



CHAIR'S MEETING

APRIL 5, 2021



Agenda

1. Questions and Updates from Departments
2. Towards Wesleyan's Bicentennial with Michael Roth
3. Library Updates
4. Study Abroad Updates
5. Equity and Inclusion Updates



Questions and Updates from Departments

- This is a time for chairs to raise topics for discussion





Towards Wesleyan's Bicentennial

STRATEGIC PLAN DISCUSSION

APRIL 2021

CHAIRS MEETING



Three overarching goals

Energize our distinctive educational program while exploiting academic strengths;

Build on our reputation as a leader in pragmatic liberal education;

Strengthen our sustainable economic model through prudent management and diversification of revenue sources.

Some Major Academic Objectives

(so far)

Facilities – Film, PAC and the Life Sciences

And these:

EXPAND Shapiro Writing Center

CREATE Network for Advanced Study in Computational Analysis

BUILD College of Design and Engineering

DEVELOP Civic Preparedness through residential learning and networks

ENHANCE relevance of humanities & liberal learning beyond the university

'Freeman' Scholarship Program for Africa

Wesleyan Academy of Lifelong Learning

To 2031 has several economic goals including: reducing reliance on tuition, supporting financial aid and investing in facilities and infrastructure

Reduce reliance on traditional undergrad tuition revenue

- Tuition and fees provide two-thirds of the university's operating revenue
- In order to reduce the amount to the peer median (60%) means reducing the reliance on tuition by over **\$20 million per year**

Invest in Access

- Increasing the tuition discount rate by 1% costs \$2 million per year
- Increasing the discount rate to over 40% will require an investment of over **\$10 million per year** in financial aid (current spending is approximately \$65 per year)

Invest in Facilities

- Film, Gallery, PAC, Science
- Convert the campus from steam to hot water
- **Over \$300 million** in facility investments

Towards 2031 also outlines other initiatives that will require additional financial investment including expanding the Shapiro Writing Center, growing the Design and Engineering Program and amplifying the work of the career center.



Discussion Questions

- *What has changed since Wesleyan 2020 was published?*
- *What trends do we see that will positively or negatively affect Wesleyan in the years ahead?*
- *What investments will position the university for future success?*

If there were one thing...

If there were one thing we were able to improve at Wesleyan that would make the most important difference for the next century, what would it be?

Library Updates

- **Library Faculty Advisory Committee recommendation for creating meaningful, ongoing conversations between faculty and the library**
- **Dare we think it? A return to pre-pandemic services starting this sometime this summer . . .**
- **We hope to be back to full staffing within a year (Art Preparator, Science Librarian, Art Librarian, Digital Specialist)**



Library Updates

LFAC recommendation

- **create & sustain effective communication between faculty and the library**
 - **ensure that the library supports students in ways that help them meet and exceed faculty expectations/requirements**
 - **LFAC is developing a set of common, guiding questions**
-
- **are departments willing to have these conversations on a regular basis?**



Study Abroad Updates

Course database for study abroad

- Database of courses approved toward majors
- Searchable by students
- Reduces to one the number of times departments approve the same course on the same program
- New chairs may review when beginning their appointment

Any suggestions on how to make study abroad work better for your unit?

- More, fewer, or different approved programs?
- Particular needs not being met by existing options?



Thank you!

Next Meeting: Monday, May 3 at 4:15pm

