



Whitman Today

Monday, August 24, 2020

Welcome Whitties!



Faculty and staff share their hopes and questions and a great big welcome as we begin a semester unlike any other.

[Fall 2020 Information Center](#)

Announcements

Everbridge Information Session

As the Whitman community begins using Everbridge for daily wellness checks and to support contact tracing, it's important to understand the different functions and the type of data they collect. Join Linc Nesheim, information security officer, for an [information and Q&A session](#) at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 25.

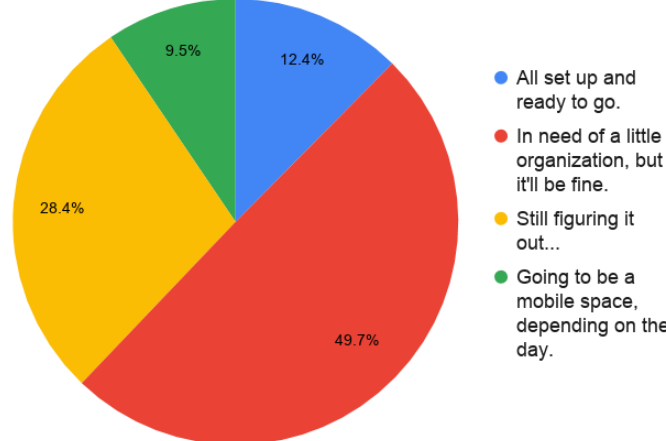
Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Virtual Awards Ceremony

While this year we are unable to celebrate our athletes at our annual Athletics Fall Barbecue, the Student Athlete Advisory Committee and the athletics department wanted to find another way to lift up their accomplishments from last season. Together, we have produced a special awards video which will be released on Monday, Aug. 24 at 6 p.m. Please visit [athletics.whitman.edu](#) at that time to watch the ceremony.

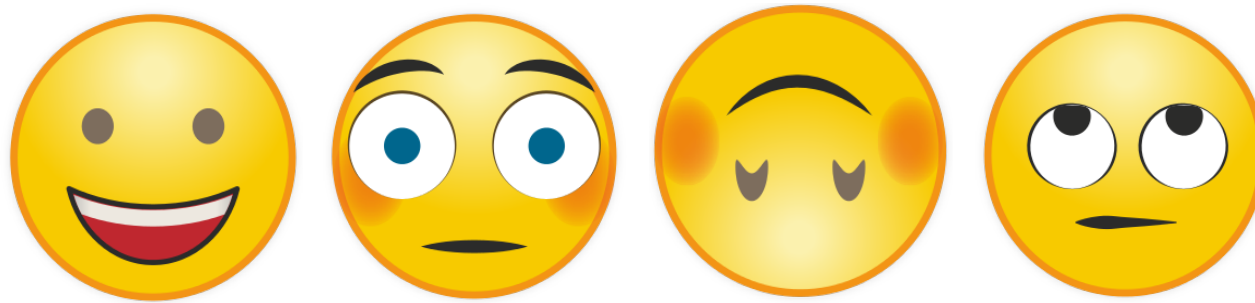
Question of the Week

Last week, we asked about preparations for your work or study space. Here's how 170 people responded:

It's one week until classes start. Is your study/work space:



This week we want to know: what is your first day of class mood?



Coping With Coronavirus

COVID-19 Test Results

Thank you to the many people who were tested for COVID-19 through the mobile lab at Whitman last week. Test results continue to be processed by Aark Labs and are delivered to each individual via phone call, email and/or text message with a link to access the results. Because this was wide-spread asymptomatic testing, people do not currently need to stay home or answer "yes" to the Daily Wellness Check section about awaiting test results.

Correction on Friday's Face Coverings Article

On Friday we shared about the Duke University proof of concept study exploring how to test the effectiveness of face coverings. Some of our readers responded, pointing out that much of the initial media analysis of the data erroneously concluded that gaiters/neck fleeces were not effective in preventing the spread of coronavirus. Further coverage, including articles in [The New York Times](#) and [Science News](#), provide clarification on the study data and point out that properly worn neck gaiters do protect against coronavirus transmission. Thank you to our readers who reached out to share additional information.

Happening This Week

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 26

4 p.m.

[Community Fellows Fair 2020-21](#)

Juniors and seniors are invited to join the Student Engagement Center for an excellent opportunity to learn about local Walla Walla community partners and to get face time with recruiters. Register in advance for 1:1 and group sessions.

FRIDAY, AUG. 30

10 a.m.

[Faculty and Staff Coronavirus Task Force Open Office Hours](#)

Each Friday at 10 a.m. through August, join Whitman's Coronavirus Task Force Chair Josh Jensen to ask questions about Whitman's return-to-work and planning for the fall. All faculty and staff are invited to join the [Google Meet](#).

[More Upcoming Events](#)

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

Getting to Know...

LARA MEYER
Director of Annual Giving

Describe your job or area of focus/expertise: I'm a fundraiser who has fun raising funds! Our office raises funds that go to priorities such as scholarship and student aid. I'm grateful for the generosity and support of our community — thank you!

What should students know about the department you work in? The collective impact of alumni giving back is powerful, and we have a passionate base of alumni looking to connect with you!

Fun fact: Stacy Edmondson (assistant professor of mathematics - center left in photo) and I (center right in photo) tied the knot at an all Whitman, socially distanced COVID wedding on campus this month.



"Whitman Today" is produced by the Office of Communications and is emailed Monday-Friday to Whitman College staff, faculty and students. All times are listed in Pacific Daylight Time.

Submissions are welcome! If you have a professional or personal accomplishment to celebrate, an event to publicize or other content to share with the Whitman community, email whitmantoday@whitman.edu. Submissions should be 125 words or less. The deadline for submissions is noon for the following day's newsletter, though submissions may be held for a later date according to space and editorial needs.



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