ABOUT THE STRATEGY REPORT
The Strategy Report is designed to heighten the Stonehill Community’s awareness of the strategic plan as it is implemented and to keep the Community up to date on progress along the way. In this edition, you’ll read about progress the College made during the third year of the plan as well as what’s ahead for this year. This edition also includes feature stories that demonstrate how Above & Beyond is being lived out both in Stonehill’s growing commitment to sustainability and the College’s plans to expand the Sally Blair Ames Sports Complex. The Strategy Report is issued twice a year.

ABOUT ABOVE & BEYOND
Above & Beyond, Stonehill’s third strategic plan, is the product of a planning effort that began in the Spring of 2008 with a series of town hall meetings at which then President Rev. Mark Cregan, C.S.C., presented his vision for the planning period. Moving the plan to completion is Stonehill’s tenth president, Rev. John Denning, C.S.C. Above & Beyond was launched in August 2010 at the Academic Year Opening Celebration. For more on the strategic plan, visit www.stonchill.edu/offices-services/planning-committee/the-strategic-plan/
ABOVE & BEYOND - 2013 & 2014 HIGHLIGHTS

Stonehill made a substantial amount of progress on the plan last fiscal year, and work will continue in the year ahead. Below are some highlights.

In the Raising Expectations strategy, Stonehill launched First Year Writing Seminars for all first-year students and made a number of other enhancements to the Cornerstone Program. The College also made substantial progress fundraising for the Sally Blair Ames Sports Complex expansion project. Fundraising and planning for the expansion continues, and construction will begin this spring (see the story in this report for more). Stonehill will also continue efforts this year developing a co-curricular transcript for students, as outlined in the Raising Expectations strategy. In the Building Character strategy, Stonehill developed a Brockton-area post-graduate service program, which was launched this year. The program is pairing recent Stonehill graduates with area nonprofit organizations to assist in meeting the needs of the region. In addition, a plan for environmental sustainability was unveiled last year; implementation of the multi-year plan will continue this year (see the story in this report for more).

The Creating Advantage strategy calls for Stonehill’s academic programs to seek out ways to be distinctive. In that spirit, the College launched several new initiatives. For example, Stonehill entered a partnership with Regis College whereby Regis will accept up to four undergraduate courses in Stonehill’s Health Administration program toward the Master of Science in Health Administration program at Regis. Stonehill also launched Integrating Democratic Education at Stonehill (IDES) courses last year in which students develop and teach a one-credit course in subjects in which they have an interest. Six IDEAS courses were held last semester with additional courses scheduled this year. Stonehill also completed the development of a new Bachelor’s of Science in Environmental Science; the major is being offered this year for the first time. New distinctive and innovative academic programs are under development this year as well.

In the Enhancing Diversity strategy, the percentage of first-year students from racially and ethnically diverse backgrounds grew to 13% in the fall of 2012, and then again to 15% this fall. In addition, 13.5% of all students studying abroad last fiscal year enrolled in programs in non-traditional countries, up from 4.2% in fiscal year 2008. The Enhancing Diversity strategy also called for Stonehill to conduct a campus accessibility audit, which the College did last year. Initiatives and projects resulting from the study are being implemented, and additional study will continue this year. The Strengthening Community strategy moved forward on a number of fronts. For example, Stonehill conducted an internal communications audit last spring; initiatives stemming from the audit will be implemented after further development and review. Also, a redesign of the College’s website was launched in fiscal year 2013, and earlier this fiscal year, Stonehill’s new visual mark was unveiled. In addition, Stonehill completed a compensation study for non-union staff employees; salary adjustments resulting from the study are being implemented this fiscal year and next.