



Whitman Today

Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Tiny House, Big Effort



Throughout the hot, dry summers, senior Brayden Preskenis can be found backpacking through the Eastern Oregon mountains. It was during these trips that he first observed the effects of wildfires.

Although the Biology, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (BBMB) major recognizes the natural processes taking place through wildfire and their benefits to forests that have long been suppressed of any fires at all, he admits it's been difficult to see his favorite wilderness areas burn, leaving behind patchwork landscapes over the years.

"I always see the destruction of natural beauty as sad," says Preskenis.

Wildfires have always been something that happened a safe distance away from the region of Southern Oregon where Preskenis grew up, in the places he visits on backpacking trips. That changed in late summer 2020, when the fires came too close to home.

[Read more.](#)

COVID-19 Vaccine Info



Thank you to everyone who has submitted their COVID-19 vaccination record! So far we have 21% of our campus population who have completed the vaccination process.

Don't forget to fill out the [COVID-19 Vaccination Reporting Form](#) after you get your final dose!

April 21 & 25 First-Dose Vaccine Clinics

There are two first-dose Pfizer vaccine clinics happening this week on Wednesday, April 21 from 3–5 p.m. and Sunday, April 25 from 1–5 p.m. through the Walla Walla County Department of Community Health. This is your last chance to start the vaccination process and be able to complete it before the end of finals, so [sign up now](#) and help bring this pandemic to an end!

Announcements

David Nord Award Application Extended

For more than 20 years, the [David Nord Award](#) has been presented to Whitman students, faculty and staff to support scholarly projects on issues facing the LGBTQ+ community. Over the years, the award has supported everything from plays to research projects, including creation of the [Whitman LGBTQ+ Oral History Project](#), which archived 13 extended interviews documenting important stories of the past.

Things to know:

- You'll have all summer and most of fall semester to complete your project.
- You'll be provided funds to cover project expenses.
- You'll be provided the support of the IC team and David Nord Award committee members, to help when and where needed.
- You'll be provided a cash award for your idea and execution.

What do you need to do to apply? By April 25, briefly explain your project vision on this [interest form](#). The LGBTQIA+ Inclusion Fellow will follow up with you once you submit the interest form.

Noteworthy

Sibley Dissertation Earns Award

Emily Sibley, adjunct assistant professor of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, has been awarded the [Charles Bernheimer Prize](#) for best dissertation by the American Comparative Literature Association. Her Ph.D. dissertation, "Uncivil Tongues: Genealogies of Adab in Arab Culture," was praised as "a richly drawn study of incivility as a form of protest aesthetics in Arab literature and art." The prize committee hailed her as "an important new voice in comparative literature, postcolonial and gender studies." She also has a chapter forthcoming in The Bloomsbury Handbook to Postcolonial Print Cultures, "Protest, Street Art, and the Archive" (Bloomsbury, anticipated 2022) and is finishing her book manuscript, provisionally titled The Poetics of Incivility: Satire and Subversion in Arab Culture.

Christopherson and Janning Article on Gender and Sport

Neal Christopherson, director of institutional research, and Michelle Janning, professor of sociology, along with co-author Eileen Diaz McConnell of Arizona State University, have had an article on gender and sport accepted for publication in the Sociology of Sport Journal. The article, "We've Come a Long Way, But We Could be Doing Better: Gendered Commentary in U.S. Media Coverage of the 1999 and 2019 Women's World Cup," is a study of whether and how gender representation has changed in women's soccer over the last two decades; it is replication of a 2002 newspaper content analysis study the authors conducted on the 1999 Women's World Cup.

Meyers Research on Race Published

Chanel Meyers, assistant professor of psychology, recently published a paper in Group Processes and Intergroup Relations titled "[The impact of social norms on navigating race in a racially diverse context](#)," which finds that people adopt more race-conscious (as opposed to colorblind) behaviors when in racially diverse environments.

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

Happening Today

- 9 a.m.–2 p.m. **COVID-19 Testing**
COVID-19 testing at Cordiner Hall for those in this week's random sample surveillance testing.
- 9 a.m. **[Supervisor Training on the Employee Assistance Program](#)**
Contact HR at hr@whitman.edu for more information.
- 4 p.m. **[From Whitman to Wine](#)**
Hear from Owen Bargreen '02, Nina Buty '97 and Ashley Trout '03 talk about the very different paths they took from Whitman to the wine industry.
- 4:30 p.m. **[AAUW Start Smart Salary Negotiation workshop \(Fourth Years Only\) - WCM & Craft Your Future Series](#)**
This workshop will help you learn how to calculate and articulate your value in the workforce, understand the factors that impact salary ranges and develop strategies to negotiate your next hourly wage or salary.

[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 Standard 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. By submitting to Whitman Today you also authorize use on Whitman's social media unless otherwise specified.

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



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