

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES UPDATE

vol. 3 issue 1

July 2014



Wheaton students Luke Taylor '15 and Lily Quiroa '16 traveled to Costa Rica this summer with Biology Professor Rodney Scott to conduct research at Whitworth University's Costa Rica Center. They worked with DNA from tropical squirrels, a tropical bird called "Collared Aracari," and DNA from a fungus that infects honeybees. Dr. Scott is collaborating with several Costa Rican scientists, and describes his work at www.wheaton.edu/Academics/Departments/Biology/Biology-News.

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

Biology Professor Rodney Scott used a GEL globalization research grant this summer to take two students to Costa Rica for research on several projects, including one focused on a fungal infection that affects honeybees, which are prime pollinators in agriculture. The Wheaton researchers collaborated with a Costa Rican scientist and his student using a technique developed by Professor Scott to help distinguish between a well-known species of the fungus and a more recent invader of the Western Hemisphere. Professor Scott's techniques will be used in Costa Rican labs, and a scientific research paper is being planned for publication.

Extend Affordability

Providing funds to subsidize every Wheaton student's education is a priority in the annual Wheaton Fund. We are grateful to 12,000 individuals—including faculty, staff, parents and students—who helped us end last fiscal year with more than \$5.8 million in gifts, the largest total in College history. Exceeding the prior year's Wheaton Fund by \$1,113,791 allowed us to begin funding Strategic Priorities this past year, such as providing needed funds for Extending Affordability, Globalizing a Wheaton Education, and Strengthening the Graduate School.

Strengthen Graduate School

This year Wheaton's Humanitarian Disaster Institute (HDI), led by Drs. Jamie Aten and David Boan, has trained over 1,000 church, mental health, and relief and development leaders from over 20 nations. This month, Grad students Hazel Rosete and Jessica Polson joined Dr. Boan in holding a series of workshops for pastors in the Philippines on the theology of disaster ministry, staff care, and equipping volunteers. In Japan, they will join undergraduate Kei Takazawa '16, who is spending his summer working on a project to help equip the local churches for disaster response, including spiritual and emotional care.

Earlier this year, graduate students Ben Andrews and Kalen Drake traveled with HDI to Kenya to study peace and reconciliation strategies being used by refugee churches to address trauma. Graduate students Viola Valcin and Quiana Daniel went with HDI to Haiti to help equip local leaders to address child trauma issues. In addition, Alice Schrubba helped HDI train local refugees in DuPage County to prepare for emergencies. Look for upcoming student blogs about their life-changing work at the HDI website www.wheaton.edu/HDI/Training-and-Education/Student-Involvement.

