# 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**







Please practice

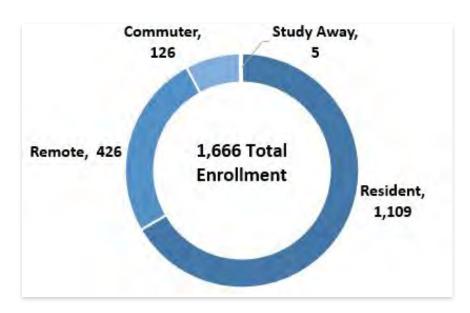
social distancing

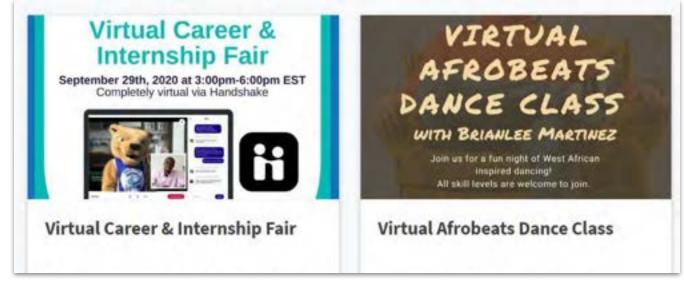
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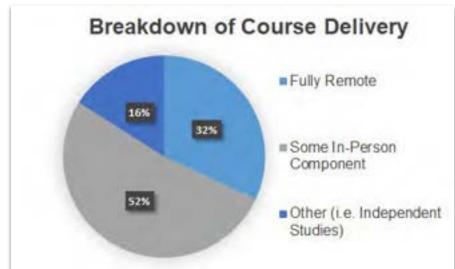
6 feet

touched items and surfaces

## **The Extended Campus**















# 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



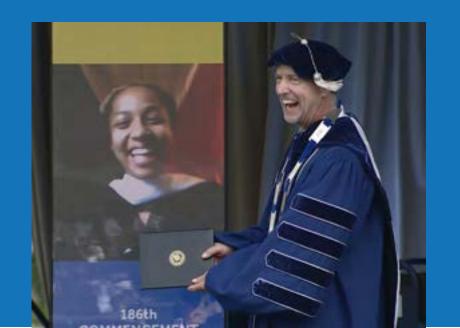








# **One-of-a-kind Commencement**







# **2021 Honorary Degrees**







#### 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

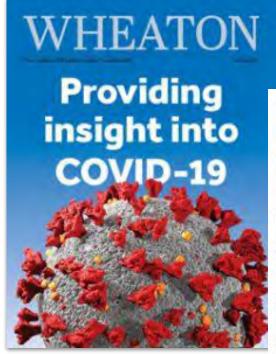




## Faculty and student research



summer research in France



Literature review project offers authentic research experience during pandemic

















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## 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

PRESIDENT, STUDENT AFFAIRS

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



Dr. Darnell T. Parker



#### Class of 2025 and New Students

Goal is 495 first-year students and 15 transfer students

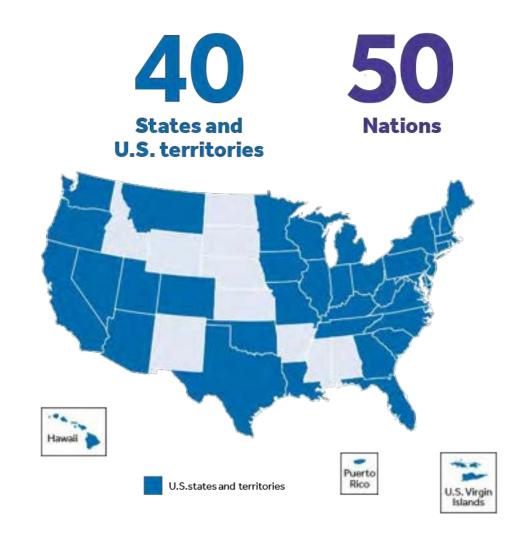




#### **Current Student Enrollment**

#### 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







### **Transforming the former Science Center**









A 64,0000-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

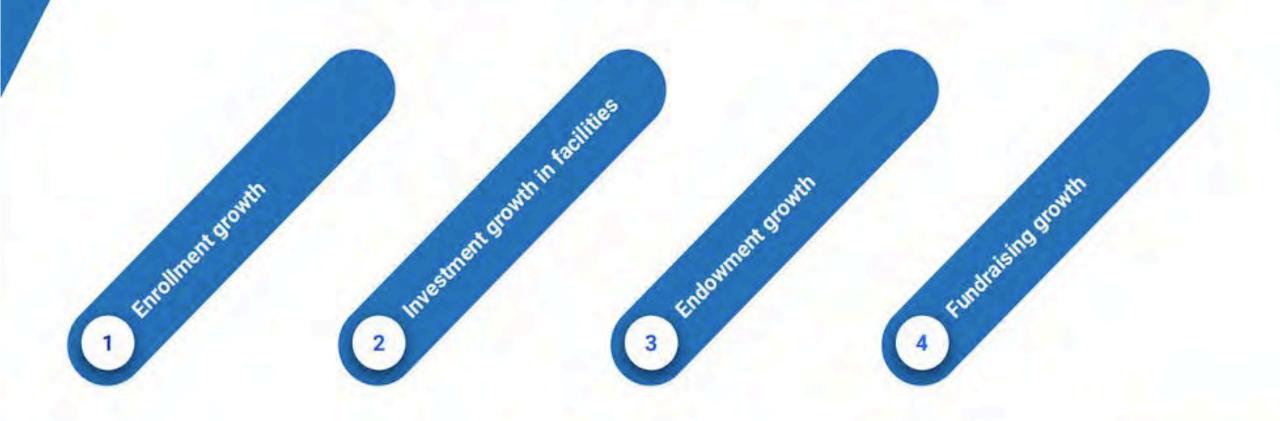
The overarching strategies that Wheaton has been pursuing to navigate industry challenges:

- ☐ 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**





# Questions?

Wheaton college massachusetts

