



Whitman Today

Tuesday, May 26, 2020

Weekly Update from the President



Coronavirus News

The [Walla Walla County Department of Health](#) reported one new coronavirus case in the past week, for a total of 108 confirmed cases. Two previously included cases were removed from the statistics as the individuals were found to live outside the county. Following a significant jump in recoveries reported the past week, 103 residents are now recovered from the coronavirus.

Walla Walla remains in Phase 1 of the Safe Start reopening plan as state officials declined to review the county's application for early entry to Phase 2, noting that it does not currently meet the eligibility requirements. [Review Washington's phased approach to reopening.](#)

Whitman's Coronavirus Task Force Update

The Coronavirus Task Force continues to research, evaluate and plan for the 2020-21 academic year. Committees of faculty and staff are exploring the logistics of campus-wide virus testing and contact tracing, mapping classroom layouts to plan appropriate spacing of desks, and much more in preparation for a return to campus this fall. Watch for updates throughout the summer in Whitman Today and on [Whitman's Coronavirus website](#). Questions about this work may be [emailed to Josh Jensen](#), Vice President for Enrollment and Communications.

[Whitman's Coronavirus Website](#)

Announcements

COVID-19 Course Available to the Public

This online course was designed to introduce incoming students to Whitman professors while studying a significant current event and earning college credit. Many thanks to Shampa Biswas, Paul Garrett Professor of Political Science, for pulling together experts from departments across the college. The lectures are now available to anyone interested in exploring different facets of COVID-19. [Browse the lectures.](#)

Hire a Student This Summer

Does your department need assistance this summer? Some students remaining in Walla Walla are seeking employment in order to support themselves. If you have or anticipate student positions for remote or essential on-site work, please [email Erin Town](#) in the Student Engagement Center.

Returning Library Materials

A gentle reminder from Penrose Library: library materials were due on May 19, 2020. [Login to your library account](#) to see items checked out. Students should return materials to the book drop or via mail. [Find more information on returning materials.](#)

Whitman Today on Weekly Distribution Schedule

For the summer months, Whitman Today will be sent weekly to the Whitman community. Submissions should be sent to whitmantoday@whitman.edu by noon Friday for the following week's newsletter. Questions about Whitman Today can be directed to Internal Communications Strategist [Heidi Pitts](#).

Happening This Week

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27

11 a.m. [Employee Assistance Program Webinar](#)
Explaining the EAP benefits that are available to employees and dependents and the various ways to contact the EAP

THURSDAY, MAY 28

3 p.m. [Virtual End of Year Faculty Reception](#)
Announcing The 2020 Faculty Awards and The Alumni Association Faculty Award for Service and honoring faculty with 25 Years of Service and retiring faculty

[More Upcoming Events](#)

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

Parting Shot



Congratulations to the Class of 2020! Enjoy this highlight video of Sunday's virtual commencement. [View the full ceremony.](#)

"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.

