

# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES UPDATE

vol. 4 issue 2

September 2015



Nathaniel Olson '11 and his wife Julianne have joined the music faculty at Universitas Pelita Harapan (UPH) in Karawaci. Seen here are the Olsons with the UPH Dean of Music, Antonius Priyanto, at a gala to open the school year in August. Wheaton College Dean Michael Wilder says, "We are thrilled that the Olsons' contagious devotion to Christ has opened doors to share their gifts in Indonesia." The Olsons will travel to perform and recruit students from this archipelago nation, heading to Sumatra in September and to Surabaya in November.

## 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

Two recent Wheaton graduates are teaching at Universitas Pelita Harapan (UPH) near Jakarta, Indonesia. Jessica Ariela (MA '15, Clinical Mental Health Counseling) will use her knowledge gained at the Graduate School to teach students at her undergraduate alma mater. Nathaniel Olson (BA '11, Music Performance) and his wife Julianne Park Olson are vocal lecturers in [UPH's music department](#), teaching classes in Contemporary Voice, Operas/Musicals, and Classical Voice, as well as training and coaching. Nathaniel also directs a 76-member choir.

### Promote Liberal Arts Excellence

Over 2,000 City of Wheaton and area residents enjoyed William Shakespeare's enchanting play *A Midsummer's Night Dream* at Memorial Park on August 28 and 30. Bringing this classic drama of the liberal arts to life, Associate Professor Mark Lewis and others were co-sponsored by the Wheaton Park District in a production that featured a cast of Wheaton students and alumni from the Arena Theater Program representing 14 classes spanning more than 40 years. Students benefited from working alongside highly skilled professional actors to achieve an exceptional production in a very short time.

### Enhance Music and the Performing Arts

Two new positions will strengthen the collaborative potential between the Community School of the Arts and the Conservatory of Music. The newly established Assistant Professor of Music Education was filled last month by Dr. Gina Yi, and the Director for the Community School of the Arts is projected to be filled by the end of December. A portion of each of these positions will focus on creative opportunities for faculty, including class and certificate offerings, and music lab experiences, as well as internship and employment opportunities for undergraduates.

### Strengthen Graduate Education

Following Dean Nick Perrin's recruitment trip to Asia last year, the Graduate School welcomed its largest group of Chinese students this fall, including five students from mainland China, two from Hong Kong, and two from Taiwan. With their studies funded by scholarships as well as personal resources, the graduate students are pursuing studies in Exegesis, Theology, Clinical Psychology and Mental Health Counseling, TESOL, and Christian Formation and Ministry. One of the students plans to translate books about Christian discipleship.

