



Whitman Today

Monday, July 6, 2020

From the President

Dear Members of the Whitman Community,

It's hard to believe that nearly one year has passed since the murder of our friend and colleague Kyle Martz. To mark this somber anniversary, we will hold a small ceremony to officially dedicate a Gingko tree behind the Glover Alston Center in Kyle's memory. Due to social distancing concerns, we will not have a large gathering. Instead we will make a video of the event and share it with you next week.

As campus reopens, I encourage you to visit the spot to reflect and remember the positive impact Kyle had on so many of us. There is also a scholarship fund for international students in Kyle's name. If you would like to make a donation in honor of Kyle you can do so through the [Office of Annual Giving](#).

Thank you,
Kathy

Coronavirus News

The [Walla Walla County Department of Health](#) reported 35 new coronavirus cases in the past week. Of the total 187 confirmed cases, 126 residents are now recovered and 58 are in isolation.

A rapid response testing platform purchased by St. Mary's Medical Center through a combination of public and private funding will be operational within a week. [The Walla Walla Union-Bulletin coverage](#) notes that localized testing service is expected to be a critical aspect of reopening the economy.

Coronavirus Task Force Updates: Building Reopening Schedule

Over the next month many buildings around campus will reopen for a phased return to campus for employees. Faculty and staff will receive training and procedural information from Human Resources prior to being authorized to return to on-campus work. [View the tentative building reopening schedule](#) for July. Buildings reopened for authorized employees will remain closed to the public and visitors, and are not open for any general services.

[Whitman's Coronavirus Info Center](#)

Announcements

Deadline: Inclusion Task Force Gathers Community Input

There's still time to participate in two opportunities to engage in an insightful critique of the campus climate and explore the systems, programs and resources that influence the sense of belonging and community at Whitman. [Listening sessions for staff and faculty](#) continue today and tomorrow. Students, staff and faculty may provide feedback using [the online questionnaire through July 8](#).

Medical and Mental Health Resources for Premera Members

People covered by a Premera policy have multiple options if their regular doctor or therapist is unavailable in a time of medical need:

- Call the 24-hour NurseLine at 800-841-8343 to discuss your medical symptoms and get advice on where to go for care.
- [Virtual care with Teladoc](#) is available online and through an app.
- [Talkspace provides online therapy](#) with a licensed clinician via private message and live video.

Happening This Week

THURSDAY, JULY 9

Noon [Home Alone Conversation Group for Employees](#)
A weekly virtual meeting for faculty and staff who are working from home, alone. This is an open, drop-in style group.

[More Upcoming Events](#)

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

Seen Around Campus



Kathryn Frank, the newest faculty member of Whitman's Department of Film and Media Studies, doesn't just enjoy reading comics. In her research and her teaching, she explores how comics depict race and gender. In her research to other media sources. [A recent article in the Newsroom](#) explores more of her passion for inclusivity and representation.

"Whitman Today" is produced by the Office of Communications and is emailed weekly to Whitman College staff, faculty and students. All times are listed in Pacific Daylight Time. Previous newsletters can be found on the [Whitman Today archive website](#).

To submit items, email whitmantoday@whitman.edu. The deadline for submissions is 12 p.m. Friday for the following week's newsletter.



WHITMAN COLLEGE