

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES UPDATE

vol. 3 issue 9

June 2015



A coalition of student leaders launched the week-long event *MADE* to celebrate ethnic and other influences that have gone into making them who they are as persons. This event helped students explore different cultures through art, dance, music, fashion and food, celebrating the rich diversity created by God. Events included story-circles, sampling cultural foods, a community art project making t-shirts (seen here with Solidarity Cabinet member Mariel Beausejour '15), and a multi-media finale.

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

Prospective students, their parents, and recent graduates ask if the skills gained in a liberal arts education equip them for meaningful employment. To give students effective tools—including job-related connections with Wheaton alumni, parents and employers—and to help coordinate programs, messaging, and resources, the College has placed the revamped Center for Vocation and Career and the Institute *Opus: the Art of Work* within the newly-formed Alumni, Vocation and Parent Engagement department. An international search has begun for a director who will provide the Center for Vocation and Career with strategic vision and results-oriented leadership.

English Professor Christine Colon received the first Senior Faculty Service Achievement Award for her service to the College in preparing for the General Education curriculum revision. In recent years Dr. Colon has been the Gen Ed Coordinator and served on both the Gen Ed Revision Committee and the Gen Ed Summit. Provost Jones commented, “Christine’s contributions—marked with commitment, passion, and service—were integral to the design of the new Christ at the Core curriculum we will implement in 2016-2017.”

Enhance Music and the Performing Arts

Fifteen high school musicians representing ten states and the Philippines will gather for the first Wheaton College Summer Music Camp on June 21-27, 2015. Wheaton Conservatory faculty will teach private lessons, master classes and ensembles. Seven Conservatory students will serve as counselors in the new campus townhouses. The experience will be enhanced by a faculty recital, “movement classes” in the dance studio, daily chapel with Dean Michael Wilder, a Chicago Cubs game, and two Grant Park Symphony concerts with local Conservatory alumni. Dr. Mary Hopper notes, “After this experience, we hope these serious young musicians will consider pursuing their future education at Wheaton.”

Extend Affordability

Wheaton’s summer BRIDGE program prepares first-generation college-bound, low-income, or African-American or Latino high school students for college. We are very grateful for a generous \$200,000 spendable gift received this year that will provide four-year scholarships to three BRIDGE program graduates making it possible for them to enroll at Wheaton this fall. Having already participated together for two years in BRIDGE, this cohort of three students will find their transition into college easier, enhancing their ability to thrive.

