



Whitman Today

Monday, July 27, 2020

Fall 2020 Information Center

As President Kathy Murray announced in an email last Friday, Whitman has made the decision to move to remote learning for Fall 2020. As our community begins an academic year like no other in our history, the difficult decision to move primarily to remote learning prioritizes the health and safety of our students, employees and the Walla Walla Valley while remaining committed to our educational mission.

A [new online hub](#) has been created to provide resources, information and updates as we continue working together to build a healthy, safe and engaged Whitman community during Fall 2020.

[Fall 2020 Information Center](#)

Fall 2020 Forums with President Kathy Murray

President Kathy Murray is holding online town hall meetings over the next three days to discuss plans for and answer questions about Fall 2020. The forum for faculty and staff is today, July 27 at 4 p.m., a forum for returning students will be tomorrow, July 28 at 4 p.m. and new incoming students are invited to a forum on Wednesday. A registration link was sent by email to all faculty and staff on Friday. Students will receive an email later today with a registration link.

Health Tips

Hand Sanitizer Recall

Hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds is one of the most effective ways of preventing the spread of coronavirus. When a sink is not available, hand sanitizer containing at least 60% ethanol is a suitable alternative. Unfortunately, [the FDA reports](#) that at least 77 widely available hand sanitizers labeled as containing ethanol actually contain potentially toxic levels of methanol (wood alcohol). These products should be discarded immediately and replaced with hand sanitizer not included in the recall.

Coronavirus in Walla Walla

The Walla Walla County Department of Health reports 86 residents with active cases of COVID-19. The past week saw 51 new confirmed cases, for a total of 345 since tracking began in March.

Announcements

Boland Awarded Research at Undergraduate Institution Grant

Associate Professor of Chemistry Nate Boland has received a three-year research grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF). The Research at Undergraduate Institution (RUI) grant supports research by Boland and up to six Whitman students to study chemical reactions that affect the availability of metal ions to living organisms. This grant is awarded on the scientific merit as well as the broader impacts of the project, including science outreach in the community and involvement of undergraduate students — all of which are made possible by Whitman College's commitment to a robust and dynamic liberal arts education.

Resources

Employee Assistance Program

Whitman offers employees and dependents an excellent Employee Assistance Program (EAP). Cascade Centers. Cascade Centers offers support on numerous issues, including counseling, life coaching, financial coaching, housing support, identity theft, legal tools and parent support. This benefit includes three free, confidential counseling sessions. Learn more on the [Cascade Centers website](#) or take 90 seconds to watch an [informational video](#) about the services they provide.

Happening This Week

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29

Noon [Tri-College Wellness & Community Gathering for faculty and staff from marginalized identities](#)
An online space to build community with peers from Walla Walla Community College, Whitman College and Walla Walla University.

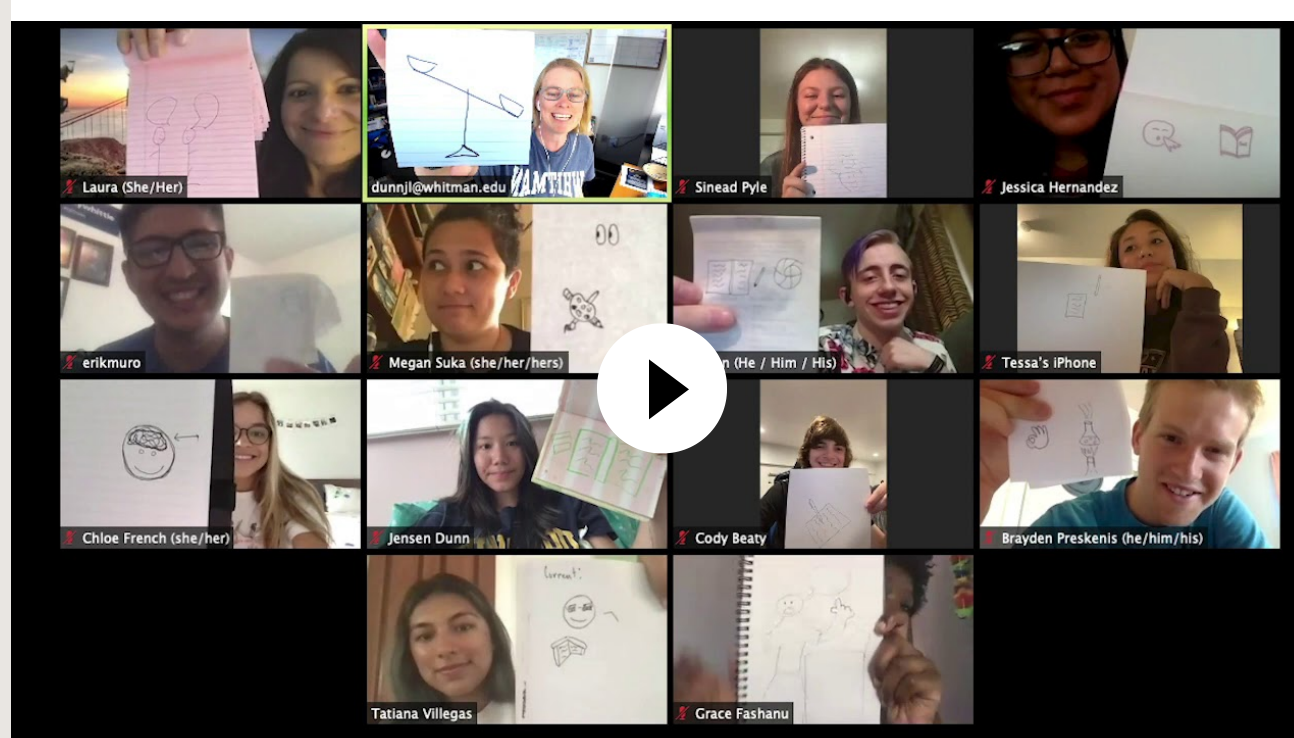
FRIDAY, JULY 31

10 a.m. [Faculty and Staff Coronavirus Task Force Open Office Hours](#)
Each Friday at 10 a.m. through July and 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.

Seen Around Campus



The Intercultural Center hosted its annual Summer Fly-in orientation for first-generation and working class students last week — all virtually. In addition to members of the Class of 2024, participants included a giant stuffed taco, a pet crab and "DJ Dunn," who led the group in a Zoom dance party.

"Whitman Today" is produced by the Office of Communications and is emailed weekly to Whitman College staff, faculty and students. All times are listed in Pacific Daylight Time. Previous newsletters can be found on the [Whitman Today archive website](#).

To submit items, email whitmantoday@whitman.edu. The deadline for submissions is 12 p.m. Friday for the following week's newsletter.



WHITMAN COLLEGE