

# HIGHLIGHTS

*of the 2003-2004 academic year*



- ◆ Whitman College celebrated 347 graduates of the Class of 2004.
- ◆ The College received 2,600 applications for admission next year (for 390 openings).
- ◆ Fellowships awarded to Whitman students included two Fulbrights, one Truman, one Watson, one Udall and several dozen fellowships for graduate studies.
- ◆ Over 50 percent of alumni have contributed to the Annual Fund each year for the past 20 years!
- ◆ Whitman College's parliamentary and policy combined debate teams won #1 national honors, and debate coach Jim Hanson won National Coach of the Year recognition.
- ◆ Whitman senior Stephen Beus won the Chopin piano competition at Carnegie Hall in April, and he is headed for The Juilliard School in the fall.
- ◆ Whitman's snowboarding team won the national championship in Maine. Whitman's cycling team won second-place national honors in Wisconsin. The men's tennis team won their conference championship and went to nationals in Texas. The women's basketball team tied for the Northwest Conference championship. Individual skiers and a cross-country runner went to nationals in their respective sports. The men's lacrosse team went to regional playoffs. The Whitman ultimate team ranked in the top 10 percent of national teams. Three of our athletic coaches — men's tennis coach Jeff Northam, women's basketball coach Michelle Ferez and swim coach Jenn Blomme — were selected Coach of the Year by their peers in the Northwest Conference.
- ◆ Several faculty had books published this year, and several others received NSF or other research grants.
- ◆ Whitman's graduation rate continues to climb. About 80 percent of the Class of 2004 graduated in four years or less, and it is likely to have a graduation rate of about 87 percent in a year or two.
- ◆ Whitman is at least 50 percent of the way toward fundraising goals for the new Fitness Center and for the new Center for Visual Arts, and architects are at work designing the buildings.
- ◆ Faculty and staff recognized for outstanding service this year include professors Ed Foster, Clark Colahan, Michelle Janning, Mark Beck and Nina Lerman and staff members Barbara Barlow, Betty Linke, Larry Malott and Jim Schueler. Another Whitman staffer, Mary Luckstead, was selected as the Chamber of Commerce's Town-Gown Award winner. Professor Phil Brick received the 2003-2004 Educator's Award from the Environmental Education Association of Washington. And our Outdoor Program director, Brien Sheedy (along with Jason Tanguay, '98), successfully summited Mt. Everest in May.
- ◆ Whitman's endowment earnings return for 2003 was 26 percent. The average return for the past five years (as of 3/31/04) is slightly over nine percent.
- ◆ Whitman's current enrollment is 1,400 with students from about 45 states and 30 nations.

# EVENTS

*An Alumni Association  
trip to Philadelphia  
June 11-15, 2005*

## DISCOVERING THE CONSTITUTION: THE GREAT DEBATES

*I*n this historic birthplace of American democracy — the city where the “miracle of Philadelphia” happened in 1787 — we will explore the key public arguments — the sermons, speeches, and social protests — that helped propel the new republic. We will explore the language of Puritan thought, some public arguments over the role of church and state in the colonies, and the great debates during the revolutionary era, the constitutional convention, the competing arguments over slavery, and much more.

*With Bob Withycombe,  
professor of rhetoric  
and film studies*



— Professor Bob Withycombe

The itinerary includes visits to the new Constitution Center in Philadelphia, the Liberty Bell and surrounding buildings and sites, the Historical Society of Pennsylvania,

the Philosophical Society Library (containing the original journals of Lewis and Clark), and the Philadelphia Museum of Art and other cultural centers.

Accommodations are at the Inn at Union League, a classic French Renaissance-style house dating to 1865, which is listed in the National Historic Register.

*Cost: \$1,250 per person, double occupancy; \$1,575 single, with hotel extension available. Price includes lodging, breakfasts, several other meals, and guided tours.*



*“Here’s to the blue sky  
above us! Here’s to the  
wheat fields gold! Here’s*

*to the friends that love us  
. . . Dear old Whitman!  
Here’s to you!”*

*Senior members of the  
men’s and women’s cap-  
pella ensembles close the*

*Baccalaureate ceremonies  
with a stirring rendition of  
the Whitman Hymn.*