



# Whitman Today

Thursday, October 14, 2021

## Spaces: Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy Lab



At first glance, Room 213 in Whitman's Hall of Science looks like a small natural history museum: Illustrated species identification posters and cabinets full of taxidermy birds line the walls, skeletons of fish, small mammals and more birds perch atop raised platforms, and jars of preserved reptiles crowd the shelves.

Professor of Biology Kate Jackson, who uses the room for her Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy and Herpetology labs, knows some may recoil at the sight: "To a person stumbling in unexpectedly, it's a bit creepy—there are things that are dead, things in jars, skeletons and so forth," she says.

However, Jackson sees it differently. This is not a museum or macabre—it's where biology students come for hands-on investigation and learning. "For my students and I, what we get from the space is a depth and intensity of knowledge," she says. "It's a space where students come for three hours at a time, every week for an entire semester and lose themselves in a dissection. It's a kind of deep immersion in study, which I think is increasingly rare in a world of shortened attention spans and cell phones."

[View more photos of the Vertebrate Anatomy Lab.](#)

## Noteworthy



**Le, Castellano Play Today at National Tennis Championships**  
Junior Angel Le and first-year Arianna Castellanos are competing against the nation's best at the [Intercollegiate Tennis Association Cup](#) held Oct. 14-17 at the Rome Tennis Center in Georgia. As doubles champions at the ITA Division III Northwest Fall Regional Championships, Le and Castellanos will represent not only Whitman but the entire Division III Northwest region when they take the court today. Le, who also claimed the regional singles title, will compete in the singles tournament as well.

**Zalloua Co-Authors New Book on Global Politics**  
Cushing Eells Professor of Philosophy and Literature Zahi Zalloua and Ilan Kapoor (York University, Toronto) have co-authored "[Universal Politics](#)," published this month by Oxford University Press. The book is described as a first for its systematic examination of what a Zizekian conception of universality might look like in the context of current global politics, including climate change, the Palestinian question, Black Lives Matter and other key sites of struggle.

**Becerra, Evans and Leavitt Complete Leadership Program**  
Three Whitman staff members recently completed [Sherwood Trust's Community Leadership Program](#), an interactive and skill-based training in collaboration with Rural Development Initiatives, Inc. SEC Administrative Assistant Marisol Becerra, Reunion Giving Officer Claire Evans and SEC Director Noah Leavitt were part of the 2019 cohort, which dealt with many pandemic-related pauses and is now completing their capstone project, creation of the [Perseverance Parklet in College Place](#).

**Debate Team Hosts, Places in Top 8 at Tournament**  
Over the past weekend, Whitman Debate continued its competitive season at the Steve Hunt Classic, a tournament co-hosted by Whitman College and Lewis & Clark College. Three Whitman teams competed in parliamentary debate, with two placing in the top eight. First-years Kyle Mathy and Alexa Grechishkin defeated a team from Rice University to advance to quarterfinals, where they competed against the undefeated team from Diablo Valley College. Sophomores Jas Liu and Kasey Moulton did not compete in the octofinal round because their team score was high enough to automatically advance to quarterfinals where they debated against a team from the University of Oregon. In addition, junior Ilse Spiropoulos, Moulton, and Liu placed 9th, 7th, and 5th, respectively, in the speaker rankings. This tournament was the first time that Whitman advanced two teams to open quarterfinals at any tournament in recent years.

[Submit a Noteworthy Announcement](#)

## Announcements

### New LACRELA Webpage and Upcoming Sessions

Whitman College is a member of the Liberal Arts Colleges Racial Equity Leadership Alliance (LACRELA). Since its launch in 2020, nearly 70 colleges have joined the six institutions that established the alliance: DePauw University, Oberlin College, Occidental College, Pomona College, Macalester College and Skidmore College. Among the benefits of membership, LACRELA offers monthly anti-racism, diversity and equity virtual learning sessions designed for higher-education professionals. You can learn more about this resource and upcoming learning sessions on the [new LACRELA webpage](#) in the Anti-Racism Resources section of the Whitman website.

## Happening Today

- 4 p.m. [OCS First Step Meeting \(In Person\)](#)  
*Are you a second-year student wanting to learn about Whitman's OCS process? If so, attend the First Step meeting, where OCS staff will share important information to help identify options and next steps.*
- 5:30 p.m. [Visiting Writers Reading Series: Madeleine Jubilee Saito](#)  
*Madeleine Jubilee Saito is a cartoonist and illustrator living on Duwamish land in Seattle, Washington. As an artist, she makes intimate, poetic comics about the environment and the sacred.*
- 7 p.m. [Young Voters Town Hall: Walla Walla City Council Election](#)  
*Join this webinar online or come to the Reid Ballroom to hear students from all over Walla Walla ask this year's City Council candidates how they plan to lead.*
- 7:30 p.m. [Unmaking Whitman, Unlearning the Myth: Book Discussion with Sarah Koenig](#)  
*Koenig will discuss her book "What Do We Do With Whitman? Contesting the Legacy of a Providential Icon."*

[Whitman Events Calendar](#)

Have an event you'd like to share with campus? Submit the information to the [Events Calendar](#).

"Whitman Today" is produced by the Office of Communications and is emailed Monday through 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](#).



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