

WHITMAN

MAGAZINE



Revealing the Invisible

Get a clarifying lesson from a Whitman professor and researcher who studies the human and societal impact of PFAS—the “forever chemicals”

WINTER 2023

emily somoskey



Moving works of art ...

Gallery attendant Charlotte Flannery '24 skates past works by Johnston Visiting Assistant Professor of Art Emily Somoskey, "Situating" (left) and "Parallels" (right), works featured in a collaborative exhibit by faculty and staff titled "time | creature | portal | self," curated by Sheehan Gallery and Maxey Museum in the fall of 2022. Read more on page 3.



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Land Acknowledgment | Whitman College is located on the traditional Cayuse, Umatilla and Walla Walla homelands. We pay our respect to tribal elders both past and present and extend our respect to all Indigenous people today. We honor their stewardship of the land and ecosystem and commit to continuing that important work.

ON THE COVER Making the Invisible Visible," see page 18, photo credit: iStock.com/jurisam



The New Day Ahead

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE I've already been at Whitman for a semester — the time has gone so fast! It has been a pleasure to see the exceptional work happening in our community.

I am so grateful for the hundreds of loyal alumni and families who came out to presidential gatherings in Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Washington D.C., New York and Walla Walla. Your thoughts and great questions have been pivotal in building my understanding of the college's history and impact on the lives of generations of students, and your insights and ideas are helping me think about ways to advance Whitman's future.

I've also had the opportunity to witness, firsthand, the spirit, community and intellectual energy of the Whitman community here on campus. This fall, I saw our amazing Blues compete, terrific class discussions, extraordinary musical and theater performances, a packed celebration by international students from nearly 70 nations, and much more. I also learned about the excellent scholarly work of our faculty and the exciting curricular innovations that they are developing. Students at Whitman will now find new compelling areas of study that will provide them with wonderful opportunities (see page 6).

We have also begun discussing priorities for the college in the years ahead. Hundreds of staff, faculty, students, parents and alumni have contributed to these conversations. It's clear from these early discussions that the Whitman community is committed to our core values as a superb residential liberal arts college. At the same time, we are beginning to identify opportunities to innovate and build on our strengths. There are too many ideas to share here, but they have in common the best interests of our students and their bright futures — from building new academic opportunities to strengthening access to scholarships to enhancing the ways that all students build community and thrive. I very much look forward to continuing discussions of these exciting ideas on campus, as well as with alumni and families.

As I come into my office each day, I am greeted by the work of beloved art professor Rick Martinez, who taught at Whitman from 2012 until his passing in 2020. His work evokes the new day ahead and reminds me of the tremendous capacity that our students and our college hold for the future. My thanks to all of you for all you do to make Whitman such an excellent place for students to learn, grow and prepare to fulfill their aspirations and make a difference in a world that needs them. Your generosity and care for our talented students makes a great impact!

Sincerely,

Sarah Bolton
President



Rick Martinez's "Aluminum II," a metallic oil on canvas, hangs directly above the president's desk. See President Bolton's Memorial Building office on pages 12–13.

“Your insights and ideas are helping me think about ways to advance Whitman's future.”

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CLASS NOTES

To submit, go online to whitman.edu/classnotes.

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NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

Whitman College has a strong commitment to the principle of nondiscrimination in all its forms. In its admission, educational and employment practices, programs and activities, Whitman College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex (including pregnancy and parenting status), gender, religion, age, marital status, national origin, disability, veteran's status, or any other basis prohibited by the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and applicable federal, state or local laws.

On Boyer Avenue

NEWS FROM CAMPUS



GALLERY EXHIBITION

Connected Through Art

ART CREATES A BEAUTIFUL OPPORTUNITY for us to express and share our ideas and better connect with the world around us. In the fall of 2022, the curators of the Sheehan Gallery and Maxey Museum brought together Whitman College artists in a collaborative exhibition — “time | creature | portal | self” — that celebrates our interconnectedness.

For 13 weeks, the two campus galleries housed the multimedia show celebrating Whitman’s own community of educators and artists — highlighting the artwork of 15 faculty and staff members.

Sheehan Gallery Director Kynde Kiefel and Libby Miller, who is the curator for Maxey Museum, envisioned and designed the show. With all the artists being part of the same creative community, it was natural to explore interconnectedness, says Kiefel. And fittingly, it was the first time the galleries have done the same large exhibition spanning both spaces, she says.

Kiefel described the show as “a vibrant bridge between people,” with the separate locations connected through shared

ideas and themes. How were the themes — time, creature, portal and self — explored in the show?

Time is represented in how things change from past to present, or over time. Some artists channeled creatures through taxidermy and sculpture. Others created pieces that invite you to step into something that takes you beyond a first impression.

As Miller explains, “Any kind of aesthetic experience is a portal into a different kind of experience.”

Many of the gallery pieces sparked thoughts about self in relation to others: We are never isolated selves, but are in juxtaposition with the creatures, collaborators, viewers and time. Though the theme of self can stand alone, it also ties everything together.

ENJOY THE EXHIBIT ONLINE

Visit whitman.edu/magazine for a virtual tour and photo gallery of “time | creature | portal | self.”

A shared experience.

Pictured above: Andrew Somoskey, exhibitions and collections manager at Sheehan Gallery, describes his installation “On the Line” to sophomore Carlee Allen. *Photo: Kim Fetrow '96 of Kim Fetrow Photography*



LEADERSHIP

Whitman Dean Named to Governor's Clemency and Pardons Board

VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS and Dean of Students Kazi Joshua has been appointed to a four-year term on the Washington State Clemency and Pardons Board.

Joshua is the newest member of Governor Jay Inslee's Clemency and Pardons Board. Joshua's appointment to the five-member board was confirmed by the state Washington state senate in October 2022.

"I am grateful to the Governor's office and I feel humbled by the responsibility to serve the board and the people of Washington state," Joshua says. "It is my hope that I can serve with integrity, compassion and fairness, and that I play some small role in the work of community restoration."

The Clemency and Pardons Board advises the governor on petitions from individuals, organizations and the Department of Corrections regarding commutation of sentences and pardoning of offenders in extraordinary circumstances.

Joshua has worked with Fabian's Fund, an organization that supports transformative education for incarcerated individuals. He is also a sponsor of the Black Prisoners Caucus, a 50-year-old organization in Washington that supports Black incarcerated individuals and their families.

"The work that Whitman College does at Washington State Penitentiary in its educational projects was the main point of entry into this work," Joshua says.

Whitman College President Sarah Bolton congratulated Joshua on his appointment to the board.

"I am confident that Kazi will play a very important role in ensuring just and wise decisions for the board and for the individuals whose futures will be under consideration. His appointment is a credit to his work with and on behalf of people who are incarcerated to promote their successful reentry into society."

KIM FETROW '96 OF KIM FETROW PHOTOGRAPHY

VISITING VOICES



KIM FETROW '96 OF KIM FETROW PHOTOGRAPHY

Poet & Professor. Katrina Roberts directs the Visiting Writers Reading Series—welcoming established and emerging writers to campus for readings, discussions and workshops.

A Tradition That Celebrates the Craft of Writing

FOR THREE DECADES, WHITMAN COLLEGE has welcomed more than 200 authors through the Visiting Writers Reading Series (VWRS). The current season continues this legacy. Katrina Roberts, the Mina Schwabacher Professor of English/Creative Writing and Humanities and organizer of VWRS, says she strives to build inclusive slates of writers who introduce students to new ways of writing and thinking.

The 2022-2023 series opened in September with poet and essayist Camille Dungy, who first visited in 2012 and returned in 2019. This year, in addition to hosting a reading and conversation for VWRS, Dungy was Whitman's Edward J. Arnold Visiting Professor in 2022.

VWRS is notable not only for drawing esteemed writers, but also for giving Whitman students the opportunity to work directly with them. Visiting writers lead discussions and workshops in creative writing classes and often collaborate with other departments for guest lectures.

Roberts expects to see the series' influence continue to unfold as it reaches new generations. "I think we're going to need more and more creative vision to deal with the world's problems," says Roberts, whose newest book of poetry, "Likeness," hit bookstands in November 2022.

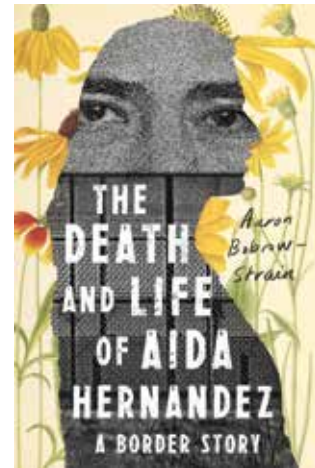
"It's such an exciting time to be writing, and I love that for our students."

READ ALONG

Visit whitman.edu/magazine to find a select reading list from this season of VWRS, including the latest from acclaimed fiction writer Karen Russell, a Pulitzer Prize finalist for her 2011 debut novel "Swamplandia!"

The Visiting Writers Reading Series is sponsored by the Department of English, the Office of the Provost and Dean of the Faculty, the Lawrence Parke Murphy and Robert Goldstein Trust and by generous donations from the extended Whitman community.

FACULTY BOOK



Feature Film Inspired by Book

Professor of Politics Aaron Bobrow-Strain's award-winning narrative nonfiction book, "The Death and Life of Aida Hernandez," is on the path to becoming a feature film.

The book was originally published in 2019. It is a story of a young woman—whose life spans both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border—surviving attempted murder, family abuse, incarceration, deportation and separation from her son.

New York Times bestselling author Héctor Tobar will pen the screenplay adaptation for the film, to be titled "Aida." MacArthur Genius Fellows and Sundance award-winners Cristina Ibarra and Alex Rivera will direct the film, which will be produced by TomKat MeDiA.

Bobrow-Strain, the Baker Ferguson Chair of Politics and Leadership, teaches courses on global food politics, immigration and political economies. In the 1990s, he worked on the U.S.-Mexico border as an activist and educator. He is a founding member of the Walla Walla Immigrant Rights Coalition.

More accolades! Bobrow-Strain's book was also named one of the 50 best biographies of all time by Esquire in December 2022.

STUDENT-FACULTY RESEARCH



Whitman College Senior Receives Competitive Chemistry Award

CHEMISTRY MAJOR KATHRYN WOODBURN '23 presented her research on a national stage, thanks to her hard work and an award from the American Chemical Society.

The senior, from Cupertino, California, received the prestigious American Chemical Society Colloid and Surface Chemistry Division PUI Nanomaterials Award. The highly competitive honor comes with the opportunity to present research at the national conference—which is typically reserved for Ph.D. students, post-doc researchers or professors.

Woodburn presented her work at the national ACS meeting in Chicago in August of 2022. “I remember looking around and being like, “These are my people,” she says. “This is what I want to do.”

Woodburn says she realized how much Whitman has taught her when she was able to keep up with the complicated subjects

discussed at the national conference.

Woodburn began researching zinc sulfide nanocrystals as a sophomore, alongside Assistant Professor of Chemistry Mark Hendricks in his lab. They applied extreme heat to multiple chemicals, eventually producing nanocrystals—which have applications in fields everywhere from solar energy to chemotherapy. Woodburn was particularly interested in the secondary components of the solution, the side reactions and how they impact crystal formation.

Woodburn is currently applying for graduate school and hopes to one day be a professor at a small liberal arts college, following in the footsteps of her mentors at Whitman.

In addition to her research, Woodburn serves as a captain on the Whitman Women's Swimming team.

ACADEMICS

Introducing New Fields of Study

Innovating the curriculum—it's a key strategic priority for Whitman. And over the years, the faculty have worked to create new areas of study to further enhance the college's rigorous and broad academic offerings for today's students. In the fall of 2022, these new opportunities were approved:

Brain, Behavior and Cognition (neuroscience). This new major integrates biology and psychology as they apply to neural science. Students will interrogate what, if anything, is special about the human brain, as well as study nervous systems—and behavioral complexity and diversity—across animal species.

Ethics and Society. Students are keenly interested in questions of how to act and interact with the people and world around them. Students who pursue this new major will explore philosophy through the lens of ethical and social issues, such as climate change ethics, criminal justice and punishment, biomedical ethics, animal rights and racial and gender justice.

Human-Centered Design. Whitman faculty from across divisions created this new concentration, which encourages students to understand the deeper meaning of objects, spaces, systems and beyond—and how to evaluate people's interaction with the designed world. This problem-solving approach engages critical thinking skills and equips students to create solutions to complex problems that have meaningful and just impacts on people and the environment. Students who opt for the Human-Centered Design concentration will be able to pair it with any major.

French+. This integrated program allows students to pair another major with French. Along with psychology, religion and sociology, two new options for these double majors were added in 2022: biology and geology.

FACULTY & STAFF NEWS

Nate Boland, associate professor of chemistry, published a paper in *Inorganic Chemistry*, an American Chemistry Society journal, about how the structure of organic molecules affects how they exchange metal ions between them. This research will help scientists predict metal mobility and bioavailability in the environment.

Patrick Frierson, the Paul Pigott and William M. Allen Professor of Philosophy, has published a new book on Maria Montessori, "The Moral Philosophy of Maria Montessori: Agency and Ethical Life (Bloomsbury)"—the first scholarly exposition of Montessori's moral philosophy.

Christopher Leise, professor of English, published his peer-reviewed reference entry "New England 'Pilgrim' and 'Puritan' Cultures" in the research guide *Oxford Bibliographies in American Literature*.

Tim Machonkin, associate professor of chemistry, has been awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation to continue his research on a class of enzymes found in soil bacteria that can break down certain toxic organic compounds that are common environmental pollutants. The grant funds research experiences for nine students and a post-baccalaureate technician.

Elyse Semerdjian, professor of history, published a translation of Armenian feminist Zabel Essyan's "Liberation of non-Muslim Women and Children" in the *Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies*.

Andrea Sempértegui, assistant professor of politics, published an essay, "Ecuador's Historic Strike," in *The New York Review of Books*, a national magazine that publishes literary and intellectual essays and reviews.

Zahi Zalloua's "Objects of Desire: Chosisme after OOO" was published in "Understanding Barthes, Understanding

Modernism," a book about the modern literary and philosophical contributions of Roland Barthes, which Zalloua also co-edited. Zalloua is a Cushing Eells Professor of Philosophy and literature, professor of foreign languages and literatures (French), and interdisciplinary studies.

Winningest Coach In NWC History

The Northwest Conference (NWC) named **Michelle Ferenz** as the winningest women's basketball coach in conference history. Ferenz has been the head coach for Whitman's Women's Basketball since 2001. Her teams have qualified for the conference's postseason tournament each of the past 10 seasons and for the NCAA tournament five of the past eight seasons.



In 2022, her Blues won the NWC Title with an undefeated league record and advanced to the second round of the NCAA Tournament.



Lyman Persico (right), associate professor of geology and environmental studies, received a National Science Foundation grant to study the effects of extreme floods in and around Yellowstone National Park. In the summer of 2022, he took four Whitman students to assist in this research. From left: Reed O'Neal '23, Wes Johnston '23, Sarah Hoffman '24 and Harsh Chopra '24.



A New Memoir on an Enduring Passion

In 2022, retired Geology Professor **Robert "Bob" Carson** published a new book, "Adventure." As he tells in this memoir, an early and enduring love of the outdoors led him to a life of adventures around the globe. From mountain climbing to whitewater rafting, exploring canyons and caverns to merely hiking amid natural beauty, Carson shares in his zest and appreciation for all of the natural world.

PROMOTIONS

Promotion to Full Professor:

- **M Acuff** (Art)
- **Christopher Leise** (English)

Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor:

- **Matthew Bost** (Rhetoric, Writing and Public Discourse)
- **Tarik Elseewi** (Film and Media Studies)
- **Maria Lux** (Art)
- **Marian Manic** (Economics)
- **John Stratton** (Computer Science)

Promotion to Senior Rank:

- **Chetna Chopra** (Rhetoric, Writing and Public Discourse; General Studies)
- **Stan Thayne** (Environmental Studies)



Running on Plenty

GABE WASSERMAN '24 REPRESENTS THE USA IN THE 2022 MACCABIAH GAMES

BY PAM MOORE

WHITMAN COLLEGE student-athlete Gabe Wasserman '24 ran in the Maccabiah Games this summer with two goals:

1. Earn a medal.
2. Fully appreciate the opportunity to compete on the world stage.

Often called the Jewish Olympics, the Maccabiah Games are held in Israel every four years and attract some of the best Jewish athletes in the world. Wasserman, who is majoring in environmental studies with a focus in sociology, competed in the 5K and 10K in Jerusalem in July 2022. He accomplished both of his goals—and he's quick to credit the Whitman community for their part in that, including his teammates and coaches who continually cultivate a culture of gratitude, as well as the training staff who helped him rehab a painful and persistent injury.

THE ROAD TO THE MACCABIAH GAMES

As a fourth-generation Maccabiah athlete, Wasserman's dream of representing the USA in Israel took root long before he ever donned a Whitman jersey. Growing up in Madison, Wisconsin, he recalls his dad pushing him and his twin brother in a stroller in local road races—sometimes to a first-place finish.

Wasserman says he was a “super athletic kid” who grew up playing a variety of sports, including soccer and Ultimate Frisbee. “I would be lying if I said I loved running right away,” he says. Over time, he came to appreciate and enjoy

the training and team camaraderie. “It was in high school that I fell in love with running.”

As a member of Whitman’s Cross Country and Distance Track teams, Wasserman has made impressive strides, competing at conference championships every season of his college career (apart from 2020 when competitions were canceled due to COVID-19). After running a personal best in the 5,000 meters at the first meet of the 2021 track season, his dream of competing in the Maccabiah Games came into focus — despite an Achilles tendon injury that would sideline him for the rest of the season.

He ran the idea of the Maccabiah Games by Whitman’s Head Cross Country Coach Scott Shields ’91. “I thought he would probably tell me it was unrealistic,” but Shields was “super supportive,” Wasserman says.

He ultimately qualified for both the 5K and 10K. But with his injured Achilles, building his fitness and confidence required creativity and support from Shields as well as Jocelyn Awe, director of sports performance, and Anna Doyel, assistant athletic trainer, all of whom were instrumental in his rehab. The road to Jerusalem included many monotonous hours of pool running, daily strengthen exercises and a gradual return to running.

While Awe and Doyel helped Wasserman regain strength and mobility leading up to the Games, Shields offered strategic training

guidance and encouragement. Per NCAA rules, Wasserman couldn’t officially represent Whitman, which meant Shields couldn’t give detailed training plans or supervise his workouts in preparation for the international event. “Shields did a great job of supporting me as much as he could while adhering to NCAA policies,” Wasserman says.

A DREAM REALIZED

At the Games, Wasserman was thrilled for the chance to represent not only Whitman but his fellow Division III athletes too — albeit unofficially. In an international arena, “it was really special to show that we can hold our own with the ‘big dogs,’” he says.

He wasn’t just racing for a podium spot though. Wasserman set out to run Jerusalem’s cobblestone streets with the same mindset coach Shields had instilled in him in Walla Walla. “He taught our team how important it is to be together, something we’re all especially grateful for after COVID. I really wanted to soak it in and be thankful for the opportunity.”

Despite hot weather and hilly terrain, Wasserman excelled and prevailed. He finished third and fifth in the 10K and the 5K, respectively, while maintaining an attitude of gratitude throughout — even when he and his competitors were led off course during the 10K. Having pre-run the course, he was able



Medalist shows medal. Despite getting off course, literally, Gabe Wasserman brought home a bronze medal in the 10K from the Maccabiah Games in Israel.

to get back on track quickly. “It was a slow grind, but I got it done, and I was proud of myself for knowing the course,” he says.


Two days later, he felt fatigued while running the 5K and he didn’t perform as well as he might have, but still, that race offered him a memory he’ll hold onto fondly. “It was just a really great opportunity to race in the stadium under the lights.”

COMING HOME TO WHITMAN

Wasserman certainly isn’t done challenging himself. His goals include earning all-conference honors in both cross country and distance track — and savoring his last few semesters before graduation. As a junior, who also works as a campus tour guide, he can now give younger students the sense of belonging that drew him to Whitman. As a prospective student, he spent two days attending classes, meals and practices with the team and immediately felt at home.

“From day one, I had a family here at Whitman and that is definitely still the case.”

Wasserman credits his team captains with creating a supportive, welcoming culture. “They have a way of making you really focus on being better as an athlete, as a student, as a person. At the same time, they make it so fun to come to practice.” Sharing laughs and rich conversations make long runs a lot easier — plus, it never hurts to look forward to a post-workout burrito from Taq,* he says.

Although running is often considered an individual sport, Wasserman says there’s nothing like the way his teammates lift each other up. “Every time we race, we remind each other of how lucky we are just for the chance to come together as a team.” 

*Taqueria Mi Pueblito, a Mexican eatery on Issacs Avenue that’s popular with Whitman students

3 REASONS

WHY WASSERMAN CHOSE WHITMAN

1 ACADEMICS

“I wanted a small school where I could be close with my professors,” says Gabe Wasserman, who came to Whitman planning to major in math. When he took an environmental humanities class, he discovered a passion for studying the ways in which social structures and environmental factors impact each other.

2 SPORTS

Right from the start, Wasserman loved the team climate at Whitman. “I really appreciated how the coach welcomed me into the program and that felt really special.” He says his sport experience at Whitman has helped him develop not just as an athlete but as a scholar and a person.

3 CULTURE

“Whitman does a really good job of encouraging people to have a variety of interests and to dive into what they’re passionate about,” Wasserman says. He describes the college and campus as a community where you can find both your unique place and a sense of belonging.

GO BLUES! Go to whitman.edu/magazine to read about how Gabe Wasserman and others are reviving Whitman’s student-led athletics fan group: Whit City!



Limitless Possibilities

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR DOUG SCARBOROUGH LEADS WHITMAN'S
JAZZ BANDS—AND AN ECLECTIC LIFE OUTSIDE ACADEMIA

BY ERIC BUTTERMAN

“IF YA AIN’T GOT IT IN YA, YA CAN’T BLOW IT OUT.”

—LOUIS ARMSTRONG

DOUG SCARBOROUGH HAS CERTAINLY got it. Growing up in the Mississippi Delta, he was drawn to jazz’s rich history of talent and lively improvisation.

“Jazz, at times, is like making music on the spot, improvising a piece with other musicians, and, at its best, it’s the closest thing to flying,” he says.

His passion for the genre and making music would see him play with greats like Benny Golson and Louie Bellson — trying to hold his own while not being too blown away by these gods of jazz he was getting an opportunity to blow with.

Jazz doesn’t stay stuck in its history, Scarborough says. “It’s ever-changing, so you always feel like you have a chance to be on the cutting edge of this art form.”

“I love classical, for example, and there is an element of improvisation there, but in jazz, there’s so much freedom and it’s amazing how that freedom connects so deeply to your soul.”

MAKING MUSIC AT WHITMAN

For more than a decade, Scarborough’s role at Whitman has fed his soul, providing him a steady stream of talented young musicians to mentor and harmonize with. He directs the Jazz Ensemble 1 and jazz combos. He teaches courses on songwriting, jazz and classical music theory, as well as lessons in trombone and electric bass.

Most recently, highlights of student performances include a music video that served as the college’s 2022 holiday greeting, featuring the jazz ensemble playing an adapted cover of “Liquid Spirit” by Gregory Porter. (Find the video at whitman.edu/magazine.) And on the stage of Cordiner Hall in the fall of 2022, a small, gifted band of Scarborough’s students welcomed the incoming class and their families with a mashup of the classic and the current: John Lennon’s “Imagine” and Maren Morris’s “Circles Around This Town.”

Their professor couldn’t be more thrilled to let these students shine in the spotlight. “Getting to work with great songs and the positive feedback

they get, you can see how it motivates them. They spend so much time practicing, and it just feels good to have their work and talent appreciated.”

ON THE ROAD & IN THE STUDIO

This native of Merigold, Mississippi (population less than 400), where Highway 61 sits prominently — the very highway Bob Dylan mentioned in the title of one of his most famous albums —

Scarborough still hits the road with bands when he can. This past summer, he jammed to the tune of nearly 50 gigs, primarily on the keyboard.

Besides being a part of helping people cut a rug, he also has cut another album. His fourth, “The Color of Angels” (Origin Records), pays homage to the richness of Middle Eastern sound, with jazz and even progressive rock finding their way onto the release. The music blends a Palestinian violinist, a Turkish percussionist and American jazz musicians — combining continents for this unique collection and sound. If you ask Scarborough, he believes he’s the first jazz trombonist to play Middle Eastern music on a major label release as a bandleader.

“Track number two is a favorite,” he says. “It’s called ‘Limitless’ and the music is truly trying to describe how although at times we may feel boxed

in, there are often ways to branch out. It’s getting good radio airplay around the world on jazz radio stations.” The title track, “The Color of Angels,” is also a favorite of Scarborough’s, with imagery around the supernatural. “We live in a world where there seems to be more going on than meets the eye. This tries to capture that wonder.”

Scarborough has even laid down some written word — finding time to co-author a biography on Samuel Jones, a longtime composer-in-residence with the Seattle Symphony.

“I get a thrill out of playing other instruments ... but trombone definitely hits you in its own way. Literally your body is connected to it — through your lungs you are singing through it.”

—DOUG SCARBOROUGH, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF MUSIC

“What an experience it was to work on this book,” he says. “Jones was a rebel for his time. Back in the ’50s and ’60s, classical music was conflicted between whether to be mathematical instead of focusing on harmony, but Jones fought for the latter, believing people possess an innate resonance with harmonious music.”

As for Scarborough, teaching, playing and loving music adds up to a life he’d highly recommend — at a school he loves. “So many students come here with talent, passion and drive,” he says. “I want everyone who walks through these doors to know, if they’ll give it their energy, we’ll give them everything we’ve got.”




A STAR PUPIL SOARS

Doug Scarborough counts **Kyle Donald '16**, who is also known as musical artist Sugi Dakks, as one of his many flourishing students. “He has great songs and videos out and creates socially-minded music,” his former professor says. “He was a jazz major who played in our jazz bands, and it’s been great to see him really take off. Just incredibly smart music.”





President's Office

In July of 2022, Dr. Sarah Bolton took office leading Whitman College as its 15th president. She also moved into her physical office on the second floor of Memorial Building—a spacious, light-filled room among the trees, with southwest views of Boyer Avenue. President Bolton had a hand in choosing the artwork for the space. She selected pieces from Whitman's extensive art collection. "Sarah was a great collaborator in this venture and chose a wonderful and diverse range of works," says Kynde Kiefel, director of the Sheehan Gallery. "She was interested in the stories, in artistic representation, as well as how the pieces connected to this land that we live and work on," Kiefel says. Learn more about the artists and artwork at whitman.edu/magazine. 





ONCE UPON a TIME

... there was a mighty
little children's
bookstore and a
passionate Whitman
College alum

BY JODI NICOTRA



ALL PHOTOS BY CHANDRA WICKE PHOTOGRAPHY

It may not read exactly like a fairy tale, but the story of Once Upon a Time, an independent children's bookstore owned by the family of Jessica Palacios '16, is filled with some peril and a lot of heart.

And like all good tales, it offers a pithy lesson or two: First, that reading can take different forms — and second, that each of us plays a direct role in helping our community businesses thrive.

Now back to the story ... In 2008, Publisher's Weekly named Once Upon a Time, in Montrose, California, as the nation's oldest children's bookstore. It was founded in 1966 by a local mom and artist named Jane Humphrey and for decades has been a jewel of this Los Angeles County community.

But in 2003, the story almost came to an abrupt and sad ending.

Humphrey had decided it was time to sell the business — but had no takers and toyed with shutting the doors for good. So, Palacios, then only 9 years old and a voracious reader, wrote an impassioned letter to the editor of the local paper pleading for someone to buy her favorite store.

"I am sad because no one wants to buy the nice bookstore," she wrote. "Where am I going to get my fifth Harry Potter book if there is no Once Upon a Time bookstore?"

Palacios's mom Maureen found out about her daughter's letter and strong feelings when the newspaper called to verify the age of the young writer. Shortly after, the Palacios family, despite their lack of experience with retail, decided to take a major leap and buy the store.

From early on, Palacios played an important role at Once Upon a Time as a critic and reviewer of the latest books. Customers came to depend on the Excel spreadsheet where Jessica kept ratings for everything she'd read.

"The great thing about bookselling is that once you read a book and love it, you can share that love with someone else," Palacios says.

With its story hours, book clubs, author visits and focus on customer service, Once Upon a Time remains a literary hub for area families. And just like Palacios and her sister did when they were little, many local children consider it their favorite store.

The Little Shop That Could

The Palacios family's work at Once Upon a Time hasn't gone unnoticed. In 2015, the store won the prestigious Pannell Award from the Women's National Book Association, given annually to a bookstore whose community contributions encourage reading among children and young people. The next year, California State Senator Carol Liu named Once Upon a Time the California Small Business of the Year in her district. The store has also won a slew of local favorite business awards.

Yet, like many local retailers and restaurants in communities across the country, Once Upon a Time was hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Palacios were able to work together as a coordinated family unit to keep the business afloat. Fortunately, the store already had a website that was occasionally

used by customers to purchase books, and it also had a delivery service for the local neighborhood. Both proved invaluable for the new circumstances of shuttered doors and shutdowns.

Still, the family struggled. Especially for the first few months, the Palacios shouldered the burden of shifting their operation into online mode.

"We'd be at the store sometimes 18 hours a day, wrapping, packing boxes, doing everything we could do," Palacios says.

Again, a newspaper stepped back into the story. The Los Angeles Times ran a charming business profile — in the form of a children's story — on Once Upon a Time and its struggles. It was a wake-up call for the community that local businesses were struggling and needed help. And because the L.A. Times is syndicated, the story ran all over the country. Palacios and her family were fielding calls from places as far as Philadelphia and Florida asking, "What can we do to help?"

The media attention also led to a spot on "The Kelly Clarkson Show" in December 2020 that proved to be a turning point for the store.

"It was just an explosion that really helped get us through that holiday season and the new year," Palacios says.

Now, though it prides itself on being local, Once Upon a Time has extended its reach. While the store still thrives through Montrose foot traffic and in-store events, the online business has boomed. In addition to a brisk in-person business, the store now has regular customers in states as farflung as Hawaii and Tennessee.



Say hello to Pippi. Store visitors can have a purrrrr-fect reading companion in Pippi, the bookstore cat.

A Bookstore Away From Home

Palacios spent plenty of her four years at Whitman hitting the books as a double major in biology and English — and selling books to her classmates. In fact, her passion for books came up in her first interview with an admission officer, who encouraged her to apply at the campus bookstore once when she arrived in Walla Walla. She worked at the Whitman Bookstore throughout college and considered it her home away from home.

After graduation in 2016, Palacios tested the waters as an intern at a Minneapolis nonprofit house that focused on environmental writing, and then moved back to

California to work at The Huntington — which includes a library, art museum and botanical gardens. While each was meaningful work, she kept coming back to her family's bookstore as the place for her.

It's her degree in biology that Palacios says she uses the most for her work in the store.

"I'm a numbers person," she says. "I love throwing the numbers into a graph: book sales, the working margins of the store, the jump of sales in the online store." She believes her data, analytical and organizational skills help contribute to the success of the store.

That's not to say Palacios finds the less quantitative aspects of running a bookstore less important. When

the family took over the store, they added the tagline "Your Family Bookstore," and Palacios takes that to heart.

"My biggest goal is to see that every family is represented in our store, no matter what they look like," she says. "And if you don't have a family, you can find one here, whether in the pages or the people."

Palacios also finds it important to help customers embrace reading in all its forms. For instance, if a parent laments that their child is too wiggly to sit for story time, Palacio tells them that stories can also be absorbed while running around. And she believes that when it comes to defining reading, digital audio books and graphic



“My biggest goal is to see that every family is represented in our store, no matter what they look like. And if you don’t have a family, you can find one here, whether in the pages or the people.” —Jessica Palacios '16

novels count just as much as traditional books.


“People will say, ‘But that’s not reading,’” she says. “But it is! Reading comes in so many different forms. Take graphic novels or picture books, for instance. It takes a lot of skill and effort to read because so much happens from panel to panel or between pictures.”

Happily Ever After?

The Palacios are coming up on the 20-year anniversary of owning the store. Maureen is planning to retire at some point, so Palacios is thinking about how to combine her number-crunching

role with being the face of the store.

Meanwhile, the neighborhood where the store is located has changed significantly since the pandemic shuttered a lot of local businesses. Palacios hopes to remind people that they play a role in what their community looks like. Where and how people spend their money has direct effects on the look and feel of an area.

“If you want Montrose or downtown Walla Walla to be a place where you can walk your dog, take your kids, have a good evening out with your family, you need to put that as a priority,” Palacios says. “You need to take the time and invest in where you are, in your community.” 

WHIT PICKS

We headed over to our social media channels to ask Whitman alums for their favorite children’s books. Here are a few of those cherished gems.



“Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No-good, Very Bad Day”
Collin Smith '15

“One Morning in Maine”
Kristen Hein Long '97



The “Judy Moody” series
Emily Solomon '21

“Bernice Gets Carried Away”
Amalia Sletmoe '15



“Animalia”
Charlotte Scott '12

“The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales”
Madeline Gyongyosi '18



“Paper Bag Princess”
Jenny Patell '05

MAKING THE INVISIBLE VISIBLE



THROUGH HER WORK ON PFAS—THE “FOREVER CHEMICALS” FOUND IN COUNTLESS EVERYDAY PRODUCTS—ALISSA CORDNER REVEALS THE INTERPLAY OF POLITICS, SCIENCE AND SOCIOLOGY

BY TARA ROBERTS



In the field. Professor Cordner works a prescribed fire in Central Oregon as part of her research on wildland fire risk management.

When Alissa Cordner responds to a wildland fire as a Walla Walla County volunteer firefighter, her mind often connects back to her research at Whitman.

Cordner is an associate professor of sociology and an internationally recognized expert on PFAS—per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances. PFAS are a class of thousands of synthetic chemicals that scientists have linked to myriad health problems, including cancer and fertility issues. They're used across modern industrial processes and products, including to make items non-stick, waterproof, stain-resistant and fire-retardant.

Cordner's wildland firefighting gear is likely low in PFAS, and the substances used to put out wildland fires don't typically contain them. But when she responds to fires across the county or trains with other District 4 firefighters, she's surrounded by crews who typically focus on structure fires. Their PFAS story is different.

Structure firefighters are exposed to "a toxic chemical cocktail," Cordner says. High levels of PFAS can be found on their gear, in their personal protective equipment and in the foams they use to put out fires.

"The fire community is so focused on public safety and taking substantial risks in order to save the lives of other people," Cordner says. "It is just so unfair that they have been exposed to really high levels of PFAS and other toxic chemicals, just in the course of doing their work."

While firefighters have high levels of occupational exposure,

no one is exempt from PFAS. Studies have shown that 98% of Americans have PFAS in their bodies. And those chemicals don't break down easily. PFAS are dubbed "forever chemicals" because they can remain in the human body for a lifetime, and in the environment for thousands of years. Probably most concerning is that in some communities, often in industrial, agricultural and lower-income regions, PFAS seep into the drinking water — affecting all the population.

Cordner's work involves breaking down PFAS in a way that is possible: by understanding how the situation became so dire, laying out the realities of the problem, and giving regulators, community leaders and everyday people the tools they need to understand and reduce PFAS contamination — and point the world in a healthier direction.

How Did We Get Here?

It's a familiar story: a material is discovered, companies find a multitude of uses for it and problems arise later. By then, the material is ubiquitous. The government might restrict it, but rarely bans it. For instance, lead is still used in ammunition and some batteries.

"It's not as though once something is dangerous, we

“The fact that these compounds are used in consumer products and manufacturing processes means they don’t have to be there. It’s possible to create meaningful change.” —ALISSA CORDNER

stop using it,” Cordner says. “That’s just not how our system works.”

PFAS are even more complicated because they are a class of thousands of chemicals, not a single material. The first PFAS chemicals were synthesized in the 1930s, which led to PFAS-containing commercial products, such as Teflon, in the 1940s and ’50s.

Researchers began documenting PFAS toxicity in the 1960s. While some types have been phased out or restricted over the years, Cordner says, manufacturers often replace them with another type of PFAS.

“It’s not as simple as, ‘We found this one chemical that’s the problem, we’ll just pull it off the market and we’re good to go,’” she says. “It’s a much more complicated story of chemical use and substitution.”

What Is the PFAS Project Lab?

Cordner’s research has focused on toxic chemicals throughout her career. Shortly after joining the Whitman faculty in 2013, she and Phil Brown of Northeastern University founded the PFAS Project Lab.

With a grant from the National Science Foundation, they set out to explore the intersections of social, scientific and political factors related to PFAS.

“We had decades of knowledge that these chemicals were toxic, and that they were highly persistent, that they were bio-accumulative—in the human body, they didn’t break down,” Cordner says. “Why do we see such an uneven relationship between scientific discovery and then some sort of meaningful action to protect public health?”

The PFAS Project Lab now includes researchers from several nonprofits and institutions, including Rosie Mueller, an assistant professor of economics at Whitman.

One of the lab’s goals is to gather scientific and regulatory data and make them more accessible. This includes an interactive map showing hundreds of known PFAS contamination sites, community resources and state regulatory actions.

But some important PFAS-related data doesn’t exist. Most states don’t test drinking water or potentially contaminated sites for PFAS, and those that do may test in different ways. There is currently no federal standard for PFAS in drinking water that would require testing.

To address this, Cordner and her colleagues examined existing studies linking certain types of facilities to PFAS contamination, then created a map of more than 57,000 sites of presumptive contamination.

These include industrial facilities, wastewater treatment plants, military sites and more—including 519 airports, because the FAA requires training with fluorinated fire-fighting foam.

“We’re not saying that every single one of these sites is contaminated,” Cordner says. “However, we’re saying that if you don’t have data that says they’re not contaminated, you should proceed as though they are.”

Cordner said she and her colleagues strove to make their work detailed and transparent, so it’s replicable and useful. They share their data with researchers, regulators, community groups and anyone willing to take action.

“One of the major goals of our research in general is making information available to folks, so that they are better informed about the potential environmental risks around them to make them better able to advocate for what they want in terms of their own health.”

Groups who advocate for environmental justice and equity could also use the data, Cordner says. For example, advocates could identify presumptive sites on tribal reservation land or near other communities that are disproportionately affected by pollution.

How Are Whitman Students Helping?

Cordner’s students are also working members of the PFAS Project Lab team. Their education gives them valuable skills for studying such a complex issue, she says.

“The liberal arts model that we have at Whitman does such a wonderful job of building students’ critical thinking, their ability to evaluate data, their ability to understand how arguments are developed, and therefore where we might see bias or conflicts of interest,” she says.

In turn, the research experience benefits the students.

Senior Daniel Bloor, a sociology-environmental studies major from Santa Ana, California, spent the summer of 2022 as an undergraduate research assistant for Cordner and is extending his work into his senior thesis. He made a database of how PFAS is defined in legislation and is examining why states use different definitions.

Attending a conference in North Carolina showed him how his research reaches beyond the lab.

“I got to see stories from scientific experts, social science experts, activists and people who have been personally affected by PFAS,” Bloor says. “Hearing those stories made me see a lot more of what chemicals can do to people and families.”

Anna Allgeyer ’22 also turned her research with the lab



What's in it?

Alissa Cordner demonstrates use of the geology department's Portable X-Ray Fluorescence Spectrometry machine (pXRF). In the fall of 2021, her environmental health students used the pXRF to identify the chemical elements in everyday household products.



WHAT ARE PFAS?

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (or PFAS) are a class of thousands of chemicals that are widely used in consumer products, industrial applications, manufacturing processes and certain firefighting foams.

How does PFAS exposure occur?

PFAS exposure can occur in a variety of ways such as drinking contaminated water, eating contaminated food and using consumer products that contain PFAS. People can also be exposed to PFAS in the workplace, especially firefighters and people in certain industries. PFAS can cross the placenta and can accumulate in breast milk.

What are the health effects of PFAS?

In epidemiological studies in people and experimental studies in animals, PFAS exposure has been associated with:

- Increase in total cholesterol and LDL cholesterol
- Decreased antibody response to vaccines in children
- Decreased fertility in women
- Increased risk of pregnancy-induced hypertension and/or pre-eclampsia
- Kidney and testicular cancer
- Thyroid disease
- Chronic kidney disease, elevated uric acid, hyperuricemia and gout
- Liver damage
- Immune system disruption
- Adverse developmental outcomes, including small decrease in birth weight and altered mammary gland development

Adapted from: The PFAS Project Lab



KIM FETROW '96 OF KIM FETROW PHOTOGRAPHY

Noteworthy

Alissa Cordner's 2019 paper on PFAS guideline levels in the *Journal of Exposure Science & Environmental Epidemiology (JESEE)* won the 2020 Best JESEE Paper from the International Society of Exposure Science.

into her senior thesis, which focused on “regrettable substitution”—when a company removes a harmful chemical but replaces it with one that is less-studied, but potentially just as harmful.

Allgeyer’s research helped direct her focus toward environmental policy, and she recently started a fellowship in the Environmental Protection Agency’s Office of Water in Washington, D.C. While she’s not exactly sure where her career will go from here, her experience taught her that research can lead to change.

“Getting to work with Dr. Cordner and the PFAS Project Lab really gave me insight into how change happens both at the federal level and state level,” Allgeyer says. “It gave me a lot of real-world experience that was bigger than Whitman and opened my eyes to the real world of environmental problem solving.”

What Could the Future Hold?

A few major changes in PFAS regulation in the United States are on the horizon.

The federal government is expected to define maximum water contaminant levels for two types of PFAS, Cordner says—which means everyone whose drinking water comes from public water systems should have regular testing for those two chemicals in a few years.

While this is a step in the right direction—the two types, PFOA and PFOS, are not in the majority of PFAS being produced in the United States anymore. PFOA and PFOS are also proposed for the Superfund program’s hazardous substances list, which Cordner says could have big implications for the overall classification of PFAS.

Cordner and her colleagues at the lab would like to see the world adopt an “essential use framework” approach to PFAS.

“We think that regulatory and legislative efforts should target PFAS as a chemical class and should really be targeting stopping the ongoing uses and preventing any new uses of PFAS pretty much across the board, with maybe a few small exceptions for uses that are truly seen as necessary for the functioning of society, and for which there is no safer alternative,” she says.

There are reasons for optimism going forward. For one, Cordner says, people affected by PFAS have become central to regulatory processes and scientific research.

“In the last couple of years, you see a much greater recognition of the importance of including the voices and perspectives and experiences of those who are highly impacted by contamination. This is really a model for other environmental health issues that have a community impact.”

For hope and motivation in her own research, Cordner references biologist Sandra Steingraber, who is a cancer survivor and an expert on environmental links to cancer and human health. Cordner uses Steingraber’s book, “Living Downstream,” in her Environmental Health class, a 300-level environmental studies and sociology class to help her students understand the scope and gravity of the chemicals in our everyday lives.

“Steingraber talks about how it’s actually very hopeful that so many of our concerns about environmental causes of cancer or other health impacts have really direct human causes, because then we can change them,” Cordner says. “The fact that these compounds are used in consumer products and manufacturing processes means they don’t have to be there. It’s possible to create meaningful change.” **W**

WHAT CAN I DO ABOUT PFAS?

It’s virtually impossible to avoid PFAS, says Alissa Cordner, co-director of the PFAS Project Lab. But individuals can be part of the solution in small and large ways. Here are some of Cordner’s tips:

Find out if your drinking water is or may be contaminated. While there isn’t yet a federal maximum level for PFAS, some states have their own. The PFAS Project Lab maps levels in areas that test drinking water, and includes tools for assessing your risk in areas that do not regularly test. If you’re concerned your drinking water may be contaminated, the best water filtration option appears to be multistage, under-the-sink filters, Cordner says.

Check your pans. Cordner suggests disposing of non-stick pans when

the surface starts to break down. When you buy new pans, look for ones independently verified as PFAS-free (not just PFOA- or PFOS-free). Cast iron is an affordable option.

Learn about PFAS-free products. Avoid products with unnecessary stain and water repellents. Green Science Policy keeps a list at pfascentral.org.

Ask. Reach out to your state’s department of health or environmental protection and ask them to do more PFAS testing.

Vote. If you care about PFAS regulation and environmental health more generally, find out whether people on the ballot in your area care, too.

Advocate. Not everyone can afford to buy new products or install filtration systems. And even if everyone could, solving the PFAS problem requires more than individual action. The biggest thing one person can do is push for systemic change, Cordner says. Talk to your elected officials about PFAS or join an advocacy group.

Help Us Honor Excellence!

Nominate a Whittie for an Alumni Association Recognition Award!

There are multiple categories for recognition:

- **Pete Reid Award** for young alumni of the last 10 years.
- **Gordon Scribner Award** for distinguished service to the college.
- **Sally Rodgers Award** for lifetime achievement of alumni graduating 50 or more years ago.
- **Trailblazer Award** for alumni whose work exemplifies inclusion, promotes equity and values, and reflects the diversity of our world.
- **Alumna or Alumnus of Merit Award**, the highest honor the Alumni Association gives.

Tell us about an outstanding Whittie and learn more at whitman.edu/alumni-awards.

**Nominations
are due by Friday,
March 10, 2023.**

Serve Your Alma Mater on the Alumni Board of Directors

The Alumni Association Board of Directors seeks new board members who will bring diverse perspectives and serve as advisors to the Office of Alumni Relations.

Apply soon!

Contact Jennifer Northam '91, director of alumni relations, at northajl@whitman.edu or call 509-526-4794 by March 1, 2023.

Candidates of all backgrounds are encouraged to apply for the board, particularly alumni who identify as people of color, those who live in the San Francisco Bay area, and/or representatives from Whitman classes from the '70s and '80s.

More information can be found at whitman.edu/alumni-board.

Class Notes



Jane Ryan Koler '70 shared this photo from an annual gathering of Whittie Women in Gig Harbor, Washington. From left to right: Carolyn Findlay Kiefer '70, Elizabeth Anderson '70, Koler, Judy Minium '70 and Lorna Corrigan '77.



Jeanne McMenemy '71 was recognized during Whitman's 50th Reunion celebration for the classes of 1970 and 1971 for her beautiful calligraphy work, featured on more than a decade of alumni association recognition awards. McMenemy's work has graced Whitman documents for more than 30 years, including Honorary Doctorates, "Town/Gown" awards, bookplates for the library and alumni recognition awards. Pictured: McMenemy with David Current '71 and his 2022 Gordon Scribner Award that she designed and created.



April Brookins Duvic '77 discovered a fellow Whitman alum, Greg Kornrumph '84, on her recent Douro River cruise on the Iberian Peninsula. She overheard a conversation about Walla Walla and was thrilled to meet another Whittie. They posed for this shot in the gardens of the Mateus Palace outside the town of Regua, Portugal.

1950s

Marianne Mercer Heimes '54 was reelected to a third four-year term on the Chatham County Georgia Board of Elections in Savannah. Heimes also published her second book titled, "Island Memories One More Time: Raised Among the Marshes, Oaks, and Tidal Breezes on the East Side of Savannah" in 2021. She lives on a large, populated island in Savannah with her dog Princess and a beautiful view of the marsh.

Dale Penrose Harrell '59 was selected the winner of the Virginia Library Association's Trustee Library Award for 2022. She earned her M.A. from Duke University in 1960, married a southerner, and has lived in Virginia since that time. After several years as a therapist in Norfolk, Virginia, she went into education as a librarian, first in the local hospital and later at an elementary school and local high school. She served on the board of the Chesapeake Public Library and has been the class representative for the Whitman College classes of 1959 and 1960 for many years.

Central Washington by The Best Lawyers in America, a national organization identifying and highlighting the top legal talent in the United States.

Ceil Lucas '73 was named to the Linguistic Society of America (LSA) 2023 Class of Fellows. Fellows are selected by the at-large members of the LSA executive committee for their distinguished contributions to the discipline. Dr. Lucas is professor emerita at Gallaudet University. She is a sociolinguist with broad interests in the structure and use of sign languages.

1980s

Mark Cohen '80 was appointed to serve on Colorado's Combative Sports Commission (formerly the Colorado Boxing Commission) by Colorado Governor Jared Polis. Cohen and his wolfhound, Astro, live in Fort Collins, but also spend time at their other home near a lake in the Nebraska Sandhills.

Kathryn Works Schipper '83 retired after more than 30 years with King County Superior Court, including four years as director of operations. She reports that being an attorney has been fascinating and rewarding, but she's looking forward to the next chapter of life.

Mary Stickle '84 is wrapping up two years as U.S. State Department export control and border security advisor for the Western Balkans, based in Belgrade, Serbia.

Kirby Gould Mason '86 has been included in 2023's Best Lawyers in America for Medical Malpractice Law-Defendants. The Best Lawyers in America is an annual publication that recognizes attorneys for outstanding achievements in their areas of practice. Mason is a partner in the litigation practice group at HunterMaclean and serves as the firm's general counsel in Savannah, Georgia.

1970s



R. Duncan MacKenzie '70 was awarded the Entertainment Services and Technology Association's Lifetime Technical Achievement Award in March 2022. This award recognizes individuals who have been a sustaining influence for more than 25 years and whose technical contributions have had a significant impact on the world of entertainment technology.

Terry Abeyta '73 has been selected as 2022 Personal Injury Lawyer of the Year for

Anne Barela '85 (right) moved to the Space Coast of Florida in 2019, where she continues to work for Adafruit as a consulting engineer. Her wife, Amy Lendian, is an engineer on the NASA Artemis program (see page 26 for their wedding announcement).

While attending the NASA Social Event for the Artemis I launch, Barela discovered one of the other invitees was **Skylar Grayson '21** (left). They toured the Kennedy Space Center, heard from top NASA personnel and astronauts and attended the launch attempt. This photo was taken in the enormous NASA Vehicle Assembly Building where spacecraft are stacked.



2000s

Maureece Levin '03 accepted a position as an assistant professor of anthropology at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Prior to this appointment, she served as a lecturer at Valdosta State University in Valdosta, Georgia.

Carissa Klarich '05 earned her Doctor of Medicine degree in January 2022 from the University of North Dakota School of Medicine & Health Sciences. She's currently doing her psychiatry residency at the University of Nevada-Reno.

Caroline McCullough '08 celebrated her 13th year with the Vancouver Police Department in Vancouver, B.C. After five years in the robbery, assault and arson unit, she now works as a detective in the homicide unit.

Luke Sanford '09 is now an assistant professor of environmental policy and governance at the Yale School of the Environment. He earned his Ph.D. in political science and international affairs from the University of California-San Diego.



Brad Changstrom '05 (pictured at left) is associate professor of medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and head team primary care physician for the Colorado Avalanche. Dr. Changstrom lives in Denver with his wife, Anne Marie, and boys Miles, 3, and Beau, 1. Pictured: After the Avalanche won the NHL 2022 Championship, Changstrom '05 got his photo-op moment with the Stanley Cup.

Blair Pogue '86 was named as the canon for vitality and innovation for the Episcopal Church in Minnesota, having spent more than 16 years serving as the rector of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in St. Paul. In his free time, Pogue plays on two tennis teams and is hoping one of them will go to U.S. Tennis Association National Championships (one of his teams made it to Nationals in Oklahoma City in October 2021).

Linda Barnes '87 fulfilled the degree requirements of a Doctor of Public Health and graduated in May 2022 from the University of Illinois-Chicago.

Ralph Eronemo '89 recently celebrated 10 years since moving back to Walla Walla. He remarried in 2017, and has two daughters, two stepdaughters, and four grandchildren with his wife, Amber, who works in the Whitman art department. Last year, Eronemo's real estate office became a local Berkshire Hathaway affiliate.

1990s

Tom Hagley Jr. '90, retired from Vancouver Public Schools after 30 years of service as a district administrator. He is now a strategic communication consultant for LSW Architects PC and other clients.

Jennifer Irvine Forbes '93 was elected 2022-2023 President of the Washington State Superior Court Judges' Association.



Alex Raines '04 moved with his family to Gisborne, New Zealand in April 2022 after what he says was a long search for a way to experience the practice of medicine in a more functional healthcare system. He reports that so far, the work has been incredibly fulfilling and a welcome reminder of how joyful medicine can be. The family of four—including wife, Elizabeth; daughter, Elenora; and son, Owen — have enjoyed the natural beauty and welcoming community of the small coastal city. Read more about their adventures at alexanderraines.com.



Beth Frieden '08, Anna Dart '08 and **Courtland Ferreria-Douglas '08** had a mini-Anderson reunion in New Hampshire. Frieden and Dart are both actors, in Scotland and in New York City, respectively. Ferreria-Douglas is teaching chemistry at Pope John XXIII High School in Boston.

Happily Ever After



Adam Caniparoli '10 to Miriam Schwartz, on Oct. 17, 2021, in Portland, Oregon.

From left to right: **Harrison Fulop '10, Alex Kerr '10, Erin Roden '02, Stacey Sobell, Spenser Meeks '10, Lee Graber, Anna Sky '11, Schwartz, Caniparoli, Katie Levy Price '09, Jake Price, Lisa Mattson '10, Duncan Hwang.** Not pictured: **Eliana Schwartz '16.**

Tell Us About It!

Whether you're just starting your first job, embarking on a career change, or preparing to retire after a fulfilling life's work, we want to help you share your news with your classmates. To submit your big news, visit whitman.edu/classnotes.



Anne Barela '85 to Amy Lendian, Aug. 6, 2022, at the Kennedy Space Center Visitors Complex on Merritt Island, Florida.



Katharine Curles '07 to Kyle Clemens, June 18, 2022, at Pioneer Park in Walla Walla.

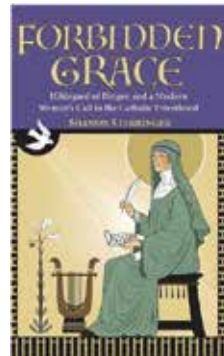
Members of the Whitman community in attendance (many pictured here): **Leann Adams '03, Jose Beleche '15, Jenn Blomme, Betsy Russell Carroll '07, Russell Carroll '07, Stuart Chapin, Leslie Compean Clark '08, Juli Dunn, Keith Farrington, Nora Feeney '07, Anne Gaskins '14, Lish Riley Gutierrez, Shirley Harper, John Hein, Noah Henry-Darwish '12, Max Hennings '09, Nicole Hyatt '11, Andrew Johnson '09, Abby Juhasz, Mark Juhasz, Becky Kennedy '96, Jamie Kennedy '96, Adam Kirtley, Andrea Kunz '07, Adam Miller, Alejandra Perez-Cuellar '23, Susan Prudente, Anniqve Rice '14, Emily Seider '07, Brien Sheedy, Jose Silva '25, Lexi Sturm '16, Nancy Tavelli and Victoria Wolff '12.**

Whittie Authors



Whitney Griggs '13 to Mackenzie Stanley '16, May 28, 2022, in San Rafael, California. They met through the Whitman Cycling Team and started dating in April 2013.

From left to right: **Alberto Santos-Davidson '15, Molly Blust '13, Allie Stanley '19** (sister of the bride), Griggs, Stanley, **Rose Baunach '16, Jenna Stanley '16, Debi Toews '76, Lizzy Embury '13, Kristin Nesbit '16**. Not in photo: **Matthew Morriss '13**. Photo credit: Susan Alder Photography



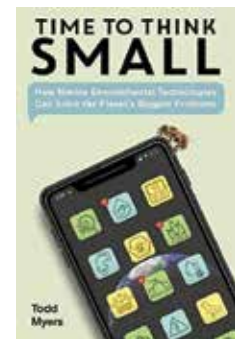
Roy Carlisle '69 and Robert D. Frager, Ph.D., co-owners of PageMill Press, LLC, have issued their first book, "Forbidden Grace: Hildegard von Bingen and a Modern Woman's Call to the Catholic Priesthood," a dual memoir which tells the parallel stories of Reverend Dr. Shanon Sterring and Hildegard von Bingen. It tells the story of the remarkable and unique journey of a medieval German mystic called to sainthood and a modern Roman Catholic woman called to priesthood and the unlikely relationship that developed between the two.



Jed Henson '91 self-published "All In," a techno-thriller about Jim Ericssen, a white hat (mostly) hacker who loses his anonymous, loner lifestyle when he crosses swords with a powerful, alien artificial intelligence burrowed deep into the internet. To get his life back, Jim must work with the government to defeat the AI and save humanity.



Michele Swaner '76 published "Haunted Brooklyn" under the pseudonym Kat Snow. The book features classic ghost stories and hauntings that took place in the New York borough. She reports that use of a pen name was liberating and made sense, given her theater degree at Whitman. Swaner and her husband, Tom Vitelli, lived in Manhattan and their daughter lived in the Greenpoint area of Brooklyn, so they had many occasions to revisit these neighborhoods. She now lives in Salt Lake City, Utah, serving as advancement coordinator for mathematics and physics for the College of Science at Utah University.



J. Todd Myers '91 has published his second book, "Time to Think Small: How Nimble Environmental Technologies Can Solve the Planet's Biggest Problems" (Imagine! Publishing). Myers demonstrates how personal technologies are creating what the Environmental Defense Fund calls "a transformational shift" in how we address environmental problems. He discusses how these brand-new approaches are already playing a huge role in winning some of the most difficult and important environmental struggles of our day — from fighting climate change, to ensuring drinkable water for everyone, to saving endangered animals, to keeping plastic out of the ocean. Myers and his wife live in the Cascade Mountains in Washington state.

Little Whitties



To Kyle and **Morgan Zelif Shimabuku '06**, a son, Collden "Coll" Zeke Shimabuku, born July 21, 2021, in Spokane, Washington. He joins brother Rivers, 4.



To **Tyler '09** and **Rosie McAninch Brownlow-Calkin '09**, a son, Wallace "Wally" Brownlow-Calkin.

In Memoriam

1940s

Merilyn Hurlbut

Gripenwaldt '48, June 18, 2021, in Pacific Palisades, California. After working as a legal secretary, she later became a top security aerospace secretary at Rand Corporation and TRW. She married journalist Raoul E. Gripenwaldt in 1956 and together they raised two children. She spent her retirement teaching leadership in the Santa Monica Group of Community Bible Studies. Predeceased by her husband, she is survived by two children, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

1950s

Jerry "Spud" Cundiff, Jr. '51,

Sept. 6, 2022, in Walla Walla. Prior to attending Whitman, Cundiff served in the U.S. Navy, on the hospital ship USS Comfort. Upon his discharge, he returned to Walla Walla, married Ruth Jeanne Schneidmiller in 1949 and graduated from Whitman in 1951. Cundiff joined Falkenbergs Jewelers and eventually became a co-owner. He was involved in many local organizations and was a noted supporter of Downtown Walla Walla. Predeceased by his wife, Cundiff is survived by two children, four grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Ruby "LaVerne" Kralman

Williams '51, April 21, 2022, in Walla Walla. After graduation, she married **George Williams '51** in 1952. She taught at Rigler Elementary School in Portland, Oregon, then settled in Forest Grove to raise her family. The Williams were rock collectors and were among the founding members of the

Tualatin Valley Gem Club. In retirement the couple relocated to Walla Walla. Predeceased by her husband of 67 years, she is survived by her four children, nine grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

Bruce McFadden '52, July 7,

2022, in Cashmere, Washington. After Whitman, he earned his Ph.D. in biochemistry from UCLA. He became an instructor and later a professor at Washington State University (WSU) in Pullman. In 1958, McFadden married **Roberta Wilson '57** and they raised two sons. He had a distinguished career as a professor, receiving the National Institute of Health Research Career Development Award at WSU from 1963-1969 and honored as a Fellow by the American Association for Advancement of Science. In 1978, Whitman awarded an honorary Doctor of Science degree to McFadden for his advancements in biochemistry. Following the death of his first wife in 2000, he married Jean Toms in 2000 and they spent their time in Palm Springs, California, and Pullman until she passed in 2018. He is survived by his three sons and four grandchildren.

R. Everett Harris '53, May 18,

2022, in Mesa, Arizona. After Whitman, he earned his law degree from the University of Washington. He practiced law in Anchorage, Alaska, specializing in construction law and litigation from 1958 to 1995. In retirement, he relocated to Arizona and was active in theater and choral performance. He was predeceased by his wife, **Sally Maxon Harris '56**. Harris is survived by three children, seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Marji Wilbur Parker '53, June

30, 2022, in Pasco, Washington. After Whitman, she earned her master's degree from, Washington State University. She married **Ivan Parker '50** in 1960; they raised two children together. Parker worked as a teacher at Columbia Basin College (CBC) in Pasco, and later as a contract specialist for the Atomic Energy Commission and the Department of Energy until her retirement in 1998. She was involved in the AAUW and volunteered for the Children's Home Society and Alpha Phi Eastern Washington. Parker was the first woman appointed to the Board of Trustees of CBC. She was preceded in death by her husband. She is survived by her sons **Neil '87** and Scott, and a granddaughter.

Jack Ringo '53, April 21, 2022,

in Flemington, New Jersey. A veteran of the U.S. Navy, Ringo spent his career as an internal auditor for Warner-Lambert/Pfizer Pharmaceuticals, traveling all over the world until his retirement. After retirement, he volunteered with senior citizens clubs to help members with their finances. Ringo is survived by his wife of 33 years, Jackie Daly, two sons, seven stepchildren, five grandchildren and eight step-grandchildren.

David Sumbardo '55,

June 10, 2022, in Vacaville, California. After Whitman, he earned his M.A. in public policy and administration from the University of Washington. Sumbardo was the first city administrator in Fairfax, California, and owned and managed a print shop in Napa. His favorite career was his last, working as a job coach and trainer with adults with developmental disabilities until retiring at age 82. Sumbardo is survived by his wife, Gloria, two children, five stepchildren and two grandsons.

John Makey '56, March 1, 2022, in Thurston County, Washington. He served in the U.S. Army and worked his entire career in the federal government, retiring from the Federal Emergency Management Agency as the director of Disaster Response & Recovery of Region 10. Makey is survived by a niece and nephew.

Raye Murray '56, May 10,

2022, in Windsor, California. After graduation, he married **Jan Rubey '58**; they were married for 65 years and raised two daughters together. Following service in the U.S. Army, he joined his father-in-law, **James T. Rubey '27**, as a partner at San Francisco Placement Agency, Inc. Murray retired as president of the firm, which recruited primarily technical and scientific personnel nationwide. He played golf until he was 87 years old and skied until he was 78. Raye is survived by his wife, his daughter **Robin Murray Morris '80**, son-in-law **Stephen Morris '80**, daughter Susan Murray and two grandchildren. More than 20 members of the extended family have been associated with Whitman.

William Brunswig '59, June

27, 2022, in Fountain Hill, Arizona. He was the third-generation owner of Brunswig's Shoes, Inc., the state's oldest family shoe store in Chehalis, Washington, until he and his wife, Jessie, retired to Cabo San Lucas, Baja California Sur, in Mexico. The couple moved to Fountain Hills in 2017 due to his failing health. Brunswig is survived by his wife of 33 years, two sons, two stepchildren and three grandchildren.

Jeanyne Smyth Locke '59, March 31, 2022, in Kirkland, Washington. After graduation, she married **John Brunzell '59** and raised three children

together; they later divorced. She worked as the executive secretary for the mayor of Bellevue, Washington, where she met Allen Locke. They married in 1978 and were together for more than 35 years until his death in 2014. Locke was a partner in their family businesses, Locke & Co., and Locke Enterprise. She is survived by her children, stepchildren and seven grandchildren.

Roger Lawson '59, April 30,

2021, in Columbia, Maryland. He married **Mary Johnson '59** in 1957. After Whitman, he earned his B.S. in botany and his Ph.D. in plant pathology at Oregon State University in Corvallis. He won a postdoctoral Fulbright fellowship to the Netherlands. During his 36-year career with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Lawson directed the florist and nursery crops laboratory in Beltsville, Maryland, served as a national program leader, and traveled the world to search for new floral species. He was named Outstanding Scientist of the Year by the Agricultural Research Service. Lawson is survived by his wife and three children.

Clarence "Cip" Paulsen,

Jr. '59, June 11, 2022, in Sandpoint, Idaho. He served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War. Paulsen married Evelyn Snow and they had three children; they later divorced. The family settled in Seattle, where he worked as a district manager for Shell Oil Company. In 1963, the family moved to Spokane, where Paulsen began a career in business, buying and selling businesses and properties. He married Ottilie "Tillie" Neiderly Walker and after his retirement at age 50, they spent winters in Rancho Mirage, California, and summers in Idaho. Predeceased by his wife, Paulsen is survived by his three children.

Preston Johnson '59, Feb. 27, 2022, in Federal Way, Washington. After Whitman, Johnson served in the U.S. Army, stationed at Fort Benning, Georgia. He married **Elizabeth Strandberg Johnson '59** in 1961. He taught in the Federal Way school district, then earned his law degree from the University of Washington Law School. Johnson opened his own practice, where his wife joined him as legal secretary and office manager. As one of the first attorneys in the area to specialize in elder care, in 2001 he was named Elder Law Member of the Year by the Washington Chapter of National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys. He retired in 2006, and became involved in Volkssport, a noncompetitive walking activity. He was inducted into the American Volkssport Association Hall of Fame in 2001. Johnson is survived by his wife of more than 60 years, three children and two grandchildren.

Judy Masters Rew '59, March 31, 2022, in Pendleton, Oregon. She married **Lawrence Rew '58** in 1957 and they raised two children, first in Salem, Oregon, and then in Pendleton. Rew was active in many local organizations, including PEO (Philanthropic Educational Organization). Predeceased by her husband, her survivors include her children, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Howard Wallenberg '59, April 22, 2022, in Surprise, Arizona. After Whitman, he worked for Scientific Supplies, moving to California for several positions. He then worked for The Boeing Company as a systems analyst, retiring in 1995. In retirement, Wallenberg owned an RV lot in Surprise. He is survived by his wife of more than 60 years, Barbara, three children and four grandchildren.

1960s

Ann Parsons Dark '60, April 12, 2022, in Peshastin, Washington. After Whitman, she earned her B.S.N. from the University of Washington. She married Tom Dark in 1962 and together they had two sons. She had a long career as a pediatric nurse at a Group Health clinic. In retirement the Darks traveled extensively. Survivors include her husband, her sons and four grandchildren.

Larry Pierce '61, Aug. 13, 2022, in Touchet, Washington. He married his high school sweetheart, Barbara Rogers, in 1956, and the couple purchased a farm they called Pierce's Green Valley. He later opened Pierce's Green Valley RV Park and Hay Sales. Predeceased by his wife, Pierce is survived by three children and two grandchildren.

Isabel McPhee Berney '63, Nov. 16, 2021, in Blacksburg, Virginia. She married **Donald Berney '63** in 1963; together they raised two daughters until his death in 1987. She later married Morton Nadler. Berney was a school librarian/information specialist and retired as director of technology for Pulaski County Schools in 2000. She is survived by her two daughters, a stepdaughter and five grandchildren.

Claire Eckart Brouillard '62, April 1, 2022, in Ponderay, Idaho. Following graduation, she accepted a teaching position in Lompoc, California. She married Julian Brouillard in 1964; they raised a son and were together until his death in 1987. The family moved to Sandpoint, Idaho, where Brouillard taught at Farmin Stidwell Elementary School, retiring in 1999. In her retirement, she became an active member of the Monday Hikers and was a member of the Alpha Delta Kappa organization

Whitman Leaders

Carolyn Vester McMurchie '54, May 18, 2022, in Portland, Oregon. She married **Charles "Jack" McMurchie '53** in 1954; they were married for 61 years and raised four children together. McMurchie was a dedicated volunteer. For Whitman, she was a class representative and served on the Whitman Board of Overseers from 1979–1994, when she was named Overseer Emerita. She served on the boards of directors for more than a dozen Portland-area organizations and was recognized as an outstanding leader by the Junior League of Portland, Lewis & Clark College, and Metropolitan Family Service. In 2014, McMurchie was awarded the Whitman College Gordon Scribner Award for Distinguished Service. Predeceased by her husband and a son, McMurchie is survived by her son, Steve, his wife, Marie, and their children, Duncan and Jack; her daughter, **Susan McMurchie Krieger '82**, her husband, Eric, and their children, Morgan, Max and Kennon; and son **Brad '84**, his wife, Julie, and their children, **Kate '15**, **Grace '16** and **Simon '20**, as well as eight grandchildren.



Dennis "Denny" Davin '56, April 30, 2022, in Kennewick, Washington. At Whitman, Davin was an economics and business administration major and a member of Phi Delta Theta. He earned his M.B.A. from Columbia University in New York and had a career in banking and development, retiring as the owner of Davin Land and Livestock Co. in 2007. Davin served as an Overseer for the College for 15 years and was named Overseer Emeritus in 1996. He was a longtime member of the Whitman Farm Committee and served on the committee for his 50th Reunion. He is survived by his wife, Verna, and four stepchildren.

Gene Adams '53, Aug. 20, 2022, in Walla Walla. In 1953, he married **Betty Brown '55** and together they raised three children. Adams served in the U.S. Army and the couple was stationed in Oxfordshire, England. Upon his return to the states, he earned a master's degree in education from Eastern Washington College of Education in Cheney, Washington, and taught in the public schools in Odessa, Washington. The family made Walla Walla their permanent home in 1968, where Adams served as a Whitman College admissions officer and retired as director of financial aid services in 1995. He was a co-founder of the Friends of Children of Walla Walla mentoring program, and after retiring, volunteered for many years with a first-grade class. He was named the Art Regier Volunteer of the Year by Walla Walla Public Schools. Adams served as chair of his 20th, 25th and 65th reunions and was a founding member of the Whitman College Athletics Hall of Fame committee. In 2018, he was awarded the Gordon Scribner Award for Distinguished Service by the Alumni Association. Predeceased by his wife, he is survived by his children and two grandchildren.



Barbara Saxe Stubblefield '66, May 8, 2022, in Walla Walla. After graduation, she married Francis Stubblefield, an area farmer who died in 1974. She served on many local boards over the years including AAUW, Planned Parenthood, YWCA, Fort Walla Walla Museum and the Walla Walla Symphony. Stubblefield joined the Whitman staff as Alumni Fund director in 1981. She was responsible for transforming the operation of the Alumni Fund, adding a phonathon, a leadership conference, a Parents Council and class representatives. She was a recipient of the Whitman College Town Gown award, which recognizes Whitman volunteers in the Walla Walla community. She retired in 2008. She is survived by her children, **Laura Saxe-O'Brien '91** and Robert Saxe; three grandchildren; and a sister, Jane Saxe Robison.

for women educators. She is survived by her son, her sisters, **Marlene Eckart Gloege '57** and **Patricia Ann Eckart '59**.

Hugh James '63, April 19, 2022, in Seattle. At Whitman, he was a German major and played in the band. James is survived by his wife, Ellinor.

Jo'Anne Shields Johnson '65, May 16, 2022, in Portland, Oregon. After Whitman, she went on to graduate school at SUNY Binghamton in upstate New York to study French. She relocated to Portland where she met Ken Johnson; they were married in 1968 and raised two children. After volunteering for the PTA, Boy Scouts and Blue Birds, she went back to work as a foreign language substitute teacher in East Multnomah County. Predeceased by her husband, Johnson's survivors include her son, her daughter, three grandchildren and two birth-daughters.

Christopher Davidson '66, Aug. 29, 2022, in Boise, Idaho. After Whitman, he earned his M.S. and Ph.D. in botany and plant sciences at Claremont McKenna College in California. He became Curator of Botany at the Los Angeles Natural History Museum. In 1980, Davidson returned to Boise and started the Idaho Botanical Garden. He managed other botanical projects, culminating in his final work, floraoftheworld.org — he and his wife, Sharon Christoph, traveled the world documenting flowering plant families. Survivors include his wife, three children and five grandchildren.

Judy Richardson Kneebone '67, Nov. 6, 2021, in Cedaredge, Colorado. She married **Terry Kneebone '64** in 1964 and moved to Salt Lake City, where she managed the Ute Swim School while he attended graduate school. Over the years, she accompanied her husband on foreign service assignments

around the world. She also volunteered as Girl Scout leader and swim team coach while raising their three children. When they retired to Cedaredge, she explored a passion for folk art, selling her crafts at shows and donating the profits to charities for abused children and animals. She was predeceased by two infant daughters and is survived by her husband, three children and three grandchildren.

David Salzer '67, May 22, 2022, in Shelton, Washington. After a career in accounting, Salzer became the first fire marshal for Mason County, retiring as assistant chief of the Shelton Fire Department. Predeceased by brothers **Allen '51** and **James '51**, survivors include his wife Elinor, and two daughters.

Bruce Voyles '68, May 24, 2022, in Grinnell, Iowa. He married **Martha Marriner '68** in 1969 and they raised a son and daughter. After Whitman, Voyles earned his Ph.D. in cell biology from Purdue University. He did postdoctoral research at the Michigan Cancer Foundation, then joined the faculty at Grinnell College. During his tenure, Voyles chaired the science division and taught microbiology, virology, molecular biology and mentored student researchers. He is survived by his wife and his children.

Ron Ditmars '69, Feb. 28, 2022, in Nantucket, Massachusetts. He married Nancy Guthrie in 1982 and they raised three daughters. After Whitman, he completed his B.A. in economics at Kenyon College, and earned his M.Div. from Union Theological Seminary (Union). Ditmars had a career in academia, teaching at Union, Fordham University and Pace University. In 2006 he founded and served as director of the Erasmus Academy in New York, a language school.

Sharon Masse '69, Aug. 2, 2022, in Seattle. She married Gary Magnuson in 1982 and raised two daughters. Masse was a high school biology teacher in the Seattle Public Schools. She loved to travel; between 2009 and 2018, Masse and Magnuson visited 22 different countries. Survivors include her husband, her daughters and two grandchildren.

1970s

G. Andrew Bjurman '70, April 14, 2022, in Pacific Palisades, California. After Whitman, he joined his father in establishing the firm George D. Bjurman & Associates (now Bjurman, Barry & Associates). He was a chartered financial analyst, worked as a portfolio manager and became president and chief executive officer. Predeceased by his parents, survivors include his sister, Susan.

Sarah Mantz '73, July 7, 2022, in Seattle. She was part owner of a wheat ranch in Waitsburg, Washington, which her father's family homesteaded in the mid-1800s. After Whitman, she moved to Seattle where her parents had settled after their retirement, and became a real estate property management professional, managing the Northgate Mall, South Center Mall and The Commons in Federal Way. Mantz moved to Anchorage, Alaska, where she was president and CEO of Carr-Gottstein, managing their numerous properties. When she returned to Seattle, she went to work at the University of Washington for the MEDEX Northwest program. Predeceased by her parents and a sister, **Mary Lee Mantz Doran '64**, she is survived by her sister, **Jennifer Mantz '67**, and several cousins, including **Lynn Mantz-Powers '66**.

Stephen Nilson '73, Aug. 3, 2022, in Milton-Freewater, Oregon. After graduation from Whitman, Nilson worked for the Ferdinand Roten Galleries in Maryland as their Northwest sales representative. After working in construction, he started a small business called Steve's Mobile Home Service, offering transport and setup of manufactured homes as well as doing repair work with a team of employees. He retired at the age of 62 and through the years, Nilson's artwork won numerous prizes and has been shown at a variety of galleries in Oregon and Washington. Survivors include his wife of 35 years, Sharon Carroll Nilson and two sons.

Mark Wyatt '73, March 19, 2022, in San Diego. After Whitman, he learned to survey while working for the Forest Service in Oregon, Washington and Alaska. Wyatt was a licensed surveyor, working for the California Department of Transportation, counties in the Pacific Northwest and private firms. He enjoyed backpacking, mountaineering, skiing and sailing, crewing racing sailboats in the San Diego area. Predeceased by his parents, Wyatt is survived by a sister and a brother.

Raymond Tom '78, Sept. 7, 2021, in Mililani, Hawaii. After Whitman, he earned his master's degree in public policy and administration from the University of Washington. Tom was a program analyst for the U.S. Navy. Survivors include his parents and sister.

Ronald Willis '78, June 8, 2022, in Aloha, Oregon. After Whitman, he did genetics research at the Oregon Graduate Institute, and research and development at Intel. Willis was a peer support group co-facilitator at National Alliance on Mental Illness of Washington County.

Predeceased by his wife, Stephanie Shafer Willis, his survivors include his sisters, nieces and nephews.

Alan Murphy '79, May 6, 2022, in Seattle. He married **Katherine Hoover '79** in 1989. Murphy worked as an architect, but his passion was for the outdoors. He was a member of the Cascade Dogs Search and Rescue Unit at Packwood for 20 years, raising and training his own dogs for rescue work. He is survived by his wife.

1980s

Scott Morrow '80, April 19, 2022, in Everett, Washington. After Whitman, he became a VISTA volunteer in Seattle and later worked at the Seattle Tenants Union. As homelessness increased in the 1980s, Morrow helped in the development of Seattle's SHARE/WHEEL, which helps provide emergency housing through a network of churches. Scott later helped organize Nickelsville, the first organization in the region to use tiny homes to house the homeless. Morrow is survived by his partner, Peggy Hotes, as well as his parents, a brother and many cousins.

John English '81, Aug. 9, 2021, in Tacoma, Washington. Survivors include three children, five sisters and four brothers.

Carol Sanders '81, May 26, 2022, in Sedona, Arizona. She studied civil engineering at the University of Washington, receiving her B.S. in 1984. In 1991, Sanders founded SAI Engineering, Inc. in Seattle. Under her leadership of more than 30 years, SAI worked on projects that changed the skyline of Seattle, including Safeco Field, Starbucks Center, Quest Field and Terminal 18. As a recognized expert on dredging and remediation, Sanders

remediated some of the world's most contaminated waterways. She eventually became a dual-state resident dividing her time between Sheridan, Wyoming, and Sedona, Arizona. Sanders is survived by her husband and her children.

Jennifer Hanke Terjeson '82, June 10, 2021, in Halfway, Oregon. A history major at Whitman, she played varsity women's soccer, studied abroad in London and was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta. She married Mark Terjeson in 1988; together they raised three children.

John Youngsman '84, Jan. 11, 2022, in Boise, Idaho. In 1999, he went back to school to pursue his dream of mechanical engineering. Youngsman received his B.S. in mechanical engineering and M.S. in material science and engineering from Boise State University (BSU), and his Ph.D. in material science from Washington State University. He worked as a research scientist at BSU. Survivors include his wife of 14 years, Cheryl, his mother, a brother and a sister.

Bonnie Aldinger '89, Jan. 12, 2022, in Brooklyn, New York. She worked for Scholastic in the finance department. She belonged to numerous water-related organizations, including the Sebago Canoe Club and

the New York Ship Lore and Model Club and was a regular volunteer for many years at waterfront events.

1990s

William Spencer '91, June 10, 2022, in Everett, Washington. He married Laura J. Bayer in 1994. He worked for many years as a senior immunogenetics technologist at the Puget Sound Blood Center, later working in insurance and finance.

Danny Enriquez '95, May 22, 2022. He earned his M.A. in Latin American Studies from New York University. After finishing school, he stayed in New York, living with his partner, Adam Pollack, in Brooklyn. Enriquez worked in finance research, the last nine years for Goldman Sachs. Survivors include his partner, his parents, three sisters, including **Carolina Enriquez '02** and **Griselda Enriquez Vile '00**, and a brother.

Katherine Deumling '96, July 12, 2022, in Portland, Oregon. At Whitman, she met her future spouse, **Brian Detman '93**. She was awarded a prestigious Thomas J. Watson Fellowship, a yearlong post-bachelor project focusing on the relationship between food and culture in rural Italy and Mexico. Upon

her return, the couple moved to Portland, married in 2003 and raised a son together. Deumling's passion for arts, culture, cooking, foodways, land use and grassroots advocacy led to nearly 25 years of meaningful work with organizations such as Slow Food, Oregon Humanities, Noble Rot, Columbia Sportswear and Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Partnerships for Health. She was also a board member of her family's business, Zena Forest Products, a forest and sawmill operation. In 2009, Deumling started her own business, Cook With What You Have, devoted to making cooking a regular, delicious and creative part of people's lives. She was predeceased by her father **Dieter '71** and brother Jacob. She is survived by her mother **Sarah Snyder Deumling '68**, spouse Brian and son Ellis, brothers Reuben and **Ben '05**, their spouses and children.

Dustin Wagner Wiggs '96, Sept. 8, 2022, in Phoenix, Arizona. Whitman affiliations included Phi Delta Theta Fraternity and Interfraternity Council. Whitman honors included Thespian Society, 1990, and Best Supporting Actor, 1995.

Faculty & Staff

Patty Powell, April 30, 2022, in Walla Walla. She worked in Whitman's business office, beginning in 1961, retiring in 1989. She is survived by a daughter, a son and a sister.

Robert Deam Tobin, Aug. 10, 2022, in Worcester, Massachusetts. He studied German literature at Harvard College, graduating in 1983, and after two years of dissertation research in Freiburg, Germany, he completed his Ph.D. in German literature at Princeton University in 1990.

Tobin began his teaching career at Whitman in 1989, staying at the college for 18 years before moving to Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts. At Whitman, he achieved his goal of becoming "full by 40" when he was promoted to full professor in 2002.

Tobin's influential scholarly work delves deeply into traditional disciplinary fields such as 18th-century German literature while also broadening our understanding of those historical authors and works through insights on medicine and literature, queer theory, gender and sexuality, culture and politics, and human rights. He researched and lectured nationally and internationally, and his archival work took him as far afield as Samoa and Namibia. His most recent book is "Peripheral Desires: The German Discovery of Sex" (2015).

A highly regarded scholar, teacher, mentor, activist and all-around bon vivant, Tobin was known for his commitment to the life of ideas, charismatic personality and spirit of generosity. The cause of death was liver cancer, diagnosed only two months before his untimely passing.

He was predeceased by his mother; he is survived by his father, his brother, five sisters, including **Jean Tobin '92**, and his husband, Ivan Raykoff.

Class Notes Policy

Whitman College is happy to highlight the achievements and milestones of our alumni. To have your item appear in Class Notes, fill out the form at whitman.edu/classnotes, email alumni@whitman.edu or mail a note to Whitman College, Office of Alumni Relations, 345 Boyer Ave., Walla Walla, WA 99362. Class Note submissions are limited to 50 words and should include updates from the past calendar year. Class Note submissions may include career updates; publications; honors, awards or appointments; or other significant life

changes you would like to share with the Whitman community. Any photographic submissions for Class Notes, marriages/unions or births/adoptions should include the identities of all people pictured, as well as alumni relatives for births/adoptions. It is the responsibility of the submitter to obtain consent from others pictured or mentioned in the submission.

For In Memoriams, Whitman College runs the name of the deceased, their graduate year and major, and the date and place of death; when available,

we will include career information, survivors and other highlights of their life, including recorded service to the college or honors received from the college. Photographs for obituaries are run at the discretion of the Office of Alumni Relations for those designated "Whitman Leaders." The college makes a good faith effort to confirm the information submitted with the concerned parties. All submissions are subject to editing for style, content, length and clarity. Address questions to Jennifer Dilworth Northam '91, Class Notes editor, at northajl@whitman.edu or call 509-526-4794.

Thank You!

Sophomore Summit 2022 Alumni Volunteers

In September 2022, Whitman's Career and Community Engagement Center invited alumni from across industries to share their collegiate and professional journeys with the college's Class of 2025 in a series of events and panel discussions.

Thank you to all the alums who participated in panel discussions, helping current students see how to make the most of their Whitman experience and education.

PRESENTATIONS

"Working in the Gig Economy"

Abby Seethoff '16
Writer, Web Designer
Major: English and Spanish

"Building Your Personal Brand"

Julie Zhu, '16
Marketing Strategist,
Julie Zhu LLC
Major: History

PANELS

Data & Tech

Corinne Pingul '14
Software Engineer, Indeed
Major: Biophysics, Biochemistry,
and Molecular Biology

Kirk Lange '19

Software Engineer,
Google
Major: Computer Science

Healthcare & Biotech

Nathaniel Higby '15
Production System Specialist,
Virginia Mason Medical Center
Major: Sociology

Corinne Vandagriff '15

Child Life Specialist,
Children's Hospital Colorado
Major: Gender Studies

Jillian Varonin '09

Technology Transfer Manager,
National Institutes of Health
Major: Biophysics, Biochemistry,
and Molecular Biology

Government & Law

Samantha Barnhart '04
Pro Bono Legal Director,
Three Rivers Legal Services
Major: Political Sociology

Kayvon Behroozian '14

Deputy Prosecuting Attorney,
King County Prosecuting
Attorney's Office
Major: Politics

Drew Shoals '05

Corporate Counsel,
Amazon Music
Major: African American/
Black Studies

Education & Social Impact

Isaiah Banta '20
Community Organizer,
Industrial Areas Foundation
Major: Computer Science

Justin Daigneault '09

Clinical Supervisor/Mental
Health Counselor
Major: Biology

David Fleming '14

Assistant Principal,
Federal Way Public Schools
Major: Psychology and Music

Careers in Sports

Matt Mounier '15
Business Insurance Architect,
Federated Insurance
Major: Economics

Science & Engineering

Isaac Berez '17
Research Scientist,
Lockheed Martin
Major: Physics

Allison Bogisich '17

Research Associate,
Memphis Zoo
Major: Biology

Energy & the Environment

Jane Carmody '14
Environmental Lawyer,
Perkins Coie LLP
Major: Politics

Dani Hupper '17

Climate Advocate,
Evergreen Action
Major: Politics

Business, Finance & Management

Hayley Falk '12
Management and Budget
Analyst, City of Tacoma
Major: History

Sam Geschickter '20

Portfolio Management, Verus
Major: Religion

Functions in Every Organization

Cedric Jacobs-Jones '19
Field Sales Engineer,
Monolithic Power Systems LLC
Major: Sociology

Careers in the Arts

Cody Burchfield '16
Masters of Architect candidate,
Continuing studies for
Architecture at Parsons
School of Design
Major: Physics

Writing & Content Creation

Nick Roberts '15
Senior Video Producer,
The Washington Post
Major: Film and Media Studies

Evan Martin '16

Writer's Assistant,
Warner Brothers Studios
Major: Film and Media Studies

KEYNOTE: "THE PIVOTAL SOPHOMORE YEAR"

Al-Rahim Merali graduated from Whitman in 2013 with a degree in psychology and a minor in biology. Today, he's a user experience (UX) researcher at Google. "The Whitman experience is more than just pursuing a major. It's more than just a means to a career," Merali says. "It's about learning, growing and creating experiences that positively impact others."



Planning Your Legacy

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We'd love to know and thank you!

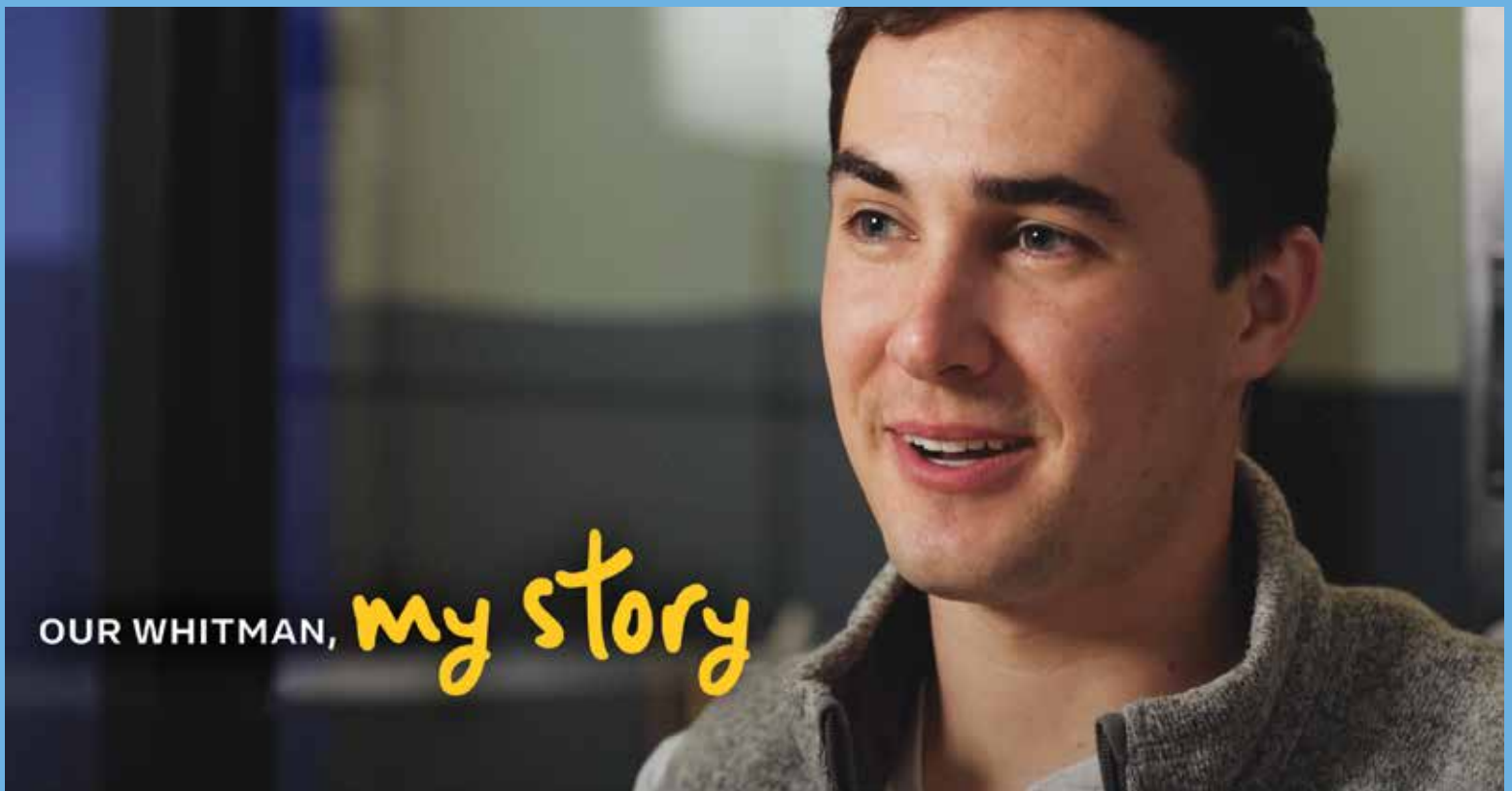


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Whitman Stories



Meet Conor Myers '18. Myer's shares his journey from Whitman to founding his own computational drug design startup, NeuroX1, to pursuing his Ph.D in nuclear engineering at Oregon State Univeristy. "It's really interesting and rewarding working in a life sciences field, where you're not just working on a problem ... not just an interesting problem, but a problem that if you can solve, you can actually substantially help a lot of people," Myers says. View the video with the QR code or at whitman.edu/magazine.