



Whitman Today

Thursday, April 1, 2021

Making Masks and Lifting Spirits



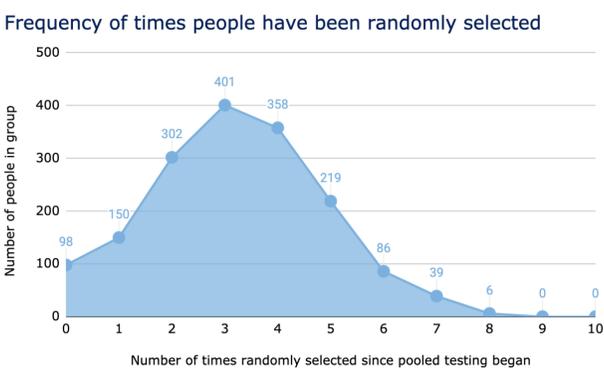
©Destinee Freberg

In the Spring of 2020, as the pandemic spread across the country, Debbie Walker, a full-time dishwasher at Cleveland Commons, found herself temporarily furloughed and with a lot of newfound free time on her hands.

Walker, who has worked for Bon Appétit for 21 years, hoped for the quick return of Whitman's students and set about preparing to arm the Bon Appétit at Whitman team with masks, which were in short supply at the time. She picked up bolts of fabric, and bunches of elastic bands, and began sewing. By the time she was done, Walker had created 75 masks in various prints specific to different groups of culinary team members—sandwiches on the masks for the cold prep cooks at the deli, coffee cup prints for the baristas, and so on. Walker gifted the masks to all of the Cleveland Commons employees after the team returned to campus, and they became an instant source of joy and camaraderie.

After making the masks, Walker still had quite a lot of fabric left over. She decided to create a quilt memorializing the challenges that she, her coworkers, and so many others in the foodservice industry experienced in 2020. "This quilt is like an item put into a time capsule," says Walker. "It will not be forgotten, how it [COVID-19] changed all of our lives." The quilt now hangs on a wall of the Cleveland Commons, a gift, Walker says, to the Bon Appétit team and entire Whitman community.

Q: How often are people picked for random COVID-19 surveillance tests?



A: This was our tenth week of random pooled COVID-19 surveillance testing. As you can see in the chart above, the majority of people have been randomly selected between two and four times and no one has been selected every single time.

While displaying a fairly standard distribution curve, this chart skews to left due to the number of people who have begun the surveillance testing process midway through the semester, meaning they have had fewer chances to be randomly selected than someone who has been eligible for selection all ten weeks.

This chart does not include situations in which surveillance testing is assigned for the following non-random reasons:

- Missing a randomly assigned test the previous week
- Testing as part of a return-to-campus process
- Student-athletes entering the general campus population, who take two consecutive surveillance tests following the end of their competitive season
- High-risk employee positions, of which 50% are tested each week

The data also does not include people who have left campus and are no longer part of the testing pool.

Announcements

New Vaccine Eligibility Announced

The next phase of Washington state's vaccine distribution is now open to:

- People 16 years and older with two or more co-morbidities
- All people over 60 years old
- People, staff and volunteers in the following congregate settings: correctional facilities, group homes for disabilities, shelters and other settings where people experience homelessness or access services
- High-risk critical workers in certain congregate settings: restaurants, food services, construction, and manufacturing

Additionally, Gov. Inslee announced yesterday that all people 16 years and older will be eligible to receive the vaccine beginning April 15.

Find information and make appointments for upcoming vaccine clinics on [Walla Walla County's COVID-19 website](#).

Second Whitman Internship Deadline April 11

The second deadline for a [WIG application](#) to be submitted is upon us. This deadline is unique because if your application is not approved, you are eligible to re-submit an application for the final May deadline. Still need to meet the prereqs? Student Career Advisors are available during their [drop-in hours](#) and [over Handshake](#) for a resume review and the upcoming [Craft Your Future workshops](#) are also eligible to meet the criteria. If you have any questions, submit them through [this form](#). If you prefer to connect with an advisor individually, you can schedule an appointment with Mitzy Rodriguez via [Handshake](#).

Noteworthy

Mueller-Immergluck Named NWC Tennis Student-Athlete of the Week

Whitman College men's tennis senior Andreas Mueller-Immergluck has been named the Northwest Conference's Men's Tennis Student-Athlete of the Week. Mueller-Immergluck and the Blues dominated Whitworth this past weekend to remain undefeated (7-0) on the season. He won at both No. 1 singles and doubles over the weekend to play a major part in his team's 9-0 win over the Bucs.

Kraft Named NWC Soccer Student-Athlete of the Week

After a stellar season finale weekend, sophomore Riley Kraft has been named the Northwest Conference's Men's Soccer Student-Athlete of the Week. Kraft led Whitman to a 2-0 weekend as the Blues twice topped Whitworth in their final games of the season. Both goals registered as game winners, the first a golden goal in the first overtime in Saturday's win. The sophomore had a hand in all but one of the four goals in Saturday's win. The following day, Kraft scored the lone goal in Whitman's 1-0 win over the Bucs.

[Submit News of a Personal or Professional Achievement](#)

Happening Today

- noon [Harvust Summer Internship Info Session](#)
This award-winning farm HR software business has a history of providing powerful summer internship experiences for students interested in building technology solutions.
- noon [Off-Campus Studies First Step Meeting](#)
Important information for second-year students interested in off-campus studies, covering options and next steps.
- 4 p.m. [Craft Your Future: Excel Pivot Tables](#)
Join Rich Hinz, from WCTS, for this third and final workshop on the most commonly used spreadsheet platform, Microsoft Excel. Learn how to use a pivot table to summarize data from more extensive tables. This functionality will allow you to analyze larger amounts of data in a variety of meaningful ways.
- 4 p.m. [The Promise of the Black Working Class](#)
Author, professor and podcaster Blair Kelly will explore the history of the Black working class. Rather than simply a mirror of the white working class, this history, grounded in the unique struggle against enslavement, segregation, disenfranchisement and racial capitalism, provides a unique opportunity to understand the wider working-class experience.
- 7 p.m. [Community Conversations Live Panel](#)
A moderated discussion with four community leaders working to support all residents of Walla Walla through COVID-19. Conversation will cover local issues of food insecurity, accessible housing and resources, equitable urban planning, legal advocacy, aid for undocumented folks and ways students can get involved.

[Whitman Events Calendar](#)

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

"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.

Previous issues of Whitman Today are [archived on our website](#).

