

THE PLAN TO RENEW ANTIOCH COLLEGE

“This is the centerpiece of a new Antioch, grounded in its traditions but rethought for the 21st Century.”

--Michael McPherson, President, Spencer Foundation

One year ago, the Antioch University Board of Trustees took the historic step of confronting head-on the challenges that Antioch College has faced for decades. To that end, the Board appointed a Commission to outline a sustainable vision for the renewal of Antioch College.

Since then, this process has engaged the energies and passions of people across the Antioch Community -- the Board of Trustees, the University Leadership Council, the Antioch College administration, and the faculty, students and staff of Antioch College -- as well as highly respected leaders in higher education.

The result is a revolutionary plan, approved earlier this month by the Board of Trustees. Fully implemented, it will renew Antioch for the 21st Century -- insuring its long-term financial viability while maintaining Antioch's core values of improving the human condition, and preserving the centrality of experiential learning that has defined the Antioch Experience for more than half its history.

How will Antioch do this? By making strategic investments in those academic, human and physical resources which have the highest demonstrated impact on student learning and satisfaction, and faculty development -- in turn increasing enrollment and retention in a sustainable way that enables even greater future investment.

At the heart of this plan is a cutting-edge curriculum that is among the hottest trends in higher education. Backed by more than a decade of solid research and practice, this new approach is revolutionizing education at liberal arts colleges and universities around the country and breathing new life into institutions that once struggled as Antioch College has in past years.

The educational method -- called “Learning Communities” -- teaches students to solve academic and practical problems actively, by working together both in and out of the classroom in team-taught, interdisciplinary groups.

What makes Antioch's new plan unique is that it incorporates the experiential element that has long been Antioch's hallmark. More than that, it actually improves upon Arthur Morgan's original vision -- using technology and local resources to create a better-supported, academically integrated co-op experience that takes into account changing student needs and the world in which they live and work. And the new curriculum will focus explicitly on producing leaders, committed to social justice.

This is a new way to think about the liberal arts, educating young people for life in a world that rewards creativity and desperately needs collaborative thinkers to tame the often-savage forces of an increasingly globalized economy.

The full plan to renew Antioch College both honors and builds upon the most treasured and time-honored traditions of Antioch College. It is a bold blueprint for educational innovation and excellence which will keep Antioch in the forefront of American higher education -- better serving students and producing more graduates ready to win victories for humanity.

The road ahead for Antioch College is exciting, filled with opportunities and challenges that will call upon the entire Antioch Community to come together as never before. And, in keeping with 150 years of persistent innovation, the journey itself will yield benefits of its own, taking us even further than we imagined toward a stronger, more vibrant future.

As Antioch College Community Manager, Kristen Muir (05) and Budget Manager Steve Corfman (04) recently wrote, "We have a long process ahead of us, and difficult questions we need to ask together. [...] Indeed, engaging to articulate and create these changes will be a core and exciting part of the Antioch education for the next few years. So keep the plan and your visions in the forefront of your mind, involve yourself in implementation, involve yourself in the conversations that will create the tangible changes beyond the words. [...] It is in this self-questioning and growth that the new Antioch will truly take form."

This is the new Antioch – and we can all be part of it.

THE PLAN TO RENEW ANTIOCH COLLEGE

What it is

Academic Resources

A transformed, cutting-edge curriculum.

- Interdisciplinary team-taught courses
- Improved student recruitment and retention
- Greater student achievement

A better-supported, better-integrated co-op program.

- Host communities around the country for group co-ops
- Faculty positions to provide academic support for group co-ops
- Technology support and web-based communications on co-op

Human Resources

A reinvigorated, highly valued faculty.

- Endowed Chairs for Multicultural Studies
- Faculty Salary Increases
- Increased Faculty Development

Physical Resources

A restored infrastructure

- Library modernization
- New Student Union
- Dormitory construction and renovation
- Technology upgrades (wireless campus networks and more)

Financial and Fiscal Resources

A more self-sustaining, financially independent Antioch College

- Campaign for Antioch College – more than 50% toward meeting its \$60 million goal
- New College Comptroller
- New Budget Administration Tools

Communications Resources

A new focus on marketing and communications to spread the word about the new Antioch

- New communications and marketing position to be hired
- Better outreach to high schools, students and parents
- Better use of alumni for recruiting

THE PLAN TO RENEW ANTIOCH COLLEGE

How it will strengthen Antioch

