

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES UPDATE

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“Wheaton has given me a global perspective, not only from academic programs, but even more from friends. Where else but at Wheaton College could I live with guys from Nepal, Hong Kong, Brazil, Thailand, Kenya, Honduras, Peru, Indonesia, the Philippines, the Ukraine, England, Germany, Senegal, Chad, and Lithuania, Los Angeles, New York, Tampa Bay, New Jersey, Rockford, Peoria and Kouts, Indiana. It’s awesome that I have the opportunity to know so many diverse people at Wheaton College and their stories!”

Bryce Walpus '14, *political science major from Rancho Cucamonga, California*

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

Deepen Ethnic Diversity

Several years ago Wheaton students along with staff in the Multi-Cultural Development and Residence Life departments proposed creating a learning/living community focusing on interracial reconciliation. “Shalom Community” is ready to launch next fall as a multiracial residential student community cultivating a biblical framework for diversity, cross-cultural dialogue, and self-awareness. Living in two on-campus houses, community members will benefit from specially designed academic curriculum and other educational programming that includes discipleship and worship, weekly house meetings, and diversity leadership training.

Student Government’s Diversity Committee will launch the “God’s Beloved Community Art Contest” on February 21 to challenge and inspire Wheaton artists interpreting the vision of Martin Luther King, Jr. Contestants will have one month to create their entries, and prizes will be announced in April, including a long-term display in the Parmelee Room for the winning exhibits and \$600 in art supplies.

Enhance Music and the Performing Arts

Dean Michael Wilder, in collaboration with a design team and a Facilities Steering Committee, has received good counsel from many constituent groups about the proposed new Conservatory/Performing Arts Facility. In January they chose the architectural firm of Pfeiffer Partners to design a structure to be used by Conservatory students and the Wheaton College community in the coming decades. After carefully weighing options, the location of Armerding Hall was identified as the most likely site for construction or renovation. In addition, the College recently received a bequest of \$1 million, which has been directed toward this important initiative to enhance music and the performing arts at Wheaton.

Refresh Wheaton's Mission Statement

Wheaton’s Trustees are reviewing the College’s Mission Statement, last revised in the early 1980s. They have invited a representative from the student body, the faculty, and the Alumni Association to participate in their deliberations, as well as several staff members who have a long history with the College. The Trustees hope to approve a revised Mission Statement at their meetings in May.

