

# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES UPDATE

vol. 1 issue 7

April 2013



A generous donor has made available up to \$9.3 million to endow “Shaw Scholarships” for financially needy students pursuing a vocation in business or the professions, including teaching. Financial Aid will administer these funds, helping close the gap for 30 students each year.

## *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

#### **Nurture Vibrant Christian Community**

**Extend Affordability**  
Strengthen Graduate Education

### **Globalize a Wheaton Education**

The nearly pristine tropical habitats in Belize have provided an outdoor marine biology classroom for Wheaton since the 1990s. At spring break, 19 students traveled with professors Steve Moshier, Ray Lewis and Coreen Ogilvie to a South Water Caye barrier reef for 8 days. Students snorkeled over coral reefs, seagrass beds, mangrove channels, and sinkholes, learning to identify many fish, corals, invertebrates and algae, and then apply their learning to student-designed projects.

The first Faculty Intercultural Skill Enrichment Seminar (FISES) began in March for leaders of ten “Wheaton In” programs scheduled for summer 2013, including England, China, Costa Rica, Germany, the Holy Lands, the Ashkelon Excavation, France, and Korea, among others. Endowed by the Arthur Vining Davis Foundation, these seminars will prepare faculty for intercultural mentoring. Some faculty members meet weekly in B quad, and others will meet in May for an intensive week-long session. FISES presents the theories, concepts, and skills of intercultural competence in order to enhance student learning.

### **Deepen Ethnic Diversity**

After several years of planning, the student development division will launch “Shalom Community” this fall for sixteen junior and senior students. Eight women and eight men will pioneer the new living and learning community overseen by Residence Life and the Office

of Multi-Cultural Development. The goal of Shalom Community is interracial healing and the dismantling of racism within the church and society. Community members will seek racial reconciliation through discipleship, worship, cross-cultural dialog, increasing self-awareness, and educational programming. A student leader living in Shalom Community will help facilitate goals.

### **Christ-Centered Community**

The Christ-Centered Community Task Force has completed drafting a set of core values for God-honoring work and workplace relationships. Led by human resources director Karen Tucker, they studied similar statements already existing at Wheaton and other institutions, defined primary areas to guide expectations at Wheaton, and identified ways to incorporate these values into the fabric of our workplace culture. Their work has gone to President Ryken for his review—look for more information soon.

### **Extend Affordability**

The Senior Administrative Cabinet has approved room and board for two additional Nieves Latino Scholarships, a total of five next year. Named in honor of Dr. Alvaro L. Nieves, professor of sociology at Wheaton from 1983–2010, this scholarship, like the Church Scholarship, is a faculty-administration effort to increase the presence and influence of students of color at Wheaton.

