



**1856 TOUR**

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## FORWARD, EVER

*"Forward, ever!"*

*Be our watchword;*

*Conquer, and prevail,*

*Hail, to thee our alma mater*

*BSC, all hail!*



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

## CAMPUS CATS



Our campus is not only home to the students but also to some frisky felines.

From the campus police gate to The Attic you can find our campus cats.

We do not know exactly how these cats came to find a home on the Hilltop, but their presence continues to help create the sense of community that BSC is known for.



## BELL TOWER



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

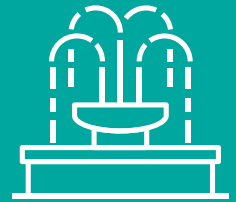


## THE SEAL

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

## ALUMNI FOUNTAIN AND THE DASH

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



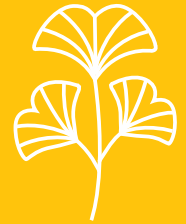
## THE CAF

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



## THE GINKGO TREE

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



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

## THE HILLTOP

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



## THE VULCAN

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



## CAMPUS POLICE AKA CAMPO



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

## ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHTS

### 1-G

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

### Black Student Union

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

### C3

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

### Commuter Student Union

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

### Greek Life - Sororities

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

## Greek Life - Fraternities

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

## Honor Council

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

## Quest II

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

## Religious Life

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

## 'Southern Ambassadors

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

## Student Government Association

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

# STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

1-G First Generation Club  
 Active Minds  
 Alabama College Democrats  
 American Chemical Society  
 Architecture Committee  
 Art Student League  
 Association of Music Students  
 Black Men's Union  
 Black Student Union  
 Black Women's Union  
 Cheerleading  
 Chess Club  
 Circle K International  
 College Republicans

Commuter Student Union  
 Cross Cultural Committee (C3)  
 Disc Golf Club  
 Dungeons and Dragons Club  
 EnAct  
 Fermentation Club  
 Film Club  
 Forward Ever Felines  
 Harrison Honors Program  
 Hilltop Investment Management Group  
 Identity  
 Martial Arts Club  
 Math Club  
 Muslim Student Association

Philosophy Club  
 Planned Parenthood Generation Action  
 Quest II Student Programming Board  
 Society of Physics Students  
 Solidarity  
 Spectrum  
 Stump Entrepreneurial Scholars  
 Turning Point USA  
 We The Neighbors  
 Women in Business  
 Women in STEM  
 Young Americans for Freedom

## Greek Organizations

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

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

## Honoraries

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

## Student Publications

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

## Service Groups

Bonner Leaders  
 Honor Council  
 Panther Peer Mentoring  
 Student Government  
 Association  
 Southern Ambassadors

## Religious Organizations

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



## RESIDENCE LIFE AT BSC

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



### First-Year Resident Advisor: Taylor Romans

"Moving to Birmingham-Southern during my freshman year of college was the biggest decision I have made to date. I had never been away from my family, and I was not as eager as others to get away. During my transition as a freshman college student, I blossomed. I had the help of so many campus leaders including my freshman RA. This young woman was willing to go above and beyond for me and I knew I wanted to do the same for future freshman women. I have enjoyed my position as a freshman RA wholeheartedly. I get to assist so many wonderful freshman women and I have learned a lot from them too. Being a Resident Advisor is my favorite role on campus and I can't wait to be able to continue this position with a new group of young women to inspire and be inspired by!"

- Taylor Romans, CC Cullen Daniel/Margaret Daniel Hall 2022-2023

## DOS AND DON'TS OF LIVING ON CAMPUS



### Dos

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

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

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

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

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



### Don'ts

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

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

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

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



