dothan, Ala., died Jan. 31, 2010. A former Alabama assistant attorney general and state senator, he practiced in the law firm of Merrill, Harrison and Adams. At Cumberland School of Law, he was a member of Phi Alpha Delta law fraternity.
- '72 **Betty Skewes Friedman**, age 85, of Hanceville, Ala., died Dec. 24, 2009. She was a retired claims representative for the Social Security Administration.
- '73 **Robert Edward "Eddie" Minor** of St. Augustine, Fla., died Feb. 6, 2010, of cancer. He was a past president of Certified Pest Control Operators Association of Florida and was on the board of Family Farm Ministries. At Samford, he was a linebacker on the 1971 national championship team.
- '74 **John Carter Clary, J.D.**, age 68, of Albuquerque, N.M., died Oct. 11, 2009, of a pulmonary embolism. A criminal prosecutor in Alabama and New Mexico, he also taught English as a second language. He was a naval aviator during the Vietnam War. At Cumberland School of Law, he was on the moot court team, vice president of the senior class and a member of Delta Theta Phi law fraternity.
- '76 **Robert Dunn, J.D.**, age 60, of Franklin, Tenn., died Jan. 25, 2010, of cancer. He practiced law in Atlanta, Ga., for 30 years. An avid golfer, he also enjoyed playing the trumpet.
- Barbara Ann Morrison Key**, age 55, of Elkmont, Ala., died Dec. 28, 2009. She was director of food service at Athens-Limestone Hospital.
- Kyle Van Landingham, J.D.**, of Denver, Colo., died Nov. 17, 2009, of the H1N1 virus. A former Okeechobee County, Fla., attorney and historian, he was the author of four books on Florida history.
- '78 **Johnny Dollar, M.A.** '82, age 53, of Jacksonville, Ark., died Oct. 31, 2009, in an accident while rescuing an injured animal from the highway. He was chair of the department of social studies, and instructor of history, religion and political science at Pulaski Technical College in Arkansas.

- '79 **Paul Richard McVey**, age 53 of Auburn, Ala., died Oct. 4, 2009. He practiced pharmacy in Alabama for 30 years.
- '80 **Belinda Rollins Cole**, age 53, of Fairfield, Ala., died Jan. 9, 2010.
- '81 **Ellen Croswell Burgin, M.B.A.**, age 63, of Atlanta, Ga., died Dec. 7, 2009, of complications from leukemia. She was former financial manager for the Georgia State University Foundation.
- William Ray Self II, J.D.**, age 53, of Birmingham, died Nov. 19, 2009. He taught in the department of communication studies at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.
- Jeffrey Storie, J.D.**, age 53, of Fort Worth, Texas, died Nov. 8, 2009. An attorney, he specialized in intellectual property law and taught related subjects at Texas Wesleyan School of Law. He was voted Outstanding Adjunct Professor in 2001.
- C. Nicks Williams, J.D.**, age 57, of Charlotte, N.C., died Nov. 3, 2009. He was an assistant U.S. attorney in the Western District of North Carolina.
- '82 **Michael Alan Hedger**, age 52, of Birmingham, died Jan. 20, 2010. He was a classical guitarist, teacher and freelance photographer.
- Rebecca Anne Barnes Leinfelder**, age 55, of Birmingham, died Jan. 27, 2010. She was a nurse anesthetist at area hospitals.
- John Snow Thrower, Jr., J.D.**, age 56, of Auburn, Ala., died Nov. 2, 2009.
- '84 **Elizabeth Champlin Bishop, J.D.**, age 50, of Birmingham, died Nov. 18, 2009. She was a past president of the Birmingham Young Lawyers Association.
- '86 **Harold Alfred Bowron III, J.D.**, age 53, of Birmingham, died Dec. 24, 2009. He practiced law in Birmingham for 22 years.
- Raymond Joseph Miles, M.B.A.**, age 64, of Birmingham, died Nov. 27, 2009. He was a certified public accountant. He served in three branches of the military: the U.S. Marine Corps, the Air Force and the Army Reserves.
- '87 **Edward Franklin Harris**, age 44, of Clermont, Ga., died Dec. 1, 2008. He had been pastor of several churches in Georgia, and most recently was chaplain for Compassionate Hospice in Gainesville, Ga., and youth pastor at Pendergrass Baptist Church.

'90 **David Philip Slepian, J.D.**, of Mobile, Ala., died Oct. 28, 2009. He was an attorney and an avid golfer.

'96 **Sheila M. Ash Garrett, M.B.A.**, age 53, of Trussville, Ala., died Oct. 27, 2009. She retired from Alabama Power Company, where she was manager of advertising.

'00 **Albert Horace Felder, Sr., M.T.S.**, age 84, of Hoover, Ala., died Nov. 11, 2009. A minister and educator, he retired from the Jefferson County schools after 28 years of service. Former dean of students at Birmingham Easonian Baptist Bible College, he was a U.S. Marine Corps veteran.

'01 **Jason Randolph Smith, J.D.**, age 37, of Dothan, Ala., died Oct. 31, 2009. He was an assistant district attorney. ■

## Friends of Samford

**Edgar Mullins Arendall**, age 89, of Birmingham, died Oct. 20, 2009. He was the pastor of Dawson Memorial Baptist Church in Homewood for 36 years. He received an honorary doctor of divinity degree from Samford in 1956.

**John C. Godbold**, age 89, of Montgomery, Ala., died Dec. 22, 2009. He was chief judge of the fifth and 11th circuits of the U.S. Court of Appeals, and former director of the Federal Judicial Center in Washington, D.C. He received an honorary doctor of laws degree from Samford in 1981, and was named Leslie S. Wright Distinguished Professor at Cumberland School of Law in 1990. He and his wife, Betty, were honored as Outstanding Friends of the Law School in 2005. Memorials may be made to the John C. Godbold Scholarship Fund at Cumberland School of Law, Samford University, 800 Lakeshore Drive, Birmingham, AL 35229.

**Albert Taylor Scroggins, Jr.**, age 89, of Columbia, S.C., died Nov. 21, 2009. He taught journalism at Samford during 1953–59 and was director of public relations from 1953 to 1961. He was later dean of the college of journalism at University of South Carolina for 20 years. ■

# Centenarian Hays Recalled Teaching in a Different Era

by Jack Brymer



Ella Culwell Hays '41

**E**lla Culwell Hays '41 of Hayden, Ala., was the only teacher at Oak Grove School in rural Blount County when she started her teaching career. She taught all six grades, and some of the students were bigger than she was.

She had no car and walked to school to teach. In the winter, her father would go early and build a fire in the potbellied stove to warm up the classroom. She earned \$60 a month and taught two months in the summer so students could be off in the fall to help with the family harvest of crops.

After a year and a half, she transferred to Hayden School as one of two elementary teachers.

"Back then, there was no limit to the number of students a teacher could have in her class," Hays recalled last fall. "You just taught all the students that came, whether it was 20, 40 or 50."

She taught the lower grades, and the other teacher the upper grades. Later, as Hayden Elementary School grew, each teacher was assigned a class, and she chose the first grade.

Hays, who died at the age of 100 on Feb. 4, taught for 41 years, retiring in 1971. "I saw students grow up and have

families," she said, adding that she went on to teach the children and grandchildren of some of her students.

Hays said being with children was what she liked best about teaching the first grade. She and her husband, James, had no children; consequently, "all the children were my children." She maintains that she never taught a mean child.

"Mischievous, maybe, but not mean," she added.

Hays grew up on a Blount County farm herself, and remembers hoeing, picking cotton, washing clothes in a big outdoor pot and doing other chores. She finished high school in nearby Warrior, Ala., and began teaching in 1930. While continuing to teach, she earned a certificate in a two-year program at Jacksonville State Teachers College in 1935. She also taught while later attending Samford, then Howard College in East Lake, to complete her four-year degree.

To attend Howard, she rode to Birmingham with Fred Boren, a Hayden resident who worked at the Birmingham train station. She had been a classmate of Boren's wife and taught their son, Russell. "Transportation was a big problem, and not many people had cars," she said.

When Hays celebrated her 100th birthday last summer, some of her former students stopped by to wish her well. Hays said she had no "pet" students, but Russell Boren said she made them all feel they were favorites.

Another former student, Wanda Anderson, recalled that she had been painfully shy. "Mrs. Hays made me her special helper," said Anderson, who went on the work in the school library for 20 years. "She always found a way to make me feel better." ■

## STEP



# Dudes-a-Plenty Win Sweepstakes Again

by Philip Poole

**D**udes-a-Plenty returned to the Step Sing winners' circle this spring, garnering the coveted Sweepstakes Award in Samford University's annual student production.

The all-male group, which organizes annually solely to perform in Step Sing, previously won Sweepstakes in 2007 and 2005, and was first runner-up in 2009. They also won the 2010 judges' excellence awards for music and choreography.

The theme of their 2010 act was "The Dream," a look at making dreams a reality. Codirectors were Jeremy Hunt, a

senior journalism major from Marietta, Ga., and Ben Telfair, a senior religion major from Tallahassee, Fla.

First runner-up was Pi Kappa Phi fraternity, with an act entitled "Rock It." Pi Kappas were last year's sweepstakes winners.

Second runner-up was Phi Mu sorority with "Risky Business." Phi Mu placed second in 2008.

Audience favorite awards went to Pi Kappa Phi for choreography and overall performance, Dudes-a-Plenty for music, and University Ministries for costumes.

Alpha Omicron Pi sorority was



recognized for raising the most funds for the 2010 Step Sing community service project, Camp Smile-a-Mile, an Alabama organization that provides camping opportunities for children who are or have been affected by cancer.

Step Sing is an annual, student-organized and produced competition that is professionally judged. It is

considered one of Samford's most cherished traditions, dating from 1951. Eleven groups participated in this year's competition. Step Sing's 2010 student codirectors were Kara Hardin, a junior sports medicine major from Knoxville, Tenn., and Kendall Shelton, a junior business major from Reform, Ala. ■

To purchase a DVD of the performance, go to <https://www.ticketreturn.com/prod2/Buy.asp?EventID=53062>.

To view or purchase photos, go to [www.shutterfly.com/progal/gallery.jsp?gid=768a5498ce7e99d5b73d](http://www.shutterfly.com/progal/gallery.jsp?gid=768a5498ce7e99d5b73d).

# SING 2010



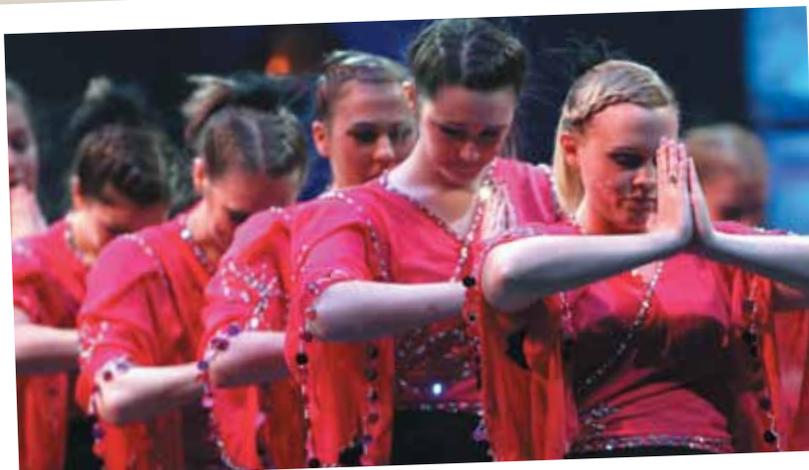
Pi Kappa Phi



Phi Mu



University Ministries



Alpha Omicron Pi

## Samford To Meet Florida State in Alum Fisher's Debut

Samford will open the 2010 football season at Florida State in Bulldog alum Jimbo Fisher's first game as the Seminole head coach. Fisher, a record-setting quarterback at Samford in 1987, succeeded another Samford alumnus, Bobby Bowden, in January. Bowden retired as one of college football's winningest coaches with 389 victories.

Samford and Florida State will play in Tallahassee, Fla., Sept. 4.

"Starting off at Florida State is something our players and the entire Samford family are looking forward to," said Samford Head Coach Pat Sullivan. "It will be an exciting day for Samford."

Fisher led Samford's 1987 team to a 9-1 record in its last season in Division III football, leading the nation by throwing a school-record 34 touchdown passes. Coach Terry Bowden's team then moved up to Division I-AA, now known as the Football Championship Subdivision [FCS].

Samford and Florida State have played once previously, in 1950, when the Seminoles won, 20-6, in Tallahassee. Bobby Bowden was a sophomore quarterback for the Bulldogs that year.

Samford will play two other nonconference games, at Northwestern (La.) State Sept. 11 and Newberry Sept. 16, before embarking on its eight-game Southern Conference schedule by hosting Appalachian State Sept. 25.

The Bulldogs also will host Furman, Wofford and The Citadel, and will visit Elon, Western Carolina, Georgia Southern and Chattanooga during 2010.

Samford will return eight starters on offense and seven on defense from last year's 5-6 team. Among the returnees are four All-Conference players—running back Chris Evans, linebacker Bryce Smith, defensive lineman John Michael Clay and punter Bob Hooper.

Evans led the conference in rushing with 1,152 yards, establishing a Samford career record of 3,479 yards. It was his third consecutive 1,000-yard season. Smith led Samford in tackles (10.2 a game) and interceptions (four), and led the FCS in solo tackles (6.7 a game). Hooper averaged 41.9 yards on 73 punts, placing 25 inside the opponent's 20-yard line.

Also back is quarterback Dustin Taliaferro, who passed for 1,692 yards as a sophomore in 2009. A starter since his freshman season, Taliaferro threw for 3,437 yards and 22 touchdowns during his first two years. ■

For more information, go to [www.samfordsports.com](http://www.samfordsports.com).

### 2010 SCHEDULE

9/4	at Florida State
9/11	at Northwestern (La.) State
9/16	NEWBERRY
9/25	APPALACHIAN STATE*
10/2	at Elon*
10/9	at Western Carolina*
10/16	FURMAN*
10/30	at Georgia Southern*
11/6	WOFFORD* (Homecoming)
11/13	at Chattanooga*
11/20	THE CITADEL*

\*Southern Conference game  
Home games are in CAPS.

Bryce Smith (47)

## Women Challenge for SoCon Title, Beat Ole Miss in WNIT

The Samford women's basketball team beat Ole Miss of the Southeastern Conference, 66-65, in the Women's National Invitation Tournament [WNIT] March 18 to record its first victory in its initial appearance in a national postseason tournament.

The victory came after Samford took perennial Southern Conference champion Chattanooga down to the wire in the SoCon title game March 8 before losing, 72-67. It was Samford's first trip to a conference championship game in the 13-year history of the program.

"This was great for our team," said Coach Mike Morris after the WNIT win. "To beat a good SEC team in Ole Miss and to do it the way we did was great. I was pleased with our players and with the toughness and the grit they showed."

The WNIT win boosted Samford's record to 23-10 and enabled the Bulldogs to tie their school record for victories in a season, set in 2007-08. They have won 20 or more games four of the past five seasons. The victory also advanced Samford to the WNIT second round.

Junior guard Emily London and junior forward Savannah Hill led the Ole Miss victory with 21 and 19 points respectively, and Hill scored the game-winning goal with five seconds left on an assist from senior guard Monica Maxwell.

London, Hill and Maxwell each joined Samford's 1,000-point club in career scoring this year. Through the Ole Miss win, London had 1,217 points in 89 games, Hill 1,122 in 94 games and Maxwell 1,062 in 124 games.

Senior guard Megan Wilderotter received the annual Ann Lashley Inspiration Award presented by the Southern Conference at the postseason awards banquet. The award is presented in memory of the former Elon University associate head coach who died in 2005. ■



Savannah Hill scores in SoCon tournament action.

## Men's Team Fights Through 'Most Difficult Season'

From the shocking preseason death of team member Jim Griffin through the midseason game collapse of Coach Jimmy Tillette to a series of injuries and close losses, 2009-10 was a difficult season for Samford men's basketball. "This was a tough way for the season to end, but this has definitely been the most difficult season I've ever been associated with," said Tillette following Samford's opening round loss to The Citadel in the Southern Conference tournament.

"It started out horribly with the passing of Jim Griffin on Sept. 8, and then there was my own personal illness as well as all the other requisite stress fractures and things that players go through in their own lives," he continued. "The final record this season is no reflection of the character of our team, [which] kept trying to move forward all year long."

Griffin, a senior three-year letterman and team leader from Chicago, Ill., died in his sleep after a preseason workout. Samford retired his Number 3 jersey before the final home

game, the first jersey to be so honored at Samford.

Tillette suffered a seizure and collapsed unconscious during the late first half of a Jan. 23 game at UNC-Greensboro. The seizure was caused by bleeding from a blood vessel on top of his right ear. Tillette regained consciousness a short time later, and doctors described the incident as a "vascular anomaly." He missed two games and almost two weeks recuperating.

The season-ending loss left Samford 11-20. Seniors Trey Montgomery, Bryan Friday and Peter Carroll closed out their careers.

"We started three sophomores down the stretch this season, and our hope is that they will be better next season as juniors," said Tillette. The sophomores—forward Jeffrey Merritt, center Matthew Friday and guard Kaylin Johnson—will join this year's top scorer, forward Josh Davis (12.5), and five other returning lettermen. ■

# with appreciation

Samford University expresses gratitude for these additional tribute gifts received Nov. 1, 2009–Jan. 31, 2010. For further information, contact the Samford University Gift Office at 205-726-2807.

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## Fisk Named Fulbright Scholar



Dr. Rosemary Fisk

Samford University Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences and Professor of English Rosemary Mims Fisk '77 has received an appointment as a Fulbright Scholar to Hong Kong for 2011. Dr. Fisk will

serve on a team of five Fulbright Scholars helping Hong Kong's five public universities move from a three-year to a four-year curriculum.

Working with the Hong Kong American Center, Fisk will be assigned to one of the five universities. She will teach a course in her field of American literature, study the general education program at her host university and work with the Fulbright team on the curricular reform design, called the 3-3-4 Curricular Reform in Hong Kong project.

The reform is designed to bring Hong Kong public universities into line with their international counterparts so that their students can compete in the liberal arts as they already do in science and technical fields. The program began in 2008 and will conclude in 2012.

Fisk will serve on the assignment from January until May 2011. She previously conducted study abroad trips for Samford students to southeast Asia, the most recent being to Burma/Myanmar in 2007. She also organized a conference at Oxford University, United Kingdom, of international scholars from the Hawthorne, Emerson and Poe literary societies in 2006. She will become president of the Nathaniel Hawthorne Society this year.

Fisk joined the Samford English department faculty in 1984 and was named associate dean of Samford's Howard College of Arts and Sciences in 2001. In addition to an undergraduate degree from Samford, she holds an M.A. from Duke University and Ph.D. from Rice University. ■

## Law Prof Greene Wins Fulbright Follow-on Grant

Samford University law professor Bob Greene has been awarded a Fulbright Follow-On Grant to return to Ukraine for three weeks during the summer of 2010. This grant builds on his teaching at the Odessa National Academy of Law during the spring of 2008.

Greene, who teaches federal and state environmental law, will study Ukrainian legal schemes for coastal protection and conduct workshops in U.S. coastal protection programs at national academies in Odessa and Simferopol.

At Cumberland School of Law since 2006, Greene taught comparative environmental law during his earlier tenure in Ukraine. He is a graduate of Georgetown University with a juris doctor degree from the Catholic University of America. ■

## Samford Has Record Spring Enrollment

Samford University has a record spring semester enrollment of 4,489. The 2010 figure tops the previous record of 4,370 in the spring of 2006. It includes 2,728 undergraduates and 1,761 graduate and professional students.

Samford also had a record enrollment of 4,630 in the fall of 2009.

Spring semester is typically lower than fall because of December graduation and the small number of new students who enroll midyear.

"The new record reflects continued positive efforts by our faculty and staff to recruit and retain students who are committed to high academic achievement," said Dr. Phil Kimrey, Samford's vice president for student affairs and enrollment management. "It also reflects our growing reputation as a top educational value." ■

## University Fellows Program Gets \$450,000 Daniel Foundation Gift

Samford University has received a \$450,000 pledge payable over three years from the Daniel Foundation of Alabama to endow international study scholarships in its University Fellows program. The highly competitive program attracts top students through its combination of an interdisciplinary liberal arts curriculum with international study and undergraduate research opportunities.

During Jan Term of the sophomore year, all University Fellows study abroad in Italy. The Daniel Foundation gift will provide additional funding for junior and senior Fellows who wish to study abroad in other locations such as Greece, Costa Rica, Hong Kong or South Africa.

"This generous gift will support the University Fellows program as it seeks to challenge students in one of the primary aspects of the program—exploring their education in a global context," said program Director Chris Metress. "Global Studies courses are taught in more than 20 disciplines across the Samford campus, enabling University Fellows to make the world their classroom."

A total of 75 students are enrolled in the University Fellows program. They include 15 National Merit Scholars. The group has an average ACT score of 31. They represent 29 majors in five undergraduate colleges, and 77 percent are from outside Alabama. ■

# highlights

- April 1–29** **Student Juried Art Show**, 9 a.m.–4 p.m., Mon.–Fri., Samford Art Gallery, Swearingen Hall, 205-726-2480
- April 1** **Dean’s Leadership Series:** Drayton Nabers, speaker, 1 p.m., Brock Forum, Dwight Beeson Hall, [www.samford.edu/business](http://www.samford.edu/business), sponsored by Brock School of Business
- Executives-in-Residence panel**, 4 p.m., Brock Forum, Dwight Beeson Hall, [www.samford.edu/business](http://www.samford.edu/business), sponsored by Brock School of Business
- April 5** **Easter Monday**, university closed, no classes
- April 6** **Convocation:** Lt. Gen. Ronald L. Burgess Jr., director of the U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency, speaker, 10 a.m., Reid Chapel
- Lecture on Integration at Samford**, Dr. Wayne Flynt, speaker, 3:15 p.m., Brock Forum, Dwight Beeson Hall, hosted by Department of Religion
- Horn Ensemble concert**, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall
- April 9** **Healthcare Ethics and Law Institute conference:** “Are Codes of Ethics Enough?” [www.samford.edu/pharmacy](http://www.samford.edu/pharmacy), hosted by McWhorter School of Pharmacy
- State Geography Bee**, 205-726-2355, hosted by Samford
- Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing awards day**, 1 p.m., Hospitality Suite, Hanna Center, 205-726-2626
- April 9–10** **Alabama Music Teachers Association statewide auditions**, 205-726-2651
- Samford OperaWorks** opera scenes, 7:30 p.m., Bolding Studio, Swearingen Hall, 205-726-2504
- April 9–11** **Alabama Ballet** presents “Mixed Rep/Rooster,” Wright Center Concert Hall, [www.alabamaballet.org](http://www.alabamaballet.org)
- April 10** **Samford Day of Service**, sponsored by Omicron Delta Kappa
- April 10–11** **ACT exam**, 8 a.m.–2 p.m., 205-726-2561
- April 12** **Christian Women’s Leadership Center salon and luncheon**, 11:30 a.m., Flag Colonnade, Beeson University Center, 205-726-4194
- Birmingham Art Music Alliance concert**, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, 205-726-2489
- April 14–17** **Alabama All-State Choral Festival**, hosted by Samford, 205-726-2486
- April 16** **Environmental Sustainability Conference**, 2 p.m., 205-726-2844
- April 17** **Old Howard 100 Bike Ride**, [bcrose@samford.edu](mailto:bcrose@samford.edu), sponsored by Howard College of Arts and Sciences
- April 20** **Bells of Buchanan spring concert**, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, [www.samford.edu/arts](http://www.samford.edu/arts)
- April 22** **Earth Day art show and events**, 8 a.m.–2 p.m., Ben Brown Plaza
- Jazz Ensemble spring concert**, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, [www.samford.edu/arts](http://www.samford.edu/arts)
- April 23** **Wind Ensemble spring concert**, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, [www.samford.edu/arts](http://www.samford.edu/arts)
- April 24** **Conference on Poverty Concerns for Ministers**, 8 a.m.–3 p.m., Brooks Hall, 205-726-4064, hosted by Resource Center for Pastoral Excellence
- April 26–May 1** **Spring Fling**
- April 27** **Davis Architects Guest Artist Series:** Nicola Benedetti, violin, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, [www.samford.edu/arts](http://www.samford.edu/arts)
- April 27–28** **Shurden Lectures on Religious Liberty**, Dr. Martin Marty, speaker, [www.samford.edu](http://www.samford.edu)
- April 27–30** **Samford Showcase:** Spotlight on Undergraduate Research, 205-726-4267
- April 29–May 2** **Thoroughly Modern Millie**, [www.samford.edu/arts](http://www.samford.edu/arts), presented by Samford School of the Arts
- May 5** **Beeson Divinity School commencement**, 11 a.m., Hodges Chapel
- May 6** **Percussion Ensemble spring concert**, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, [www.samford.edu/arts](http://www.samford.edu/arts)
- May 7** **Spring semester classes end**
- KIDS Center benefit concert**, 5:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, [www.samford.edu/arts](http://www.samford.edu/arts), sponsored by Delta Omicron and Phi Mu Alpha
- One-Act Play Festival**, 7:30 p.m., Harrison Theatre, [www.samford.edu/arts](http://www.samford.edu/arts)
- May 8** **A Cappella Choir concert**, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall
- May 9** **SuperJazz concert**, 3 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, 205-726-2485

- May 10** Christian Women's Leadership Center salon and luncheon, 11:30 a.m., Flag Colonnade, Beeson University Center, 205-726-4194
- May 10–13** Spring semester final exams
- May 10–15** Graduating Student Exhibit, 9 a.m.–4 p.m., Mon.–Fri., Samford Art Gallery, Swearingen Hall, 205-726-2480
- May 14** Graduating Student prayer breakfast, 7:30 a.m., Dining Hall, Beeson University Center
- McWhorter School of Pharmacy commencement, 10 a.m., Wright Center Concert Hall
- Air Force ROTC commissioning ceremony, 10 a.m., Hodges Chapel
- Brock School of Business commencement, 1 p.m., Wright Center Concert Hall
- Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing commencement, 3:30 p.m., Wright Center Concert Hall
- Cumberland School of Law commencement reception, 4 p.m., Brewer Plaza
- President's reception for graduates and families, 4:30–5:30 p.m., Dining Hall, Beeson University Center
- Cumberland School of Law commencement, 6 p.m., Wright Center Concert Hall
- May 15** Commencement for Howard College of Arts and Sciences, School of the Arts, and Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education and Professional Studies, 10 a.m., Hanna Center
- May 17–19** Nursing NCLEX review course, 205-726-2461
- May 18** Alabama Symphony Orchestra ConcertMaster and Friends concert, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, www.alabamasymphony.org
- May 31** Memorial Day, university closed
- June 1** Summer session classes begin
- June 6–12** Miss Alabama Pageant, Wright Center concert Hall, www.missalabama.com
- June 6–18** Orff Schulwerk Music Workshop, 205-726-2651
- June 7** LSAT exam, 11:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m., 205-726-2561
- June 7–8** New student orientation session 1, 205-726-3673
- June 7–10** Women's basketball individual camp, 205-726-4072
- June 7–30** MFuge summer youth camps, 205-726-2355
- June 8–10** Baseball high school camp, 205-726-4294
- June 11–12** Basketball father-son camp, 205-726-2968
- June 12** ACT exam, 8 a.m.–2 p.m., 205-726-2561
- Bulldog Bash, 6 p.m. with dinner following, Sheraton Birmingham Hotel
- June 13–18** IGHR summer institute, www.samford.edu/schools/ighr
- June 13–25** Alabama Governor's School, 205-726-2033
- June 14–15** New student orientation session 2, 205-726-3673
- June 14–17** Women's basketball team camp, 205-726-4072
- Baseball youth camp, 205-726-4294
- June 14–18** Adventures in Music camp, 205-726-2810
- June 18–19** Basketball father-daughter camp, 205-726-4072
- June 19–20** Alabama Sports Festival basketball tournament, 334-280-0065
- June 20–26** Senior piano camp, 205-726-2501
- June 21–22** New student orientation session 3, 205-726-3673
- June 21–24** Men's basketball team camp, 205-726-2968
- June 25** Transfer student orientation, 205-726-3673
- June 25–26** Women's basketball team camp, 205-726-4072
- June 28–July 1** Men's basketball individual camp, 205-726-2968
- June 28–July 2** Theatre Arts camp for grades 7–12, 205-726-2951
- All Aboard for Music camp, 205-726-2810
- Information was compiled from the university calendar as of Feb. 25, 2010. Dates, times and details are subject to change. Please go to [www.samford.edu](http://www.samford.edu) for a complete university calendar and for updated information.
- For schedules and information on Samford athletics, go to [www.samfordsports.com](http://www.samfordsports.com). For a list of Samford After Sundown classes, go to [www.samford.edu/sundown](http://www.samford.edu/sundown).
- For a list of Lay Academy of Theology courses, go to [www.beesondivinity.com](http://www.beesondivinity.com).
- For a complete academic calendar, go to [www.samford.edu/calendars.html](http://www.samford.edu/calendars.html).
- For a complete list of Samford arts events, please go to [www.samford.edu/arts](http://www.samford.edu/arts). ■



Samford's Monica Maxwell drives against Appalachian State in Southern Conference tournament action. See page 43.