

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES UPDATE

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Seven weeks before the super-typhoon Haiyan devastated the Philippines last November, Wheaton's Humanitarian Disaster Institute (HDI) convened a conference there for pastors and Christian NGO leaders on disaster preparedness, resulting in the launch of a network that helped coordinate relief efforts. Christianity Today commented that for survivors, "creation of this network 49 days before the typhoon was a miracle-like event." See more about HDI's current projects at www.wheaton.edu/HDI/Projects.

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

Dr. Alan Seaman and Dr. Pam Barger (Intercultural Studies) were in Chiang Mai, Thailand in January-February 2014 to provide training for English language teachers who work in China, Mongolia, Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia. Alan taught two graduate classes and presented a workshop at the annual Thailand conference involving over 600 ELIC teachers and staff, and Pam served as program administrator. The Intercultural Studies Department has enjoyed a productive partnership with ELIC for fifteen years, providing graduate training for over a thousand teachers, enabling them to gain credentials to enhance their teaching in universities and schools throughout Asia.

Deepen Ethnic Diversity

Sixteen junior and senior students—eight men and eight women—have been selected to live in the "Shalom Community" next year. Several students along with staff leaders recently reflected with the Board of Visitors on the first year experience of this new residential model for helping students learn how to dismantle racism within the church and society. A Christmas party that the Shalom Community held for campus drew a large crowd of students from the "friend groups." Students praise the helpful leadership of their faculty and staff mentors as they learn to think and talk about the realities of racism in society and in the human heart,

saying that the experience has given them a "vocabulary" for understanding racial issues.

Enhance Music and the Performing Arts

Dean Michael Wilder and a team of architects and planners have continued to gather "best ideas and practices" for a new Conservatory and Performing Arts Center at Wheaton by visiting similar successful projects, such as the High Center for the Performing Arts that opened a year ago at Messiah College. The Wheaton team is carefully examining many details of building design and studying how other schools have applied cost effective measures to increase the affordability of construction.

Nurture Vibrant Christian Community

The Christ Centered Community Task Force has drafted a statement of five core values for workplace relationships, now approved by the Senior Administrative Cabinet: Teamwork and Collegiality, Unity and Diversity, Listening and Communication, Expertise and Learning, Stewardship and Accountability. A new team of faculty and staff will recommend tools to assess annually how well we are doing at living our values, to ensure these core values are woven into the fabric of our work at Wheaton College. More about Working in Community can be found at www.wheaton.edu/About-Wheaton/Community-Covenant/Working-in-Community.

