

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES UPDATE

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Wheaton College has made a good start in pursuing four new strategic priorities, while also making progress on four complementary priorities—all the culmination of collaboration that began over a year ago with the President's Green Paper. The monthly updates from the President's Office, generated by your colleagues across campus, are also available online for easy reference. Please pray with me for our colleagues in this ongoing work, praising God for his provision, and asking for specific answers to prayer as noted in this reminder.

In Christ's service,
Philip G. Ryken, *President*

Strategic Priorities

Globalize A Wheaton Education

Deepen Ethnic Diversity

Promote Liberal Arts
Excellence

Enhance Music and the
Performing Arts

Complementary Priorities

Refresh Wheaton's
Mission Statement

Nurture Vibrant Christian Community

Extend Affordability

Strengthen Graduate Education

Globalize A Wheaton Education

Dr. Jeffrey Greenman, associate dean of biblical and theological education, is leading a faculty committee to articulate a theological perspective on "globalization." This will initiate a shift in how our community understands itself and engages others, and will guide curricular and program planning in the coming years. Reflecting on Wheaton's founding history and mission statement, the work of this faculty committee will expand into the concept of developing "world Christians" who are transformed by engagement outside of North America and by interaction with God's people around the globe. A draft document seeking comments for improvement will be shared with the faculty in early January 2013 and with the college community later in the spring semester.

Deepen Ethnic Diversity

Since 1996, the Coordination Council, a group of campus leaders responsible to the President for implementing policies regarding diversity, has met monthly to coordinate their efforts across the college divisions. Led by Rodney Sisco, director of multi-cultural development, the group includes the vice presidents and Chaplain, plus representatives from OCO, OMD, SAO, GEL, Education, Urban Studies, Admissions, Alumni and Human Resources. Each year students visit the group to share their perspectives. At a recent meeting, President Ryken suggested that the group be renamed the "Diversity Council," as it continues to monitor Wheaton's progress in becoming more ethnically diverse.

At their October 2012 Board meeting the College's trustees approved funds to relocate the Office of Multicultural Development from its cramped quarters in the Student Services Building to lower Beamer Center near the Student Activities Office. This new location with high daily student traffic

will give wider exposure of OMD's mission to all Wheaton students. The new offices will have significantly more space, including a student lounge, work stations for OMD organizations, a conference room, and additional office space. The student publications office, currently occupying OMD's future home, will be moved to a new location in the Beamer Center.

Strengthen Graduate Education

Dr. Nick Perrin, acting dean of the Graduate School, reports that the graduate faculty recently met to consider a proposal to make fundamental structural changes in faculty governance. These changes would grant the Graduate School autonomy to launch and modify its own programs and courses. The proposal received unanimous support in an informal vote of the convened faculty and administrators, and the Graduate School will seek faculty-wide approval of its proposal in the coming months.

Nurture Vibrant Christian Community

Last month President Ryken appointed members of the Christ-like Community Task Force whose purpose is to identify our core values for life together as a learning, living, working community of grace, to devise ways to regularly assess our progress in honoring those values, and to work collaboratively to improve the quality of Christ-centered community across campus. Led by Human Resources Director Karen Tucker, the task force includes two faculty members recommended by Faculty Council, and two staff members with varying levels of responsibility from each of the four campus divisions. Academic, Advancement, Finance, and Student Development—a total of 11 members. Their first goal is to present draft recommendations to the President and his cabinet by the end of February 2013.

