

# Antiochians News

## The Closing of Antioch College Chronology, by Bob Devine

*June 2003*

The Board of Trustees forms a Renewal Commission to develop a plan for the future - Antioch College for the 21st Century. The Commission is led by the Chancellor and Board Chair, and includes a significant representation of external authorities in addition to the College Dean of Faculty, two faculty members, the Registrar and the Community Manager.

*April 2004*

The Board Chair meets with the College faculty to answer questions about the Renewal Plan regarding continuing employment of the faculty, adequate financial support for implementation. The Board Chair assures the faculty that they will have five years to fully transition to the new plan, during which time they will be supported.

*June, 2004*

The Board adopts a resolution approving the Report of its Renewal Commission and charges the Renewal Commission, in consultation with the Chancellor and the President of Antioch College to oversee the implementation of the Renewal Commission's plan. The Board further resolves that the implementation cost and/or operational losses of the College through the implementation period in excess of \$600,000 per fiscal year be fully funded through gifts, grants, sale of assets and from the net appreciation on the College endowment

*Jan 2005*

Faculty are informed that there is a Board and Renewal Commission mandate to begin the program in the fall of 2005, rather than the fall of 2006 as originally projected.

*Sept. 2005*

Faculty launches the first element of the Renewal Plan, the first-year Core courses. Preparations of these theme-based, team-taught multidisciplinary courses have been all-consuming for the faculty offering the first set of Core courses. The entering class for the first year of the Core courses and the Renewal Plan program is 63 students.

*January 2006*

The second semester of Core courses is launched. Though more preparation has meant that some of the bugs have been worked out of the system, the first-year class has diminished, through attrition, from 63 to 30. The College had been admitting roughly 180 students each fall prior to this first year of the program.

*March 2006*

The Trustees sign off on a bond through the Ohio Higher Education Facilities Commission in amount of 13.7 million to fund the building of a new campus for Antioch McGregor. The bond pushes the University to the limits of its borrowing capacity at a time when the College is ostensibly slated for improvements in physical facilities in order to improve prospects for the recruitment and retention of students.

*Spring 2006*

The faculty works through a number of the upper division features of the Renewal Plan program while at the same time delivering the first year program and servicing upper division students. Co-op faculty work feverishly with volunteers to develop the first set of Co-op Communities mandated by the plan.

*Fall 2006*

The second year of Core offerings is launched. The entering first year class is 130. Attrition begins to diminish this class and by the end of the term one-fourth have left the College.

*Nov. 2006*

In an interview with the Antioch College Record, the Chair of the Board indicates that the Trustees have absolutely no plans to close the College.

*June 7,8,9, 2007*

The Board convenes in Seattle, with only the President representing the College, acts on reports and consultant reports presented by the University, and passes resolutions to suspend operations of the College as of June 30, 2008.

*June 12*

The College community is informed by the College President that the College will be closing. It is the first news the employees of the College receive regarding the depth of the financial crisis facing the institution.