



# Whitman Today

Monday, May 18, 2020

## Weekly Update from the President



### Coronavirus News

There was a slight uptick in coronavirus cases in Walla Walla County over the weekend. Walla Walla County Department of Community Health says there have been 108 confirmed cases in the county. There was also a big jump in reported recoveries over the weekend with 83 local residents now recovered from the virus.

In a meeting on Friday, Walla Walla County commissioners decided to request an early entry into Phase 2 of Washington Gov. Jay Inslee's reopening plan. Phase 2 is tentatively scheduled to begin June 1 for counties in Washington that have met certain benchmarks. Counties can apply for an earlier opening if they have had no new cases reported in the past three weeks. Walla Walla County has not yet met that benchmark, but following several days with zero new coronavirus cases, [commissioners told the Walla Walla Union-Bulletin](#) they think it is appropriate to move forward in applying for permission to enter Phase 2.

[Whitman's Coronavirus Website](#)

### Announcements

**'Stay Home, Stay Safe' Still in Effect on Campus**  
Please celebrate the end of term and commencement joyfully and responsibly while remembering that Whitman College, Walla Walla County and the state of Washington remain under stay-at-home orders. All students must continue following [social distancing practices](#). Do not visit other people's residence halls, rooms or off-campus housing, or gather in groups in public spaces.

**Family Stress and Parenting Webinar Available**  
Cascade Center's (Whitman's Employee Assistance Program) webinar on family stress and parenting children under 12 during COVID-19 is now available to [watch on YouTube](#). Please email Human Resources at [hr@whitman.edu](mailto:hr@whitman.edu) if you have any questions.

**Sheehan Gallery Unveils New Sculpture**  
The Sheehan Gallery is pleased to announce the acquisition of "Underground Hornship," a bronze sculpture by renowned artist Wangechi Mutu. It will be installed in the Penrose Library. [Read more about the sculpture and see a video of the virtual unveiling.](#)

**Whitman Athletics Honors Graduating Seniors**  
Whitman Athletics will announce its 2019-2020 award recipients via a series of online announcements beginning Wednesday, May 20. [View the announcement schedule and learn more about the awards.](#)

**Student Affairs Announces Annual Awards Recipients**  
Student Affairs is pleased to announce the 2020 recipients of four annual student awards:

- Norman Klockman Memorial Award: Kenya Gaspar '23. This award is given to a sophomore who most embodies Norman Klockman's unselfish, hardworking characteristics and contributions to student government.
- Class of 1986 Multicultural Student Leadership Award: Mayrangel Cervantes '20 and Nandin Ganjooloo '21. This award recognizes the work of students trying to make Whitman a more inclusive and welcoming environment.
- Mohammed Nasir Khan Diversity Award: Nick Jacuk '20. Sigma Chi established this award as a scholarship for an international or racial minority student who has made a notable contribution to the diversity of the Whitman student body.
- Russell J. DeRemer Award for Outstanding Involvement in Student Services: Holden Gaupo '20. This award goes to a student involved in Student Affairs for at least two years and showing unusual dedication to their position.

### Happening This Week

THURSDAY, MAY 21

12 p.m. [Home Alone Conversation Group for Employees](#)  
*The Office of the Chaplain hosts a weekly virtual meeting for faculty and staff who are working from home, alone. This is an open, drop-in style group.*

SUNDAY, MAY 24

11 a.m. [Commencement](#)  
*Join the Class of 2020 for an online celebration of their spirit and achievements. A link to the virtual ceremony will be posted on the [Commencement 2020 webpage](#) later this week.*

[More Upcoming Events](#)

Have a virtual event you'd like to share with campus? Email the details to [whitmantoday@whitman.edu](mailto:whitmantoday@whitman.edu).

### Parting Shot



Members of the Whitman community walked, rode and drove by to offer congratulations and well wishes to Professor of Sociology Keith Farrington, who is retiring after 42 years of teaching at Whitman.

"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](mailto:whitmantoday@whitman.edu). The deadline for submissions is 12 p.m. Friday for the following week's newsletter.

