State of the College

President’s Remarks
May 26, 2021
Our agenda

• The 2020-2021 academic year

• Recent achievements and initiatives

• Planning for the future

• Q&A
An Academic Year Like No Other

To keep us all safe and healthy, a fabric face covering is required.

Follow the Guidelines

Wash hands often

Cover your cough or sneeze

Stay 6 feet apart at all times

Stay home

On Campus Isolation & Quarantine Housing

Campus Operations

*This applies to anyone over the age of two unless there is a medical condition that makes wearing a mask impossible.*
First year of the Compass curriculum

Key benefits
• Freedom and flexibility for students with high-quality advising
• Personalized pathways from liberal arts to careers and professional life
• Integrates experiential learning throughout four years

Key features
• Connected First-year Experience (FYE)
• Mentored academic pathway (MAP) - first MAP days this year
• Sophomore year experiences
• LEAPs - skills-based certificates and microcredentials with alumni mentorship (i.e. Criminal Justice, Design & Fabrication, Global Fashion, Social Research, etc.)
• Honors programs
Athletics and Recreation

- Fall athletic competition cancelled but teams were able to practice with masks and social distancing
- Pappas Fitness Center remained open throughout the academic year with limited capacity
- Winter and Spring were allowed protocol-heavy, shortened season as of March 1, 2021
One-of-a-kind Commencement
2021 Honorary Degrees

E. Frances "Fran" White '71
Doctor of Laws
Professor emerita of history and Black studies at New York University, award-winning scholar and distinguished leader in academia

James "Jamie" Ellis Washington
Doctor of Laws
Founder and president of the Washington Consulting Group, and co-founder and president of the Social Justice Training Institute
Recent accolades
2021 National Scholars

Two students win 2021 Projects for Peace award
April 5, 2021 | ACCOLADES COLLABORATION EDUCATION GLOBAL
POLITICAL SCIENCE SOCIOLOGY STUDENT

Juniors collaborate on a proposal to help survivors of wartime sexual trauma in Bosnia

Healing around the world
May 11, 2021 | ACCOLADES GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH STUDENT

Watson Fellowship winner to explore intersection of traditional and modern medicine
Faculty and student research
New college leadership

Solidifying the foundation for equity
May 4, 2021 | CAMPUS LIFE | STAFF

Shaya Gregory Poku engages personal, institutional mission in new associate vice president role

New Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students
April 5, 2021

Dear Wheaton Community,

I am pleased to share that on July 1 Wheaton will welcome Dr. Darnell T. Parker as its next Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students.

Dr. Parker brings considerable expertise in all aspects of student affairs, diversity and equity, and Title IX compliance within higher education. He joins Wheaton from Case Western Reserve University, where he has served most recently as the Senior Associate Vice President for Equity after four years in the division of Student Affairs. In this newly created office and role, he has overseen the university’s efforts and initiatives to address and prevent discrimination and harassment and sustaining and effecting change.

Students, faculty and staff who participated in Wheaton’s search process noted Dr. Parker’s focus
Class of 2025 and New Students

Goal is 495 first-year students and 15 transfer students
Current Student Enrollment

As of Fall 2020

- 1,669 students
- 60% female; 40% male
- 25% U.S. students of color
- 22% first-generation college students
- 6% international students
Campus Enhancements
A 64,000-square-foot renovation will create new spaces for Business & Management, Psychology, the Filene Center, programs for social entrepreneurship, and the FabLab Makerspace.
Planning for the future

The overarching strategies that Wheaton has been pursuing to navigate industry challenges:

- Focus on the core liberal arts and experiential learning mission
- Prudent management of resources
- Enrollment growth
- Growing new sources of revenue with mission-driven, market-aware initiatives

The work of the last fourteen months can be divided into three main areas:

- Maintaining the ongoing work and rhythm of the college as best as possible
- Adjusting to the current reality and preparing the college for the short-term shocks
- Repositioning the college to be even stronger for the long-term
Positioned for success

1. Enrollment growth
2. Investment growth in facilities
3. Endowment growth
4. Fundraising growth
Questions?