

# INSIDE Samford

A newsletter for faculty, staff and friends of Samford University • April 2003

## Earth Day

April 24, 2003

See Calendar page 3



## Dennis Jones Named Outstanding Journalism Educator in the South

Journalism professor Dennis R. Jones was named Outstanding Journalism Educator in the South by the Southeast Journalism Conference [SEJC] at its annual convention in Pensacola, Fla., Feb. 21-23.



Dennis Jones

Jones, who holds a Ph.D. from the University of South Carolina, has taught at Samford since 1991. He taught previously at the University of Southern Mississippi, Radford and South Carolina. He calls Samford "the best teaching environment."

Jones was selected from nominees representing universities and colleges in a seven-state area on the basis of his teaching ability, according to SEJC Vice President Joe Mirando of Southeastern Louisiana University.

Many universities tend to emphasize research over teaching ability, said Mirando, "but what matters most to students is teaching ability."

Two Samford students came away with first-place honors in the SEJC Best of the South competition. Cindy Turner won the Best Journalism Research Paper Award, and Justin Firesheets was named Best Television Journalist among entries from the 57 member schools.

The awards are chosen by a panel of professional journalists and educators. ■

## Woolley Selected for Oxford Seminars

Statistics professor Thomas W. Woolley has been selected to participate in the John Templeton Oxford Seminars on Science and Christianity at Oxford University in England, beginning this summer.

The seminars at Wycliffe Hall will span three consecutive summers, enabling faculty members to engage in scholarly research in science and religion. Thirty-five scholars from around the world, representing various disciplines, were chosen.

Woolley holds the doctoral degree in statistics and is working on a master of theological studies degree in Beeson Divinity School.

At Oxford, he will work on a writing project entitled "Chance and the Evangelical Mind" under the guidance of Dr. Alister McGrath, a biochemist and Reformation historian who is principal of Wycliffe Hall.

Interdisciplinary skills and leadership abilities were among the selection criteria for the Oxford seminars.

Woolley has taught in the Samford School of Business since 1993. He was named Alabama Professor of the Year for 2000 by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and also won last fall's Buchanan Teaching Award. ■

## Samford Ranks in 90th Percentile in Work Conducive to Learning: NSSE

Samford students spend more time in activities associated with high levels of learning than a majority of students at peer institutions, according to a benchmark analysis by the National Survey of Student Engagement looking at the past three years.

Samford ranked in the 90th percentile, or top 10 percent, in several categories of the NSSE, which assesses the extent to which a school's students take part in educational practices conducive to learning. The survey is supported by a grant from the Pew Charitable Trust and co-sponsored by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Pew Forum on Undergraduate Learning.

The educational practices range from the amount of time spent preparing for courses and number of assigned books and papers to making a class presentation, working with classmates outside class and taking part in a

community-based project as part of a course.

Other positive learning experiences surveyed included the frequency of discussions outside class about ideas from readings and classes, talking with instructors about career plans, cocurricular activities, internships, study abroad and a supportive campus environment.

NSSE annually polls freshmen and seniors at several hundred institutions about what their schools require and provide in five specific areas conducive to high levels of learning. More than 115,000 students completed the 2002 survey at 367 schools nationally.

The learning areas included level of academic challenge, active and collaborative learning, student faculty interactions, enriching educational experiences, and supportive campus environment.

See *NSSE* page 4

## Amazon Doctor To Speak on Earth Day

Dr. Linnea J. Smith of the Amazon Medical Project, Inc. will speak at Samford April 24 as part of the University's Earth Day program. The Vulcan Materials Center for Environmental Stewardship and Education and the Department of Biology are hosting Smith as part of the center's Distinguished Speaker Series in Reid Chapel at 6:30 p.m.

Smith will lecture on her work at the Yanamono Medical Clinic in the remote Amazon basin of northeast Peru. She gave up a Wisconsin medical practice in

1990 to provide medical services to the indigenous people of the Peruvian Amazon who, until then, had no access to medical care.

Rotary Clubs in the U.S., Canada and Peru provided volunteers who built a six-room clinic for patients, their families, clinical workers and medical staff. Samford biology professors Larry Davenport, Ron Jenkins and Bob Stiles visited the facility with Samford students.

See the Calendar on page 3 for other Earth Day activities April 24. ■



## Out & About

**Janet Alexander and Gretchen McDaniel** (Nursing) served as consultants at Utah Valley State University in Orem March 12. They also presented a workshop to nursing faculties from Utah Valley State and Brigham Young University on the "Scholarship of Teaching."

**Ruth Ash** (Education and Professional Studies) was selected as a 2003 Woman of Distinction by the Girl Scout Council. The award recognizes "women who have made a significant positive impact upon their community and are exemplary role models for the young women of the Girl Scout organization." Ash also served as co-chair of the National Consortium for Continuous Improvement in Higher Education meeting at the University of Alabama Feb. 6.

**Jonathan Bass** (History), **Sean Flynt** and **Ron Wilson** (University Relations), and **Patricia Outlaw** (Divinity) took part in Challenging Perspectives, the 2003 Birmingham Area Consortium for Higher Education Student Diversity Summit Feb. 28-March 1.

**Jerry Batson** (Divinity) attended the annual meeting of the Conference of Academic Officers sponsored by the Association of Theological Schools in Santa Fe, N.M., March 27-29.

**Max Beavers** (Geography) attended the Association of American Geographers conference March 4-8 in New Orleans, where he co-organized the Geographic

Visualization session and presented "Leavin' Me Blue for Dixie: Representations of Poverty in Alabama." In February, he headed a panel of judges evaluating candidates for the National Geographic Cartography Award, and in November was appointed cartography editor of the journal, *Southeastern Geographer*.

**Brad Bishop** (Law) spoke at the Administrative Office of the Courts Regional Law Enforcement Seminar in Decatur March 7, to the Madison County Bar Association in Huntsville March 14 and at the University of Alabama Continuing Legal Education Seminar on "Recent Developments in the Alabama Rules of Criminal Procedures" in Tuscaloosa March 20.

**Jean Ann Box**, **Carol Dean**, **David Little** and **Regina Thompson** (Education and Professional Studies) provided a roundtable workshop presentation with the help of undergraduates Vickie Lawley, Amy Tomberlin and Barkley Aycock at the 2003 winter conference of the American Association of Colleges of Teacher Education in New Orleans. Their topic was "Problem-Based Learning: Engaging Students as Active Learners in the Elementary Classroom."

**Peggy Carlisle** (Communication Arts) received the 2003 Hall of Fame Award from the Alabama State Thespians Board at the opening ceremony of the Education Theatre Association Alabama Chapter in Florence Feb. 28. The award honored her many years of work in theatre.

**Stephen Chew** (Psychology) presented a paper, "Using Examples Effectively to Promote Student Understanding," at the University of Texas Psychology Alumni Conference and Reunion in Austin Feb. 28. Chew, a 1978 Texas grad, was one of two undergraduate psychology degree recipients invited to present. Also in February, Chew was one of 21 psychologists who collaborated to revise the scoring standards for the CLEP psychology exam. In March, he spent several days at the headquarters of the American Psychological Association doing long-term planning for Teachers of Psychology in Secondary Schools as a national consultant.

**Norfleete Day**, **Tommy Fuller** and **Craig Galloway** (Divinity) traveled to Talbot Seminary Feb 23-25 as part of Beeson Divinity School's Contextual Education Committee. They looked at Talbot's approach to issues of field education, supervised experience in ministry and how to contextualize the educational process.



Floyd



Martin



Outlaw



Webster

**Joe Dean** (Pharmacy) was appointed to a three-year term on the Board of the Crisis Center. Dean presented examples of improvements in McWhorter School of Pharmacy at the National Consortium for Continuous Improvement in Higher Education at the University of Alabama Feb. 6.

**David Finn** (Children's Learning Center) and **Jean Ann Box** (Education and Professional Studies) will serve April 12-May 16 as consultants on special education training options and faculty development processes for the Swedish Department of Education at Vaxjo University. In May, **Clara Gerhardt** (Human Sciences and Design) will join the team, focusing on problem-based learning strategies and outcomes. Finn recently completed his two-year tenure as president of Phi Delta Kappa, an international organization dedicated to improving public education. He will serve as research chair for the greater Birmingham chapter.

**Hugh Floyd** (Sociology) was a delegate at a conference sponsored by the United Nations Environment and Development UK Committee, "From Johannesburg to a Sustainable Development Strategy for the UK," Feb. 19 in London.

**Eric Fournier** (Geography) addressed a national audience of geography department chairs at the group's annual luncheon at the Association of American Geographers in New Orleans. He discussed "The Committee on College Geography and Its Role in Future Faculty Development."

**Ginger Frost** (History) presented a paper and led two seminars at Rice University in Houston Feb. 28-March 1. Her paper, "As Husband and Wife: Cohabitation in Victorian England," was part of Rice's Victorian Studies Speaker Series. She led one seminar about her own work and another discussing the work of Rice graduate students in Victorian Studies. Frost is using her Samford sabbatical to do research at the National Humanities Center in Triangle Park, N.C.

**Craig Galloway** (Divinity) will have his painting, *Commonstone*, on exhibit at the Montgomery Museum of Art during April and May as part of the National Exhibition of the Watercolor Society of Alabama. The painting is part of a series on the doctrine of creation. Galloway and his wife exhibited their art cards based on paintings and photography of creation at the Master Gardener's Convention at Birmingham Botanical Gardens in March.

**Clara Gerhardt** (Human Sciences and Design) contributed a chapter to the book, *Global Perspectives in Family Therapy*, published in March by Brunner-Routledge. Her chapter was titled "Finding our Own Voice: The Development of Family Therapy in South Africa." Gerhardt presented two papers on multicultural issues in higher education at the American Association of Higher Education conference in Washington March 14-17. She also presented a workshop on diversity and multicultural issues at the Southeastern Psychological Association meeting in New Orleans March 29.

**Fisher Humphreys** (Divinity) will lead a conference for young adults at First Baptist Church of Richmond, Va., May 2-4. He will speak at a conference on prayer for Samford students April 5.

**James King** (Business) was quoted in the career section of *The Birmingham News* Feb. 16 on the effect of applicant follow-up behavior on the hiring process.

**Suzanne Martin** (Student Involvement) was invited to lecture a senior seminar at the University of Richmond's Jepsom School of Leadership Studies March 24. Her topic was "Beyond Transformational Leadership: A Case for Invisible Leadership."

**Frank Minter** and **Doug Smith** (Business) published an article, "Sarbanes-Oxley Act, Who Gets the Bill?" in the March 2003 issue of *Strategic Finance*.

**Scott McGinnis** (Religion) led a series titled "Thinking about the Trinity" for West Side Baptist Church's doctrinal study during February and March.

## INSIDE Samford

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Samford University is an Equal Opportunity Institution and welcomes applications for employment and educational programs from all individuals regardless of race, color, sex, age, disability, or national or ethnic origin.



**Milburn Price** (Performing Arts) will serve as guest lecturer and worship leader for the annual Worship Conference hosted by Baptist Theological Seminary in Richmond, Va., in April.

**Patricia Outlaw** (Divinity) preached at the Birmingham/Florence District conference of the AME church March 28 at Oak Grove AME church in Florence. Her topic was "Stir Up Your Gifts" (I Corinthians 12-14). She will preach at St. James AME Church, Birmingham, on "Lay Day," where her topic will be "Take Charge" (I Timothy 3).

**Marlene Reed** (Business) has been nominated for the Alabama Women Business Owners Hall of Fame by the National Association of Women Business Owners. She presented a case titled "Saddam Hussein and the Price of Oil," which she co-wrote with **Fred Hendon** (Business), at the annual meeting of the Academy of Economics and Finance in Savannah during February. Reed also presented a case, "Skoda: The Czech Republic Auto Maker," at the Southwest Case Research Association annual meeting in Houston. Two cases written by Reed and Hendon, "Boeing After September 11 (A)" and "Boeing After September 11 (B)," will appear in the next edition of *The Journal of Finance Case Research*.

**Robin Roberts** (Sociology) accompanied students Emily Nabors and Nathan Lumbatis to the 22nd Southeastern Undergraduate Sociology Symposium in Atlanta March 2-3, where the students presented papers.

**Allen Ross** (Divinity) took part in a weekend conference at the Tallahassee Biblical Studies Center March 27-29 on the Upper Room Discourse. He spoke at New Pilgrim Baptist Church on Human Relation Sunday March 16. Ross led a seminar for the clergy of Charismatic Episcopal Church in Selma Feb. 21-22.

**Ken Roxburgh** (Religion) led four evening sessions at Shades Crest Baptist Church during March on the subject, "Leaving 'Left Behind' Behind: Rereading Revelation."

**Lynette Moore Sandley** and **Billy Currie** (Core Curriculum) presented a poster session of student service-learning portfolios from Communication Arts I at the Gulf South Summit on Service-Learning, Community Engagement, and Higher Education in Gulfport, Miss., Feb. 21.



## April Calendar (Birthdays listed in red.)

### Tuesday, April 1

Thomas Oliver, Jaroslaw Szurek, Joy Whatley, Ron Wilson  
 • 10 a.m. Reid Chapel: *Mark Wilbanks*, senior pastor, Bradfordville First Baptist Church, Tallahassee, Fla.  
 • 11 a.m. Hodges Chapel: *Mark Elliott*, director, Global Center  
 • 4-6 p.m. Samford Art Gallery: Faculty Show Opening Reception, 2:30 p.m.

### Wednesday, April 2

Patricia Hodge

### Thursday, April 3

Barbara Cartledge, Sandra Willis  
 • 10 a.m. Reid Chapel: *Dr. Michael Cogdill*, founding dean, Campbell Divinity School  
 • 3:30 p.m. Lecture: *Dr. May Wykle*, dean, Case Western Reserve University and president, Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society for Nurses, Flag Colonnade; reception follows in the Rotunda

### Friday, April 4

Joelle Rule, Lauren Townsend, Louise White (ret.)  
 • 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Workshop: "Fostering the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning," Davis Library 235  
 • 12 p.m. Administrative Team Meeting, Flag Colonnade  
 • 3 p.m. Faculty Senate Meeting, DBH 216  
 • 6 p.m. Baseball: SU vs. Troy State, Joe Lee Griffin Field  
 • 7:30 p.m. Concert: Samford A Cappella Choir, Reid Chapel

### Saturday, April 5

Kirsten Curtis, William Hinson, Ashley McCraven, Patricia Pilon, Ralph Stone  
 • 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Admission Preview Day  
 • 1 p.m. Baseball: SU vs. Troy State (2), Joe Lee Griffin Field

### Sunday, April 6

Marie Guess, Danielle Johnson, Dennis Price, Lynette Sandley

### Monday, April 7

Francesco Iannuzzi, Pamela Nelson  
 • 6:30 p.m. BYTO Series\*: Symposium, "Transformation of Alabama Politics," Brock Forum

### Tuesday, April 8

Brenda Jones, Jimmy Tillette  
 • 10 a.m. Reid Chapel: SGA Election Speeches  
 • 11 a.m. Hodges Chapel: *Dr. Robert Smith*, associate professor, Beeson Divinity School  
 • 4 p.m. Softball: SU vs. Jacksonville State (2), Softball Field

### Wednesday, April 9

Milburn Price  
 • 3:30 p.m. Faculty Shop Talk: *Dr. Fisher Humphreys*, professor, Beeson Divinity School, "Calvinism," Burns 206

### Thursday, April 10

John Coleman, Fred Hendon, Roger Lander, Sandra O'Brien, Gloria Russell, Alan Verlander  
 • 10 a.m. Reid Chapel: BYTO Series\*, "Letter from Birmingham Jail"  
 • 7:30 p.m. Faculty Recital: *Jay Evans*, trombone, Recital Hall

### Friday, April 11

Janice Teal (ret.)  
 • 4 p.m. Softball: SU vs. Stetson (2), Softball Field

### Saturday, April 12

Glenda Valdamis, Mark Warren, Mary Wimberley

### Sunday, April 13

Kim Boyd, Melinda Czech, Keith McKinney

### Monday, April 14

Jae Dedo, Bill Nunnelley, Stan Susina (ret.)  
 • 2:30 Speech: *Bob Riley*, Alabama governor, Reid Chapel

### Tuesday, April 15

Andrew Benson, Cheryl Cecil, Heather West, Samuel Whilding  
 • 10 a.m. Reid Chapel: Omicron Delta Kappa speaker  
 • 11 a.m. Hodges Chapel: Biblical Studies Lectures, *Dr. Richard Bauckham*, professor of New Testament studies, University of Saint Andrews, Scotland  
 • 3:30 p.m. Faculty Shop Talk: *Killian Manning*, instructor, Communication Arts, "Performing Utopian Visions: Art(iculation) in the Age of AIDS," Burns 206  
 • 7:30 p.m. Concert: Samford Jazz Ensemble, Wright Center Concert Hall

### Wednesday, April 16

Lee Allen (ret.), Catherine Evans, Raymond King, Alan Lyons, Frankie Tatum  
 • 11 a.m. Hodges Chapel: Biblical Studies Lectures, *Dr. Richard Bauckham*, professor, New Testament studies, University of Saint Andrews, Scotland

### Thursday, April 17

Kemper Baker, Amy Broesecker, John Whittington  
 • 10 a.m. Reid Chapel: *Dr. Darrell Bock*, research professor, New Testament studies, Dallas Theological Seminary  
 • 11 a.m. Hodges Chapel: Biblical Studies Lectures, *Dr. Richard Bauckham*, professor, New Testament studies, University of Saint Andrews, Scotland  
 • 6:30 p.m. BYTO Series\*: Film and Discussion, *Crisis*, documentary on Gov. George Wallace's 1963 stand in the school-house door, Brock Forum  
 • 7 p.m. Lecture: *Dr. Darrell Bock*, research professor, New Testament studies, Dallas Theological Seminary, "The Acts of Jesus: Taking another Look at the Gospel's Portrait of Jesus"  
 • 8:30 p.m. Hodges Chapel: Maundy Thursday Service

### Friday, April 18

John Cousins (ret.), John Harris  
 • 4 p.m. Softball: SU vs. Campbell (2), Softball Field

### Saturday, April 19

Heather Burk, Richard Esposito, W. D. Peoples (ret.), Terry Pickett

### Sunday, April 20

Brad Creed  
 Happy Easter

### Monday, April 21

Leon Davis (ret.)  
 No classes. University offices open.

### Tuesday, April 22

John Bowman, Jim Haggard, David Hartley, Mary Martin, Timothy Mullins  
 • 10 a.m. Reid Chapel: Samford Sunday Preaching Award Sermon  
 • 11 a.m. Hodges Chapel: *Dr. Frank Thielman*, professor, Beeson Divinity School  
 • 4 p.m. Softball: SU vs. Georgia State (2), Softball Field  
 • 5-7 p.m. Open House: IT Certification Training Programs, Samford After Sundown, Sciencenter 130  
 • 6 p.m. Baseball: SU vs. Birmingham-Southern, Joe Lee Griffin Field

### Wednesday, April 23

John Chatta, Charlotte Coleman, Martha Ralls, Tiberius Rata, Jennifer Taylor

### Thursday, April 24

Judi Aucoin, Kristopher Dorn, James Felton, Patricia Harris, Cynthia Lohrke, Leonard Nelson (ret.), Lori Northrup  
 • 10 a.m. Reid Chapel: Awards and Recognitions Convocation  
 • 10:30 a.m. Awards Program: Cumberland School of Law, Robinson 102  
 • 3:30 p.m. BYTO Series\*: Film and Discussion, *Four Little Girls*, Spike Lee documentary on the 1963 bombing of 16th Street Baptist Church, Brock Forum  
 • 3:30 p.m. Earth Day Film, *Polluting the Fountain of Youth*, Planetarium  
 • 5 p.m. Earth Day Film: *Ashakara*, Brooks 134  
 • 6:30 p.m. Earth Day Lecture: *Dr. Linnea Smith*, director, Amazon Medical Project Inc., Reid Chapel  
 • 7:30 p.m. Concert: Samford Percussion Ensemble, Wright Center Concert Hall

### Friday, April 25

Jimmy McDowell, Julia Warren  
 • 6 p.m.-7 a.m. (April 26) Relay for Life

### Saturday, April 26

Sara Jones, Susan Sheffield, Kimberly Sims

### Sunday, April 27

Wanda Banks, Lurla Dennis (ret.), Deborah Fly, Timothy McRae

### Tuesday, April 29

Karen Carlisle, Benjamin Edfeldt, Frank Glasscock, Cathryn Tanner  
 • 10 a.m. Reid Chapel: Samford Sunday Preaching Award Sermon  
 • 11 a.m. Hodges Chapel: Divinity Student Sermon and Awards Service  
 • 6 p.m. Softball: SU vs. UAB, Softball Field  
 • 6:30-8 p.m. Reception: Metro College Honors Day, Flag Colonnade  
 • 7:30 Concert: Samford Instrumental Chamber Ensembles, Wright Center Concert Hall

### Wednesday, April 30

Jewell Riffe (ret.), Pat Stanfield

\*BYTO Series—Before You Travel On: Reflections on the 40th Anniversary of the Birmingham Civil Rights Movement

## Joys & Sorrows

### Sympathy is expressed to . . .

• **Marlene Reed** (Business), in the March 20 death of her mother, Heloise Mint

### Out & About

cont. from page 3

**Mike Spivey** (Mathematics and Computer Science) gave a talk, "The Dynamic Assignment Problem," to the Alabama Association of College Teachers of Mathematics in Huntsville in February.

**Frank Thielman** (Divinity) will read a paper on atonement at the Wheaton College Symposium on Biblical Theology April 24-26.

**Jean Thomason** (Davis Library) gave examples of improvements in the library at the National Consortium for Continuous Improvement in Higher Education Conference at the University of Alabama Feb. 6.

**Andy Webster** (Pharmacy) presented a seminar, "Synthesis and Preliminary Biological Evaluation of 3-Substituted Quinuclidines as Nicotinic Ligands," to the University of Alabama at Birmingham chemistry department Feb. 18. He served as chair of the chemistry section of the UAB Central Alabama Regional Sciences Fair for middle school and high school winners March 7-8.

**Heather West** (World Languages and Cultures) gave a presentation, "La Chanson québécoise à travers les années," at the annual meeting of the Alabama Association of Foreign Language teachers in Huntsville Feb. 8. She held a workshop on the legends of French-speaking Canada Feb. 22 for a group of third-, fourth- and fifth-grade teachers as part of the Birmingham International Festival salute to Canada.

**Don Wilson** (History) had two book reviews accepted by the journal *Military History of the West*. The books reviewed were *A Time of War: Remembering Guadalcanal, a Battle without Maps and Time on Target: The WW II Memoirs of William R. Buster*. Wilson also spoke to the Vestavia Rotary Club Feb. 28 on "Alabamians in the Eighth Air Force in World War II." ■

## PROMOTIONS

Lori Hill (*University Relations*)  
Alvin Wright (*Computer and Telecommunications Services*)



## FYI

### Alabama Governor Bob Riley To Visit Samford April 14

Alabama Governor Bob Riley will visit Samford Monday, April 14. He will speak to a Cumberland School of Law group at 2 p.m. in Robinson Hall. He will then present a talk open to the public at 2:30 p.m. in Reid Chapel. His 2:30 appearance is sponsored by ODK service organization.

### Samford Art Faculty Show To Be Held April 1-18

The 2003 Samford Art Faculty Show will be held in Wright Center Gallery April 1-18. The opening reception will be Tuesday, April 1, 4-6 p.m.

Various art media will be shown. Faculty members displaying recent works include Lowell Vann, Mary White, Robin Snyder, Shannon Flynt, Scott Fisk, Richard Dendy, Mary Ann Culotta, Sharon Christman, Jeannie Krumdieck and Ken Brazil.

Regular gallery hours are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

### Relay for Life Set for April 25-26

Samford once again will join with the American Cancer Society to raise funds for cancer research through a Relay for Life. This year's event will be Friday-Saturday, April 25-26, from 6 p.m. until 7 a.m. in Seibert Stadium.

Volunteers are needed to help make this year's relay another success. For information, contact Jenna Kellner at ext. 7323 or jkellne@samford.edu, or Ashley Rundall at alrundall@samford.edu or ext. 7921.

### Book Now for 2004 in London

Faculty and staff interested in organizing group travel to Daniel House during the summer of 2004 should contact the London Programs Office at ext. 2741 with proposals. The London Program will celebrate its 20th year in 2004, and hopes to incorporate some reunion or anniversary tours during that period.

Group bookings are for two weeks and require a nonrefundable deposit. Reservations are made on a first-come, first-served basis. ■

## NSSE

cont. from page 1

"The areas are viewed by educators as benchmarks of effective educational practices," said Sarah C. Latham, Samford director of Institutional Research.

This year, NSSE completed a three-year benchmark study of responses from Samford and 257 other master's level institutions.

Samford senior responses ranked the school in the 90th percentile in four of the five categories: active and collaborative learning, student faculty interactions, enriching educational experiences and supportive campus environment.

Samford freshmen responses ranked Samford in the 90th percentile in level of academic challenge, and active and collaborative learning. ■



## About Benefits

### Samford Offers 403(b) Plans to Supplement Pension

For employees interested in supplementing their Samford pension, optional tax-deferred annuity programs are available to full- and part-time employees who work a minimum of 20 hours per week.

Plans are offered by VALIC, TIAA-CREF, The Annuity Board, Insurance and Investments Consultants, Inc., and Merrill Lynch.

For more information or to enroll, contact the Payroll Office or Human Resources. ■

## Another Samford Habitat House Being Built in Fairfield

Samford students, faculty and staff once again are teaming up to build a Habitat for Humanity House in Fairfield. Work began March 22 and will continue Fridays and Saturdays through May 10. Hours are 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Anyone may volunteer; no building experience is necessary. Samford people also may volunteer to work Tuesdays through Thursdays by request.

Those interested should E-mail Aaron Little at ajlittle@samford.edu or Brian Cosby at bhcosby@samford.edu. Volunteers also may call 945-9186 for information.

This will be the fourth Habitat House built by Samford volunteers over the past three years. Earlier homes were constructed in Fairfield, Irondale and Edgewater.

Alabama Gas Corporation is joining Samford to support construction of this spring's house, as it did last year on the Irondale house. ■



Habitat volunteer Garry Atkins (*Residence Life*) masters the skills of vinyl siding.

Photo courtesy of Student Ministries.

## NEW FACES

Ryan P. Aucoin (*Computer and Telecommunications Services*)

Gus T. Cook (*Chemistry*)

Michelle L. Darrah (*University Relations*)

Sheri M. Hamiter (*University Relations*)

Charlie Swain (*University Ministries*)

Kathy H. Walton (*Law*)