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The Roots of the Matter

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Walking along the long stretch of beach, the

cross-section of the dunes revealed the stringy roots of the foliage penetrating and crisscrossing below the surface. This suggests that despite the shifting of the sands comprising the dunes, the roots help anchor the plants and enable them to continue thriving. Similarly, deans can draw upon their knowledge of the school's history and roots to maintain a certain stability despite significant changes taking place around the institution.

https://www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/2018/05/the-roots-of-the-matter/