Coronavirus News

Walla Walla County had one new confirmed coronavirus case in the past 24 hours. That brings the number of confirmed cases in the county to 24. The Walla Walla County Department of Health reports that seven patients have recovered from the virus. There are no confirmed cases on the Whitman campus.

Later today, Washington Gov. Jay Inslee will hold a news conference to discuss what's next for Washington. Inslee said a huge factor in reopening the economy is testing and the state's ability to complete tests at the scale and with the immediacy necessary. A shortage of supplies, trained workers and reliable tests is a huge barrier that needs to be addressed.

See Previous Coronavirus Updates from Whitman

Announcements

#WeAreWhitman Campaign Begins Today
The Office of Annual Giving is celebrating our community today and tomorrow, April 15-16, and we're inviting all faculty, staff and students to join in. Use the hashtag #WeAreWhitman to share your stories, photos and memories, and go to give.whitman.edu/WeAreWhitman to see the schedule of virtual events! Join us at noon for a special lecture by Michelle Janning as she discusses behavior during a pandemic from a sociological perspective, and post a photo as part of an all Whittie Happy Hour this evening.

Download Whitman-Themed Zoom Backgrounds
The Office of Communications has designed several Whitman-themed backgrounds you can use on Zoom meetings. Download the backgrounds and find instructions on how to use virtual backgrounds on our website.

Tips for Avoiding Phishing Scams
Even though phishing and scam emails are always hitting our mailboxes, some scammers are leveraging the concern and confusion surrounding the recent COVID event. Now is a good time to remind yourself to watch for the potential signs of a fraudulent email:

- sense of urgency
- suspicious sender address
- generic greeting
- links to forms or logins
- suspicious attachments

It's always good to double-check with someone else if a message doesn't seem normal. Whitman College employees have information security awareness modules available that provide a good foundation for staying safe online. This resource can be found under the Faculty Links or Staff Links section when you are logged in to MyWhitman.

Campus Resources

Use Secure File Sharing Systems
As many of us adjust to working remotely, one common challenge is maintaining good security when transferring confidential documents or private information electronically. The Human Resources staff is using Whitman's Secure File Exchange or ShareFile system. If you want to send attachments containing secure information to Human Resources, (ex. SSN, driver license numbers, passport documents, financial information, etc.) please contact Human Resources to initiate the secure transfer process.

Additionally, if your role on campus involves the need to transfer sensitive information regularly, you should email the Information Security Office to setup your own ShareFile account. Whitman's ShareFile system allows transfers and requests involving both Whitman account holders as well as people without whitman.edu accounts. Emails are exchanged, but the attachments are handled through a separate download/upload process designed to keep sensitive files out of your inbox and sent messages folder.

Online Learning Tips and Tools

The Language Learning Center continues to offer support to all of our language learners. You can participate in conversation groups virtually with our language assistants, and the English Language Fellows continue to offer online meetings. Find contact information on the LLC website.

Online Learning Resources for Students

Health Reminder

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is recommending wearing cloth face coverings in public settings, especially where social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (such as grocery stores). Using a cloth face covering may help slow the spread of the virus and prevent transmission. Do not use surgical masks or N-95 respirators, as these supplies are critical for our health care workers. You can make a simple, no-sew face mask from clothing items such as T-shirts or bandanas. See guidelines on the CDC website.

Health and Social Distancing Tips

Happening Today and Tomorrow

TODAY

Noon — **"Sociology (At Whitman) in Strange Times"**
Join Professor Michelle Janning for a live talk as part of the #WeAreWhitman event.

TOMORROW

4 p.m. — **Open Forum Live Chat with ASWC**
Join ASWC President Isaiah Banta and hear about what student life is like now, and how ASWC has responded to support students in this time of need. Part of the #WeAreWhitman event.

Have a virtual event you'd like to share with campus? Email the details to whitmantoday@whitman.edu.

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