

**Library and Technology Services**  
**Dr. Alan D. Hargrave**  
**Academic Year 2006-2007**

**New Administrative Software Suite (Banner).** In March, 2004, Samford began a project to replace its main administrative computer system. The last of the major modules of this new system are now in production. Of particular significance this year was the activation of the student and financial aid modules. This was the hardest phase of the project because information in these areas is the most extensive and complex of any information that we manage. It also placed the greatest strain on our personnel resources as we converted to the new system while maintaining current operations. But with the valuable efforts of many individuals across campus, we have successfully admitted new students, awarded financial aid, advised and registered students using the new system. The transition to Banner also meant significant efforts to convert systems that depend on our core data to function. Notable among those modified to work with Banner: the Samford Portal, Blackboard (our electronic learning system), TouchNet (for accepting online payments), the Samford ID card system and the library system. Conversion of our Alumni and Development records to Banner was also completed. A new reporting system called Argos was placed into production this year to augment the Banner system and other central database systems.

**SUID Introduced.** With the transition to Banner, Samford is now able to move away from using the Social Security Number as a primary means to uniquely identify each person. We have established the *SUID* as a replacement identifier and are working toward its use except in those cases where the Social Security Number is explicitly needed.

**E-Mail Conversion.** We have successfully completed a project to replace the GroupWise e-mail system with Microsoft Exchange/Outlook and Microsoft Office Communicator (an instant messaging program). Work continues in the implementation of Microsoft file and print services.

**USB Flash Drives to Freshman Class.** We continued our program to distribute USB flash drives to the freshman class. This year we were able to distribute drives with the same capacity as last year's drive but for significantly less cost.

**Quick Facts**

**Genealogy Institute Attendance**

Year	Attendance
2003	210
2004	230
2005	230
2006	250
2007	280

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**4,990,715**

Number of academic records  
(transcript entries) transferred to the  
new Banner system

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**4,288**

Assistance responses from the  
Reference Department of the  
University Library

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**6,212**

Calls handled by the  
Technology Help Desk

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**566**

New or replacement computers  
processed for delivery in the past year

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**500,000**

Approximate number of spam e-mail  
messages rejected in an average day

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**University Library.** The Library Blog was created to market new resources, advertise events, and highlight employee accomplishments. A new materials security system was installed to better protect materials and meet patron needs. HVAC pipe replacements were completed after five months and temporary relocation of much of the staff. This was to replace defective pipe that was installed when the library building was remodeled in 1997. A well attended “Live at the Library” during Homecoming featured Charles Ghigna a local award winning children’s author. The library hosted art exhibits which included the works of Jack Sanders and Ashley Anderton and an Earth Day show and competition by faculty, staff and students. A life-size bronze statue of the late medical missionary and alumna Martha Myers, placed in the Marla Haas Corts Missionary Biographies room, was dedicated May 11. Myers served the people of Yemen for more than two decades. Donald Hustad, a leading figure in church music for more than half a century and known for his work as scholar, teacher, editor, composer, conductor and organist gave his library and papers to Samford. The family of Austin Dobbins, retired from the Samford English faculty, gave his book collection to Samford.

**Instructional Activities.** Librarians provided instruction to 1,720 students during 118 formal sessions. Faculty instruction in BlackBoard and other technology topics was provided in the form of workshops and one-on-one assistance. Three student workshops were attended by a total of 50 students and 26 faculty workshops were attended by a total of 245 faculty.

**Network Upgrades.** Wireless networking was added to several locations on campus, including Dwight Beeson Hall, Russell Hall, Swearingen Hall and the Wright Center. Plans are underway to expand the wireless network and to replace the core network infrastructure. The capacity of our connection to the Internet was increased by seventeen percent this year. All of the network equipment in the residence halls was replaced this spring to improve the service for our students.

**Campus Card System.** The CBORD campus card system saw several changes this year including relocation of the server to the computer room and installation of new software that for the first time ties the card system to the computer station that produces the ID cards.

**Software Additions and Maintenance.** Our server administration group continues to manage 71 servers and four storage arrays to support them. Significant changes this year included upgrades to Banner and the Oracle database, the implementation of a BlackBerry Enterprise Server, the addition of Clean Address (an address verification program) to Banner and the implementation of an enterprise policy manager for our desktop anti-virus software.

**Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research.** A successful Institute included ten courses, 271 registrants and 33 faculty members. This program continues to see growth in attendance as demonstrated by the graph in the Quick Facts sidebar. We have discontinued the annual British trip that was been a part of this program in previous years. Della Darby was named as the new director of the Institute to replace the retiring Jean Thomason.

**Equipment Loans.** The Technology in Learning Center (TLC) continued to serve as a location for faculty to get help with developing instructional materials and to borrow equipment. LCD projectors were borrowed 211 times, laptops were borrowed 222 times, digital still cameras were borrowed 17 times and the digital video camera was borrowed nine times.

**Computer Laboratories.** All laboratory computers are on a three-year replacement cycle and several computers were replaced this year as a part of routine maintenance. Scheduling of computer labs for regular course activities continues to rise.

**Staff Achievement.** Several staff served in leadership positions in professional organizations. Highlights include:

Beth Ashmore – Taught a section of Foundations 101; editor for the “Internet Insider” column in College and Undergraduate Libraries; board member and webmaster for the Alabama Association of College and Research Libraries (AACRL); member of the Electronic Communications Committee of the North American Serials Interest Group

Cheryl Cecil – Secretary Alabama Library Association (ALLA) College, University and Special Libraries Division

Della Darby – Secretary/treasurer for the Technical Services and Systems Roundtable of the ALLA; intern liaison for University of Alabama School of Library and Information Studies internships at Samford

Lori Northrup – AACRL executive board member

Sue Peterson – Network of Alabama Academic Libraries (NAAL) Online Content Committee

Jaroslav Szurek – Music OCLC Users’ Group Program Committee

Jennifer Taylor – Moderator of the ALLA List Serve

Carla Waddell – NAAL State Publications and Records Task Force; taught Lakeshore Rehabilitation Classes; member of ALLA Government Documents Round Table; ALLA chair-elect College, University and Special Libraries Division

Elizabeth Wells – President of the Alabama Genealogical Society; executive board of the Alabama Historical Association; president, Association of Librarians and Archivists in Baptist Institutions

Many of our staff made presentations to and/or assisted with programming for professional conferences and community groups and had papers published in professional journals.

**Staff Development.** Several staff continue to work toward and earn degrees that enhance their on-the-job contributions to Samford. Many staff also participated in organized training activities and/or certificate programs.

Staff attended national and regional conferences including those hosted by the Alabama Library Association, the Alabama Association of College and Research Libraries, the American Library Association, the Society of Alabama Archivists, the Network of Alabama Academic Libraries, Educause, the American Society for Training & Development, BlackBoard, SungardSCT, ResNET, Oracle, Touchnet, Microsoft and SOLINET.