



WHITMAN COLLEGE

# Donor Annual Report

A SPECIAL EDITION OF  
WHITMAN MAGAZINE







“I continue to be inspired by the collaborative and collective efforts of our community. It is the Whitman way.”

## A Message for Alumni, Families & Friends

THANK YOU SO MUCH for your generous philanthropy and wonderful support of Whitman College and our students! We are deeply grateful for all we accomplished together in 2023 and look forward to a very exciting year ahead.

I continue to be inspired by the collaborative and collective efforts of our community. It is the Whitman way. This past year, we completed our strategic plan with broad input from students, faculty, staff and alumni. This plan is a road map for advancing our tradition of preparing tomorrow’s leaders and thinkers to succeed and make a difference in an increasingly complex and ever-changing world.

To fulfill these high aspirations for our students and meet our mission for the future, we have launched **Upward Together: The Campaign for Whitman College**. The most ambitious campaign in the history of the college, Upward Together calls for alumni, families and friends to join in a collective effort to elevate our Whitman experience through the following bold priorities:

**Access and Affordability.** A bold pledge to meet the full financial need of all Whitman students—opening our doors wider to the most talented, motivated and deserving.

**Academic Excellence and Distinction.** A commitment to advancing academic programs, student-faculty research and experiential learning that will inspire students to choose Whitman and prepare them for great futures.

**Vibrant Campus Community.** A historic investment in residential life, community building, well-ness and athletics to ensure that students connect and flourish.

**Advancing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.** A dedicated focus on programs that foster diversity, inclusion and belonging so that all members of our community thrive.

**Strong Graduate Launches for All Students.** A heightened effort to help students explore careers, find their passions and create opportunities for postgraduate success and impact.

**The Whitman Fund.** A collective endeavor to meet our students’ immediate needs.

A special section of this report explains our Upward Together priorities in greater detail. These are ambitious and noble goals. Together, we can fulfill the promise of a Whitman education for current and future generations of Whitman students. Thank you for joining us!

Sarah Bolton  
President

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- WHITMAN MAGAZINE**  
Published four times a year by Whitman College, 345 Boyer Ave., Walla Walla, WA 99362. Periodical postage paid at Walla Walla, WA, and additional mailing offices (USPS 968-620). ISSN: 0164-6990.

**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.



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### A BETTER WHITMAN, A BETTER WORLD

The new Fan-Na Family Chemistry Endowment enhances Whitman’s faculty-student research opportunities so students can prepare to tackle new global challenges.

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#### ANNUAL REPORT OF GIFTS

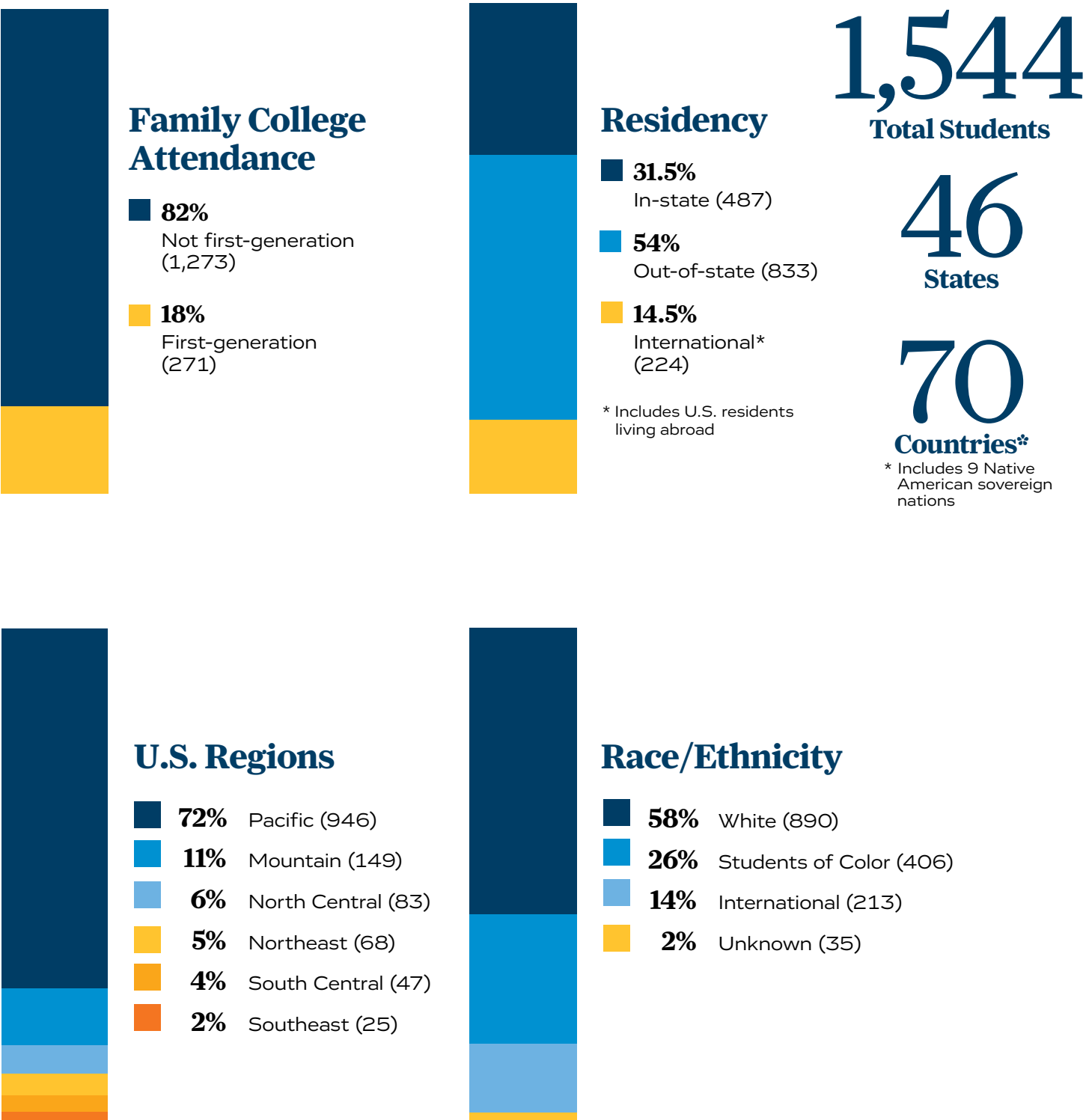
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Whitman College is located on the traditional Cayuse, Umatilla and Walla Walla homelands. We pay our respect to tribal elders both past and present and extend our respect to all Indigenous people today. We honor their stewardship of the land and ecosystem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





# Student Enrollment for Fall 2023





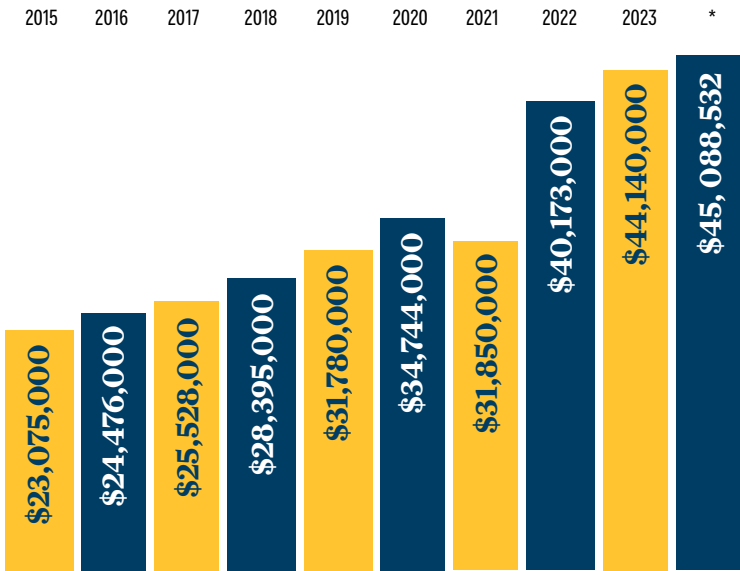
# Budgeted Endowment Revenue by Purpose

2023-2024 BUDGET

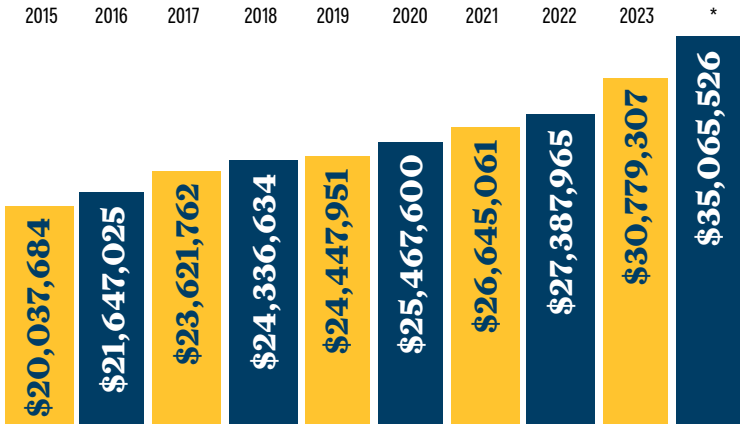


\$13,341,595	Financial Aid
\$11,400,652	Unrestricted Budget
\$5,814,734	Instruction
\$2,715,450	Academic Support
\$1,337,627	Facilities Services
\$455,468	Other Uses

## Financial Aid Awards



## Total Endowment Payout

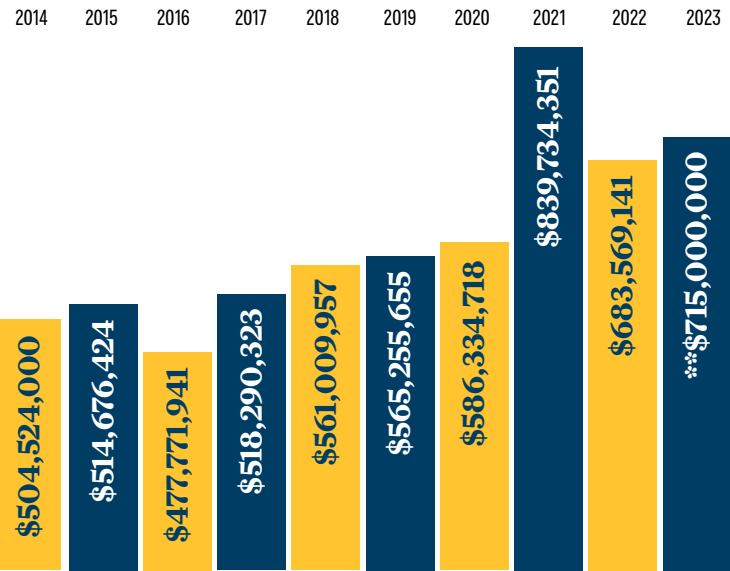


\* Current academic year

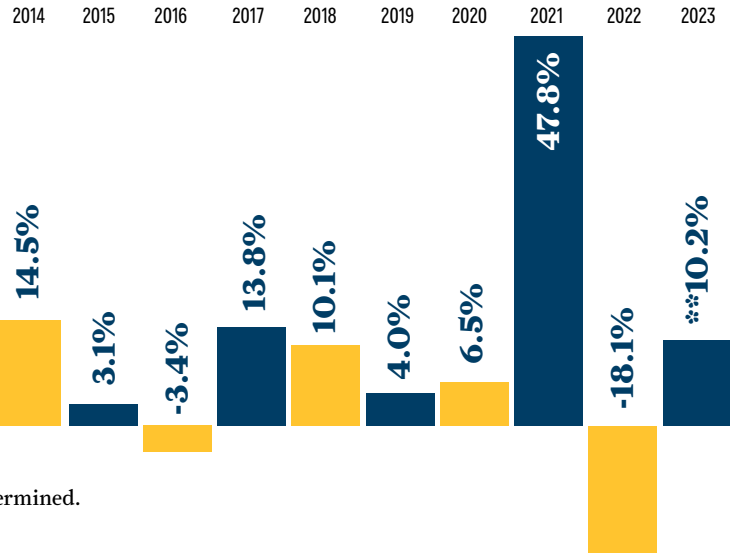
\*\* Fiscal Year 2023 endowment performance and market values are not yet fully determined. Figures provided are current best estimates as of September 2023.

## Endowment Value

AS OF JUNE 30, 2023



## Endowment Performance



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF GIVING

# Together, We Are Changing Lives

ON BEHALF OF the Development and Alumni Relations team, I write with a heart full of gratitude for the generosity of alumni, families and friends.



Your gifts and commitments in the last fiscal year exceeded \$31 million of investment to help change the lives of current and future generations of Whitman students. You helped the college expand scholarships and financial aid to more than \$45 million, a nearly 100% increase since 2015. You also provided the first \$10 million of philanthropic support for a new junior-senior residential village to enhance how students learn, live and work in an evermore supportive community. (See page 10.)

Your investments fuel our belief that the Whitman experience prepares broadly educated critical thinkers and leaders to thrive and help solve the increasingly complex global challenges of our time. From this perspective, the world needs Whitties now more than ever.

That's why we are honored as a team to partner with you and with our Board of Trustees and President Sarah Bolton to launch **Upward Together: The Campaign for Whitman College**. Our aspirations are great for this college and the impact it will continue to have for young people, for communities and for the world. We believe this is noble work. We'll do it together.

STEVE SETCHELL  
VICE PRESIDENT FOR DEVELOPMENT and Alumni Relations

# 2022-2023 by the Numbers

**\$31,295,880**  
New gifts and commitments

**\$19,118,589**  
Total gifts received from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023\*

\*Payments on pledges from prior years: **\$948,005**  
Grand total of fundraising: **\$32,243,885**

**5,909**  
Donors



## Giving by Source

\$18,472,048	Alumni
\$7,872,315	Parents
\$4,353,128	Friends
\$563,834	Foundations
\$34,554	Corporations/Consortia/Organizations



## Giving by Purpose

\$16,043,081	Capital/Buildings
\$9,338,125	Endowment
\$2,990,511	Current Use Restricted
\$2,924,137	The Whitman Fund



## Giving by Type

\$26,758,177	Outright/Cash/Securities/Pledges
\$1,670,000	Deferred
\$2,102,000	Bequest Intentions
\$596,426	Bequests Realized
\$169,251	Gifts in Kind



“Working with students in my research group is one of the most rewarding parts of my work as a professor, and it offers unparalleled opportunities for student growth.”

—Mark Juhasz, Associate Professor of Chemistry

# A Better Whitman, A Better World

**New Chemistry endowment will open up opportunities for students and prepare them to do important work for a better tomorrow**

BY PAM MOORE

*At home in Seattle* during his first year at Whitman, Jon Na '23 told his parents, Limei Fan and Jay Na, that he was considering majoring in Chemistry. Fan was less than thrilled. “I really tried to pull him back. I told him, ‘Chemistry is really difficult,’ to which Jon said, ‘Chemistry is a difficult subject, but if it were easy, everyone would be a Chem major.’”

While Fan thought of Jon as a bright kid and a natural leader, she had watched his older sister struggle with organic chemistry in college and didn’t relish the prospect of a repeat experience. “As a parent, it’s hard to see them want to take on something that is clearly challenging,” she says.

Now, three years later, Jon is a newly minted Whitman alum with a degree in Chemistry—and his parents have established the Fan-Na Family Chemistry Endowment. By investing in the Chemistry Department, the family aims to elevate Whitman’s status as a top-notch liberal arts college that boasts a stellar STEM program and to equip future graduates to solve the world’s most pressing problems in the process.

## *Joining the Whitman Community*

Having moved from Boston to the Evergreen State in 1997, Fan and her husband were familiar with Whitman long before any of their three children were looking at colleges. “I heard of its reputation as a nice little liberal arts college in a remote village of a town,” says Fan.

When Jon narrowed his potential colleges down to about half a dozen, Fan was pleased to see Whitman on the list, if a bit disappointed that she’d failed to convince him to apply to any East Coast schools. “I guess I fed him too well. He doesn’t want to be too far from my cooking!” she jokes.

Every college he applied to offered him admission—but ever since Jon decided to become a Whittie, neither he nor his parents have ever looked back. From their first campus tour, Fan says their family has remained impressed with Whitman’s small class sizes, its status as a first-rate liberal arts college and Walla Walla’s appeal as a safe location easily reached from Seattle.





Limei Fan and Jay Na

## Stepping Up to Serve

Fan, the Senior Program Operations Director of the Infectious Disease Sciences Program at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center, started volunteering on Whitman's Family Leadership Council when Jon enrolled in 2019. More recently, she was invited to serve on the President's Advisory Board, beginning a three-year term in 2022.

It was Jon's Whitman experience that provided inspiration for funding a mentoring-focused endowment for Chemistry—particularly to support more long-term research efforts in the department.

"Those multiyear projects are how you grow and sustain a program," she says. Given that only a handful of Jon's classmates were fellow Chemistry majors, his parents hoped that increasing faculty-student research options would attract more students to the program and created the endowment to expand these valuable learning opportunities.

## Elevating STEM

Fan and Na see their gift as not only supporting the Chemistry Department in achieving the goal of giving students the liberal arts education Whitman is known for but also providing the specific knowledge, skills and confidence to excel in STEM careers.

"We need to grow the lab programs to hopefully create a chain reaction where we can then offer more research options and also give students access to opportunities like internships and hands-on experiences in the lab," says Fan. "We also need to support the professors so they have more time to mentor students as they work on real-world, multi-year research projects."

Fan is confident that once momentum starts to build, Whitman will attract more students interested in chemistry, and over time, the school will further enhance its reputation for standout science curriculum.


## Why Chemistry?

As an English major who went on to earn a master's degree in History and an MBA, Fan did not understand Jon's attraction to Chemistry. "Why chemistry?" she asked him. His answer stuck with her: "It helps to explain how everything works." Not only is chemistry foundational to a STEM education, Fan feels a richer chemistry education will open up opportunities for students who can choose to pursue either medical school or Ph.D. programs.

Plus, we need people who can understand the details of films like "Oppenheimer." After seeing the movie with her husband and son, Fan says, "I would have needed to watch the movie several more times to understand some of the technical concepts. But Jon was there to help, because physics, math and chemistry are so intertwined."

## Creating a Better Tomorrow

With the essentials of a solid liberal arts education, Fan feels Whitman students will be uniquely prepared to engage the needs of the world. "A liberal arts education is fundamentally about teaching people to be service minded, to be deeper thinkers, and to think about addressing climate change and building more peaceful communities." Enhance that with a solid STEM education, and the sky is the limit, says Fan.

Unlikely to limit themselves to book learning or lab work for months on end, Fan foresees Whitman Chemistry students making innovations that will literally save the world. "I'm talking about having profound thoughts and making connections between now and the future, between me and other, between us and them," she explains. "This is why I couldn't help myself by getting more and more involved with Whitman. Call me Pollyanna, but that's my impression of Whitman and I see the school moving quickly toward building an even stronger Chemistry program and distinguishing itself as a leader among its peers." 

**"We need to grow the lab programs to hopefully create a chain reaction where we can then offer more research options and also give students access to opportunities like internships and hands-on experiences in the lab."**

—Limei Fan



**"I cannot overstate how instrumental the Chemistry professors have been in my undergraduate education. Without the high caliber of professors and research experience, I likely would not have chosen to major in Chemistry. They care about their students as budding chemists and people."**

—Kathryn Woodburn '23,  
who researched in the Whitman lab of  
Mark Hendrick, Assistant Professor of Chemistry

# Mentoring & Building Lasting Relationships with Students

"Working with students in my research group is one of the most rewarding parts of my work as a professor, and it offers unparalleled opportunities for student growth. Guided work in the research lab expands students' skills from the strong foundation they gain through coursework at Whitman, and it offers students an immersive experience that informs their future plans. Collaborative faculty-student research on projects that span multiple semesters (and summers in between) can lead to meaningful scientific advances; for example, many of my students have discovered new molecules.

"These students also benefit from high-impact professional opportunities, including presenting results at professional conferences and co-authoring scientific journal articles. Reflection upon these experiences through

questions such as 'What part of my research work do I find most engaging?' or 'What important problem might be addressed by scientific research and how might I contribute?' can be very informative as students consider their long-term plans.

"Mentoring and building lasting relationships with students in my research group is deeply satisfying. I have stayed in touch with many of my research students and I always look forward to hearing about their lives after they graduate from Whitman."

—Mark Juhasz,  
Associate Professor of Chemistry



# Building a Vibrant Community

WHITMAN'S VISION FOR  
A JUNIOR-SENIOR VILLAGE

BY HEIDI PITTS '01

## It takes a village

A total of \$30 million in gift  
funding will bring this  
vision to reality.

“Building this residential  
village is important  
for strengthening a  
supportive community  
at Whitman.”

Richard Hunter '65, Emeritus  
Trustee, and Janet Green Hunter '67



“The Junior-Senior Village is definitely an exciting way for the college to continue to expand its housing choices.”

Alice Lanier '26



Whitman is setting the stage for a transformational addition to campus: a junior-senior residential village. The Board of Trustees, along with dedicated alumni and friends of the college, made initial gifts of \$10 million to begin to realize this innovative plan for enhancing student life, promoting community engagement and providing a bridge to a more inclusive future. A total of \$30 million in gifts is needed to break ground on this exciting project.

### A Vision Takes Shape

A primary aim of the Junior-Senior Village is to forge stronger bonds within the Whitman community and enhance the academic and co-curricular experiences of its students. While Whitman was founded as a residential liberal arts college, in recent decades only 15% of juniors and 5% of seniors have lived in on-campus housing, with the result that many students experience increased isolation and disengagement from college activities in their final two years.

Board of Trustees member Nancy Serruier and her husband Greg made a \$5 million gift toward the new housing project. “The pandemic showed us that students living and supporting one another in community is more important than ever at Whitman. We were delighted to invest in this vision.”

This substantial investment serves as the cornerstone for the envisioned Junior-Senior Village. Comprising three state-of-the-art buildings, the village will house apartment-style residences along Boyer Avenue and Marcus Street, forming a connective space between the campus and downtown Walla Walla.

This endeavor also addresses a critical issue faced by many juniors and seniors—the challenge of finding affordable, quality housing in the Walla Walla area. Eric Gantt '24 says, “Students want to live in Whitman-owned off-campus housing, but there isn’t enough and it gets snatched up pretty quickly.” Navigating application systems, complicated lease agreements and high move-in costs also creates difficulties in considering non-Whitman properties.

After researching student housing struggles in their Problems With Privilege class, Gantt, Lucky Khoza '24 and Alice Lanier '26 formed the Access to Off-Campus Housing Team to give peers the support they need to find housing, including a website and listserv. “The Junior-Senior Village is definitely an exciting way for the college to

“Where they live during their junior and senior years makes a difference in our students’ experience and the vitality of the campus community.”

Jim Robart '69,  
Emeritus Trustee





“Students living and supporting one another in community is more important than ever at Whitman.”

**Nancy Serrurier,**  
Board of Trustees Member

continue to expand its housing choices,” says Lanier, noting that she would consider living there with friends when it is completed.

### Designing for Community and Connection

Collaboration has been at the heart of shaping the Junior-Senior Village from its inception. Beginning in 2018–2019 and reinvigorated in 2022–2023 following the pandemic, students, faculty, administrators and trustee leaders engaged in a comprehensive process to conceptualize solutions for reinforcing community and residential life at Whitman. The resulting concept utilizes location and human-centered design concepts to plan spaces that will draw people together in the village and on campus.

Comprising a total of 112,000 square feet, the village will provide housing for 210 juniors and seniors. The design centers around apartment-style accommodations, which will provide a sense of belonging, comfort and autonomy. These units, ranging from two- to four-occupant layouts, are thoughtfully equipped with kitchens and living spaces, negating the need for a college meal plan.

The vibrant community-focused design will also attract first- and second-year students to visit the village, creating opportunities for cross-year interactions and

informal mentorship. “Younger students like to go to off-campus houses, to just come and chill and eat, watch a movie or play sports or things like that,” says Khoza.

Spaces to encourage fun and interaction factor into the design. The village will feature multipurpose common areas, designed with student input to cater to a variety of activities, performances and events. Moreover, carefully curated outdoor spaces will grace the landscape, including a central lawn and College Creek terrace adorned with seating and fire pits perfect for a s’mores roast.

With proximity to Reid Campus Center and other hubs of activity, living in the new village will also make it easier for juniors and seniors to attend on-campus events outside of classroom hours. “Where you live during your junior and senior years makes a difference in our students’ experience and the vitality of the campus community,” says Jim Robart ’69, Emeritus Trustee. “Building the village will expand the options available to junior and senior students and strengthen their connection to the college.”

### Promoting Inclusivity and Sustainability

The ethos of inclusivity and sustainability pervades every aspect of the Junior-Senior Village. When Tony Ichsan, Assistant

Vice President of Facilities Services, led multiple conversations with students during the planning process, several key concerns came to the forefront and were consequently addressed in the final designs.

Specific considerations prioritize the ease of use for people of varying mobility in buildings and outdoor spaces. Wheelchair-friendly units include low-pile carpet and wide doorways for ease of movement, while onsite laundry facilities will feature front loading machines and low shelving. Wide, smooth pathways will ensure the prominent outdoor spaces can be easily traversed by wheelchair, bike, scooter, etc.

Environmentally friendly choices are evident in the selection of building materials, prioritizing efficient performance and environmental health. Rooftop solar installations and the pursuit of LEED certification further underscore Whitman’s dedication to creating a space that aligns with its commitment to sustainability and protecting the environment.


### Voices of Support

This visionary project builds on the momentum of investments in residential and community spaces, including Cleveland Commons and Stanton Hall. However, the ambitious goal of raising \$30 million

in gift funding emphasizes the importance of collective support in realizing this new construction.

The initial contributions of more than 50 donors demonstrate strong encouragement for the Junior-Senior Village. Their deep connection to Whitman exemplifies the commitment of the college’s extended circle of champions in shaping its future.

“We believe that building this residential village is important for strengthening a supportive community at Whitman,” said Emeritus Trustee Richard Hunter ’65 and Janet Green Hunter ’67. “We were pleased to make an investment toward realizing this vision.”

Whitman’s Junior-Senior Village will be an embodiment of the college’s dedication to holistic student development and connection-building in support of academic excellence. As the college raises the remaining funds for this transformative housing project, the community’s continued support will play a pivotal role in building this space and providing a vibrant Whitman experience for generations of students to come. 

*The hope is that Whitman’s current class of first-year students—the Class of 2027—will have the opportunity to call the village home.*



### Harvey Hall: Honoring a Career of Service

The Board of Trustees, alumni and friends of the college made gifts of \$10 million toward the first building of the Junior-Senior Village, which will be named in honor of Whitman’s longest-serving **Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Peter Harvey ’84.**

Board of Trustees Chair Joe Davis ’80 announced the gifts for Harvey Hall at an April 2023 dinner hosted by the board in celebration of Harvey’s service to Whitman.

“Peter Harvey’s commitment to this college and to its people over 25 years as CFO is simply amazing,” said Davis. “We can never thank him enough. But through the generosity of the board and many alumni, we are proud to name Harvey Hall as a representation of his deep and lasting impact on Whitman.”

Harvey retired in June 2023. During his time as CFO, Harvey planned more than \$125 million in new construction and renovations of campus facilities.





# A Family Tradition of Giving

## A TRUE LEGACY: THE KNAPP FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

BY DEBBIE RITENOUR

FOR THE KNAPP FAMILY, attending Whitman College is something of a family tradition. Eight members spanning three generations have graduated from Whitman in the last 80 years.

Now, with the establishment of the Knapp Family Scholarship Endowment, they've deepened their custom of giving back to their alma mater.

"I think education is a means of overcoming many of life's disadvantages, be it poverty, disability or discrimination," says Roger Knapp '73, who established the scholarship with his wife, Rosemary Gunter Knapp '73. "On top of that, I think people who have an education, particularly a liberal arts education like the one you receive at Whitman, live a more fulfilling life."

### FINDING THEIR PEOPLE

Roger and Rosemary met at the library during their sophomore year. After discovering that they were both the rush chairs for their respective fraternity and sorority organizations—Rosemary was a member of Alpha Chi Omega, while Roger belonged to Sigma Chi—the two hit it off. They soon began dating.

"When we first came to Whitman, the women had to be back in their living quarters by a certain time each night," Roger says. "By the time we left, Whitman had coed dorms, and the women's hours were a thing of the past. We were there during some really significant social change."

Both Roger, who grew up in Camas, Washington, and Rosemary, who grew up on the other side of the state in

**“Whitman was a really great experience for both of us, which is why we have continued to be actively involved with the college.”**

—ROSEMARY GUNTER KNAPP '73

Colfax, were drawn to Whitman's small size. They also had older friends who had gone to Whitman and liked it.

"We both felt like we found our people," says Rosemary, who was an English major. "I came from a small farming community, and sometimes the people I went to high school with didn't really have the same interests that I had. But when I went to Whitman, I found people who did."

Roger, who majored in Political Science, enrolled in Willamette University College of Law after graduation, earning his Juris Doctor in 1976. Rosemary, meanwhile, returned to Colfax and taught at the local high school. She spent her summers working toward her master's degree in English at Washington State University, which she also earned in 1976.

Roger and Rosemary got married that same year. Roger clerked for the Washington Court of Appeals before the couple settled in Camas, where Roger joined his father's law firm.

### GENERATIONS OF WHITTIES

Roger's father, Hugh Knapp '44, was the first in the family to attend Whitman. Hugh went on to earn his Juris Doctor from the University of Michigan Law School before starting a practice with a partner in Camas, where he and his wife, Madeline, raised two future Whitman alums: Roger and his sister, Deb Knapp '75. Hugh and Roger practiced law side by side for nearly 15 years before the elder Knapp retired in 1991.

"It was a typical small-town practice where you do a variety of different things. Every day brought something new," says Roger, who retired himself in 2016. "I found that to be intellectually stimulating and rewarding."

Rosemary worked as a teacher-librarian for Camas High School for 29 years before retiring in 2012. She and Roger have two sons, both of whom graduated from Whitman. Andy Knapp '03 is Director of Marketing at the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association, and Elliot Knapp '07 is a program manager at Blue Shield of California. Their daughters-in-law also are Whitman alums: Darin Reynaud '03, Andy's spouse, is an equity manager at Puget Sound Educational Service District, and Sarah

Jennings '07, Elliot's spouse, is a postdoctoral fellow in the Biological Sciences department at California Polytechnic State University.

Roger and Rosemary are hopeful that a fourth generation will carry on the family tradition. They're doing their part by giving Whitman gear to Andy and Darin's two children, Dylan, 12, and Paige, 9. "Class of 2034 and Class of 2036," Roger says with a laugh.

### MAKING A HABIT OF GIVING BACK


"I think both of us look back on our four years at Whitman very fondly. I remember at the time wishing I could have one more year of college," Roger says.

"I think 'fondly' is a light term," Rosemary says. "Whitman was a really great experience for both of us, which is why we have continued to be actively involved with the college."

Roger and Rosemary served as two of the three Co-Chairs of the Class of 1973 50th Reunion last May. The pair personally reached out to their classmates to invite them to attend the event, and Roger wrote a letter encouraging them to make a 50th Reunion gift to the college. Their own gift was the new scholarship endowment, which provides assistance to Whitman students from underrepresented groups.

The Knapps are funding their gift through qualified charitable distributions from Roger's individual retirement account (IRA). This allows them to make a gift to Whitman each year while reducing or eliminating income taxes on required minimum distributions. They also designated Whitman as a beneficiary of the IRA to make a future estate gift with the remaining balance if not needed. In doing so, they eliminate future income tax that would be due if other heirs received the account. Other family members also are contributing to the endowment.

Rosemary advises Whitman students to start giving back to the college as soon as they graduate, noting that doing so can provide opportunity for students who otherwise may not have access to a world-class education.

"Get in the habit of giving to Whitman right away, even if you can only afford \$10," she says. "It's a way of saying thank you to the college and helping other people have the same great experience that you had." 

# 500+

The number of named endowments providing scholarships to Whitman students





Three generations of the Hook Milnes Family celebrated Doug's Whitman graduation in 2002.

# GENERATIONAL THERADS

One Family's Journey of Fortitude and Generosity

BY HEIDI PITTS '01

**E**sther Hook Milnes '73 has a connection with Whitman College that transcends generations. Her mother, Laura Rodgers Hook Kurtz '45, enrolled at the start of World War II, while her son, Douglas Hook Milnes '02, graduated in a new century.

Despite many differences in their educational experiences, one commonality persists throughout the family's decades of engagement with Whitman: a commitment to giving back to the college. For nearly 50 years, their generosity has provided scholarships and encouragement to generations of students.

## Beacon of Hope

Escorted by her two brothers, Laura first came to Whitman for a visitor's weekend in May 1941. She entered as a member of the Class of 1945 that fall, but the pall of World War II and the deaths of both her father and grandmother profoundly impacted her college experience.

When Laura's brothers left to serve in the military and her uncle's support waned as he questioned the value of educating women, she was left with severely limited financial resources. Despite these hardships, Laura completed her first year at Whitman, but the scholarships

that had supported her throughout her first year did not extend additional years. She returned home with only \$2 in her purse, and her dream of continuing her education at Whitman came to an end.

However, Laura's year at Whitman left an indelible mark on her, cultivating a deep and lasting loyalty to the college. She wrote in a class 50th Reunion letter, "The college was a stabilizing, comforting and supportive place for me in a turbulent year."

She responded with devotion that manifested through unwavering support, both financial and personal. In 1976, Laura made the first donation in what would become 30 years of giving to Whitman, resulting in more than \$70,000 of support by the time of her death in 2012.

Laura was also a fervent promoter of the college. Completing her education at Portland State University while raising her children in the early 1960s, Laura earned a teaching certificate and a master's degree in teaching foreign languages, going on to encourage decades of high school students to pursue a liberal arts education. Esther remembers, "Mom was always trying to get people to go to Whitman!"

Her mother's experience left a lasting impression

**"Mom was always trying to get people to go to Whitman!"**

—ESTHER HOOK MILNES '73





**In it together.** Esther Milnes with her son Douglas.

**“In 1973, when we graduated, none of us were activists. We were just well prepared to do our jobs and stick up for ourselves. And we were actually breaking glass ceilings all the way through!”**

—ESTHER HOOK MILNES '73

on Esther, igniting her determination to create change. Following her mother's death, Esther established the Laura Rodgers Hook Kurtz Scholarship Endowment with an initial \$50,000 stock gift inherited from her parents. Now valued at more than \$180,000, this endowment provides a scholarship of approximately \$8,000 a year to a student who faces financial obstacles after their first year of college, ensuring financial hardship does not prevent them from completing their Whitman education as it did Laura.

### Shattering Glass Ceilings

Surprisingly, Laura's enthusiasm for Whitman wasn't what ultimately convinced Esther that it was the college for her.

In high school, a chemistry teacher suggested Esther apply to an eight-week summer program at Whitman. Sponsored by the National Science Foundation, Esther and a select group of around 25 other high school students lived in Anderson Hall, ate in the Prentiss dining hall and took Computer Science and advanced Math courses in the Hall of Science. This brief taste of the Whitman experience led three of that summer's cohort, including Esther, to enter the college together in the fall of 1969.

As a Math major in the early 1970s, Esther found herself part of a small group of women students who challenged traditional norms. While society was still grappling with gender stereotypes, Whitman began shifting toward equality. Esther and her female Math major peers flourished in this environment, laying the groundwork for futures that defied limits.



**A league of their own.** The female Math majors of the Class of 1973 gathered at their 50th Reunion: Cathy Heacock, Esther Hook Milnes, Georgane Griffith, Lani Oberholzer Twomey and Rhonda Kiser Shirley.

“In 1973, when we graduated, none of us were activists. We were just well prepared to do our jobs and stick up for ourselves. And we were actually breaking glass ceilings all the way through!” recalls Esther.

Esther's own journey exemplifies the thoroughness of this preparation. When she entered the actuarial training program at Prudential Financial, Inc., only about 5% of the participants were women. By the time she retired, half of the program's participants were female and Esther herself had advanced to the role of Vice President and Chief Actuary, Individual Life Insurance, for the Fortune 500 company. She credits Whitman's liberal arts education with equipping her with the adaptability and critical thinking skills needed to navigate an ever-changing world.

Gathering at their 50th Reunion, Esther and her female Math major peers marveled at the directions their lives had taken. From actuarial science and computer engineering to school administration, all had advanced professionally in ways groundbreaking for women of their times.

### Leading by Example

In addition to bolstering her professional success, Esther has applied the lessons she learned at Whitman to benefit the college as well. Embracing the ethos of giving back, she participated in various roles throughout the decades, from serving on the 25th Reunion Committee to being on the Board of Overseers (now the President's Advisory Board) for 14 years.

She's also been a dedicated financial supporter. While Esther doesn't recall the year of her first gift, she does remember the circumstances. “Our class representative asked me to write notes on letters encouraging our

classmates to give, and it seemed like if I was going to be writing notes, I should also be making a gift!”

Esther now has a lengthy tradition of generosity with gifts made every year since 1986. Primarily directed to her mother's scholarship endowment and The Whitman Fund, her giving underscores a primary philanthropic priority: Every student should have the financial support to be able to stay and complete their Whitman education.

The family practice of giving back to Whitman is now on to its third generation. Doug has followed in his mother's footsteps by serving as a class representative and establishing a regular habit of financial support for the college. He too recognizes a direct correlation between his education and professional success, saying, “My Whitman experience prepared me to succeed in graduate school and to adapt to the changing career opportunities I've had in startup companies and entrepreneurial environments.”

Doug recently joined his mother as one of the initial donors to Harvey Hall, a project that attracted their attention due to their own significant experiences at Whitman. Esther is a strong supporter of on-campus living, believing that who you live with plays a major role in forming your connection to Whitman. Doug's interest in the building project stems from memories of living off campus his senior year in what was (in his mother's words) “a really disgusting, horrible house.”

As the torch of philanthropy passes to the next generation, Esther's family story illustrates the power that education and community support have. Their joyful, dedicated generosity is creating ripples of positive change that extend far beyond the bounds of any single lifetime. **W**



# Your Gifts at Work

## The Whitman Fund

supports the college's legacy of equipping students for lifelong success. With designations covering nearly every area of the Whitman experience, your gifts make an immediate impact in expanding access to incredible learning opportunities in a healthy and inclusive environment.

### DESIGNATION

## Greatest Need + Scholarship & Student Aid

Our students are our greatest priority, and your gifts to The Whitman Fund have enabled the college to increase both the number and amounts of scholarships significantly in recent years. Supporting the 91% of Whitman students who received financial aid in 2022, the average annual scholarship total increased more than \$2,000 from the prior year.

Contributions from generous donors like you help alleviate financial stress and allow our students to focus on their academic goals. These donations bolster opportunity and equity for students of all socioeconomic backgrounds, shaping a more inclusive and prosperous future.

“Thank you for supporting me during my journey to make my dreams come true. Higher education is for everyone, and the more we know, the better our future can become. I look forward to donating to Whitman in the hope that I too can help make other people's dreams come true.”

—Tatiana Villegas '23



GOVERNMENT

### INTERNSHIPS

## Nat Lange '24

My time as the Geographical Information Systems intern with the City of Walla Walla took me to corners of the city that I didn't know existed. It opened my eyes to the fact that there's a lot more happening in this community than just Whitman or Main Street. I really appreciated learning more how city government works; it has a lot of power to impact people's lives. Working for a city government directly or in a partnership capacity is definitely a career path that I'm interested in.



LANGUAGE

## Nana Kumagai '24

Translation and interpretation made up more than half of my internship work at Tokyo Journal. Although I have worked on translations before, in this internship I was exposed to translating and interpreting stories to a degree I had never experienced before. I am grateful for the Whitman Internship Grant for allowing me to experience this work of thinking otherwise and thinking from other viewpoints.





“How incredibly grateful I am to have strangers supporting my academic endeavors here at Whitman. Being a transfer student, scholarships and financial aid were a big part of where I chose to go and I feel incredibly grateful and lucky that the institute I most wanted to go to made it the easiest financially!”

—Charlotte Flannery '24

## The Whitman Fund designations

- » Greatest Need
- » Academic Excellence
- » Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
- » Scholarship & Student Aid
- » Internships
- » Sustainability



## DESIGNATION

### Academic Excellence

As the world changes, Whitman's educational offerings evolve to ensure that our graduates have the knowledge and skills to be successful in any field they choose. In addition to expanding options for faculty-student research collaborations and participation in professional conferences, several new curricular programs provide dynamic learning opportunities that will shape the thinkers and leaders of tomorrow.

#### New Fields of Study

- » **Major: Brain, Behavior & Cognition**  
This new major developed by faculty integrates Biology and Psychology to explore the workings of the nervous system and makes connections between the science of the mind and the science of the brain.
- » **Major: Ethics & Society**  
This new Philosophy major will consider 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.
- » **Concentration: Human-Centered Design**  
This cross-departmental program 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 new concentration can be added to any major.
- » **Combined Major Options: Major+French**  
Students can now enhance their major by integrating language skills into their larger academic goals through pairing French with Biology, Geology, Psychology, Religion or Sociology.
- » **Minor: Finance**  
This combination of Economics courses will provide valuable information for many, if not most, career fields in a global and ever-changing economy.

### Majorly Impressive

Innovation in the Whitman curriculum is led by faculty across disciplines who are themselves dedicated to lifelong learning. Meet them, explore specific courses and learn what students love about their classes in the new majors and minors section of our website: [whitman.edu/academics/majors-and-minors](http://whitman.edu/academics/majors-and-minors).



COMPUTER SCIENCE

## INTERNSHIPS

### Allegría Iteka '25

At BICOR Vie et Capitalisation [Burundi, East Africa] I had the chance to dive into different sectors and departments, including marketing, coding and client services. In this vibrant and welcoming work environment, my ideas were valued and my participation was highly encouraged and appreciated. This internship enriched me and allowed me to hone my understanding of Java and coding at large, which is something I appreciate as a Computer Science minor and a coding enthusiast.



SUSTAINABILITY

### Elissa Corless '23

I interned at the Walla Walla Juvenile Justice Center teaching culinary lessons and sustainable gardening practices to residential youth. Walla Walla Valley Farm to School Executive Director Erendira Cruz entrusted me with developing curriculum and collaborating with local organizations to lay the foundation for a permanent program. I look forward to handing over this position to a future Whitman student who can continue sowing seeds of change within our community through educating and uplifting at-risk youth. With continued support, I know the garden program will thrive!





“I want you to know that this scholarship is not just a financial assistance, but it is also a source of inspiration and motivation for me. It has given me the confidence and belief that I can achieve anything that I set my mind to, and for that, I am truly grateful.”

—Edwin Romero '24

## DESIGNATION

### Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

The work of advancing diversity, equity, inclusion and antiracism (DEIA) at Whitman expanded thanks to significant contributions supporting efforts led by the Division of Diversity & Inclusion.

- » Opened the **All Faiths Room** (Reid 110), designed to be adapted for many different uses and for a wide range of spiritual and religious practices and identities.
- » Held a **Lavender Graduation** celebration for LGBTQIA+ students.
- » Formed committee of students and staff to design the **Third Space Center** (scheduled to open in January 2024).
- » Created the **Inclusive Excellence Council** to form an institutional DEIA brain trust, contributing to divisional and campus-wide efforts to advance inclusive excellence.
- » Established the **Inclusive Excellence Awards and Recognition Ceremony**, recognizing a number of students, staff and faculty for their inclusive excellence in teaching, leadership and service.
- » Administered the **Higher Education Data Sharing Consortium (HEDS) Diversity and Equity survey**.
- » Collaborated with Human Resources to **provide training on inclusive and equitable hiring practices**.
- » Introduced the **DEIA Maturity Matrix** planning tool to departments throughout campus so they can assess and develop a plan for advancing inclusive excellence within their teams.
- » Offered **Queer Ally Coalition (QuAC)** workshops focused on how to be an ally and what allies can do to address gender and sexual orientation discrimination.
- » Launched an interview-style podcast, **Complicating the Narrative**, that engages members of the Whitman community and expands the idea of vocation and spiritual connection to work, study and play.
- » Created a **Tiny Altar Concert Series**, which is a rotating performance of spoken word and/or music performed by members of the Whitman community.

### New DEIA Staff Join the Division of Diversity & Inclusion

**Tebraie Banda-Johns** is the Director of the Intercultural Center. As a community collaborator, he is committed to advocating for student well-being, empowering others in their identity development and collectively working to disrupt systems of oppression.

Originally from Southern California, Banda-Johns has a Bachelor of Arts in Communication from Biola University as well as an Master of Science in Higher Education from California State University, Fullerton.

Prior to joining Whitman, he served as the Senior Coordinator for Student Organization Engagement at Boise State University, where he supported student clubs and organizations with a specific focus on affinity groups and created inclusive programming for underserved, marginalized students.



**Rachel Freeman-Cohen** is the inaugural Director of LGBTQIA+ Student Services. Their advocacy is centered around improving learning experiences and addressing disparities that affect historically marginalized groups.

Freeman-Cohen earned a Bachelor of Arts in Feminist Studies with a minor in Politics from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and an Master of Education in Postsecondary Administration and Student Affairs from the University of Southern California.

Previously, they worked in the LGBTQ+ Student Center at the University of Southern California, providing support, education, advocacy and community for all undergraduate and graduate students with an emphasis on students across the spectra of gender and sexuality.

**Quin Nelson '16** returned to Whitman in July of 2022 as the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Antiracism Project Specialist. He seeks to build just communities through care and curiosity.

After graduating from Whitman with a double major in English and Economics, he earned his Master of Arts in Teaching from Lewis and Clark College.

In his previous work experience, Nelson served in a variety of roles in education and equity in the U.S. and internationally. He has served in equity leadership roles at multiple schools, including as an alumni consultant for Whitman's Land, Water, Justice course.



LAW

## INTERNSHIPS

### Jose Silva '25

Throughout the school year and summer, I interned with Hernandez Immigration Law in Walla Walla. This internship was one of the biggest, most rewarding experiences I have had as a Whitman student. Though there were moments when learning about the immigration process was difficult and upsetting, it helped me prepare myself career-wise by working with attorney Wendy Hernandez on how to manage these cases and what the necessary steps were to move forward. I feel incredibly grateful for the opportunity to help people in their immigration process in the ways I was able. This experience has not only shaped me as a student but as a person, and I will take it with me wherever I go!



SOCIAL WORK

### Alissa Berman '24

Interning with BMAC this summer connected me with community members through administering surveys, long-form interviews and organizing workshops and block parties. The work helped me engage with Walla Walla communities and has become a crucial aspect of my experience living in Walla Walla. Professionally, the internship has developed my interpersonal and organizational skills, which has prepared me for postgraduate life.



Whitman Internship Grants By the Numbers

Fall 2022–Summer 2023 \* Class of 2023 Class of 2024

131 12 57  
Class of 2025 Class of 2026  
45 10

\*Some students participated in multiple internships.



“In my internship with Blue Mountain Therapeutic Riding Center, I spearheaded “Reading to Buttons and Coco,” a new literacy program. Buttons and Coco, two of the center's horses, visited first-grade students in Milton-Freewater, College Place and Walla Walla for equine-assisted lessons using a children’s book written about them.”

—Riley Cooper '26

DESIGNATION

Internships

Number of states where students interned in the U.S.

14 Alaska, California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Montana, North Carolina, Oregon, Texas, Utah and Washington

Number of countries where students interned

22 Argentina, Austria, Burundi, Cambodia, China, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Germany, India, Mongolia, Nepal, Serbia, Singapore, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United States and Zambia

Career categories

- » Arts & Communication
- » Business
- » Education
- » Environment & Sustainability
- » Government, Law & Activism
- » Health & Medicine
- » Science, Engineering & Technology
- » Social & Human Services
- » Other



DESIGNATION

Sustainability

New leadership will elevate sustainability efforts on campus. Sarah Williams joined Whitman as the Sustainability Manager in Facilities Services in December 2022. Previously she worked in sustainable dining at Arizona State University (ASU), where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Sustainability along with a certificate in Sustainable Food Systems, and was the Sustainability and Marketing Manager for Seminole Dining at Florida State University.

Williams has spent many years studying and researching food insecurity among students in higher education, a passion that has shaped her career. She is currently attending ASU for her Master of Science in Sustainable Food Systems with a political focus.

Williams brings a desire to make Whitman a leader in sustainability in higher education. Her expertise will guide Whitman on issues around environmental and climate justice, greenhouse gas tracking, sustainable food, student outreach and communication, waste minimization and energy efficiency.

On-campus efforts make a difference

42% of campus waste materials were diverted from the landfill by way of donation, recycling and/or reselling. This included items such as large appliances, electronics, clothes, aluminum, cardboard, paper, etc.

21% less waste was generated in 2022–2023 compared to the previous year. Programs that helped this effort included the Green Move Out “Ditch the Dumpster” donation program at the end of the year, campus recycling efforts, a surplus office furniture yard sale and a reduction in plastic purchases.

75% of Whitman’s academic programs offer a sustainability-related course.



HISTORY

INTERNSHIPS

Brandon Martínez Serrano '24

I spent the Spring 2023 semester as an intern at the Unión Cultural Argentino Libanesa, in Buenos Aires, Argentina. I helped with logistics for Buenos Aires Celebra Líbano 2023, an event celebrating the Lebanese culture and heritage present in the city, and conducted interviews for an oral history project about the roots and development of the Lebanese community. Through these exciting and interesting experiences, I gained a deeper understanding of the importance of preserving cultural diversity in society that I hope to take to my home country of El Salvador.



HEALTH CARE

Barbara Saucedo Gonzalez '24

Project A1C is a diabetes program that I saw take form from idea to plan to implementation. Doing research and then putting that knowledge into a presentation along with resources for people within my community was an amazing experience. Through this project and under the guidance of the SOS Clinic staff, I grew my skills in project management and organization within a clinical setting.





# Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees holds ultimate responsibility for the governance of the college. This group of volunteers, consisting of alumni, parents and friends of Whitman College, supports and improves the means by which the college achieves its objectives. The corporate concerns of the college are vested in the Board of Trustees.



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**Court G. Wyckoff '00**  
President, Wyckoff Farms, Inc.  
Yakima, Washington

## New Trustees

### Elizabeth Obershaw P'24

Elizabeth Obershaw is the proud parent and aunt of two Whitman students. She joined the Whitman College Board of Trustees in 2023 and has served on the Investment Committee since 2021 and Family Leadership Council since 2020. Obershaw holds a bachelor's degree in economics from UCLA and an MBA from Stanford Graduate School of Business. She was Chief Investment Officer for HP's U.S. retirement plans for 16 years. Her interest in the private markets then led her to Horsley Bridge Partners, a private equity firm, where she was a Managing Director for 14 years. Obershaw currently advises several investment and not-for-profit organizations.



**What do you love about Whitman?** I love how capable, friendly and supportive the Whitman community is. It is a joy to see students receive a great liberal arts education, make deep friendships and launch their careers here. The setting is gorgeous—wheat fields and vineyards, the Blue Mountains, the Columbia River and great sunsets!

**Why do you volunteer your time on the Board of Trustees?** Whitman has been a great experience for our family, and I'm honored to give back. The endowment allows Whitman to make longterm investments in our people, programs and facilities, and I enjoy applying my investment background to this mission. Learning from our leadership, academic community, board and students is very stimulating!

### Drew Shoals '05

Drew Shoals is a Corporate Counsel at Amazon Music working on music, entertainment and tech matters. He formerly played drums, toured and recorded with the multiplatinum, Grammy Award-winning band Train. Prior to joining the Whitman Board of Trustees, Shoals served as Vice Chair of the President's Advisory Board and Co-Chair of the 10th Reunion Fund. He earned a Juris Doctor from University of Pennsylvania Law School—where he served as Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of International Law—and a Bachelor of Arts cum laude in African American Studies from Whitman. Shoals lives in Seattle, Washington, with his wife, Nicole, and their son, Avery.



**What do you love about Whitman?** I love that Whitman fosters an inclusive and academically rigorous environment in a beautiful Pacific Northwest community that empowers students to engage, collaborate, explore, innovate, build lifelong friendships and make a positive impact on the world.

**Why do you volunteer your time on the Board of Trustees?** I volunteer on the Board to help ensure that Whitman thrives for generations to come and is an educational experience that is accessible and responsive to the students of today and the future, equipping students from diverse backgrounds with the tools and drive to solve tomorrow's complex problems.



## Trustees Emeriti

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# President’s Advisory Board

The President’s Advisory Board focuses on ensuring support for the strategic priorities of Whitman. They serve both as advisors to the president and cabinet and as special ambassadors for Whitman with students, alumni, friends and prospective students.

## President's Advisory Board 2023–2024

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Spokane, Washington

**Dorothy Metcalf-**

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**Lynne Cohee ’83, P’17, P’20**

Seattle, WA

**Jennifer Brown Coleman ’78,**

**P’06, P’08, P’11**

Lewiston, Idaho

**Robert S. Coleman Jr. ’77,**

**P’06, P’08, P’11**

Lewiston, Idaho

**Jason L. Copeland ’94**

Mountain View, California

**Robert A. Cugini ’80**

Bellevue, Washington

**Matt Dittrich ’12**

Camas, Washington

**James E. Dow ’71**

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**Limei Fan P’23**

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Bethesda, Maryland

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**Geoffrey P. Wood ’86**

Seattle, Washington



# President’s Advisory Board Welcomes New Members

## Shilpa Bratt ’91, P’26

Bellevue, WA

**Education:** Bachelor of Arts, Economics; MBA, Arizona State University.

**Family:** Spouse: Blake Bratt ’92. Children: Uma ’26 and Roshan.

**Career:** Director of Business Operations, Microsoft Digital Crimes Unit.

**Campus Activities:** Study abroad in Oviedo, Spain, Delta Gamma, Panhellenic Chair, intramural football, Career Center.

**Why I Serve:** As I think back to my time at Whitman, it served me in so many ways—from honing my personal values, to developing lifelong friendships, to teaching me communication and critical thinking skills that have been so important in my career. I serve so others can benefit from these same opportunities that have had such a positive impact on my person, my life and, in turn, those around me.



## Lynne Cohee ’83, P’17, P’20

Seattle, WA

**Education:** Bachelor of Arts, Political Science; J.D., Cornell University Law School.

**Family:** Spouse: Matt Smith ’83. Children: Mitchell ’17 and Nathan ’20.

**Career:** Of Counsel at Tupper Mack Wells PLLC.

**Campus Activities:** Kappa Kappa Gamma, intramural sports, varsity track and field, ASWC student life committee.

**Why I Serve:** Whitman gave me the ability to think critically, the academic background to pursue my career goals and treasured lifelong friendships. I’m looking forward to doing what I can to ensure that the college continues to provide these experiences to future students.



## Matt Dittrich ’12

Camas, WA

**Education:** Bachelor of Arts, Politics; MBA, Yale.

**Career:** Founder and Managing Director, Blue Wood Capital. Serial entrepreneur and investor.

**Campus Activities:** ASWC President, Treasurer and Senator; Board of Trustees Student Representative; KWCW DJ; Green Park Elementary Mentor, Tau Kappa Epsilon Officer; Kappa Kappa Gamma Friend; Garrett Scholar.

**Why I Serve:** Five generations of my family have farmed around Walla Walla—as a young boy, Whitman became my highest aspiration. First in my family to graduate college, a full-ride scholarship and the profound access to mentors Whitman provided changed my life trajectory in awesome ways. So helping us empower more Whitties—students, alumni, staff, faculty, friends, family—to reach for the stars means the world.



## Rob Freelen ’00

Los Angeles, CA

**Education:** Bachelor of Arts, Psychology.

**Family:** Spouse: Brett (Wells) ’02. Children: Parker, Piper and Paige.

**Career:** Ever since I was introduced in 1999 to a start-up by Whitman Trustee Chuck Anderson, I’ve worked for or with tech startups.

**Campus Activities:** Phi Delta Theta, ASWC, interfaith council, two “Blue Shirts” in intramural volleyball.

**Why I Serve:** After an amazing Whitman experience, I believe wholeheartedly in the life-altering benefits of a residential liberal arts education.



## Overseer and PAB Emeriti

Terry P. Abeyta ’73  
John F. Alsip III ’59, P’89  
James K. Anderson Jr. ’58  
Nancy Bratton Anderson ’86  
Vojislav S. Andjelkovic ’94  
Darrell W. Baggs ’67  
Janet Pitts Beckmann  
Phyllis Penrose Bignold ’56, P’84  
Margaret Boule ’73, P’03  
Joy Brown ’95, P’24  
Robert I. Brunton ’57, P’85, P’87  
Ernest A. Burgess ’61, P’99  
Susan Buxton ’85  
John D. Cadigan ’62, P’93  
Bruce G. Cadwell ’62  
Sonya Campion ’83  
Alice S. Cho ’89  
Mary Jane Corliss ’71  
James S. Cottle ’66, P’05

Thomas E. Cronin, President Emeritus  
Jim Edmunds ’70  
John J. Flaherty ’64, P’91  
Douglas D. Flegel ’62  
Julie A. Gaisford ’65  
John J. Gilmour ’49  
Michael B. Gropp ’76  
Warren H. Gross ’62  
Lewis J. Hale ’70  
Sigvard T. Hansen Jr. ’57, P’85  
Roy A. Henderson ’64  
Robert F. Hidaka ’76  
Tim H. Hill ’58, P’86  
Robert A. Hinnen ’91, P’22, P’24  
George W. Holifield ’59, P’89  
Richard A. Johnsen ’68  
Stephen G. Kimball  
Nola Schatzel Kulig ’81  
Frank G. Lamb ’62

Sally Clarke Landauer ’61, P’87  
Edward N. Lange ’56, P’87, P’89, P’98  
Loren H. Lounsbury ’56  
Michael R. Malone ’74  
Patricia Bates Mattingley ’70, P’99  
Alexander C. McGregor ’71  
Mary V. Metastasio ’73  
Sarah Swanson Michelson ’82  
Lynn Kamman Mickelson ’75  
Esther Hook Milnes ’73, P’02  
G. Jeffrey Moore ’61, P’86  
David J. Morris ’67  
Margaret A. Murphy ’62  
Heather Havens Myers ’87  
Randall C. Nelson ’66  
D. Peter Newland ’67  
Thomas H. Oldfield ’67, P’96  
Robert V. Pennington ’54  
Michael W. Phillips ’70

Marc Pitre ’88  
Wilber E. Pribilsky ’55, P’93  
Jerry E. Purcell ’60, P’82  
Rand L. Rosenberg ’75  
Stephen P. Sander ’64  
John L. Santa, ’66, P’99  
Morris G. Shore ’60  
Robert A. Skotheim, President Emeritus  
Abigail J. St. Lawrence ’00  
Norman H. Swick ’71  
John R. Valaas ’66, P’95, P’97  
David M. Valdez ’82  
Timothy Frits van Oppen ’70, P’08  
Thomas O. Whittaker Jr. ’66  
Richard C. Yancey ’49  
Kinji Yasu ’62  
William H. Zavin II ’65



Nicole Marshall '00

Portland, OR

**Education:** Bachelor of Arts, Chemistry-Biology; M.D., Mayo Clinic College of Medicine; Master of Clinical Research, Oregon Health & Science University.

**Career:** Associate Professor and Division Head of Maternal-Fetal Medicine, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Oregon Health & Science University.

**Campus Activities:** Women's soccer, track, intramural sports; Student Academic Advisor in Anderson Hall; Resident Assistant in Jewett Hall; Pioneer Sports Editor, study abroad in Scotland.

**Why I Serve:** My time at Whitman informed the way I think, learn and interact with others, and resulted in lifelong friendships. Not only did I have the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities across campus that challenged my assumptions and fed my passions, I also had professors who encouraged me to apply for summer experiences that set the foundation for my career in medicine. I serve because I want to make sure that future generations of Whitties will continue to have opportunities for transformative experiences and meaningful connections.

Michelle Morales '07

College Place, WA

**Education:** Bachelor of Arts, History and Politics; Juris Doctor, Seattle University.

**Family:** Spouse: Andrew. Children: Cameron and Noah.

**Career:** Deputy Prosecutor, Benton County, Washington.

**Campus Activities:** Delta Gamma, study abroad in Italy.

**Why I Serve:** Attending Whitman was one of the best decisions I made. It allowed me to grow and explore my education in ways that I hadn't considered. I met my best friends there and want to continue that growth of the Whitman community!

Christopher Perdue '93

Washington, D.C.

**Education:** Bachelor of Arts, Biology; M.D., Creighton University; Master of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University; Preventive Medicine Residency, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research.

**Career:** U.S. Army Surgeon and Medical Chief. Global health security specialist. HHS Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response.

**Campus Activities:** Food service worker, resident assistant, La Casa Hispana, Biology Laboratory Assistant, Microbiology Research Assistant, College Admissions Board.

**Why I Serve:** Whitman College remains the cornerstone of my academic and professional identity, connected to and anchoring the values and skills that today are interwoven into the fabric of who I am. Whitman's professors, ethos and environment allowed me to cultivate academic excellence and teamwork, helping me learn to seek constant growth, work-life balance and healthy new experiences while holding fast to a core of friends and shared experiences. I hope I can help to continue the tradition of turning out healthy, whole and (com)passionate graduates who are ready for the challenges of our time and excited to remain connected to Whitman.



Navneeta Rekhi '06

San Francisco, CA

**Education:** Bachelor of Arts, Politics; Juris Doctor, Northwestern University.

**Family:** Spouse: Neil Aggarwal. Child: Nikhil.

**Career:** Partner, Latham & Watkins.

**Campus Activities:** Whitman Debate team, study abroad in England.

**Why I Serve:** To ensure that the Whitman legacy translates into excellent career opportunities for future generations of Whitties after they graduate.

Feather Sams Huesties '00

Pendleton, OR

**Education:** Bachelor of Arts, Anthropology; Master of Arts, Anthropology, Washington State University.

**Family:** Spouse: Raymond Huesties. Children: Richard and Oscar Huesties. Nephew: Aiden Wolf '26, first Šináata Scholarship recipient.

**Career:** Regional Development Officer at the Oregon Business Development Department (Biz Oregon).

**Campus Activities:** I Have A Dream counselor, Resident Assistant in Anderson Hall, President of the American Indian Association, Louis B. Perry Summer Research Endowment recipient and active in various student community groups.

**Why I Serve:** Whitman College has played an integral role in shaping the person I am today. From the invaluable opportunity to study within its halls, collaborate with exceptional faculty and staff, and step beyond my comfort zone, I attribute my growth to this institution. In return, I contribute to Whitman's continued expansion, fostering interdisciplinary learning, interactive experiences and generous financial aid options for the next generation.

Matt Smith '83, P'17, P'20

Seattle, WA

**Education:** Bachelor of Arts, Political Science; Juris Doctor, University of Oregon School of Law.

**Family:** Spouse: Lynne Cohee '83. Children: Mitchell '17 and Nathan '20.

**Career:** Of Counsel at Fikso Kretschmer Smith Dixon Ormseth PS.

**Campus Activities:** Phi Delta Theta, intramural sports, ASWC, intramural Czar, KWCW men's basketball announcer.

**Alumni Involvement:** Planned Giving Advisory Committee.

**Why I Serve:** Over a period of almost 70 years, Whitman has educated three generations of my family. It provided me with not only a rigorous and interesting education, but also a deep and broad group of lifelong friends and community. I hope to help continue that legacy.



Alumni Association Board of Directors

On July 1, 2023, three new members were added to the 2023–2024 Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Samantha Howell Barnhart '04

is an excellent example of what it means to be an engaged alum from a distance. She has served as an Associate Class Representative for nearly 20 years, attended every one of her reunions, and also served on the committee for her 10th Reunion. She has been a mentor to Whitman students for the past several years. Barnhart is the Pro Bono Director at Three Rivers Legal Services in Gainesville, Florida.

**Robert Street Clark '07** has been a volunteer for Whitman in multiple ways, from working with Whitman applicants in the Office of Admission to serving as a Class Representative and Associate Representative since graduating. Clark is a committed champion for the college. He is an Education Consultant at Doran and Scalora based in Houston, Texas, working with high school students on the college search process.

**Shireen Nori '16** joins the board as a Young Alumni Representative. Her eagerness to serve stems from the dynamic and rich experiences she had as a student, including in student government, Schwa, and Power and Privilege and other inclusion and diversity initiatives. Nori hopes to continue empowering her peers to thrive in all aspects of their student life and beyond, particularly queer students and students of color. She is the Director of Organizing at the Public Rights Project in Seattle.



2023–2024 Alumni Board Members

**Evan Jones '97**  
**President**

Pasadena, CA

**Ben Kubany '05**  
**Vice President**

Portland, OR

**Emily Arneson '06**  
Spokane, WA

**Samantha Howell Barnhart '04**  
Gainesville, FL

**Aaron Blank '01**  
New York, NY

**Jane Carmody '14**  
Seattle, WA

**Robert Street Clark '07**  
Houston, TX

**Tyler Dann '00**

Anchorage, AK

**Nehali Dave '13**

Seattle, WA

**Adam Delgado '12**

San Francisco, CA

**Bruce J. Jones '67**

Barnstable, MA

**Ellie Klein '10**

Seattle, WA

**Shireen Nori '16**

Seattle, WA

**Paulina Ocegüera '06**

Portland, OR



Total Number of Alumni Donors in 2023

3,859

**THANK YOU!** We couldn't have done it without you.





Nancy Simon, retired Garrett Professor of Dramatic Arts, speaking to a reunion gathering of alumni at Harper Joy Theatre in 2012.

# Alumni Association Recognition Awards

Each year, the Whitman College Alumni Association recognizes alumni who exemplify outstanding achievement in their careers and communities or through service to Whitman College. Nominations for Alumni Association Recognition Awards are open all year and selected by the Alumni Board of Directors at their spring meeting. Read the criteria for each award and use the nomination form at [whitman.edu/award-criteria](http://whitman.edu/award-criteria) to tell us about an outstanding Whittie!

## The 2023 Alumna of Merit Award Winner: Ceil Lucas '73

Recognizing alumni who achieve distinction in their chosen field or rendered outstanding service to their community or Whitman College

**Ceil Lucas '73** served as Chair and Professor of Linguistics at Gallaudet University, the only liberal arts college in the world exclusively devoted to deaf and hard-of-hearing students.

A highlight of her research, The Black ASL Project, aims to describe the linguistic features of a variety of ASL used by African American signers. In 2022, The Black ASL Project was awarded the Linguistics, Language, and the Public Award by the Linguistic Society of America.

Lucas was most recently named a 2023 Fellow of the Linguistic Society of America, selected for her distinguished contributions to the discipline.



## The 2023 Gordon Scribner Award Winner: Nancy Simon '63

Given to an individual who possesses the ability to inspire and who has made a major contribution of volunteer time and effort to Whitman College over an extended period

**Nancy Simon '63** has hosted and spoken at numerous alumni events, taught for Senior Alumni College and greeted alumni reunion groups on campus. She maintains close contact with many of the students with whom she has worked since joining the Whitman faculty in 1967.

A world traveler, Simon has seized the opportunity to meet with fellow Whitties around the globe. She has participated in a number of Alumni trips, including stepping in at the last minute to lead an Oregon Shakespeare Festival excursion when the original host was injured.

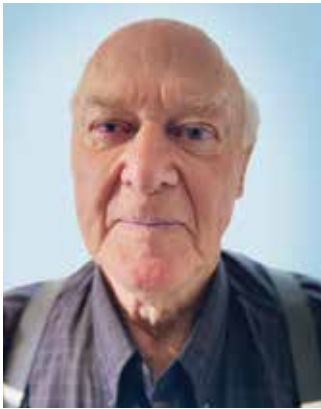


## The 2023 Sally Rodgers Award Winner: Dr. Lynn Boose '58

Recognizing an individual who graduated from Whitman College over 50 years ago and whose life exemplifies the qualities of a liberal arts education

**Dr. Lynn Boose '58** served in the U.S. Navy before beginning a career in health and human services administration. He was a hospital and medical center administrator for 25 years before serving 23 years as CEO and President of a nonprofit program providing comprehensive support services to individuals with lifelong developmental disabilities and persistent mental health issues.

Now retired, Dr. Boose volunteers on the board of directors for New Narrative, Inc., and as a member and chair of the advisory board for NorthStar Clubhouse of Portland, Oregon, a mental health support services day program. In 2022, he was the recipient of the Marquis Who's Who Humanitarian Award.



## The 2023 Pete Reid Award Winner: Kate Kunkel-Patterson '13

Given to a graduate of the past 10 years who demonstrates youthful exuberance toward their career, community and Whitman College

**Kate Kunkel-Patterson '13** is the Ranger at the Whitman Mission National Historic Site and has played a unique and multifaceted role in helping the Whitman College community engage with the college's place and past.

For many years Kunkel-Patterson has volunteered her time to educate new students in the annual Home in Pasxapa orientation event. She was also a highly engaged partner in the Spring 2022 Long Tent initiative.

Her tireless efforts in promoting inclusivity, fostering meaningful connections and preserving the rich tapestry of our local heritage have not only elevated the educational experience at Whitman but have also empowered countless individuals to embrace and reflect on their own histories and identities.



## The 2023 Trailblazer Award Winner: Shireen Nori '16

Selected jointly by the Division of Diversity & Inclusion and the Alumni Association, this award recognizes alumni whose work exemplifies inclusion, promotes equity, and values and reflects the diversity of our world

**Shireen Nori '16** is a recognized grassroots organizer and social movement strategist. She has amassed a decade of experience working on campaigns at the local, state and federal levels and in developing and strengthening social justice movements through training, coaching and strategy development.

After graduating from Whitman, Nori co-developed and executed several winning political strategies. At 350.org, she co-led the digital strategy for the 2019 Climate Strikes which brought out 7.6 million people to the streets in a single day. During her tenure at Kairos, she coached over 200 grassroots organizations to build campaigns that connect the issues they care about to the fight for tech governance. She most recently accepted a position as the Director of Organizing at Public Rights Project, a public interest legal nonprofit that closes the gap between the promise of laws and the lived reality of our most vulnerable communities.

Good storytelling, the right to self determination and collective power are all central to Nori's organizing methodology.





# Big Sky, Big Opportunities

BY ANDREW FAUGHT

**“I wanted to give the kids from small towns the incentive and method to go out on their own and find themselves. These kids have the courage to take these scholarships and go do something totally different.”**

—DARRELL BAGGS '67

FOR A KID GROWING UP in rural Libby, Montana, going to college can easily feel like a distant and implausible notion.

Not for Darrell Baggs '67. His mother, born in 1908—just 19 years after Montana was admitted to the Union—never imagined otherwise for her only child.

“The message from a very early age was you will go to school, and you will get a degree,” Baggs says with a laugh. “This was not a suggestion.”

## A MOTHER'S DREAM BECOMES HER LEGACY

Frances Jane Ford Baggs grew up on a ranch outside tiny Troy, Montana, where she dreamed of knowledge and new vistas. A high school valedictorian, she always wanted to pursue a higher education at a time when few women did. But her working-class parents couldn't afford tuition in the face of other financial necessities and an austere economy.

“Her dream of an education went by the wayside as other things mounted up,” Darrell says. “There was just no money.”

During the Depression, Frances secured a job at the post office, augmenting her husband's income as a heavy equipment mechanic in Montana's mines. Later, after Darrell's father took a job as a mechanic for the Missoula Streets Department, his mother went to work as a bookkeeper for a local business.

Frances' impact on her son remains profound. “She was the driver in my life,” Darrell says. In 1988, he honored his mother's legacy by establishing the Frances Jane Ford Baggs Scholarship at Whitman, carrying on her unstinting support for higher learning. Scholarships are targeted to students from rural communities, with a focus on Montana residents.

“The kids I'm trying to reach, I'd say are the current version of my mother growing up in Troy,” says Darrell, who now lives in Missoula. “I wanted to give the Whitman experience to other Montanans. I want them to have opportunities, and provide some funding for them to do that.”

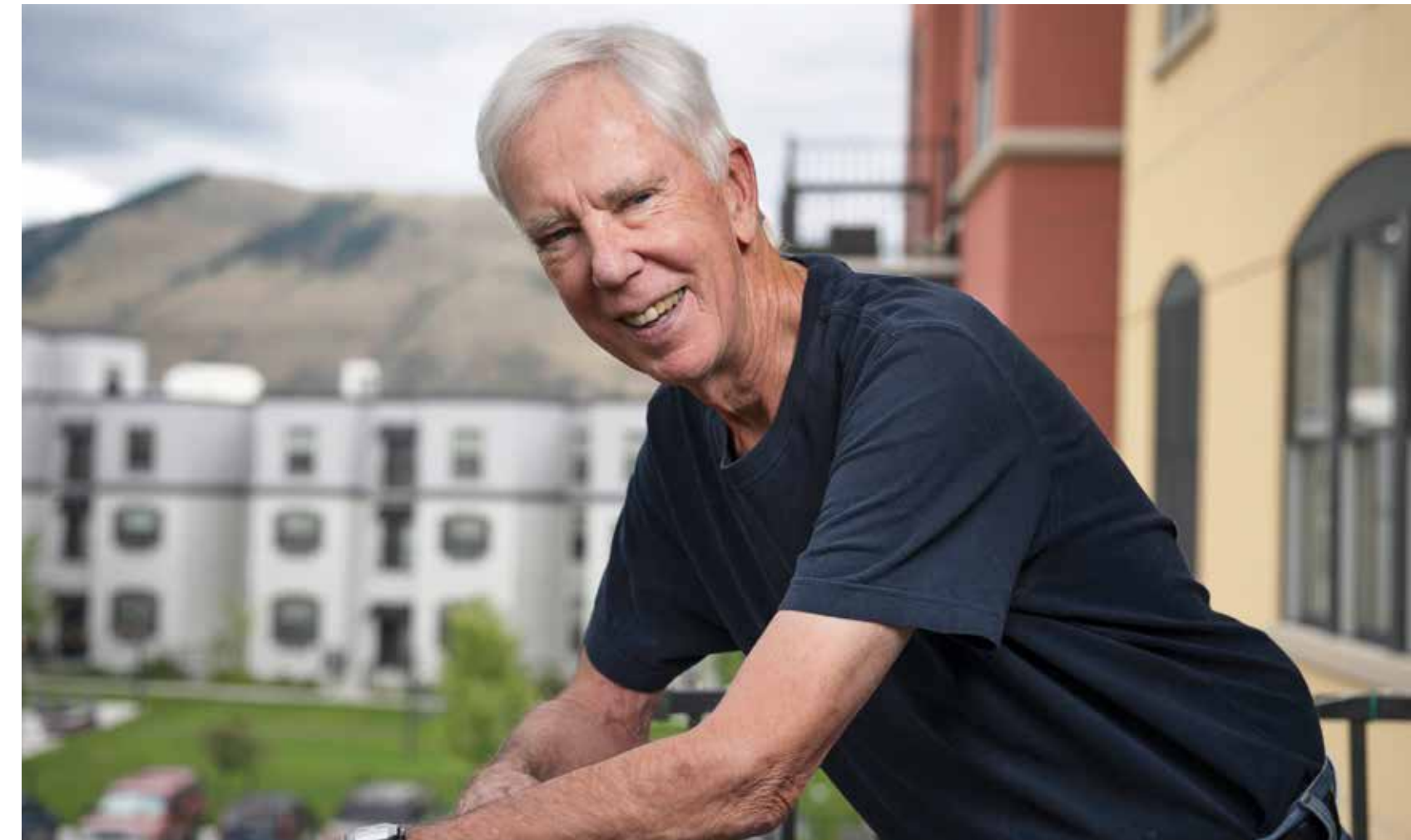
“They're smart kids, they're ambitious and they want to have an impact on the world,” he adds. “Sometimes pursuing a liberal arts education would be discouraged, as in, ‘No, you've got to stay on the ranch and feed the cows,’ and all of that. I wanted to give the kids from small towns the incentive and method to go out on their own and find themselves. These kids have the courage to take these scholarships and go do something totally different.”

## GROWING AND GIVING BACK

Darrell, the first in his family to attend college, has never hesitated when it comes to supporting his alma mater. “Whitman opened the world to me. I am eternally grateful because I always wanted to keep growing.” With a recent contribution to his mother's scholarship fund, Darrell earned induction into the Stephen B.L. Penrose Society, which recognizes those who have given \$1 million or more in cumulative gifts to Whitman. His commitment extends beyond the financial: Darrell served for 13 years on the Board of Overseers (now the President's Advisory Board).

In 2007, he created the Darrell W. and Katherine Jane Baggs Chair in Economics Endowment, named in part for his wife, who died in 2003. The couple had been married since 1971. The endowment supports a teacher and scholar in the Economics Department and subsidizes supplies, equipment, research expenses and professional development.

He credits Whitman Economics Professor David Stevens with helping to nurture in him an interest in the field. “He was very approachable, and I was able to learn the basics of



economics,” he says. “I was exposed to really good teachers and worked with a lot of really bright people. It was such a good experience that I wanted to give back to this institution that I really care about.”

## LIFE LESSONS

Darrell got an earlier economics education in Libby and later in Missoula, where his family moved when he was 10. In Libby, Darrell made a few bucks mowing neighbors' lawns, but in Missoula he found an even bigger market for lawn care. “We lived over on Fifth Street, where my primary clientele was the university district. That's where the money was, and there were older people who wanted or needed the help.”

After earning his degree in Economics at Whitman, Baggs enlisted in Navy Officer Training School in Newport, Rhode Island, after which he was a division officer on a destroyer and an intelligence officer on the Pacific Fleet commander's staff. After leaving active duty, he completed an MBA at Harvard. He went on to serve as a financial manager and chief financial officer for a number of companies, including several Silicon Valley technology startups.


Darrell's liberal arts grounding proved beneficial beyond his economics acumen.

“I developed interpersonal skills to deal with Silicon Valley types that I wouldn't have gotten with just a technical degree,” he says.

Whitman played a critical role in his professional success, but it also served an important geographical function when he was a teenager. Attending high school in Missoula, just eight blocks from the University of Montana, Darrell was resolute about one thing. He would not attend the University of Montana. “I made that decision in 30 seconds,” he says. “It was too close. So I enrolled at Whitman, which offers communal living in a very positive way. Everybody before senior year either lived in a dorm or with a fraternity or sorority.

“In my case, I was in Sigma Chi, which was a positive experience. I met a lot of people who ultimately turned out to be lifelong friends.”

His time on campus was an economics lesson in itself. To pay for college, he worked at a dining hall washing dishes and then ascended to head waiter. Beyond the compensation, the job was beneficial in two other ways. “You're interacting with the student body, and I ate free, essentially lots of leftovers,” he says.

Though his own student days are long past, the memory of Darrell's mother and her ongoing commitment to education is never far from mind. He sees her in the accomplishments of the scholarship recipients who are testimony to her belief in the transformative power of learning. “She would say to me, ‘I'm proud of you, and I thank you for this recognition,’” Darrell says of the scholarship that he created. “She would be very pleased.” 



## Squire Broel Visual Arts Endowment: 'Three Stories' Internship

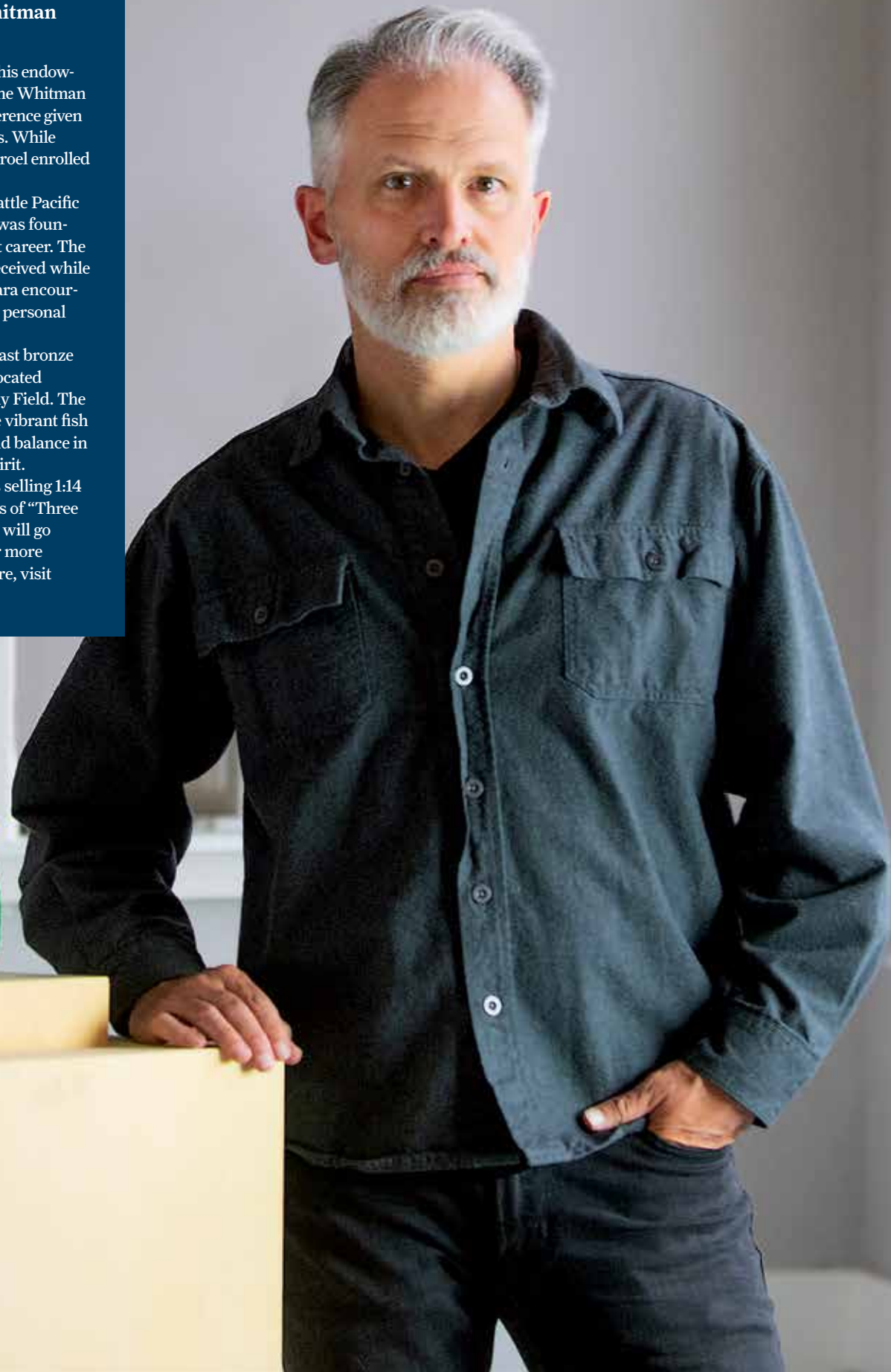
... to provide financial support for internships as part of the Whitman Internship Grant Program

Local artist Squire Broel established this endowment to provide financial support to the Whitman Internship Grant Program, with preference given to internships in the field of visual arts. While attending Walla Walla High School, Broel enrolled in art courses at Whitman.

He ultimately graduated from Seattle Pacific University, but his time at Whitman was foundational to the development of his art career. The instruction and encouragement he received while at Whitman from professor Keiko Hara encouraged Broel to develop and pursue his personal creative vision.

In 1997, Broel created the iconic cast bronze sculpture "Three Stories," which is located between Penrose Library and Ankeny Field. The sculpture draws inspiration from the vibrant fish markets in Hong Kong, a desire to find balance in life and the cultivation of a playful spirit.

To fund this endowment, Broel is selling 1:14 scale cast bronze sculpture maquettes of "Three Stories." One-third of each retail sale will go toward funding this endowment. For more information or to purchase a sculpture, visit [squirebroel.com/whitman](http://squirebroel.com/whitman).



# New Endowments

Generous outright gifts, planned gifts and bequests served to create the 13 new endowments highlighted here; eight fund scholarships, two support athletic programs, two fund internships and one supports academic programs.

## Bohman-Keller Scholarship Endowment

... to provide need-based scholarship support

Janice Bohman '71 and Eric Keller established this endowment to provide students with a demonstrated financial need the resources to afford a Whitman education. Bohman remained active with Whitman by volunteering as an Associate Class Representative for the Class of 1971.

## Fan-Na Family Chemistry Endowment

... to provide support for student-faculty research and other programs in the Chemistry Department

Limei Fan and Jay Na, parents of Jon Na '23, established this endowment to strengthen the experience of Whitman Chemistry students by enhancing research support and mentorship opportunities. Read the full story on page 6.

## Tim Hevly Scholarship Endowment

... to provide need-based scholarship support

This endowment was established by Tim Hevly '88 and Kris Lambricht. At Whitman, Hevly played varsity baseball and was active in student government, the Pioneer student newspaper and intramural sports, as well as serving as a Resident Advisor. He remains active with Whitman today as a member of the President's Advisory Board and an Associate Class Representative. Hevly has had a 30-year career with the Seattle Mariners and is currently the Vice President of Communications. Lambricht graduated from the University of Washington (UW) and is the Chief Financial Officer of College Spark Washington, while also serving as the President of the UW Alumni Association Board. This endowment will provide need-based scholarship support for Whitman students enrolling from Roosevelt High School, or another high school within the Seattle Public Schools District, who have a breadth of interests and extracurricular activities encompassing the liberal arts.



## Raili Filion-Jennifer Blomme Endowment for Varsity Swim Team Excellence

... to provide support for the excellence of the Whitman varsity swim team

Scott Filion, parent of Tanner Filion '23, established this endowment in memory of his late wife Railil Filion and in honor of Head Swimming Coach Jenn Blomme (pictured above). Railil had a strong connection to Whitman once Tanner enrolled, joining the Family Leadership Council and partnering with others to lead the swimmers' parents group. Railil died in a tragic hiking accident in November 2020.

Serving as both the men's and women's head swimming coach since 2000, Blomme has led Whitman swimmers to numerous conference championships, including three national titles and two NCAA records for Tanner Filion. This endowment will support the varsity swim team through special investments in the student-athlete experience and the program.

## Kyra M. Dodge MacIlveen '61 Endowed Scholarship for Cultural Exchange

... to provide need-based scholarship support for students from countries in Europe and Central Asia

Kyra M. Dodge MacIlveen '61 majored in French and minored in Education. After graduating

from Whitman, she studied at the University in Aix-en-Provence in Southern France, where she continued her studies through Portland State University and earned a Master of Education with emphasis in Russian and French Languages, History, and Literature from the University of Oregon. After further Russian study at the Institute of Foreign Studies in Monterey, California, she taught Russian at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey before returning to Portland to teach in the Portland public schools. She has traveled to the former Soviet Union and Russia twice. The child of Russian immigrants, she hopes that this scholarship promotes cultural exchange and serves to better the lives of those it supports. The scholarship will support students from Russia, as well as nearby regions, including Belarus, Bulgaria, Moldova, Romania and Ukraine; the Baltics (Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania); the Caucasus: Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia; Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan); and the Balkan states (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Slovenia, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia).

## Ancil H. and Valerie D. Payne Scholarship Endowment

... to provide financial aid for Whitman students enrolling from a high school in The Dalles, Oregon

Ancil and Valerie Payne established this scholarship with funding from their Charitable Remainder Unitrust following Valerie's passing in 2022. Ancil Payne was a Trustee Emeritus, serving on the Board of Trustees from 1984 to 1992.

## Salaguinto Family Internship Endowment

... to provide one more supported internship per year as part of the Whitman Internship Grant Program

This endowment was established by Beth Long Salaguinto '88 and David M. Salaguinto Jr. '87. At Whitman, Beth was active in student government, debate and the Student Admission Advisory Council, then went on to earn a Master of Public





Administration at the University of Washington. She is a dedicated volunteer for Whitman, serving on the President's Advisory Board since 2017 and, prior to that, the Board of Overseers. David was involved in the college radio station, KWCW. Beth and David have two children, Taylor '18 and Grayce. Beth and David established this internship endowment to provide resources to encourage and support students who are exploring options for life after Whitman through Whitman's Internship Grant Program.

### The Knapp Family Scholarship

**... to provide scholarship assistance to Whitman students from underrepresented groups**

This scholarship endowment was established by Roger Knapp '73 and Rosemary Gunter Knapp '73, in celebration of their 50th Reunion, to honor three generations of Knapp family members who have attended Whitman College. The scholarship reflects the Knapp family's shared belief in the value of a Whitman liberal arts education and the importance of preserving that opportunity for future generations of Whitman students. Read more about the Knapps on page 16.

### Evan Smith Endowed Fund for Cross Country and Track

**... to provide support for the Whitman College cross country and track programs**

Funded by Ellen Smith Gardner and Adam Gardner on behalf of themselves and their family, this endowment honors the memory of Ellen's father Evan Smith '67, who passed away in late 2022. Evan was a Northwest Conference All Star

in cross country and track multiple times. He was Co-Captain of the cross country team that finished third in the 1966 national championships and finished sixth in the steeplechase in the 1967 NAA National Track Championships. Evan still holds two Whitman school records: the two-mile run and distance medley relay. He was known for his commitment to Whitman Athletics and wrote a sports column for the Pioneer. Evan remained involved with running throughout his life and coached cross country and track and field teams at the collegiate, high school and middle school levels.

### The Larry M. Wilson Scholarship Endowment

**...to provide need-based financial aid**

This endowment was funded with a gift annuity from Larry M. Wilson '54, who passed away in 2023 at the age of 91. Larry was a member of Phi Delta Theta, choir and the staff of the Pioneer newspaper. A businessman all his life, he developed and managed commercial and residential properties. He was a devoted alumnus and also a Whitman parent.

### C. Dennis and Suzanne Wohlford Scholarship Endowment

**... to provide need-based scholarship support for students majoring in Chemistry; Biology or Biochemistry; Biophysics and Molecular Biology**

This endowment was established by the late C. Dennis "Denny" Wohlford '61 and his wife Suzanne. At Whitman, Denny was a member of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity, wrote for The Pioneer, and participated in choir and band. He

went on to earn a Doctor of Dental Surgery from the University of Washington School of Dentistry and serve in the U.S. Navy Dental Corps before starting his own private dental practice in Puyallup, Washington. Denny and Sue established this scholarship to assist students who might otherwise be unable to afford a liberal arts education at Whitman, with the hopes of supporting students interested in careers in dentistry or other health professions.



### The Professor Jacqueline Woodfork Scholarship Endowment

**... to provide need-based scholarship support for students majoring in History**

Parents Victoria F. and James C. Maroulis established this scholarship endowment for students majoring in history in honor of their daughter Sophia '23, who graduated with a degree in History. The scholarship is named after Whitman Associate Professor of History Jacqueline Woodfork.







“My favorite thing about playing on turf is the predictability with the bounce of the ball and the surface you’re playing on as a whole—it’s a lot more consistent. A turf field is a very positive addition for Whitman Athletics.”

— LORELEI STARR '25

# Hayner Field: Investing in Excellence for Blues Athletics

BY HEIDI PITTS '01

FACILITIES FOR WHITMAN STUDENT-ATHLETES and coaches received a significant upgrade this summer. Thanks to \$3.6 million in generous gifts from alumni and friends, a new FieldTurf surface is now in place for year-round training and competition. This new field was dedicated on Oct. 14, 2023, as James Hayner Field, in honor of the long-time Whitman trustee and Walla Walla community leader.

## A FIELD FOR ALL SEASONS

Hayner Field revolutionizes the training and competition experiences of Whitman's soccer and lacrosse teams. Its multilayered FieldTurf CORE fiber offers stability and durability for year-round use and has been proved to reduce the incidence of soccer injuries, ensuring a safer and more dependable playing surface for the athletes.

Having played on a turf field during her youth sports years, women's lacrosse captain Madeleine Sherry '24 recognizes the advantages the new surface will provide the team. “I’m extremely excited to have our home field be turf now, as I believe that this addition will help us be more competitive within the conference,” she says. “Being able to play in all types of weather now will help us have more consistent practices through the winter, giving us a better chance to prepare for games that may not be in ideal conditions.”

Beyond serving as the primary home for soccer and lacrosse, Hayner Field's all-weather capabilities will enable early-season baseball practice and provide a hub for various club and intramural sports, creating more opportunities for student involvement in recreational activities. Hayner Field will also host athletics camps and clinics, strengthening ties between the college and local community.

## THE COMPETITIVE EDGE

Leading the giving was the Wyckoff family, including Whitman Trustee, Court Wyckoff '00 and Katie Boyajian Wyckoff, Trustee Emeritus David Wyckoff '67, and Priscilla Graham Wyckoff '67, and Tygh Wyckoff '02 and Sarah Menashe Wyckoff '02. The family contributed in honor of Court's grandfather, track student-athlete Robert “Bullet Bob” Graham '36. Expressing the family's sentiment, Court says, “We are proud to invest in the college's athletics


facilities and in this competitive field for soccer and lacrosse to strengthen the student-athlete experience at Whitman.”

W Club Board member Casey Mickelson '75 and his wife, Lynn Kamman Mickelson '75, see the field benefiting the college's recruitment efforts. “We strongly believe that a vibrant athletic program at Whitman is vital to the overall health of the college in today's competitive environment for students.”

Additional gifts to develop Hayner Field were made by Karl Quackenbush '75 and Michelle Quackenbush, Helen McAuslan Logan-Schneider '55, Trustee Emeritus Michael Murr and Eva Murr, W Club Board Member John Blackmon '79 and Susan Blackmon, Trustee and W Club co-founder Jim Moore '66 and Kathryn Lindquist '66, and Trustee Charley Rosenberrry '81 and Lanora Welker Rosenberrry '88.

## A LEGACY OF LEADERSHIP

The field's namesake embodies the spirit of dedication, service and leadership that the Whitman community values. A lifelong Walla Walla resident, Hayner has served the college for over four decades as a trusted advisor to six presidents, a member and chair of the Board of Trustees and the Board of Overseers, and legal counsel.

“Athletics are an important part of the student experience and a means of further strengthening our community in support of the college's academic mission,” says Whitman College President Sarah Bolton. “We are pleased to be naming the new field in honor of the exceptionally dedicated Whitman and Walla Walla leader Jim Hayner, and are grateful for the generosity of trustees, W Club board members, and other alumni and friends in making this investment for our students.” 

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—PRESIDENT SARAH BOLTON



By The Numbers

17

Varsity Sports Teams

12

Club Sports

9+

Intramural Sports



**Let's Go ALL IN  
for Whitman!**

**October 25–26, 2023!**

# Enlisting Our Collective Power

**More than ever,** the world needs Whitties—deep thinkers, big dreamers, confident leaders.

The Whitman Fund supports our students as they prepare for an increasingly complex future. Thankfully, they're not doing it alone.

Help build this world-changing community by making a gift to The Whitman Fund area that's most meaningful to you.

## The Whitman Fund Designations

- » Greatest Need
- » Academic Excellence
- » Scholarship & Student Aid
- » Internships
- » Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
- » Sustainability

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Gifts at Work**  
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