



Whitman Today

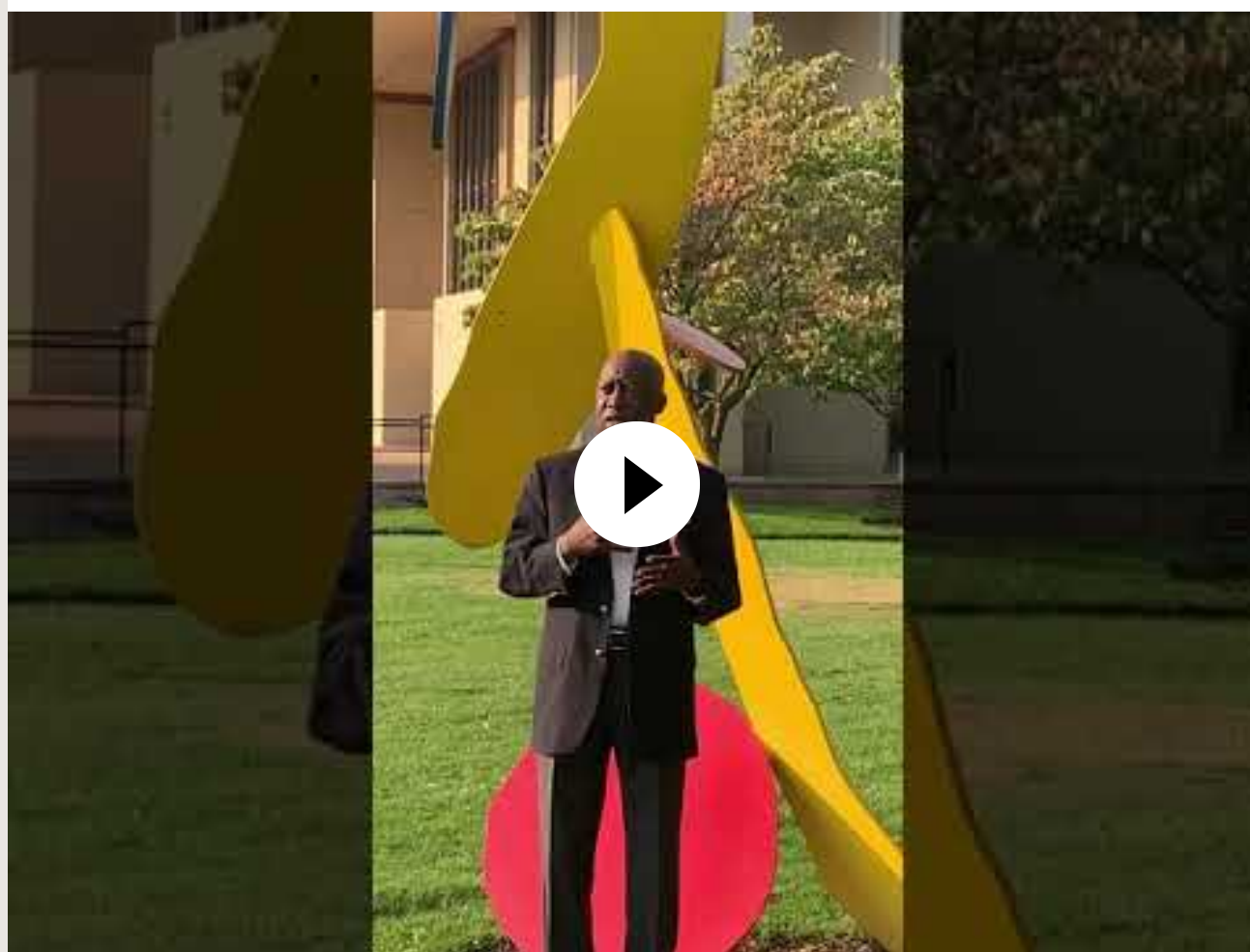
Monday, September 14, 2020



POOR AIR QUALITY ALERT

Due to the poor air quality in our area resulting from wildfires across the Northwest, please stay inside today Monday, Sept. 14, and work from your residence if possible. If you feel like the air quality is better in your campus space than at your residence and you are already cleared to be on campus by human resources, you may travel to campus and work from there.

Student Affairs Update



Dean Kazi Joshua reviews the first three weeks of the fall semester, from new student orientation through the start of classes and the activities of student clubs and organizations as they create opportunities to build a worldwide Whitman community.

Announcements

Hiring Student Employees

Have you found a student you want to hire? Please make sure to take these important next steps.

1. Check to verify that a student is authorized to work. You can do so by locating the student in my.whitman.edu and looking at "view employment info." If a student does not have a "yes" next to "ready to work with HR/payroll," please have them email hr@whitman.edu to be authorized to work. Students cannot begin working until they complete work authorization.

2. Complete the [Student Employment Hiring Form](#).

3. If your student employee will be working on campus, [contact Human Resources](#) to let us know in which building your student employee will work. Please also send a request for ID card access to [Mike Hubbard](#). Human Resources will then send the student employee instructions on next steps.

If you would like to hire a student employee, please remember to post the job in [Handshake](#) and give priority to work study eligible students. [Contact the Student Engagement Center](#) for assistance in posting to Handshake.

Helpful resources for student employee supervisors can be found [here](#).

Whitman College Bookstore Sale

The Whitman College Bookstore is holding their first sale of the year Sept. 15-30:

25% off all sweatshirts
(Includes regular and sale sweatshirts!!!)

Scan the QR code or visit the [store online](#) to shop and the bookstore will mail your orders via the post office.



Question of the Week

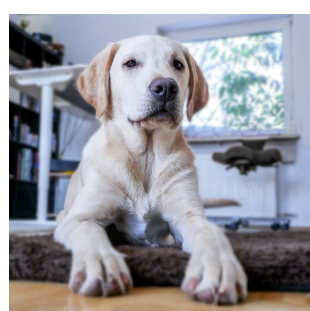
This week, we want to know: while you are working or studying at home, what is most likely to distract you?



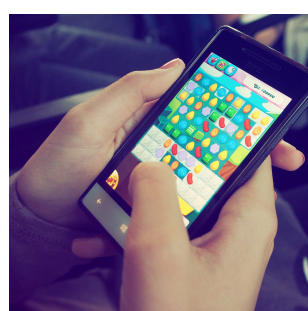
[Social Media](#)



[Child Care](#)



[Pet Care](#)



[Video Game](#)

Coping With Coronavirus

Wildfire Smoke and COVID-19

Late summer and fall frequently see an increase in wildfires through the region, sometimes creating unhealthy air quality in the Walla Walla Valley and other parts of the Pacific Northwest as we are currently experiencing. Both wildfire smoke and COVID-19 impact our respiratory and immune systems and create some similar symptoms, such as dry cough, sore throat and difficulty breathing. If you already have COVID-19, breathing in wildfire smoke may make your symptoms worse. If you don't have COVID-19, it may make you more likely to get it. The Washington State Department of Health offers a [list of recommendations and tips](#) for protecting yourself from wildfire smoke and COVID-19 this wildfire season.

Happening This Week

DAILY

4 p.m.

[Student Open Office Hours](#)

Join Kazi Joshua, dean of students, for drop-in office hours every Monday-Friday from 4-5 p.m. on Zoom. Bring any topics you wish to discuss during these sessions.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 15

4 p.m.

[Rubber Bullets: How Counterinsurgency Tactics from the Middle East Are Used to Police Black People and BLM Activists in America](#)

Elyse Semerdjian, professor of Islamic World/Middle Eastern history, traces the history of American policing of Black people from the days of slavery to its current integration with the war on terror.

[More Upcoming Events](#)

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

Getting to Know...

GINGER WITHERS
Dr. Robert F. Welty Professor of Biology

What are your areas of expertise? Most broadly, my expertise smears together neuroscience, developmental biology and psychology. I am a developmental neuroscientist.

What is your favorite aspect of the Whitman community? I love being part of a community that fosters growth, enables trying new things and encourages us to practice being good human beings.

What is one new thing you have done during the pandemic? I have given "things I want to do" at least equal priority with my "things I have to do" list.



"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.



WHITMAN COLLEGE