



# Whitman Today

Monday, May 17, 2021

## End of Semester Optional COVID-19 Testing

For any students wishing to be tested before leaving campus, we are offering optional rapid antigen COVID-19 testing from 12-1 p.m. today, tomorrow and Wednesday at Cordiner.

## Update from the Board of Trustees



As reported in a May 13 email from President Murray to all Whitman community members, the Board of Trustees met via Zoom on Monday, May 10, to conduct its spring business. The most significant agenda item was the budget for fiscal year 2022, a budget that was brought into balance through the efforts of the Financial Sustainability Review (FSR). The budget, which was unanimously approved by the board, includes restoration of faculty and staff salaries to pre-pandemic levels as of July 1, restoration of the college's 10% contribution to faculty and staff retirement accounts as of July 1, along with restoration of a number of the non-personnel cuts necessitated by our lower enrollment and additional expenses related to COVID-19.

The board also elected and welcomed four new trustees: Danielle Garbe Reser '97, Mark Kajita, Charlie Nelson '83 (who is also parent to an '08 graduate) and Ann Watson '83. They heard a very encouraging enrollment update from Josh Jensen and received updates on next steps with FSR implementation, including a report from Sharon Alker on the faculty's work related to classics and environmental humanities. Perhaps most important, they voted to pre-approve the faculty motion to confer degrees at Whitman's 2021 commencement.

The board and cabinet expressed deep appreciation for the efforts of the entire Whitman community to keep each other safe and healthy and to continue to advance student learning during this extraordinary year, and extend their best wishes for a wonderful summer.

## Q: Can I take my kids/parents/friends to the Whitman bookstore for their wall-to-wall sale?

A: No. Please remember that all campus buildings, including Reid Campus Center, are closed to visitors now and throughout the summer. "Visitors" includes the children and partners of Whitman faculty and staff members, the parents of Whitman students, and anyone who is not approved to be on campus.

## Announcements

### Check Your Campus Mailboxes

Students, make sure to check your campus mailbox before leaving for the semester.

### Resources for Parents

If you have children, are expecting or are planning for the future, [Cascade Centers](#), Whitman's Employee Assistance Program (EAP) offers free and confidential parenting support. These services include life coaching, counseling, resource retrieval, financial coaching, legal consultations and connections to fertility health.

Contact the EAP:  
call: 800-433-2320  
text: 503-850-7721  
email: [info@cascaDECENTERS.COM](mailto:info@cascaDECENTERS.COM)

## Question of the Week

It's almost the end of the semester and time for a little retrospection. So, this week we want to know: What's one great memory you will take from the 2020-21 school year?

[Share Your Memory](#)

## Happening This Week

### MONDAY

- all day [Final Exams](#)
- 11 a.m.–5 p.m. [Textbook Buyback](#)  
*Bring any books you want to try to sell. Bookstore staff will scan all books and provide you with a price and you can decide to sell or not.*

### TUESDAY

- all day [Final Exams](#)
- 11 a.m.–5 p.m. [Textbook Buyback](#)  
*Bring any books you want to try to sell. Bookstore staff will scan all books and provide you with a price and you can decide to sell or not.*

### WEDNESDAY

- 5 p.m. [Whitman Debate Awards Celebration](#)  
*The Whitman Debate Team had an incredibly successful year with several novice championships and new records for the team. They also welcomed several new debaters that they want to formally introduce to the Whitman community. They are excited to invite you to their annual debate awards celebration, which will take place on Zoom.*

### THURSDAY

- 5 p.m. [Visiting Writers Reading Series](#)  
*To celebrate Whitman College's graduating senior English majors, the Visiting Writers Reading Series and the Department of English present an evening event (free and open to the greater community), with best-selling writer/poet Aimee Nezhukumatathil, sharing from "World of Wonders: In Praise of Fireflies, Whale Sharks, and Other Astonishments."*

### FRIDAY

- 1-4 p.m. [Senior COVID-19 Testing](#)  
*Mandatory COVID-19 testing for any senior planning to walk in commencement who has not submitted documentation of receiving the COVID-19 vaccination.*

### SATURDAY

- 2:30 p.m. [Baccalaureate](#)  
*All members of the Whitman community, especially graduates and their families, are invited to this online ceremony of reflection with Interfaith Chaplain Adam Kirtley, Professor Akiro Takemoto and speaker senior Amara Killen.*

[Whitman Events Calendar](#)

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. 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](#).

