

# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES UPDATE

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Freshman Richard Ndekezi met a fellow Rwandan, now his new mentor, on his first day at Wheaton in August. (Right to Left: Richard Ndekezi '17, BGC Scholar Emmanuel Ndolimana, and Joris Manzi Cyizere, a "Bridge2 Rwanda" student attending Northwestern University in Evanston.)

## 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

The first grants for "Globalizing the Curriculum" have been awarded to Keith Eiten and Steve Oberg (Library); Matt Lundin (History); Melissa Harkrider (History); Rose Wang (Foreign Language); Susan Greener (Intercultural Studies), Henry Kim (Sociology); and Richard Gibson (English), whose project will also involve other faculty in the English Department. Full-time teaching and library faculty are invited annually to submit proposals. The grants support projects that build and strengthen intercultural competency or provide a geographical or cultural perspective that is underrepresented in the current curriculum.

### Deepen Ethnic Diversity

Regional Director Kevin Engel helped freshman Richard Ndekezi from Rwanda settle into Wheaton last August and took him to lunch at Anderson Commons. After their meal they unexpectedly met BGC Scholar Emmanuel Ndolimana, who is general secretary of the Evangelical Baptist Churches of Rwanda. Conversing in their own language, the two Rwandans discovered they come from neighboring villages in the Rubazu District. Richard first learned about Wheaton College through his teacher at the "Bridge 2 Rwanda" Program at the Sunrise School, Mary Claire Frazier '09, as well as Dr. Susan Greener, associate professor for intercultural studies.

### Strengthen Graduate Education

Led by Graduate Council Chair Jennifer McNutt, the first "Graduate Faculty Development Day" was a great success. Archivist Dave Malone led with a succinct overview of the Graduate School's 75-year+ history. This was followed by a review of the Graduate School's present structure by Associate Acting Dean Scott Moreau and a glimpse at future possibilities by Acting Dean Nick Perrin.

The Grad School Council met for an all-day retreat in early October to develop a 3- to 5-year "Strategic Plan" for the Graduate School. Early stages of planning will focus on program and curricular review, and future planning sessions—involving faculty, administrators, staff, students, and alumni at varying levels—will extend to both in-classroom and out-of-classroom graduate student experience.

### Nurture Vibrant Christian Community

A 12-member task force of faculty and staff have completed a statement of core values to guide expectations for excellent, God-honoring work and workplace relationships. *Working in Community* will be a companion document to the Community Covenant, guiding all College employees in their daily work.

