

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES UPDATE

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In early November, Dean of Global and Experiential Learning Laura Montgomery represented Wheaton College at the International Association for the Promotion of Christian Higher Education (IAPCHE) in Melaka, Malaysia. Representatives from 56 institutions from 17 nations attended the conference on “Partnership and Collaboration in Christian Higher Education,” which Wheaton helped to sponsor. Dean Montgomery presented a review of the opportunities and challenges in global partnerships for Wheaton in the context of the global initiative.

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

Promote Liberal Arts Excellence

Tuesday, November 18 was a historic day at Wheaton College, capping over four years of intense discussion and planning, as 95% of the faculty voted to approve the new curricular plan, *Christ at the Core: Liberal Arts at Wheaton College*. Educating the whole person for faithful living in Jesus Christ lies at the heart of Wheaton’s new liberal arts curriculum. The general education curriculum will shift requirements from a distributional framework to an outcomes-based model. Look for highlights of the key features and themes of this comprehensive plan in subsequent newsletters.

Enhance Music and the Performing Arts

On Saturday, November 15, Wheaton alumnus Maestro John Nelson ’63 led nearly 300 students in the combined ensembles of the Wheaton College Conservatory of Music in a performance of Franz Josef Haydn’s *The Creation*, one of the most popular and most performed oratorios ever written. Among the solo artists was recent graduate and baritone Nathaniel Olson ’11, performing this fall with the Chicago Lyric Opera. The breathtaking experience highlighted the depth and breadth of talent of Wheaton students, both those studying music and those joining in for the love of it. The performance also underscores our need to improve our facilities to serve the musical interests and talents of all of our students.

Wheaton College will host a special event in Minneapolis at the historic Guthrie Theater’s 40th annual performance of Charles Dickens’ *A Christmas Carol* on December 12. More than 150 alumni, parents, and friends of the College will gather prior to the performance to hear from Dean Michael Wilder on redemptive themes in the drama. Guests will have the opportunity to connect with fellow Wheatonites, experience the arts, and recall the importance of music and the arts in a liberal arts education.

Nurture Vibrant Christian Community

The Working in Community Advisory Council has been formed and will begin their work this winter. Focusing on how to create a working community characterized by God-honoring relationships, the Council will work with the Human Resources team. Members will include its Chair Karen Gehl (Alumni & Parent Programs), Billye Kee (Career Development), Eric Durbin (BGC), Janet Lyon (Student Health Services), Ward Davis (Psychology), Heather Whitney (Physics), John Kim (Advancement Services), Becki Henderson (AMT), Marilyn Enstrom (Financial Aid), Karen Tucker (Director, Human Resources), and Heidi Mitchell (Assistant Director, Human Resources).

