

# INSIDE Samford

A newsletter for faculty, staff and friends of Samford University • September 2005



## Football!

Samford vs. Edward Waters  
Thursday, Sept. 1  
Seibert Stadium, 7 p.m.

## Residence Halls Full as Samford Welcomes More Than 700 Freshman

Samford began its 164th year with one of its largest freshman classes, residence halls filled to capacity and at least one taker for every available parking space on campus. Enrollment is expected to top 4,400 once again.

A total of 711 entering freshmen had paid deposits by Aug.

23, two days before move-in day. The admission office indicated the number still might grow by a few. The largest freshman class was 742 in 1997.

Garry Atkins, residence life director, said more than 1,940 students were living in University housing, compared to 1,875 last year.

"It's the largest number in my 10 years at Samford," he said.

The traditional scramble for campus parking has been underway since the first day, although help is on the way in the form of a new 320-car parking lot scheduled to open near Samford's west entrance midway through the fall term.

Samford once again will operate a shuttle bus to its remote parking lot across Lakeshore Drive. Bobby Breed, campus safety director, said the schedule would be similar to last year's.

Breed urged everyone to be mindful of construction sites and vehicles, as well as fire zones and handicap parking places. ■

## Samford Gets Its Highest Ranking Ever by U.S. News & World Report

Samford University has vaulted into third place in the South among master's degree schools in this year's *U.S. News & World Report* rankings of America's Best Colleges, its highest ranking in history. Samford ranks higher in its peer group than any Alabama university or college in the 2006 selections.

Samford moved up from fifth in the South in its category, Best Universities—Master's, which includes schools offering a full range of undergraduate and master's programs and some doctoral programs. The Best Universities—Master's category is the largest of four ranking categories (570 schools) and is divided



into four geographic regions.

Samford also ranks 13th in the South in the Best Value

Ranking cont. on page 4

## Welcome to New Faculty

Becky M. Atkinson (*Teacher Education*)  
Roger A. Brown (*visiting professor, Law*)  
Mark J. Castle (*Theatre*)  
Cheryl S. Cecil (*Assistant Librarian*)  
Jill L. Cunningham (*Nursing*)  
Theresa D. Davidson (*Sociology*)  
Mark S. Gignilliat (*Divinity*)  
Denise J. Gregory (*Chemistry*)  
Connie S. Hataway (*Nursing*)  
Jason L. Heaton (*Biology*)  
Allison J. Jackson (*Exercise Science*)  
Myrtis A. Johnson  
(*Teacher Education Clinical Coordinator*)  
Wendy W. Kendrick (*Nursing*)  
Philip E. Min  
(*Music and Interim Director of Bands*)  
T. N. Mohan (*Director, Digital Video Center*)  
Walter A. Moore (*French*)  
Barry Robinson (*History*)  
Vicki W. Rochester (*Nursing*)

## Dean To Get Honorary Doctorate

Pharmacy Dean Joseph O. Dean will receive an honorary doctor of pharmacy degree from Meijo University in Nagoya, Japan, Sept. 28. The degree will recognize Dean's ongoing contributions to the field of pharmacy education in the U.S. and Japan.

Under Dean's leadership, Samford's McWhorter School of Pharmacy has been engaged in a variety of interactions and

exchanges with the Meijo University School of Pharmacy since 1992, assisting the Japanese school in developing clinical pharmacy education programs. Meijo is a private university enrolling some 12,000 students.

Over the years, Samford has hosted Meijo faculty and graduate students involved in clinical pharmacy programs, and has sent pharmacy faculty to Meijo to help

Dean cont. on page 4

## Samford Charity Campaign To Assist University Programs, United Way

The Samford Charity campaign will run through September and October again this year, giving faculty and staff the opportunity to contribute to the University and other worthy causes. Last year, about three of every four members contributed more than \$200,000 to the voluntary program, which was established in 1999.

The campaign kicked off August 22. It supports the Samford Fund, United Way, Samford Habitat for Humanity and the University's Employee Emergency Assistance Fund.

Donors may designate gifts to one or more of these areas, or provide undesignated contributions. Undesignated gifts are

allocated using the following formula: Samford Fund, 50 percent; United Way, 25 percent; Habitat for Humanity, 15 percent; and Employee Emergency Assistance Fund, 10 percent.

Donors may make one-time donations via check or credit card, or give through payroll deduction. Either way, donors are asked to complete and return their Samford Charity cards. Payroll deductions for the 2005-06 campaign will begin in January 2006.

Director of Development Monty Hogewood directs the Samford Charity giving campaign. E-mail [jmhogewo@samford.edu](mailto:jmhogewo@samford.edu) or call ext. 2792 with questions. ■



## Out & About

**David Bains** (Religion) spoke on "Women and Islam" at the August 4 meeting of the local chapter of P.E.O. Sisterhood, an organization in the U.S. and Canada that promotes educational opportunities for women.

**Geri Beers** (Nursing) has an article, "The Effect of Teaching Methodology on Long-term Knowledge Retention," published in the September issue of *The Journal of Nursing Education*. She coauthored the article with Susan Bowden of Baptist Health System, Princeton.

**Jennifer Beall** (Pharmacy) attended the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy annual meeting in Cincinnati July 9-13 and presented a poster authored by **Kim Benner** (Pharmacy) and herself entitled "Use of a Course Newsletter to Improve Faculty/Student Communications, Student Self-Assessment and Learning in a Multi-Instructor Course."

**Amanda Borden** (Communication Studies) had an article, "A Content Analysis of Stewardship Themes in Students' Reflections on Environmental Service Learning," published in the summer issue of *Texas Speech Communication Journal*.

**Wilton Bunch** (Divinity) was the keynote speaker at a convention of evangelical business school faculty in Berrien Springs, Mich. He also had a paper, "Adam's Rib," published in *Christian Ethics Today*.

**John Carroll** (Law) was one of two paper presenters at the 13th annual Roscoe Pound Institute Forum for State Appellate Judges. His paper was entitled "E-discovery: A Case Study in Rulemaking by State and Federal Courts."

**Charles Cole** (Law) directed another successful study abroad program for the Cumberland School of Law at the University of Durham, England, this summer. A total of 47 law students from five U.S. law schools and three law schools in Brazil took part. Cole then traveled to Fortaleza, Brazil, to facilitate planning for a study abroad program in 2006 and to make a presentation for the Postgraduate Department of the Federal University of Ceara. Cumberland will offer study abroad programs in Cambridge, England, and Fortaleza in 2006.

**Ed Craig, Cherie Feenker and Becky Hutto** (Law Library) attended the annual meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries in San Antonio in July.

**Steven Epley** (English) led discussions for a Summer Scholars book group at Emmet O'Neal Library in Mountain Brook this summer. The group met monthly to discuss *Beowulf*, Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* and Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale*, and then attended an Alabama Shakespeare Festival production of the play in Montgomery.

**Ginger Frost** (History) gave a paper at a conference at St. Anne's College in Oxford, England, July 9 on "Cohabitation and Murder: Policing Respectability in Mid-Victorian England." The conference theme was "Assaulting the Past: Violence in Historical Context."

**Paul Holloway** (Religion) taught an eight-week adult class on Paul at Independent Presbyterian Church in Birmingham during June and July. He will speak at the Southeast Regional Episcopal Campus Ministries fall conference at Camp McDowell in November.

**Jim Jensen** (Performing Arts) was elected president of the Birmingham Art Music Alliance [BAMA], a consortium of Alabama composers, professional performers and students dedicated to maintaining music as a living art form through a series of concerts and other projects ([www.artmusic.org](http://www.artmusic.org)). Recent performances of Jensen's music include his "Eight Preludes for the Dance" for piano performed at the American Episcopal Cathedral in Paris April 2 and the world premiere of "Three



Beall



Borden



Holloway



Jones

Stratagems for Saxophone Quartet" by the ARA Saxophone Quartet at Birmingham-Southern College April 12.

**Steve Jones** (Business) was interviewed as part of a story on credit scores for National Public Radio's program, *Marketplace Money*. It was broadcast on WBHM in Birmingham July 26 and aired July 30-31 on approximately 150 stations nationally that carry the program, known formerly as *Sound Money*.

**Archie Lockamy** (Business) presented two research papers at the Fourth Global Conference on Business and Economics at Oxford University, Oxford, England, June 27-28. He spoke on "The Impact of Horizontal Mechanisms within Sales and Operations Planning Processes on Supply Chain Integration and Performance: A Statistical Study" and "Using V-A-T Analysis as a Framework for Supply Chain Management: A Case Study."

**Penny Marler** (Religion) represented Samford's Resource Center for Pastoral Excellence in August at a Lilly Endowment-sponsored meeting in Indianapolis of Sustaining Pastoral Excellence projects from across the U.S.

**Darlene Mathis** (Nursing) was appointed to the National League for Nursing [NLN] Task Group on Informatics Competencies for the 2004-06 biennium. The group is working toward a white paper that defines informatics competencies needed by nurses to practice in an information technology-driven health care system. It operates under auspices of the Education Technology and Information Advisory Council of NLN.

**Bill Nunnelle** (University Relations) reviewed the book *Inside Alabama: A Personal History of my State*, by Harvey H. Jackson III, in the summer issue of *The Journal of Southern History*. Earlier, he reviewed *The Changing South of Gene Patterson: Journalism and Civil Rights, 1960-68*, edited by Roy Peter Clark and Raymond Arsenault, for the same journal.

**Ken Roxburgh** (Religion) preached a six-sermon series in June and July at

Vestavia Hills Baptist Church. He spoke on the theme "The Roots that Refresh," using texts from the book of Acts. In late July, he participated in the Baptist World Alliance Centenary Congress in Birmingham, England.

**Joseph Scrivner** (Religion) preached for three morning worship services on Father's Day June 19 at Sixth Avenue Baptist Church. His sermon was entitled "The Requirements of Wisdom." He also taught a monthlong Sunday school study on the book of Proverbs during August at Independent Presbyterian Church.

**Pam Sims** (Pharmacy) spoke to the Birmingham Pediatric Dentistry Association April 12 on "Medications and Children." Earlier, she spoke to the Birmingham District Dental Society on "The Top 20 Facts Dentists Should Know About a Patient's Medications."

**Condit Steil** (Pharmacy) presented a workshop at the 32nd annual meeting of the American Association of Diabetes Educators in Washington, D.C. His topic was "Health Screening: Current Uses and Future Trends for Diabetes Educators."

**Melissa Tate** (Journalism/Mass Communications) accompanied a team of Samford advertising/public relations students to Knoxville, Tenn., to compete in the seventh district American Advertising Federation National Student Advertising Competition. She has been named advertising/marketing consultant for *e-zine*, a publication of the Ecumenical Network Ministry ([www.ecuminet.com](http://www.ecuminet.com)), as well as the parent company, Spiritual Systems, Inc. ([www.faitshshapes.com](http://www.faitshshapes.com)). She is a contributing writer to *e-zine*.

**Elizabeth Wells** was the presenter at the annual seminar of the Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Society in Bossier City/Shreveport, La., August 13. Her topic was "Finding Grandpa in the Pew: Using Church Records in Genealogical Research."

**Deborah Young** (Law) gave a presentation on "Federal Sentencing Procedures in 2005" at the Southeastern Association of Law Schools annual meeting in Hilton Head, S.C. ■

## INSIDE Samford

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**Deadline for next issue:  
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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.



## September Calendar

(Birthdays are listed in red.)

### Thursday, September 1

Jason Robinson

Welcome Back Week

• Photographic Exhibition, "Photos from Life: Rwanda, Kenya and Haiti. A Present-day Look at Nation Building 10 Years After Civil War," by photographer *Lisa Pickett*, Wright Center Art Gallery, Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-4 p.m., through September 30

• 10 a.m. Reid Chapel: Freshman Class Convocation, *Dr. Jim Barnette*, minister to the university

• 7 p.m. Football: Samford vs. Edward Waters College, Seibert Stadium

### Friday, September 2

Mearl Danner, Linda Jones (ret.), Brooke Morgan

Welcome Back Week

• 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. What's Important to Me and Why Series, *Dr. Jim Barnette*, minister to the university, Flag Colonnade

• 7 p.m. Soccer: Samford vs. Memphis, Bulldog Field

### Saturday, September 3

Alexander Bolla, Betty Sue Shepherd, Nicole Siegfried

### Sunday, September 4

Jane Hiles, Mary Holt (ret.), Patricia Naro, Kenneth Tremelling

• 2 p.m. Soccer: Samford vs. Marshall, Bulldog Field

### Monday, September 5

Douglas Clapp

### Tuesday, September 6

Jerry Batson, Lisa McNeal, Gerry Waters

• 10 a.m. Reid Chapel: Dotson M. Nelson Lectures, *Dr. Randall O'Brien*, provost, Baylor University

• 11 a.m. Hodges Chapel: *Dr. Henry Cox*, pastor, First Baptist Church, Bay Minette, Ala., and president, Alabama Baptist State Convention

• 6-8 p.m. Accounting Career Night, Wright Center Lobby

• 7 p.m. Volleyball: Samford vs. UAB, Seibert Hall

### Wednesday, September 7

Jennifer Sims, Jerry Wilkerson

• 3:30 p.m. Faculty ShopTalk: *Randall O'Brien*, provost, Baylor University

### Thursday, September 8

Frank Donaldson (ret.), Jennifer Gassner, Tatyana Karaman, Loren Vise (ret.)

• 10 a.m. Reid Chapel: Davis Special Speaker, *Maj. Gen. Charles Baldwin*,

chief, U.S. Air Force Chaplain Service

• 7:30 p.m. Faculty Recital: *Timothy Banks*, lyric baritone, *Wanda Banks*, mezzo-soprano, and *Donald Sanders*, pianist, Hodges Chapel

### Friday, September 9

Steve Allgood (ret.), Jonathan Dockery, Thomas Fuller, Janice Paine, Annie Thomas (ret.)

• 7 p.m. Volleyball: Samford vs. Fairfield, Seibert Hall

### Saturday, September 10

Admission Preview Day

• 12 p.m. Volleyball: Samford vs. Western Carolina

• 7 p.m. Volleyball: Samford vs. Birmingham-Southern

### Sunday, September 11

Natina Chaffin, Robert Henderson, Dennis Jones, Jane Love, Mary Jane Niesen

### Monday, September 12

Virginia Downes (ret.), Bill Gray, Robert Willis

### Tuesday, September 13

Paul Blanchard, Hannah Boyd, Jean Box, Leigh Ann Poole

Beeson Divinity School Preview Day

• 10 a.m. Reid Chapel: Missions Report, *Chad and Leslie Seagraves*, codirectors, 10/40 Connections, Inc.

• 11 a.m. Hodges Chapel: *Dr. Timothy George*, dean, Beeson Divinity School

### Wednesday, September 14

Norfleete Day, Sara Nix, Lula Roshell (ret.)

### Thursday, September 15

Karen Appleby, Coke Clark (ret.), Brian Copham, Tony David, Janet England, Wanda Lucas, John McCaster (ret.)

Journalism/Mass Communications Workshop for High School Publications

• 10 a.m. Reid Chapel: Freshman Class Convocation, *April Robinson*, director of student ministries

### Friday, September 16

Alice Bullington, Justin Firesheets, Lisa Gibbs

• 7 p.m. Soccer: Samford vs. Southern Mississippi, Bulldog Field

• 7:30 p.m. Faculty Recital: *William Bugg*, bass, Wright Center Recital Hall

### Saturday, September 17

Dean Smedley

### Sunday, September 18

Robert Long, Jeremy Thornton

### Monday, September 19

Pat Cissell (ret.), Suzy Metts, Condit Steil

### Tuesday, September 20

William Baugh (ret.), Mike Janas, Nina Strickland

• 10 a.m. Reid Chapel: Summer Missions Reflections

• 11 a.m. Hodges Chapel: *Dr. Thomas Fuller*, director, Doctor of Ministry program

• 7 p.m. Volleyball: Samford vs. South Alabama, Seibert Hall

### Wednesday, September 21

Sherry George, Billy McClure (ret.), Dennis Self

### Thursday, September 22

Donna Dunaway

• 10 a.m. Reid Chapel: Holley-Hull Lecture, *Bremnan Manning*, author-preacher

### Friday, September 23

James Smith

• 7 p.m. Volleyball: Samford vs. Austin Peay, Seibert Hall

### Saturday, September 24

Barrett Hathcock, Judy Gachet (ret.), Melba Maudlin, Gladys Moffett (ret.), Hattie Williams (ret.)

• 2 p.m. Volleyball, Samford vs. Tennessee State, Seibert Hall

### Sunday, September 25

James Blair, Fannie Brazzle (ret.), Marlene Reed (ret.)

### Monday, September 26

Janice James, Kay Lindsey

### Tuesday, September 27

Jack Bridges (ret.), Sara Clark (ret.), Don Mott, Chris Scott

• 10 a.m. Reid Chapel: Save Darfur, *Mark Bixler*, author, and *Jacob Maget*, subject of *The Lost Boys of Sudan: An American Story of the Refugee Experience*

• 7:30 p.m. Faculty Recital: *Angela Flaniken*, violin, *Jeffrey Flaniken*, viola, and *Donald Sanders*, piano, Reid Chapel

### Wednesday, September 28

Stephanie Clanton, Woodie Eubanks, Susan Jovanovich, Chris Metress, Treva Sexton, Paula Tillery

• 7 p.m. Volleyball: Samford vs. Jacksonville State, Seibert Hall

### Thursday, September 29

Harvis Higgins (ret.), Rudy Hilton (ret.), Elizabeth McCullough, Scott Mohon

• 10 a.m. Reid Chapel: Save Darfur, *Mohamed Yayna*, chair, Damanga Coalition for Freedom and Democracy

• 6:30 p.m. Football: Samford vs. Southeast Missouri, Seibert Stadium

• 7:30 Faculty Recital: *Sherrie Lawhon*, soprano, and *Randall Richardson*, tenor, Wright Center Recital Hall

### Friday, September 30

Renee DeHart, Jeanette Ellison, Kathy Parnell, Paula Thompson

• 7 p.m. Soccer: Samford vs. Jacksonville State, Bulldog Field



## A Cappella Choir Scores a First

The Samford A Cappella Choir has been selected to perform for the 2006 Southern Division Convention of the American Choral Directors Association in Charleston, W.Va., in February 2006. Selection is based on competitive auditions of submitted CDs of representative work over the previous three years. This is the first time a Samford choir has been selected for an individual concert at an ACDA convention.

## Library Changes Some Titles

The University Library has made some changes—in titles. Reference Coordinator Della Darby and Reference Librarian Beth Ashmore have moved into Technical Services as the cataloging coordinator and cataloging librarian, respectively.

In the reference department, Lori Northrop is the new reference coordinator, Carla Waddell is the new reference/government documents librarian, and Cheryl Cecil is the new reference/instruction librarian. Cecil, who received her master of library science degree from the University of Alabama in 2004, was formerly the interlibrary loan assistant at Samford.

## CDC Offers Graduate School Info

The Samford Career Development Center has scheduled several events relating to graduate school. To register, e-mail [career@samford.edu](mailto:career@samford.edu) or call extension 2980.

**Sept. 8**—Graduate Fellowships, 10 a.m., DBH 113, presented by Dr. Fred Shepherd, chair, political science, and coordinator, College Society

**Sept. 13**—Getting into a Highly Competitive Graduate School, 3:30 p.m., CDC Conference Room

**Sept. 28**—The Graduate School Process, 3:30-4:30 p.m., CDC Conference Room, presented by Alice Martin, director, CDC ■

## Joys & Sorrows

### Congratulations to . . .

- **Greg Jeane** (Geography) on the Aug. 7 marriage of his son, Charles, to Sabrina Kern of Warrenton, Va. Charles began law school at the University of the District of Columbia Aug. 10
- **Pam Walker** (Printing) on the selection of her daughter, Nicole Myrex of Gardendale, Ala., for this summer's National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine at Emory University

### Sympathy is expressed to . . .

- **Sherry Baldone** (Computer and Telecommunications Services) and her husband, James, on the July 22 death of James' father, James C. Baldone, Sr., of Birmingham
- **Donna Fitch** (University Relations) and her husband, Thomas, on the Aug. 3 death of Thomas' brother-in-law, David Gruber, of Kirksville, Mo. He was the husband of Thomas' sister, Laura.
- **Sharon Wesson** (Computer and Telecommunications Services) on the July 21 death of her father, Robert Durwood Smith

## NEW FACES

Aubree Alvarez (*Residence Life*)  
 Andrew Arthur (*Residence Life*)  
 Floyd F. T. Beavers (*University Library*)  
 Jason E. Black (*Admission*)  
 Virginia Brown (*Biology, to full-time*)  
 Patricia Campbell (*Prep Music*)  
 LaJeana Chitty (*Bookstore*)  
 Kaelan Clay (*Residence Life*)  
 Beulah Coyne (*Divinity, to full-time*)  
 Dusty Folds (*University Library*)  
 Ashley Gassner (*Business*)  
 Lisa Gibbs (*Theatre, to full-time*)  
 Jammill E. Henley (*Children's Learning Center*)  
 Candace Hughes (*Student Health*)  
 Anna Kinman (*Law*)  
 Josh Knight (*Residence Life*)  
 Matt Knowles (*Athletics*)  
 Sarah Marat (*Children's Learning Center*)  
 Rachael E. Palmer (*Divinity, from Divinity*)  
 Cindy Shackelford (*Children's Learning Center*)  
 Julie A. Stewart (*Accounting/Financial Services*)  
 Tammi Waldrop (*Residence Life*)  
 Robert Watson (*University Library*)  
 Caralisa Wilson (*Residence Life*)  
 Cynthia Woodham (*Prep Music*)

### Best Wishes to Retiree

**Judy Gachet**  
 Department of Theatre  
 She began her employment with Samford Sept. 2, 1985, and retired July 29.

## Dean To Be Honored by Meijo *cont. from page 1*

develop faculty and clinical practice models. Dean has served as adviser to the deans and heads of Meijo's clinical pharmacy program, visiting and speaking in Nagoya on several occasions.

Samford executed a long-standing formal affiliation agreement with Meijo in 1997, and Dean spoke at a Meijo dean's forum at the school's 50th anniversary celebration in 2004.

Earlier this year, Samford assisted Meijo in developing a successful proposal for a top 100 universities grant from the Japanese government. As part of the proposal, Samford gave permission for a translation into Japanese of the McWhorter monograph on problem-based learning edited by Dr. Mary Monk-Tutor. Also, as part of the awarded grant, three McWhorter

faculty conducted workshops on active learning and clinical teaching on the Meijo campus in 2005.

Dean, a Samford pharmacy graduate and former practicing pharmacist, has served as dean of pharmacy since 1991, leading the school through implementation of the entry-level doctor of pharmacy program. He has announced plans to retire at the close of the 2005-06 academic year, and a dean search advisory committee has been formed to help identify his successor. ■

## Law Dean John Carroll Named to Judicature Society, Sedona Conference

Judge John L. Carroll, dean and the Ethel P. Malugen Professor of Law at Samford's Cumberland School of Law, has been named to the boards of directors of two important national law reform organizations, the American Judicature Society and the Sedona Conference.

The American Judicature Society is a nonpartisan organization with a national membership of judges, lawyers and nonlegally trained citizens interested in the administration of justice. The society focuses on issues relating to judicial independence, judicial conduct and ethics, judicial selection, and the jury system.

The Sedona Conference is an organization that exists to allow

leading jurists, lawyers, experts, academicians and others at the cutting edge of antitrust law, complex litigation and intellectual property to come together in conferences and minithink tanks (working groups) to engage in meaningful dialogue, not debate, to move the law forward in a reasoned and just way.

Carroll, a former U.S. magistrate judge for the Middle District of Alabama, has served as Cumberland dean since 2001. He also served previously as legal director for the Southern Poverty Law Center. Carroll holds an undergraduate degree from Tufts University and law degrees from Cumberland and Harvard University. ■

## Banner Buzz: Finance Module in Place, but Training Continues

The Banner finance module has been in place for two months, but the effort to ensure that Samford employees receive the training and assistance they need continues. Training handouts are available at [www.samford.edu/banner](http://www.samford.edu/banner) and through the Banner forms section of the University portal.

Continual training sessions also are being offered to employees. Watch your e-mail for announcements relating to these sessions.

## Ranking *cont. from page 1*

category of schools in its peer group.

"Public recognition for academic quality and effectiveness is hard to come by, so it means a great deal to be acknowledged by peers and other experts," said Samford President Thomas E. Corts. "Samford does not operate as though it were in a contest, but it is reassuring to our students, parents, faculty and investors to know that Samford is highly valued. To have been highly ranked for more than 15 consecutive years is an honor of which we can be proud."

Samford has been ranked

seventh or higher in its category by *U.S. News & World Report* since 1990.

The annual rankings are based on a school's academic reputation, freshman retention rate, graduation rate, class size, student-faculty ratio, percentage of full-time faculty, student selectivity and acceptance rate, and percentage of alumni giving.

Other categories and the number of schools in each are National Universities (248), Liberal Arts Colleges (215) and Comprehensive Colleges—Bachelor's (324). Schools are classified into peer groups based on the academic programs they offer. ■