



Whitman Today

Thursday, May 20, 2021

Q&A with Whitman's 2021 Commencement Speaker



We are thrilled to welcome Jena Griswold '06 back to Whitman to speak at this weekend's 135th Commencement! Griswold was a politics and Spanish major who received several prestigious fellowships, earned a law degree, and worked for President Barack Obama's re-election campaign before becoming the Colorado Secretary of State.

The Whitman Wire interviewed Griswold recently. In the Q&A, she shares significant memories from her time at Whitman and insights about her work now defending democracy and increasing voter participation.

[Read the Wire interview.](#)

Q: Are masks going to be required at Whitman this summer for people who are vaccinated?

A: Beginning next Monday, May 24, vaccinated individuals may participate in outdoor activities and recreation without a mask as long as 6 ft. of distancing can be maintained. Masks will still be required inside buildings but we will continue to evaluate and update our campus protocols as further national and state guidance, including guidance specific to higher ed, is released.

Announcements

Check Your Campus Mailboxes

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

Commencement COVID-19 Testing for Graduating Seniors

Graduating seniors who have provided proof of vaccination through the [COVID-19 Vaccine Reporting Form](#) will not need to take a COVID-19 test to participate in commencement.

Any graduating senior wishing to walk at Commencement who has not provided proof of vaccination must take a campus COVID-19 test between 1 and 4 p.m. tomorrow at Cordiner.

Noteworthy

Cordner Published on Environmental Justice and Trump

Associate Professor of Sociology Alissa Cordner has co-authored "[The Problem of Accountability: Environmental Justice and the Trump Administration](#)." Drawing on interviews with current and former employees of the Environmental Protection Agency, authors explore the vulnerabilities of national environmental justice work that is exacerbated by a lack of top-down systems of accountability.

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

Happening Today

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."

[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 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. 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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