



Whitman Today

Thursday, August 20, 2020

Whitman-Mayo Partnership Challenges and Fosters Budding Scientists



As research experiences and internships around the nation were canceled in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Assistant Professor Michael Coronado picked up the phone.

He wanted to make sure that Whitman College's first two fellows in the Whitman-Mayo Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) program didn't miss out on the chance to work with Mayo Clinic. So he reached out to DeLisa Fairweather '87, his mentor and director of Translational Cardiovascular Research at Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Florida.

"We wanted to make sure that our Whitman-Mayo students still received an excellent research experience despite the situation with COVID," Coronado said. The result is a partnership that allows the fellows — senior biochemistry, biophysics and molecular biology (BBMB) majors Rudo Ndamba and Ngan Tran — to work with Fairweather and her graduate students remotely from Walla Walla.

[Learn more about the Whitman-Mayo partnership.](#)

Announcements

Whitman Today Archives and Submission Guidelines

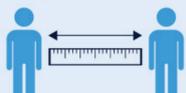
Looking for a previous copy of Whitman Today? Visit the [Whitman Today webpage](#) for details on how to submit your event, announcement or story and peruse past editions of the newsletter.

Coronavirus in Walla Walla

A successful **Safe Start means we all have to do our part.**

It's safest to stay home.

BUT IF YOU HEAD OUT:

<p>Wear a mask.</p> 	<p>Stay six feet apart.</p> 	<p>Wash your hands.</p> 
--	--	---

Prevent the spread by staying local.

So far in the month of August, [Walla Walla County](#) confirmed 252 cases of COVID-19. Currently there are 155 residents isolating at home and four in the hospital.

The county remains in [Phase 2 of the Washington state Safe Start plan](#), which includes the following guidelines:

- Gather with no more than five people total from outside your household per week.
- Outdoor recreation is permissible with up to five people from outside your household.
- Employees who can work from home should continue to do so.

[Fall 2020 Information Center](#)

Noteworthy

Patia Named a Periclean Faculty Leader

Kaitlyn Patia, assistant professor in the Department of Rhetoric, Writing and Public Discourse, was named a [Periclean Faculty Leader through the Mellon Periclean Faculty Leadership Program in the Humanities](#). Patia received a \$4,000 grant, which supports the development of a course dedicated to tackling the "grand challenges" of climate change, education access, immigration, mass incarceration, race and inequality or voter engagement. She will use her award to develop a Fall 2021 300-level class called "Rhetorical Field Methods: Equity and Access in Education."

Pietrantonio Shortlisted for London-based Ashurst Artist Prize

Nicole Pietrantonio, associate professor of art, is a shortlisted artist for the Ashurst Emerging Artist Prize, an international competition based in London. Pietrantonio is one of 30 selected artists out of 3,850 entries from around the world; her artwork is currently on exhibit in the shortlist group show in London at the Ashurst from July through September 2020. Prize winners will be announced in October.

Tyson Receives 2020 National Design Award

Jay Tyson, a senior theatre, film & media studies major, received the National Award for Excellence in Scenic Design from [The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival](#) for their design of Harper Joy Theatre production "Ripe Frenzy."

Happening This Week

THROUGH SATURDAY, AUG. 22

8 a.m.-5 p.m. [COVID-19 Testing on Campus](#)
Pre-registered members of the Whitman community will receive free testing for COVID-19 from a mobile lab outside the Welty Student Health Center.

FRIDAY, AUG. 21

10 a.m. [Faculty and Staff Coronavirus Task Force Open Office Hours](#)
Each Friday at 10 a.m. through July and August, join Whitman's Coronavirus Task Force chair Josh Jensen to ask questions about Whitman's return-to-work and planning for the fall. All faculty and staff are invited to join the [Google Meet](#).

[More Upcoming Events](#)

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.

