

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES UPDATE

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Twenty-three students representing 13 majors participated in this year's Honduras Project, traveling to serve members of the communities of La Florida and En Sinar. Project leader and Environmental Science Professor Dr. Chris Keil says, "In nearly 21 years of teaching geology, the Honduras Project is the best student group project I've been involved in, for immediate and long-term impact on our students and the communities we serve."

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
Completed August '13

Nurture Vibrant Christian Community

Extend Affordability

Strengthen Graduate
Education

Globalize a Wheaton Education

For 33 years a team of Wheaton students has traveled to rural villages in the mountain region of Honduras over Spring Break to help install gravity-fed water systems and to share the love of Christ. The student-led short term missions [Honduras Project](#) includes six months of preparation and raising needed funds. Students are paired up with local Honduran partners for work projects on-site. The student team that recently returned to campus was enthusiastic about the success of their mission where they installed needed water systems and enjoyed rich fellowship with the Christian believers and others they served in Honduras.

Enhance Music and the Performing Arts

In a recent three-week period, President Ryken and Dean Michael Wilder visited three key cities—Atlanta, New York City, and Los Angeles—to share our vision for Enhancing Music and the Performing Arts in ways that will benefit our entire campus community. The encouraging response to these presentations energizes us as we gather resources for this priority and develop more tangible steps in planning. The College has received over \$27M in gifts and pledges toward this endeavor, which includes a \$1M commitment in February and \$350K in commitments in March, as well as smaller gifts.

Nurture a Vibrant Christian Community

The Christ Centered Community Task Force has defined five core values for workplace relationships: Teamwork and Collegiality, Unity and Diversity, Listening and Communication, Expertise and Learning, and Stewardship and Accountability. An example of "Stewardship and Accountability" is the cloud-based software ThunderMart implemented by Budget Director Scott Okesson, along with Purchasing Department employees. ThunderMart facilitates a decentralized receiving model for campus purchases, saving the College nearly \$100,000 this year in efficiencies and direct costs. With ThunderMart, an order is received directly by the originator through a website so that payments occur only for correctly completed orders, saving time and money.

Extend Affordability

From resources found in financial aid funds, endowed scholarships, and new gifts, three international students will join the Class of 2019 this fall on full scholarship. A student from Northern Ireland will pursue the liberal arts with an interest in Theology, Philosophy, and French. Another student from the Philippines hopes to study Ancient Languages. A third student, the first in her family to graduate from high school, grew up in a rural mountain village in Honduras. She wants to study Chemistry and Secondary Ed in order to qualify to teach her fellow Hondurans.

