

# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES UPDATE

vol. 2 issue 3

September 2013



Early in September, President and Mrs. Ryken traveled to Indonesia as the guests of Wheaton parents who have established a network of forty K-12 schools and a university in Jakarta. Dr. Ryken established connections with a Christian high school in Malaysia, shared the gospel in services at the Messiah Cathedral in downtown Jakarta, met Wheaton alumni, and traveled to remote Papua in a Missionary Aviation Fellowship (MAF) single-prop plane to visit a brand-new school in a mountain jungle village.

## 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. Steve Ivester, dean for student engagement, has announced the opening of the International Student Programs (ISP) Department, funded by an early gift for globalizing a Wheaton education. ISP will help transition and support undergraduate international students who are new to the U.S. and to Wheaton. Nandy Rajanayakam, a clinical psychology master's student at Wheaton, will serve as part-time coordinator of the department while a national search is conducted for a director.

## Promote Liberal Arts Excellence

As the new school year opened, Arena Theater collaborated with the Wheaton Park District for two outdoor evening performances of William Shakespeare's comedy *As You Like It*. Actors included Wheaton students and alumni from across four decades, nearly all of whom have participated in *Workout*, allowing the portrayal of the various ages and personalities in this beloved play. Director Mark Lewis observed, "I think the City of Wheaton experienced the College and its students in a new way."

## Deepen Ethnic Diversity

Students are collaborating with several Wheaton faculty and staff members to host a conference for racial reconciliation October 25-26. "Inhabit" will help the campus community explore how Christians can pursue racial unity as we "inhabit the multicultural reality of the kingdom of God." Speakers will include pastors Dr. Tony Evans and Rev. Sam Rodriguez; historians Dr. Mark Noll and Dr. George Marsden; and the founder of Lawndale Community, Dr. Wayne "Coach" Gordon. There will be a courtroom drama about racial issues with the audience serving as the jury, and a performance by the Harlem Gospel Choir, sponsored by College Union and the Artist Series. To learn more about this exciting opportunity or to register, visit [www.wheaton.edu/inhabit](http://www.wheaton.edu/inhabit).

Wheaton alumni Dr. Marcel '83 and Sylvia Vallejo Ponton '81, parents of 2013 graduate Gabriel, partnered with Raashon Daniels, assistant director of multicultural recruitment, to host a barbeque for incoming Latino students and their families from Southern California. Parents with limited English skills were deeply moved to be welcomed in the Spanish language and assured that their students would find Wheaton to be "a second family."

