A View from Melrose

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Linfield 2020: Navigation in a flattened world

“20-20” stands for perfect vision. The year 2020 is less than 15 years away.

Two years ago, the Linfield faculty retreat focused on “Linfield 2020” and professors addressed questions such as, “what should be our priorities? What should the college look like? What will our students need?” Among other things, faculty agreed that, “We want to be known as a great teaching college that supports and celebrates vital research conducted by both faculty and students.” They said that, “We want to be known as a place where the study of the liberal arts and the pre-professional comprehensive B.A. programs are integrated.” And, “We want to be recognized as a place that nurtures a vibrant community.”

I couldn’t agree more. And I believe that the future of the college will be grounded in those three principles. It is further essential that we continue to bring the world to Linfield by increasing our geographic and ethnic diversity, not only in the student body, but also in the faculty. We need to increase the national awareness of Linfield as a quality college and we need to continue to strengthen international studies.

Students at Linfield already get a rich education, full of experiential learning and collaboration. But we have the potential to do even more — to coordinate faculty-student research that will link theory to practice; to organize our experimental learning and collaboration. But we have the potential to do even more — to coordinate faculty-student research that will link theory to practice; to organize our international studies.

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