



# Whitman Today

Thursday, August 27, 2020

## Join: the Pre-Health Society



The [Pre Health Society \(PHS\)](#) is a group dedicated to supporting students interested in any health profession by providing information, opportunities and a social community during their journey!

Pre-Health Society aims to:

- advise students on career options within the medical field
- keep students informed of current topics in health
- create an inclusive environment for all pre-health students
- give back to the community through service projects

PHS wants to ensure that everyone is granted an equal opportunity to be a part of the community that PHS has to offer, and understands that the upcoming online format for this fall semester does not make that easy. The PHS Exec team is working hard to brainstorm ideas for ways that students can continue to engage in the pre-health community at Whitman. So far, PHS Exec is planning to host biweekly "meetings" in a prerecorded video format, and current brainstorming is focused on ways to allow member engagement with one another regarding the topics presented in meetings.

Feel free to [email PHS President Rebecca Johnston](#) with any questions or suggestions regarding virtual options for PHS participation this year.

## Announcements

### Everbridge Information Overview

Whitman uses web-based and mobile app technology developed by Everbridge for our health and safety communications system. Linc Nesheim, information security officer, will hold [an informational overview session](#) on the privacy and security aspects of Everbridge on Friday, Aug. 27, at 11 a.m. If you are unable to attend this session, you can also view [his powerpoint presentation](#) or [email Nesheim](#) with questions.

### Students Impacted by California Wildfires

If you are a student who has been affected by the fires in the central California coast and need additional support from your faculty and advisors, we encourage you to reach out proactively to request the help you need. You can also contact the Dean of Students Office (509-527-5158) or the Counseling Center (509-527-5195) for additional support.

## 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:**



**Prevent the spread by staying local.**

So far in the month of August, [Walla Walla County](#) confirmed 311 cases of COVID-19, 160 of those in the past 14 days. Currently there are 168 residents isolating at home and five in the hospital.

Next to Whitman's campus, on the corner of Boyer Avenue and Clinton Street, is Washington Odd Fellows. As retirement and health care centers have been frequent centers of COVID-19 outbreaks, [the Union-Bulletin reports](#) on how this long-term care facility, with 300 residents and 220 employees, is figuring out creative and engaging ways to address the health and relational challenges caused by coronavirus.

[Fall 2020 Information Center](#)

## Noteworthy

### DePonty Selected to Common Application Advisory Council

Katie DePonty, director of admissions operations, applied and was selected to serve a three-year term on the Common Application Advisory Council. The council includes 16 individuals from a diverse range of Common Application partner institutions. The Common Application consults with the advisory council to provide insight into relevant trends in enrollment and higher education, feedback on product enhancements and topics impacting students, school counselors, and member institutions.

### Cotts Publishes Two Articles on Crusades

John Cotts, professor of history, published two articles over the summer. In May, "Earthly Kings, Heavenly Jerusalem: Ralph Niger's Political Exegesis and the Third Crusade" appeared in volume 30 of [Haskins Society Journal: Studies in Medieval History](#). July saw the publication of "Oppressor, Martyr, and Hollywood Villain: Reynald of Châtillon and the Representation of Crusading Violence" in [The Making of Crusading Heroes and Villains: Engaging the Crusades, Volume Four](#), which explores the resonance of the crusades in the modern world.

## Happening Tomorrow

FRIDAY, AUG. 28

4 p.m. [Faculty and Staff Open Forum](#)  
*President Murray will provide brief remarks and take questions during this open forum. Faculty and staff must pre-register using their Whitman email address.*

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5 p.m. [Fridays @ Five](#)  
*Kehilat Shalom invites everyone to their weekly Shabbat gathering on Zoom, where they light candles, say prayers, share challah and connect with each other.*

[More Upcoming Events](#)

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



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