



9-14-2023

Quaker Campus, September 14, 2023 (vol. 22, issue 2)

Whittier College

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Recommended Citation

Whittier College, "Quaker Campus, September 14, 2023 (vol. 22, issue 2)" (2023). *Quaker Campus*. 1.
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College Plagued by Low Enrollment

Sarah Licon
NEWS EDITOR

Whittier College has been hit with low enrollment following the Fall 2023 semester.

Interim President Kristine Dillon, in an interview with the *Quaker Campus*, Dillon calls this year's enrollment "small," in contrast with the 1,387 of Fall 2021. In a faculty interview last Thursday, Dillon reported first time enrollment is around 200 students, while approximately 800 is the total number of enrollment for the semester. There is no accessible collected data for the '23-'24 school year, nor has data on enrollment for Fall 2023 been published.

In Fall 2022, the College reported 477 first-time students, out of 2,408 accepted applicants.

The pandemic, which struck multiple colleges and universities, contributed to a steady decline in student enrollment. Whittier hit peak enrollment in Fall 2019 with 1,776 students, prior to the COVID-19 shutdown.

California private and liberal arts colleges were hit significantly harder by the pandemic, and resulted in the closure of several SoCal universities, including Marymount California University, a private Catholic institution, which closed in August 2022. Other universities have merged with other institutions outside state lines to protect colleges from shutting down.

However, these numbers have been dwindling for years.

On a national level, 861 private universities have ceased operations since 2004, with more than 9,000 branch campuses closing their doors effectively. These branch campuses include Whittier Law School, which terminated classes in 2020. But private colleges are not the only colleges suffering the blows. There has been a sharp decline in higher education nationwide with several students citing rising costs and loans as leading factors. And, from 2020-2022, public universities have been quickly shutting down, exacerbated by the effects of the pandemic.

Now, Whittier may be headed in a similar direction. To garner enrollment, the College has increased its acceptance rate, and is now accepting 82 percent of applicants. This is exponentially higher than local private universities, with Occidental College at a 38.2 percent acceptance rate. Occidental, being a private college holds an enrollment number of 1,987 in 2022. As of 2021, La Verne holds a population of 2,506 undergraduates.

But the College is taking steps to ensure secured admission.

"All students," advertises Whittier are considered for a John Greenleaf Whittier Scholarship, and eligibility requires 12-unit enrollment and a minimum of a 2.0 G.P.A. According to the College, 85 percent of students are receiving financial aid.

The numbers could be attributed to the Board of Trustees' decision to cancel several sports programs, including men's lacrosse, football, and golf last November. The lacrosse team, the only NCAA college men's lacrosse team in California, was one of few college men's lacrosse teams on the West Coast.

According to Dillon, about 40 percent of enrolled students are student-athletes, a number that represents a little less than half of the student-body.

Several news publications, such as the *Los Angeles Times* and *Whittier Daily News*, have taken the College's dwindling enrollment rate amidst a string of controversies as a sign of the College permanently shutting down in the near future.

But despite the low enrollment, the College still regards itself as a "Hispanic-serving institution" with Hispanic and Latinx students comprising 49.5 percent of the student population as of 2021.

Enrollment is the main source of revenue for the College, according to Dillon, who intends to apply short-term solutions to this issue, including relying on alumni and donors, as well as implementing fundraising efforts. The school received a grant of \$12 million by Mackenzie Scott in 2020, which has been allocated to on-campus resources including the Peer Health Educator Program. Dillon confirmed in a Faculty meeting last Thursday that the College also accepted 2.2 million and utilized it towards strengthening marketing and developing an Enrollment Team. Faculty will also be included in efforts, as department heads will engage in meetings to address concerns and promote the College at high schools. Income from the College's endowment leaves one percent to be applied towards admissions annually.

Looking towards the future, in collaboration with the Board of Trustees, Dillon will implement a "short-range plan" to "[build] our class enrollment size each year over the next four years, so that we are back at a level that is sustainable for the College."

The question is what is sustainable at the College. According to Dillon, 1,300 is a healthy enrollment number and serves as the end goal for a sustainable College. As of now, financial efforts serve as the gateway to avoiding a possible shutdown.



Adjunct professors advocate for transparent communication.

COURTESY OF WHITTIER STUDENT-WORKER ALLIANCE

Adjunct Professors Rally For Better Pay

Meylina Tran
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

On Aug. 28, the Whittier Student-Worker Alliance (WSWA) announced on *Instagram* that they would be holding a rally outside of the Human Resources office in the Campus Courtyard on Aug. 30 in conjunction with the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 721.

The rally is in support of the adjunct professors at Whittier College as they negotiate their contracts with the College through SEIU.

As of Aug. 30, the contracts for adjunct professors dictate that they

be paid \$1,550 per course that they teach in a school year—which may vary from semester to semester—as they work their way to a tenure position i.e. a full-time position with the College. Because adjunct professors are contracted from a year-to-year basis, their employment year-to-year is not guaranteed, meaning that adjunct professors experience little to no job security whilst employed at the College.

According to adjunct professor of Anthropology Dia Flores Vechayiem, meetings between adjuncts and SEIU Local 721 began back in May 2023, at which time adjuncts voiced their concerns—per

unit wage raises, professional development wage raises, timely re-appointment notifications, etc.—to the union. Whittier College was not contacted until July, when the union adjuncts had organized and compiled a list of demands and needs that they were ready to present to the College. "July, we started having joint bargaining sessions with the College," Flores-Vechayiem shared. "We went to the table to tell them, "This is what we want," as we tried to negotiate our terms."

Vechayiem also noted that the College had set forth Sept. 4 as a deadline for the bargaining...

Continued on pg. 3

Senate President Steps Down, VP Steps Up



Duncan Smith is the new President of ASWC.

COURTESY OF POET COMMONS

Sarah Licon
NEWS EDITOR

Former ASWC Senate President Trevor Cochrane stepped down from office this past weekend. ASWC Senate (Associated Students of Whittier College) serves as Whittier College's official student government that oversees student programs and organizations. Cochrane served as Senate treasurer for the 2022-2023 school year, and was sworn in as President for the current academic year.

His successor, Duncan Smith, who served on the Freshman Class Council last school year is now stepping in as official president of ASWC Senate, after being elected Vice President of the 2023-2024 ac-

ademic year.

As a second-year, Smith considers himself the youngest person to hold the President seat of ASWC Senate. Smith was informed of Cochrane's discontinuation last weekend, before he announced his new position to the Senate's Executive Board. Smith further addressed Cochrane's absence to the Senate, and to the participating student body. The reasons behind Cochrane's leave remain unclear but stem from a "situation [involving] an event that happened last academic year that went against the Senate Officer Code of Conduct."

Smith was initially unclear if he would serve as Interim President, but per constitution, was sworn in to serve as official President, until re-elections next semester.

As former Vice President, Smith is unable to appoint a new member, so the Vice President position will remain unoccupied for the time being, with Smith serving both duties.

The position (known as "office") is open to "anyone who has been on the table at any point at any capacity, is eligible to run well as people who are currently on the table even if they are new," explains Smith.

As for Smith's duties, ASWC is currently developing plans that will aid in "garnering enrollment," through collaboration with the Board.

"I want to move forward," Smith elaborates. "We're at a point in the College's history where there's a lot of change that's gonna happen. A lot of opportunities to do a lot of great things."

Whittier Cracks Down on Homelessness



Whittier has seen a significant decrease in homeless transients.

LUIS SINCO / LOS ANGELES TIMES

Alissa Portillo
DEPUTY EDITOR
OPINIONS EDITOR
SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER

The city of Whittier has seen a drastic decline in transients on the streets since it opened multiple temporary and permanent shelters dedicated to providing them with shelter and care throughout the past three years. This improvement was a result of the city's Three-Year Homeless Plan that was created in July of 2018.

The purpose of this plan was to reduce the number of homeless people in the city after having significant numbers of transients from 2014 (record of 340 transients) to 2017 (record of 214 transients). However, the city strongly emphasized that the purpose of the plan is "not intended to resolve the issue of homelessness in the city in the first three years but rather to lay a foundation for future planning and implementation... that allows for continual change in policies and procedures that address current and future issues."

As the first step in adopting changes to align with the purpose of the Homeless Plan, Whittier opened a temporary shelter in 2020 using the Uptown Senior Center which was operated by the Salvation Army. This came after the major homelessness encampment toll that took

place at Parnell Park in early 2020. The encampment affected the community as residents shared concern for their children and families who visited the park, and due to death resulting from drugs that occurred at the park on New Year's Day. The growing concerns from the public led to a 10-day closure of the park so the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office homeless outreach services could move forward with finding shelter and care for these individuals.

Correspondingly, the center would then be used as an interim measure until a new Salvation Army Navigation Center would open in early 2021. This shelter, nonetheless, would provide transients with emergency care, shelter, and food. This was an effort especially emphasized by the impact of COVID-19 at the time.

In August of 2021, the Salvation Army Navigation Center had its grand opening and was open to the public in September of 2021, offering 139 beds and emergency services for Whittier residents experiencing homelessness. What makes this center non-traditional compared to other shelters is that it provides "clients with case management services that include health and wellness resources, employment assistance, substance abuse services, and counseling, with the goal of

connecting clients to stable income and permanent housing," which are provided by the Salvation Army. Although this center was a part of the Homeless Plan developed by the city, it was a tool used to allow the city to "continue enforcement of its no camping, curfew, and other quality of life city ordinances prohibited under the Ninth Circuit's *Martin v. City of Boise* 2018 ruling." This ruling allows cities to regulate public spaces from homelessness but only after the city has provided shelters

and aid for the homeless. This was explained further by Mayor Joe Vinitieri, "People are either going to come to the shelter, or they're going to have to move along. If they do not move along, they are going to receive a citation from the Whittier Police Department. We're going to be compassionate and gentle about it, but we have to be firm."

Besides the two shelters, the city has committed to preventing homelessness through a variety of programs. These programs include a Mental Health Engagement Team which pairs clinicians with a Whittier police officer, affordable housing programs, low-cost home improvement loans to help aging seniors and others continue to stay in their homes, counseling services for renters, and financial support to local nonprofit organizations that address housing, food insecurity, education, and disability. This includes the Homeless Incentive Program which "promotes and supports property owners who rent available units to LA County's homeless population through Section 8 vouchers." There are over 35 organizations in the city of Whittier that provide these services for homeless people and their families.

With the determination and changeful attitudes toward prevent-

ing homelessness, Whittier has seen a decline in the issue. According to data collected by the Los Angeles Homeless Service Authority, there has been a drop in reported homelessness in the city. It was found that "more than 50 percent less individuals are living unsheltered in the City of Whittier, dropping from 230 persons counted in February of 2020 to 127 in February of this year (2022)." These numbers compare drastically to the higher number of homeless during 2015, which shows the progression and impact the city has made in aiding the homeless and reducing homelessness on the streets.

Students can further advocate for the upkeep of these shelters and centers by offering their service and time to volunteer, intern, or work for these organizations if interested. Some of the organizations that may offer internships or volunteer opportunities can be found on the Whittier Parks, Recreation, and Community Services website.

If students want further assistance in pursuing this field, they can contact the Center for Career and Professional Development to discuss their interests, skills, and career choices. Students can email the center at careercenter@whittier.edu or call via telephone at 562.907.4230.



Over 35 organizations aim to tackle homelessness in Whittier. COURTESY OF WHITTIER SALVATION ARMY

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Submissions may be emailed to qc@poets.whittier.edu in .doc or .docx format. Submissions must include the author's name and year of graduation or position at the college in the signature. Letters are due by Tuesday at 5 p.m. to make it into that week's issue. Submissions should be no more than 500 words. Letters should be well-proofread, as they will not be edited. Letters that fall outside of these guidelines will be returned to the author with a request for revision.

Due to the high cost of publication, members of the Whittier College community are permitted three copies per issue. Additional copies may be purchased with prior approval for 50 cents each by contacting the *Quaker Campus*. Newspaper theft is a crime, and those who violate the three copy rule may be subject to civil and criminal prosecution.

The *Quaker Campus* does not change material posted on online articles once they have been published in the paper — with the exception of an error being found. Only then will a correction be made to the online version. The *Quaker Campus* is a publication of Whittier College. Columns and Signed editorials do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Whittier College or its affiliates.

Adjunct Professor Rally Contd.



The rally demonstrates another display of student solidarity.

COURTESY OF SEUC

Continued from pg. 1

...to be resolved and an agreement to be situated.

On Aug. 29, prior to the rally, WSWA posted an update on their Instagram story: “The adjunct’s union [SEIU] has made a tentative agreement with the college that meets their demands! Our rally tomorrow [Aug. 30] will be a celebration of this victory...”

With this tentative agreement, the College has agreed to grant adjuncts a 29 percent wage increase, meaning that an adjunct professor will be paid \$2,000 per course they teach rather than \$1,550. Additionally, the union also fought for and won the right for adjuncts to be notified by the College about canceled classes and compensation for said classes, and the adminis-

trative decision to discontinue the adjunct’s time at Whittier College with ample time for the adjunct to find a new assignment. In the past, adjuncts would not receive any sort of notification from the College about their reappointment until mid-summer.

If the tentative agreement goes into effect, then the College will be required to provide reappointment letters by June for the Fall semester, and November for the Spring semester. Vechayiem also noted that SEIU bargained for a cancellation fee of \$500 in the event of a last-minute class cancellation in order to compensate the adjunct for any time they may have spent preparing a lesson plan.

The College also agreed to notify adjuncts by a certain date if the

adjunct was going to be receiving a new class out of the blue. This development was especially appealing to adjunct professor of Spanish Fatima Garcia, who emphasized how quickly the turn-around was expected to be: “[We’d do it] over a few days. Which puts a lot of stress on us because a lot of us...work on multiple campuses, so we already have classes, we already have our schedule, and all of a sudden we get added more to our load. So it’s a lot of stress.”

Another concern that the adjuncts bargained for was higher professional development wages. According to Vechayiem, the original wage was “relatively low, \$250. Now, I believe we got numbers up to \$700. So we’ve also bargained for professional development for

adjunct faculty so we can represent Whittier at conferences and we won’t have to scrape by. Before we were literally scraping by.”

Furthermore, the adjunct union negotiated with the College the issue of tenureship. Prior to these negotiations, as full-time jobs became available, rather than looking internally to the adjunct professors all vying for the job security that tenured position would ensure, the College looked externally, shocking adjuncts. Now, with this tentative agreement, the College has agreed to first notify adjuncts of any available full-time positions before turning their sights externally.

Because of the swift turn-around from negotiations to tentative agreement, the combined powers of WSWA and SEIU transformed the originally planned protestation rally into a victory rally. Despite the small turnout of students, SEIU union leaders, and adjunct professors, loudly and proudly celebrated the win. They marched around the perimeter of the Campus Courtyard in the heat, wielding signs that read, for example, “Whittier Students Stand With Adjuncts,” all whilst chanting call and response slogans like, “When adjuncts are under attack, what do we do? Stand up! Fight Back!” and, “Who’s got the power? We got the power! What kind of power? Union power!”

This kind of display of student power and unity isn’t an unfamiliar one. Spring 2023 saw a month-long strike, spanning from late March

until late April, from the CI workers as they fought for a long overdue wage raise. With the strike, the College saw a massive influx of student protest power, all of which was coordinated by WSWA chair Aidan Moore and co-chair Arlo Tinsman-Kongshaug, both fourth-years.

Originally formed during the Fall semester of 2022, WSWA was founded with the intention of directly aiding the CI workers as they fought for their rights. On switching their focus to the adjunct professors, Moore stated that, “The adjuncts sort of came out of nowhere [...] First weekend I was back here, I got a text from their union rep. asking for a rally on Wednesday. So I put together a rally and that’s pretty much what happened.”

Which is not to say that the CI workers and their struggles have been forgotten, but the decision to pivot for the foreseeable future was an easy one, given how similar the adjuncts’ demands were to what the CI workers were demanding: higher wages to support themselves as the cost of living continues to rise not just in California, but the United States.

In light of unions all over the nation striking for their basic human rights, this win for the adjuncts is not a small one. It also does not mean that the fight is over. A victory for one is a victory for all.

This article has been condensed for print. If you want to read the full article, you can at medium.com/thequakercampus.

Biden Plans to Prevent Student Debt

MEYLINA TRAN
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

The Biden-Harris administration is finally launching a new income-based student loan repayment plan meant to benefit low- to moderate-income borrowers on Aug. 22, just in time for bills to be due again in October after a three-year pause. Originally proposed in January, the new payment plan—dubbed Saving on a Valuable Education, or SAVE—serves to help undergraduate and graduate students pay off their federal student loans, as well as keep as much of their discretionary income as possible.

A person’s discretionary income is the money left over after tending to the most basics, i.e. rent, food, etc. Under the old federal loan payment plan—Revised Pay as You Earn, or REPAYE—a borrower’s monthly payment would range anywhere from 10 percent to 15 percent of their discretionary income. SAVE, in comparison, seeks to protect more income for basic needs; an undergraduate’s monthly payment would be reduced to five percent of discretionary income, while a graduate student’s monthly payment would remain at 10 percent. This benefit will not be available until July 2024.

However, if a borrower makes less than \$15 an hour (or \$32,805 or less a year), then that borrower

is eligible for a 0 dollar monthly payment. Similarly, someone in a household of four with an income below \$67,500 is also eligible for zero dollar monthly payments. This allows low-income individuals and families to focus on meeting their basic needs.

Furthermore, parents who have borrowed federal student loans on behalf of their children are not eligible to enroll in the SAVE plan. Parents must enroll in an income-contingent repayment plan, which will take 20 percent of discretionary income over a 25-year period. Any outstanding balance after that time period will automatically be forgiven by the Department of Education.

For undergraduate students with federal student loan debt of \$12,000 or less, monthly payments will be required for a period of 10 years. The remaining balance will be canceled. For students with debt above \$12,000, every additional \$1,000 equals an additional year of monthly payments. If a student’s debt balance is \$25,000, for example, \$13,000 more than the allotted \$12,000, then they can expect an additional 13 years of monthly payments before any remaining debt is canceled. Undergraduate students with a loan balance of more than \$12,000, however, will be given a maximum of 20 years before their



ANNA ROSE LAYDEN / NEW YORK TIMES

The majority Republican Supreme Court have cancelled Biden’s previous proposal.

debt is canceled, regardless of how many additional years of monthly payments you’re supposed to have. Likewise, graduate students will have a maximum of 25 years before their debt is canceled.

In terms of interest rates, if the monthly payment does not cover the interest owed, the Department of Education will cancel the uncovered portion. So if interest is \$50 and one only pays \$40, then the remaining \$10 will be canceled. Furthermore, for those with monthly payments of zero dollars the interest amount will automatically be can-

celed.

The full benefits of the SAVE plan will not go into effect until July 2024—primarily cutting payments to five percent discretionary income on undergraduate loans. Fortunately, there are three big components of the plan that are readily available. First, reducing over a million borrowers’ monthly payments to zero. Second, the new treatment of unpaid interest. Lastly, married borrowers who file their taxes separately will not be required to include their spouse’s income in their monthly payment calculations, nor

will they be required to include their spouse in their household count.

Anyone, regardless if they are a delinquent borrower with a history of missing payment deadlines, can apply for the SAVE plan.

Over four million people have already enrolled in the SAVE program as of Sept. 6.

This article has been condensed for print. If you would like to read the full article, visit medium.com/thequakercampus.

The College Gets Active!

Alejandra Ortega
STAFF WRITER

On Aug. 31, the Activities Fair took place on the Upper Quad on the Whittier College campus. The event occurs once a semester, and it is a time for the various clubs and organizations on campus to introduce themselves to the community and gain new members. For first-year students, this is also a great opportunity to find what clubs are available for them to join for the next four years of their life. For returning students, it allows them to continue to discover all that Whittier has to offer.

This year, the quad was buzzing with energy as students walked around and sipped on colorful drinks that sat in floaties provided by Iced Above. It was clear that after two years of social distancing, there is a desire for connection, and everyone is eager to find like-minded groups of people to hang out with. Furthermore, many new clubs have formed and are looking to grow, make new connections, and leave their mark on the College.

If you missed the Activities Fair this semester or were not able to go around to all the tables, here is a list of all clubs and organizations on campus! All of this information and more can be found on Engage.

Afro Fusion Dance Team
(afrofusion@poets.whittier.edu)

"The Afro Fusion Dance Team is a dance club that is open to all current Whittier College Students. We focus primarily on African Dancing, perform at on and off campus events and hold auditions in Fall and Spring semester for new members. We are not just a dance team, but one of the few Black organizations and safe spaces for Black students at Whittier College."

Arthurian Order of The Knights of Pendragon
(rdriscal@poets.whittier.edu)

"AOKP, or the Arthurian Order of the Knights of Pendragon, is a fantasy Live-Action Role-Playing Game (LARP). Members meet weekly and develop fantasy personas who live and adventure in the fictional kingdom of Warwick, which is inhabited by trolls, faeries, and many other strange and fantastic creatures."

Associated Students of Whittier College
(senate@poets.whittier.edu)

"The ASWC Senate, as the governing body of the Associated Students of Whittier College, is dedicated to the betterment of the College as an institution and as a member of the broader community. This body will act as an open forum for students to voice their opinions and desires, always keeping the best



Students swarm the Upper Quad to make new friends.

MEYLINA TRAN/QUAKER CAMPUS

interests of the ASWC in mind. In all of its actions, the Senate will serve the students first with integrity, dedication, responsibility and humility."

First Generation & Allies
(fga@poets.whittier.edu)

"Establish a network of support, mentorship and communication for all First-Generation College Students and Allies. Our main mission is to promote and create resources for our members to easily navigate their college experience. In addition, our group seeks to generate a new, more embracing culture on campus towards First-Generation Students."

House of Ruth (877.988.5559)

"House of Ruth's emergency shelter provides programs and support for victims and their children,

including food, clothing, personal care items, group and individual counseling, legal and social services, advocacy, employment assistance, and life management skills." House of Ruth is a non-profit organization and is not directly affiliated with Whittier College.

Program Board
(aswc_prog@poets.whittier.edu)

"The mission of the Whittier College Program Board shall be to plan, execute and market programs that are consistent with its values and the needs and interests of the entire Whittier College community."

Team Awareness Combating Overdose (TACO)
(taco@poets.whittier.edu)

"With chapters across the nation, TACO is dedicated to combating overdose deaths, particularly in

college-aged individuals. Through TACO, we aim to distribute free Fentanyl strips, become certified Narcan trainers, and host fundraiser events."

If none of the clubs here on campus catch your eye, you are always welcome to create your own! For more information on forming clubs, you can visit the Office of Student Engagement at the campus center next to the bookstore or you can contact Kia Frazier-Humphrey at kfrazier@whittier.edu or Brittney Plascencia-Saldana at bplascen@whittier.edu.

This article has been condensed for print. If you would like to read the full article, visit www.medium.com/the-quaker-campus

Poets, Put Money in Your Pockets!

Meylina Tran
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Did your financial aid package include a work-study award that you don't know what to do with? Are you looking to expand your resume and fine-tune those soft skills? Did you accidentally miss the On-Campus Hiring Fair that the Career Center on Sept. 7? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then you're in luck because the *QC* has got the scoop on all of the Departments and off-campus community partners that are looking to hire students. From work-study positions to internships, we've got you covered.

On-Campus

Since we're talking about the **Career Center**, it's only fair that we let you know that the Career Center is looking to fulfill two positions: Handshake Connection Collaborator, and Project Management and Operations Support. Both positions are work-study only positions. If you're a facts-driven, technologically savvy, global thinker, then apply on *Handshake* right now!

If you've got a knack for reading business reports and processing payments, then you may be a great fit for the **Business Office**. The Business Office is looking for a student with work-study to fill the Student Accounts Assistant position. Not sure if this position is right for you? Then check out the Whittier College Business Office *Handshake*

page, or contact them directly at businessoffice@whittier.edu.

On the topic of money, the **Office of Financial Aid** is in need of an Office Assistant! All students with work-study are eligible to apply on *Handshake*.

Are you interested in student journalism? Then consider joining the *Quaker Campus*! One of the longest running college newspapers in the country, the *QC* is looking to fill a number of roles, such as staff writers, copy editors, and social media manager. No experience is necessary! Current staff at the *QC* are happy to guide and mentor new students who join. The *QC* is a paid position for those who have work-study, and a volunteer position for those who do not. Email qc@poets.whittier.edu if interested.

Wardman Library is offering a year-long internship to all students with work-study! The Programming and Reference Services intern will work closely with the Administrative Office Assistant and Research & Instructional Librarian, and will assist in various public programs, events, and outreach in Wardman Library. Apply on *Handshake*, and send any questions you have to the Administrative Office Assistant Christina Mecklenburg at cmecklen@whittier.edu.

The Center for Advising and Academic Support (CAAS) has a ton of open positions for students interested in helping their classmates. From Tutor to Academic

Coach to Student Manager, CAAS has got it all. If you have work-study, then check out the CAAS *Handshake* page for the full list of open positions. Email questions to jberna14@whittier.edu or (if you want to inquire about tutoring) scasanas@whittier.edu.

Want to show off the College to prospective students? Then consider applying to the **Admissions Office**! The Admissions Office is looking for students that always put their best foot forward to be Admission Ambassadors. Work-study is not required. Check out the listing on *Handshake* and apply before it's too late!

Do you love organizing things? If so, then you will thrive as a Mail Clerk at the **Mail and Print Center**. Students will receive incoming mail to sort and distribute, as well as deliver mail and internal correspondence in a timely manner. This is a work-study position. For more information, check out the listing on *Handshake*.

Are you passionate about physical, mental, emotional, spiritual, and financial wellness? Are you someone that wasn't awarded work-study? Then you're in luck, because the **Wellness Coalition** is looking for a POET Intern to fulfill their open Health and Wellness Coordinator position. To learn more, send your questions to counselingcenter@whittier.edu or check out the listing on *Handshake*.

Are you looking to get more in-



Get paid to tutor a classmate!

COURTESY OF WHITTIER COLLEGE

involved in Campus Life? **The Office of Student Engagement (OSE)** has got you covered. For work-study students, the OSE is looking for a *WC The Rock* Social Media Coordinator and an OSE Ambassador. If you're a team player with a can-do attitude, then these positions are for you! For any questions, contact ose@whittier.edu.

Student Accessibility Services (SAS) are looking to hire two to three students to fill the Proctor and Student Services Aide positions. Students with work-study are preferred, but all are welcome to apply.

Off-Campus

As for off-campus jobs that don't require work-study, **YMCA of Greater Whittier, Whittier Friends School, Step Up Tutoring, Boys & Girls Club of Whittier, and Broadoaks School of Whittier**

College are all looking for dedicated and dependable students to fill a variety of roles. Students who plan on pursuing a career in childcare or child education should consider applying to these positions.

Just because the school year has just started, doesn't mean it's too early to kickstart your career and begin developing some much needed hard skills (do you actually know how to navigate Microsoft Excel?). If you didn't find what you were looking for, nothing interested you, or you just have a few questions, contact the Career Center at career-center@whittier.edu. You can also call them at 562.907.4230.

This article has been condensed for print. If you would like to read the full article, visit www.medium.com/the-quaker-campus

What's Up Whittier?

Calendar is subject to change. To learn more, go to www.whittier.campuslabs.com/engage

Harris C Pool Party: Billiards and Crafts

- Harris C Hall Common Area
- Thursday, Sept. 14 at 4:00 P.M.

Moonlight Picnic with AOKP

- Upper Quad
- Thursday, Sept. 14 at 8:00 P.M.

Latinx Community Welcome Dinner

- Campus Center Courtyard
- Friday, Sept. 15 at 5:00 P.M.

Pachanga Latina

- Club 88
- Friday, Sept. 15 at 7:00 P.M.

Game Night Series

- Ball LLC
- Friday, Sept 15 at 6:30 P.M.

Planner Party

- OSE Conference Room
- Every Monday at 5:00 P.M.

T-Shirt Making Party with Sigma Tau Delta

- Hoover 005
- Monday, Sept. 18 at 4:30 P.M.
- visit [@wc.sigmatadelta](https://www.instagram.com/wc.sigmatadelta) on Instagram to RSVP

Craft Hour

- Ettinger Lounge
- Every Tuesday at 11:30 A.M.

Game Hour

- OSE Conference Room
- Every Wednesday at 2:00 P.M.

Society Networking and Career Day

- Dezimmer House
- Wednesday, Sept. 20 at 4:30 P.M.

Lavender Community Welcome Dinner

- Harris Hall Courtyard
- Wednesday, Sept. 20 at 5:00 P.M.

Bus Trip to Getty Villa Museum

- Getty Villa Museum in Malibu
- Wednesday, Sept. 20 at 2:00 P.M.
- RSVP on *Engage* while space is still available

A Positive Emotional Environment

- Campus Center Courtyard
- Thursday, Sept. 21 at 4:30 P.M.



The Thalias are back and better than ever.

COURTESY OF WC THE ROCK

Societies Are Far From History

Alissa Porfillo
DEPUTY EDITOR
OPINIONS EDITOR
SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER

On campus, there are hidden societal organizations that resemble sororities and fraternities. These societies have a rich history that date back to the 1920s, and they have since continued to flourish.

Currently, there are 10 active societies on campus; nine are single-gendered, whilst the tenth is open to everyone of all gender identities.

The College has described four important pillars that are ingrained within all societies and their members. These four pillars include friendship, scholarship, leadership, and service. All society members embrace sisterhood or brotherhood, striving for academic excellence and achievement, and they have many opportunities to embody leadership on campus and within their society.

If you are a student interested in joining a society but are not sure which society to look into, here is a handy guide to understanding each society's mission and purpose.

Athenians were founded in 1929.

They are a distinguished group of women whose activities emphasize sisterhood, social events, scholarship, and incorporating services for the community. These women engage in a variety of activities on and off campus and share their bond of sisterhood with each other.

Ionians were founded in 1948, and although these women are individually unique, together they are complete. They celebrate their differences and work together as a whole.

Metaphonians were established in 1924. They take pride in their diversity and close sisterhood. They serve the community wholly as they engage in local service projects like working at the AIDS Quilt Display and at the McLaren's School for underprivileged and abused children.

Founded in 1921, the **Palmers** society was the first female society at Whittier College. These women aim to attain the highest ideals of American womanhood by promoting spirited friendship and cooperation, remaining loyal to themselves and others, serving their community, and maintaining academic standards.

The **Thalias** were founded in

1929. They are composed of a large and diverse group of women who embrace sisterhood and an everlasting bond of friendship. Their motto is: "Chance made us sisters. Hearts made us friends."

The earliest fraternal organization on campus, the **Franklins**, was founded in 1921 with the purpose of creating lifelong friendships by developing their members into well-rounded individuals. They also strive to encourage their members' self-expression, leadership, and individuality.

Lancers were established in 1934. These men seek to represent the true spirit of the College by serving their community without rewards, being a helpful hand for new students, and hosting activities with the best intention for students.

Orthogonians were founded in 1929 by Richard M. Nixon and Dr. Albert Upton. The society has produced a variety of leaders, from team captains to student body presidents, city mayors, and more.

The **William Penns** were established in 1934 and are made up of members with different talents, backgrounds, and personalities. The Penns encourage diversity and be-

lieve in strength through diversity.

Originally a society founded in 1948 strictly for men, the **Sachens** opened their membership to women in 1971. This society is made up of a diverse group and emphasizes its members' individual uniqueness.

There are numerous opportunities given by each society in the Fall for interested students to meet current members, learn more about each organization, and engage in fun activities. It is highly encouraged that all prospective society members attend all events, such as open houses and rush. At the end of the Fall semester, bids—or invitations—are given out to new members. If a student receives and accepts a bid from a society, their New Member Education will begin at the start of the Spring semester.

In order to be eligible to join a society, students must have completed at least one semester on campus, as well as have a 2.5 Fall Semester and cumulative GPA.

Lastly, students can learn about each society's future events through *Engage*. You can also use it to RSVP to these events and save your spot!

If, however, you are interested in joining societal events this semester but do not feel comfortable participating in any activity that was not stated on the event flyer, you can visit their office, which is located in Office 142 on the First Floor of the Campus Center (next to the *Quaker Campus*). You can also call the Dean of Students office via phone at 562.907.4233 or email them at deanofstudents@whittier.edu.

We wish you the best of luck in your endeavors to become a new member of your desired society this Fall!

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Wardman Library Warrants a Visit

Shelby Silva
A&E EDITOR

Apart from the Library being a quiet space to study solo or with friends, snuggle up on the couches while reading a book, or print out papers using the library computers, Wardman Library is an important resource for every college student's academic journey.

Taking advantage of the resources the Library provides on- and off-campus may save you some money as well! For instance, students have access to books, ebooks, academic articles, newspaper articles, and more through *dubSearch* to find whether the Library has access to required textbooks and readings for your classes. Even if the library does not have the journal or book you need, you can use *LINK+* and *Interlibrary Loan* (ILL) to request them from other libraries in partnership with Wardman. There is also a possibility that certain books for classes are on reserve, which means that a professor has placed a book on hold and you may only borrow it

while you are inside the library for a limited time before returning them.

Interim Library Director Azeem Khan adds, "All of our online databases are available through the Databases A-Z page. This can be searched by subject or database type to make it easier to navigate. The Library also offers Research Guides by Subject, which can be utilized by students to find resources in any given field. Students have access to all of these resources both on- and off-campus. If they require the resources off-campus, they will

be prompted to log in using their MyWhittier credentials."

If you are someone interested in accessing digital news without paying for a subscription, the College provides free subscriptions to online publications such as the *Los Angeles Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *The Washington Post*. If you log in using your MyWhittier credentials, you'll gain access to unlimited amounts of articles.

If you ever need to watch a film for a class or just want to relax and watch a movie from the comfort

of your room, you may find it on *Kanopy* or *Swank*, which are platforms that the Library pays for so that students can watch films for free.

The Library also offers educational workshops to learn how to navigate through its numerous databases and how to conduct research. If you need assistance with citations, finding resources, or just need general support while doing research, students can drop by the information desk, schedule meetings with librarians, or email them at reference@whittier.edu.

An upcoming workshop on Sept. 18 includes an introduction to conducting library research. However, the library offers several other workshops throughout the semester that teach students how to find academic articles, cite properly, and learn about various other topics.

The Library also encourages students to drop by at any time during operating hours to ask any questions. So drop by whenever you need help with your research or send them an email at library@whittier.edu.



Wardman Library makes all-nighters easy.

COURTESY OF WHITTIER COLLEGE

Interim President Dillon is Keeping the Door Open

Emily Henderson
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
FEATURES EDITOR

Walking into Mendenhall can be intimidating. The fireplace, which has been here since the beginning, has a new facade to it. New and old, past and present, blend seamlessly together, creating the idea of Whittier College. And this carries on up a small set of carpeted stairs, to a door that is wide open. A conversation can be heard about the long weekend ahead. The voice comes from Interim President Kristine E. Dillon, ready to be next in the long legacy here at Whittier College.

Dr. Kristine E. Dillon was named Whittier College's Interim President on July 1, 2023. But before that, Dillon had a long history with the College. She is an alumna-- class of 1973, a student-athlete who played volleyball and softball, was a Thalian society member, and a choir singer.

She is also no novice when it comes to helping steer the direction of the College.

"You may or may not know, I served on the Board for 18 years. I was actually on the search committee that recruited [former Whittier College President] Sharon Herzburger, and I was the person who identified her," says Dillon, smiling at the memory.

Dillon split her time with the Board and worked as a leader of a think-tank consortium of some of the most well-known, private higher education institutions in the country. It was called the "Consortium on Financing Higher Education", and she was based out of MIT. However, she felt like she was not giving her all to Whittier College, so she left the Board in 2014, but "reengaged a bit after Sharon [Herzburger] retired and Linda Oubré came on," working on Oubré's President Exec-

utive Advisory Council (also known as P.E.A.C.) during the pandemic. But the Interim President says that as time went on, she "became more and more concerned about what was happening at the College; just seeing what was [happening] in the media," and being "in touch with some of my former Board colleagues."

This past spring, Dillon regained her seat at the Board. The Board of Trustees soon asked her if she would like to be the Interim President. "It isn't something I would've said yes to, to be very clear with you," Dillon says. "I've been asked before to be a college president and I just didn't see that as something I really wanted to do." But



Interim President Dillon started on July 1, 2023.

she says she felt worried about the state of the College, and wanted to help.

Among Dillon's primary preoccupations is how the College will bounce back from the pandemic, cuts to its athletic programs, and declining enrollment. "I just hope [the students are] finding things [that] give them a little more sense on how to join things, how [to] participate in things." She recognizes that the Athletic Department in particular took a "blow" with the cancellation of three sports last year, and that the

enrollment numbers at the College are "very small." Dillon and her team are trying to return Whittier's reputation as a "valuable option for new students," starting with the issues in internal communications. Dillon says that the College is at the "ground floor." "We're not going deeper!" she exclaims, lightly bending over from laughing.

Interim President Dillon's main goal for the College is to boost enrollment and finances, using the traditions Whittier is known for (specifically the individualized student experience). "I think there was a lack of understanding of where Whittier College was headed [previously],"

give them a small scholarship to go here. This is funded "by the College from the financial aid budget." She says that while the student may get the scholarship one way or another, they may "think more about Whittier College."

"It's not cheesy, it's actually building on the sense that I think faculty members in high school know which students benefit from which kinds of attention," she continues. Along with this, the team is also making sure to tap into the transfer student market as well, so that prospective students know that "we are affordable, that we're nearby, [and] that we're a great school," states Dillon. The en-

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DR. KRISTINE DILLON '73 NAMED INTERIM PRESIDENT

COURTESY OF WHITTIER COLLEGE

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VP Henry Gee Looks to Whittier with Glee!

Chelsea Bartilad
COPY EDITOR

People were coming in and out, each with a cheerful expression on their faces. Inside, the Dean of Students' office was filled with party decorations and a table full of pastries. There had been a birthday celebration earlier. Among the partygoers was Henry Gee: Whittier College's new Interim Vice President and Dean of Students. He was dressed in slacks and a polo shirt bearing Whittier's logo, and was meeting people with a smile, a warm handshake, and a pastry for all who entered.

The Vice President and Dean's easygoing and friendly demeanor speaks about his journey coming to work for the College. Just this past June, Gee took up the position at Whittier with 41 years of experience under his belt. "It's not my first rodeo," he said jokingly, "I'm used to working at colleges and working in higher education." Prior to working in Whittier, Gee has held many leadership positions over the years, such as Vice President of Student Services in Rio Hondo College (16 years), the Dean of Student Affairs in Santa Ana College (10 years), and various roles in Azusa Pacific University (15 years). He officially retired in 2020

prior to taking up his current position in Whittier.

In 1993, Gee was actually a finalist for his current position at Whittier. Unfortunately, he did not get selected and "[I] was really disappointed because I really wanted to work here," Gee said. Whittier was one of the four other schools that turned him down. However, the following year, Gee became the Dean at Santa Ana College, which turned out to change the trajectory of his career. "[Being turned down by Whittier] was the best thing that happened to me professionally," Gee described his rejection good-naturedly. "My last 26 years, I worked at community colleges and loved it because I was a community college product myself."

Additionally, Gee worked alongside people who now leadership in other colleges. "The legacy I want to leave was that I had grown the next generation of leaders in higher education," Gee stated, "One of the most important things you do in your role [as Dean and Vice President] is to hire the best people possible and allow them to shine and grow." He has, in fact, accomplished that: 11 people that worked directly under him are currently vice presidents of colleges (three of them being presidents), including Irvine

Valley College and Long Beach City College.

Like many educators, Gee described how impactful it was to see the growth of students throughout his career in higher education. "I'm typically very impressed because you meet students as freshmen[...] and later on they do amazing things, and that's one thing I found out even coming to Whittier." In fact, over the summer, Gee joined the Poets4Life Tour on the East Coast, where students had the chance to network and learn more about Whittier, and alumni can talk about their career journeys. "Having heard each of your stories tonight," Gee recalled his ending speech from the event, "Convinces me that I made the right decision to come out of retirement to work at Whittier College." Gee then proudly recounted one of the many successful alumni he met at the tour, Laura Kavanagh, who is the first female Fire Commissioner of New York City's Fire Department.

After observing a "lack of trust from students toward administration," Gee stated that, "Trust is like respect, I can't demand it, I have to earn it. All I can do is be consistent, honest, and transparent. The biggest thing we do this year is earn the students' trust and be communicative."

As someone who was once a student and continued to work with students, Gee wanted to express his genuine support for the current students at Whittier: "Believe in yourself, and believe that the institution is here to support you regardless of your choice of major, regardless of how you want to be involved. We want you to be successful and that's something students need to hear."

Despite the circumstances from last school year, Gee expressed his optimism about Whittier's future. With a determined look he said, "I think we just have to rediscover who

we are. Rediscovering Whittier and its strengths and using that narrative versus the negative narrative that's been out there." Last school year was difficult, but once you're down the only way is to go up. "I can't change that, all I can do is be me and help people realize that this is a good school." With a smile and sure expression on his face, Gee expressed that he feels "very fortunate and blessed to be at Whittier College. It's a good school and we just have to work harder to let people know we're still here, we're still good, and we've never stopped being good."



Gee came back to the College, after being a finalist for the position in 1993.

COURTESY OF WHITTIER COLLEGE

Epidemic In America: Gun Violence

Anna Gaber
HEAD COPY EDITOR

Gun control is an ongoing issue in the United States. Time and time again, we see poor gun control through school shootings, mass shootings, domestic disputes, and random acts of violence. Are these just cases of the wrong people owning a firearm, or is there a more systemic issue? Policymakers have battled with this question for decades, but little seems to have been done with the overwhelming majority of Republicans opposing stricter gun laws. But, opposers of stricter gun laws need to start understanding that these desired laws are not an attack on anyone's Second Amendment. Rather, they mitigate the unfathomable amount of deaths associated with gun violence in this country. According to Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, 19,592 people died due to gun violence in 2022 alone. Too many lives have been lost.

The Biden Administration announced a thorough plan in an effort to begin tackling gun violence. This announcement included holding unlicensed firearms dealers accountable for their crimes, mitigating the flow of firearms in the U.S., providing affected communities with educational programs, and more. Biden has stated that, "members of Congress have 'offered plenty of thoughts and prayers' but have failed to pass any legislation." Biden has pushed for action on the issue many times, "by banning assault rifles, high-capacity magazines, and



LEIGH VOGEL / GETTY IMAGES

Will more lives need to be lost to create change?

requiring background checks for all gun sales." In 2022 alone, the Gun Violence Archive recorded 647 mass shootings in the United States. How can we look at these numbers and still dismiss this country's serious gun problem, which many—including the President—have referred to as an "epidemic"? Although gun violence is not a literal disease, it *is* a threat to public health.

In 2022, President Biden signed the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) into law. It includes points of enhancing background checks of gun buyers, restricting registered domestic abusers from owning a gun, and a statute prohibiting gun trafficking. Background checks are necessary, but have proven themselves too loose. An example being the Highland Park mass shooting during an Independence Day parade in 2022. In this case, the shooter, 21-year-old Robert Crimo III, had already had two concerning run-ins with the police

in 2019. The police found a 24-inch Samurai blade, a box containing a 12-inch dagger and 16 hand knives in Crimo's home. That same year, Crimo had also threatened to "kill everyone" in his house. These police encounters did not come up once before "passing a total of four background checks" when purchasing the AR-15 used to commit his crime. The revelations of shooters' past offenses and confrontations with the police cannot (and should not) be overlooked during screenings when that same individual wishes to purchase a firearm — an assault rifle at that, *before* they have managed to conduct a mass shooting, not *after*. Stricter background checks mean a longer and more detailed screening process.

Unfortunately, many gun salesmen would rather just sell the gun to the buyer than have to go through a more extensive, time-consuming procedure, which contributes greatly to the problem at hand. In 2020

and 2021, according to NBC News, 1,002,274 background checks took longer than three business days to complete. "After the third business day, federal law allows dealers to sell weapons while the background check is still pending, which potentially puts weapons in the hands of people who can't legally own a gun because of mental illness or their criminal history." This carelessness is a large contributing factor responsible for the countless deaths caused by gun violence.

Guns are far too accessible. Do we really need assault rifles for self defense? All legislation aimed at strengthening gun control is important but the weapons themselves that are available to us are what needs to be changed. It is very hard to imagine a scenario in which an individual would need such weaponry, except for, perhaps, hunters.

Ending a human life, or multiple, by simply pulling a trigger is a responsibility that needs to be taken much more seriously in this country. No other country in the world has as big of a gun problem as the United States which is a country that many other nations look up to and take examples from. This brings the concern of poor gun control in the U.S. to an even greater international level — like an epidemic.

This article has been condensed for print. If you would like to read the full article, visit medium.com/thequakercampus.

Ask a Poet A Poet Answers

Dear Poet,
I have so many classes and the workload is a lot. I've overburdened myself with extracurriculars and with the classes I need to take so I can graduate on time.

What do I do?

Sincerely,

A Stressed and Anxious Poet.

Dear Stressed and Anxious Poet, I totally get where you're coming from. I thought that I would take it easy this year and instead, I ended up adding more commitments to my plate. I have moments where I feel like there's no way I can finish any of my assignments and still find time to go to all the meetings for my extra-curricular. But guess what, we are totally capable of doing it all!

I think a lot of our fear comes from not wanting to disappoint anyone by not keeping up with deadlines or not showing up to complete tasks on our to-do list. You also don't want to fall behind and risk not being able to graduate with your friends and be here for another year. I would advise you to make sure you stay organized, stay aware of all your deadlines and keep up with your readings. I personally have a bullet journal where I keep track of assignments and class times. By staying organized, there is a smaller chance that something will fall through the cracks, especially if it's important. It'll also help you break down bigger assignments into smaller chunks.

Now you may be thinking, "Great, now the deadlines are organized but they still exist and I'm *still* overwhelmed". So let's talk about self-care! When you're stressed it's especially important for you to take care of yourself. You don't want to wait for your stress to get out of hand and your body to be forced to slow down. No matter what anyone says, rest is productive! Something tells me you probably deserve it too. So drink that water, eat that food, go for those walks, and spend time with your support system! It's the only one you've got.

Finally, if you do need some more time or if you still feel a little overwhelmed, communicate with your professors! They might be willing to accommodate you and give you an extension.

Stressed and Anxious Poet, I hope you have a great semester! I believe in you. Remember, you've done this before and you will do it again!

Those are just my thoughts.
Best of luck,
A Poet

A New Era: The Never Ending Job Hunt

Meylina Tran
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

At the end of the summer, I gave my two weeks notice to my restaurant manager. I told them that I was moving down to Southern California because I had scored a new job as an editorial assistant at a publishing company and I had a friend who was looking for a roommate down there.

All of that, more or less, was a lie. I did move down to Southern California, but not because I got a job at a publishing company, but because it's back-to-school season. See, I lied during my interview. It wasn't a drastic lie. I didn't lie about any of my qualifications, I just lied about still being in school.

When searching for a summer job, I've learned that many establishments range from hesitant to absolutely dismissive about hiring a college student whose school is out of state. It's too much trouble interviewing an applicant, hiring said applicant, and training the new hire, only to have to do it all over again in two months' time. Truly, it's easier to just lie about still being in school and maintaining the lie.

The job market is abysmal. During the pandemic, labor shortages were so widespread that companies were doing everything they could to make the application process as easy as possible. Now, as



COURTESY OF INTEGRATIVE STAFFING GROUP, LLC

If companies are hiring, why don't they want us?

fears about a recession grow, many companies and employers are going back to their old post-pandemic ways of putting candidates through grueling, months-long interviewing processes, assigning them job skills assessments.

In the spring, I applied to a summer internship that I desperately wanted. They emailed saying that the position had just been filled, but they were interested in interviewing me for a fall internship position. I took the offer because I'd be crazy not to. I knew they wanted me. Or at least, I thought they wanted me. Two weeks after my interview, I received a rejection email. Great. I didn't have a backup plan because I had been so sure I would get this internship. I will admit that it was a miracle that the company was as forthcoming as they were. Approx-

imately 90 percent of the jobs and internships that I've applied to don't even notify you that you've been rejected. They just leave you on read. That kind of treatment is mentally exhausting, and it sparks job search fatigue. But you can't take a break. You need to get a freaking job, and you need to get one now.

According to *TIME* Magazine, many companies are posting "ghost jobs" online that they never intend to fill. A "ghost job" is designed to generate a pool of candidates that they may use one day, to give the impression that the company is growing (even though that's a total lie), and to keep current employees motivated. *TIME* Magazine also reported that the job market might actually be worse for people with a college degree. A reported 51 percent of job seekers with a bachelor's

degree are more likely to complete the interview process without receiving an offer in comparison to 35 percent of job seekers with only a high school diploma. So what's the point of going into debt to get a degree?

With almost every single college student or recent graduate applying to jobs every day, the market is more saturated with applications than ever. Employers turn to softwares that will sift through the applications for them, meaning that your future is in the hands of a freaking robot. Speaking of robots, not only are they deciding if we're good enough to interview for a job, but they're also taking our jobs! AI has now become the looming monster that is slowly evading and taking over every crevice of human existence.

Forget about lying during a job interview to secure a job. Now you have to prove that you're better than a literal robot.

It's a miserable, miserable time to be searching for a job. And because we need to work, we need jobs. The only problem is that the people with the jobs don't want us.

This article has been condensed for print. If you would like to read the full article, visit medium.com/thequakercampus.

Poet Soccer Kicks Off on the Right Foot



Women's soccer starts the season on a high note!

TONY LEON / ACTIONWESTPHOTOGRAPY.COM

Alejandra Ortega
STAFF WRITER

The Whittier Women's Soccer Team kicked off the fall sports season with their game on Sept. 1. The team walked away with a 2-1 victory against Bethesda University. There seem to be high spirits among the team and they are excited for the upcoming season. The last 20 minutes of the game were played energetically and there was a lot of encouragement coming from the defenders.

Before the game Shayla Sakkhanaune, who plays wingback on the team, states that, "We have a lot of newcomers. It'll be their first game! It'll be my first game for the

season. It's exciting!" When asked how the team had improved from last season, she said, "something that we did that is different, is this season, before the preseason started, we had captain's practice. And during [my] freshman and sophomore year we didn't do that. We just kinda went into preseason going off of what every individual girl did for the summer. So, I think that was a really important step for getting the girls together so we can get used to each other so far. That's probably why I feel comfortable with them already so far."

This was absolutely reflected on the field as the girls seemed to play together as if it was second nature.

They were able to communicate with each other and stick to a strategy. Their communication was further emphasized compared to opposing teams who seemed to be lacking in that department.

First-year midfielder, Madeline Traylor, is "definitely feeling some positivity." After the game, the newcomer felt that the energy between her team members was better than any other team she's been on. She expressed that the first game was, "very exciting! Very competitive and very nerve racking at times, but we stayed in the game and we are very competitive and stayed strong."

Beth Juarez and Chloe Fung

share the same optimistic outlook on the season as well, but acknowledged that the team still has some things they could work on. Keeper Juarez, who saved four shots near the end of the game said, "We came out strong and our momentum went really down [during the game] but we have a lot of opportunities to build up from here." Defender Chloe Fung also commented on the team's improvement after a rough season last semester. "I think every year we just get closer and we learn how to play with each other more on the field. The chemistry is just building. Avery [Gonzalez] and I really try to create this culture that's going to last long. We have a lot of potential to do well." When asked what they were most excited about this semester they both expressed that their goal was for the team to make the top four. Fung said, "I'm excited to play some of the top teams! We were placed in fifth for our ranking currently and I'm ready to show them that we're number one."

The Women's Soccer Team is one to watch this semester. Their energy on and off the field is contagious. Traylor asks for the school's encouragement for the oncoming season. "Definitely please come out! Support us! Show some love for the soccer team... We've been putting hard work in at practices and we would love to show out at our home games and our away games as well."

Whittier's One and Only Tri-Sport Athlete

Lucy Campbell
Sports Editor

Chloe Fung's dorm is far from what anyone would expect of your average 20-year-old college girl. Workout clothing, tennis shoes, and nylon headbands take the space of the usual sun dresses and Doc Martens so often seen in these types of closets. While soccer balls and lacrosse sticks occupy all corners of the room, cleats and even swim caps appear everywhere else. Rather than vanities sprawled with hair or makeup accessories, Chloe's is sprawled with protein powder and planners filled with scheduled sporting events and due dates.

Chloe Fung is a Whittier College superstar and the only student athlete to play three sports while maintaining an outstanding academic standing. Awarded the Academic All-District Honoree title while competing in all three sports in 2023, Fung is a crucial player in not only the Poets Women's Soccer team but also the Women's Lacrosse team and had taken the spotlight in last year's 2022-2023 Women's Swimming and Diving season.

Born and raised in Seattle, Washington, Fung is a Junior majoring in Business Administration.

"I grew up with two very competitive older sisters, so I watched them compete in their own sports and wanted to be like them. Plus, anytime we all did something, we



Fung is a part of soccer, lacrosse, and swimming at Whittier. PHOTO COURTESY OF CHLOE FUNG

always competed against each other," said Fung.

The importance of women's sports in our current time has taken a front seat in public discourse more than ever before, and many women who share a love for sports have pushed for more acknowledgment, as many female athletes today have found great successes within the industry. Women like Serena Williams, Alex Morgan, Simone Biles, and countless others have topped the charts in sports, breaking records for athletics and female accomplishments. But that is just the tip of the iceberg. According to an article on *Morning Consult Pro*, "The first three World Cup matches for the U.S. women's national team averaged 4.35 million viewers, [marking] the most watched group stage ever on English-language TV." (Mark J. Burns).

Chloe Fung finds the topic of gender inclusion within sports significant when regarding her own athletic career. Stating with a hopeful and opportunistic smile she always seems to bestow, "I think women's sports has only started to get some of the recognition it deserves. There are still so many side comments made and a lack of representation, although it's getting much better."

This new generation of women athletes has consistently made an effort to gain more appreciation for their sports, as our country's perception of sports needing male dominance is outdated. Fung agrees, declaring, "I think being a female athlete right now is important for every little kid who is looking up to people who look like them and for those who don't so that they can see anyone and everyone can play a sport."

It is evident that for Chloe Fung and all who wish to become involved in sports, reliability and community are critical factors in maintaining an open and diverse environment within athletics. "And for the adults that wish they had seen athletes that look like them play. I know both of my parents were very athletic growing up, but neither pursued sports past high school cause it wasn't an option for them," Fung says.

Now, with the great honor of being entrusted with the position of team captain for her College Soccer team, Chloe finds herself balancing a busy daily schedule of laborious practices and mandatory early-morning lifts, all while finding the ability to carve out time dedicated to her schoolwork and academics. The influence of players such as Fung, who brim their lives, closets, and backpacks with bulky gear and who use their influential voices and accomplishments to help others follow their dreams, must be undeniably awarded and recognized as the people who help shape a better world for everyone. The dorm covered wall-to-wall in soccer and swim posters and beaten up sports equipment that engulfs Chloe Fung in a beautiful mess of dedication and passion every day is exactly what you would expect from Whittier College's one and only student tri-athlete.

Poet's Sports Schedule

Women's Soccer vs. Pomona-Pitzer
Sep 13 — 4:00 P.M.
@ Memorial Stadium Whittier, CA

Men's Soccer vs. Pomona-Pitzer
Sep 13 — 7:00 P.M. @ Whittier California

Women's Volleyball at Franklin & Marshall
Sep 15 — 10:00 A.M. @ San Antonio TX

Women's Volleyball at Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Sep 15 — 4:45 P.M. @ San Antonio TX

Cross country vs. UCR Cross Country Invitational
Sep 16 — TBD @ Riverside

Women's Volleyball at Trinity University (Texas)
Sep 16 — 12:15 P.M. @ San Antonio TX

Women's Soccer Vs. Occidental College
Sep 16 — 4:45 P.M. @ Memorial Stadium Whittier, CA

Women's Volleyball Vs. Southwestern University
Sep 16 — 4:45 P.M. @ San Antonio, TX

Men's Soccer Vs. Occidental College
Sep 16 — 7:00 P.M. @ Whittier, CA

Men's Soccer At University of La Verne
Sep 20 — 7:00 P.M. @ La Verne, CA

Women's Soccer Vs. University of La Verne
Sep 20 — 7:00 P.M. @ Memorial Stadium Whittier, CA

Men's Water Polo Vs. Occidental College
Sep 20 — 7:00 P.M. @ Slade Aquatic Center Whittier, CA

Men's Water Polo Vs. Chapman University
Sep 22 — 5:00 P.M. @ Whittier, CA

Women's Volleyball at Pomona-Pitzer
Sep 22 — 7:00 P.M. @ Claremont, CA

Cross Country Vs. Mustang Invitational
Sep 23 — TBD

Women's Volleyball Vs. University of La Verne
Sep 23 — 6:00 P.M. @ Graham Athletic Center, Whittier CA

Women's Soccer Vs. Claremont-Mudd-Scripps Colleges
Sep 23 — 7:00 PM @ Memorial Stadium Whittier, CA

Strike Two, You're Out!



Dodger Stadium has begun renovations on removing Urias image.

JACK HARRIS / LOS ANGELES TIMES

Alissa Portillo
DEPUTY EDITOR
OPINIONS EDITOR
SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER

Shortly after 11 P.M. on Sunday, Sept. 3, Julio Urias, the pitcher who drove the Los Angeles Dodgers to win the World Series Championship in 2020, was arrested and booked on a \$50,000 bond for felony domestic violence charges. An eyewitness made a call regarding a physical altercation between a man and a woman after the LAFC-Inter Miami match outside of BMO Stadium in Exposition Park. The bystander also claimed to have recorded the incident—which is now in the possession of police.

Urias—who originated from Sinaola, Mexico—is the son of Carlos Urias, a one-year professional catcher in Mexico. Starting his base-

ball career in the Mexico National Team, he began playing and joining the team for road trips at the age of ten. Not long after, at age 14, Urias came in contact with the Dodgers through scouter Mike Brito, who, at the time, scouted Fernando Valenzuela. Again, shortly after the first encounter in 2012, Urias took part in a showcase at the age of 15 in Oaxaca, Mexico. This is where the Dodgers discovered the young athlete again and on Aug. 12—Urias' 16th birthday—the Dodgers signed him.

He officially made his professional debut as the youngest player in the league with the Great Lakes Loon (located in the Midwest) in 2013. In 2014, he played for the Rancho Cucamonga Quakes of the California League where he achieved much success. According to OSDB Sports, Urias made "25 appearanc-

es, he was 2–2 with a 2.36 ERA. He struck out 109 batters while walking only 37." He was also honored as the Dodgers' Branch Rickey Minor League Pitcher of the 2014 Year. He continued to be honored for his strengths. Urias "was honored as *MiLB.com's* organizational All-Star and was also selected to the World Team for the 2014 XM All-Star Futures Game, becoming the youngest-ever player to participate in the contest at the age of 17." From a young age, Urias was meant to be a champion and there was no surprise that he would win with the Dodgers.

In 2020 (the ultimate pandemic year) Urias was officially identified as a full-time starter for the Dodgers. It was during the last batter-up in 2020 when Urias finished off the World Series Championship and endured the ultimate champi-

on win on the pitching mount. He was then signed with the Dodgers for another year in 2021, with a 3.6 million dollar contract. Clearly, the Dodgers knew he was one to keep.

However, back in 2019, before being labeled the pitcher to drive the Dodgers home to a championship, Urias was arrested on suspicion of domestic violence. According to witnesses, on May 13, Urias was seen shoving the woman he was with in a Los Angeles parking lot. However, the woman told investigators he did not shove her and she fell accidentally while arguing in the parking lot. With this, Urias did not face charges for the case of domestic battery. Prosecutors for the City of Los Angeles explained that he would not face charges so long as he would not be arrested for the same behavior within the next year (2020). However, Urias did need to adhere to the following conditions to avoid charges: "that Mr. Urias participate in a City Attorney hearing; that he commit no acts of violence against anyone; and that he successfully participate in and complete a 52-week domestic violence counseling program in person, and in a group setting." Besides this, he was put on a 20-game suspension by the MLB under their domestic violence policy. But, he was back on the mount in no time leading to their celebratory Championship in 2020.

Urias was on his best behavior. Though, four years later to current time, he has found himself back on news outlets everywhere after being arrested a second time for domes-

tic violence charges. According to *ESPN*, "No MLB player has been suspended twice for violating the policy since its institution in 2015." Fans showed their anger and frustration with the news. On *ESPN's Instagram* post which broke the news, comments included; "Ban this guy from the league. Two strikes and you're out when it comes to domestic violence," "Get this joke out of the league," "SECOND incident in the past four years...BRO leave that chick alone and get some help." As a result of the news outbreak, Urias has been put on indefinite administrative leave while MLB investigates the allegations he is facing. On Sept. 11, it was announced that the Dodgers cleared out Urias' locker—with his name stripped off—in the clubhouse, which now belongs to newest member Kolten Wong. Besides this, the murals that were designed throughout the Dodger Stadium have been covered and his name is no longer found in the Dodger Stadium stores. Dave Roberts replied when asked about these decisions and whether the Dodgers are moving forward without Urias, "I think so. That's where we're at. There's not much for me to comment on the fact that it's just like I said on the first day, it's just a very, very unfortunate, sad situation."

Urias went from one of the best pitchers in the league to a now disappointing player within the MLB. As stated, "Either way this story unfolds, it is becoming more apparent that Julio Urias will no longer wear or be seen in a Dodger uniform."

A Reflection on November 15, 2022

Lucy Campbell
SPORTS EDITOR

What started as an ordinary, sunny Tuesday afternoon for Juan Estrada soon became anything but when the football player joined his team for a routine lunch at the Whittier College Campus Inn. Estrada noticed some familiar faces walking towards him, except these faces did not bestow the usual happy-go-lucky smiles they normally did. Instead, Estrada was met with looks of sadness and tears as he watched his coaches stand directly before him in a crowded, loud cafeteria, crying.

"That was when we all saw it. a *Twitter* page that was posted saying that our football program had just got cut," recalled Estrada.

This past year, Whittier College has found itself to be a proliferating hot spot for public opinion and controversy as a decision was made by the school to discontinue Poet football, men's lacrosse, and women's golf at the end of the recent 2023 season. Nov. 15, 2022, was the day this decision was finally announced, impacting the lives of over 115 students.

Although the College claims that this choice spanned over a three-year review process, it came as more than a shock to its

attending students and sent tidal waves of confusion throughout all facets of life at Whittier.

"My reality of life totally changed, I guess," said Estrada.

Juan Estrada began his college football career in the year 2020. Along with many others, football had been a driving force in Estrada's life that granted him opportunity and achievement throughout his educational career. For Estrada, football meant more to him than just an average sport.

"Football was my everything. That's the only reason I came to Whittier, and now that it has just been taken away, I just feel like I don't know what to do anymore," Estrada stated.

Now, in 2023, Estrada has just begun his senior year still at Whittier, working as an RA to distract himself from the unfamiliar extra time he's found himself with.

"All my homies left. We went from 80 people on a football roster to 10. I went from hanging out and seeing every person every day to only hanging out with these 10 core people," Estrada explained, adding, "I want the school to know that I feel like I'm not important anymore."

Amongst these 10 core remaining football players whom Estrada had mentioned, all brave and resilient enough to stay and finish their college education at the very place that failed them, one, in particular, Mike

Lopez, who played for the Whittier College Poets' football team from 2020 up until the end of the very last 2023 season, was immensely impacted by the school's tragic determination.

"For me, I wouldn't even be in college if I didn't pick up a football, and I know others who are in the same position." Said Lopez, adding, "I was struggling to sleep, I was struggling to eat the same, and I kind of never really understood why. I wouldn't go to class all the time and find every excuse to skip." "After a year of experiencing this, I realized it wasn't even because I didn't want to go. It was because I felt ashamed to go. I knew that everyone knew what happened, and I felt like we were seen as outcasts at that point, especially myself," Lopez declared while peering over his shoulder.

These are not just sports we are talking about; these are the dreams, hopes, and lives of young people with ambitions and aspirations who have found themselves in situations that no one ever would have thought to warn them about.

"For me personally, this was the hardest thing I have ever had to go through. This was the first time my life had ever been flipped upside down, and it was something that was completely out of my control," said Lopez.

In an apparent effort to protect



TONY LEON / ACTIONWESTPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

The cancellation brings tough emotions to the players.

the College's already more than damaged reputation, Whittier has offered support and help to its student athletes in ways that have held little to no consolation or relief.

"The school said they would provide mental health resources, but they never did. I never once had anyone send me an email, come knock on my door, nothing," Lopez confessed. He went on to state, "I understand that we shouldn't have to rely on people for stuff like that, but obviously, as men, it is a little harder for us to ask for help."

"To act like it's not that serious or just to say move on with your life is very disrespectful. Making it seem like that wasn't important to us or

to say move on with your life is very disrespectful. Making it seem like that wasn't important to us or that we should just be like, 'Oh, whatever,' that was something that to this day doesn't sit right with me." Lopez said, adding, "Eventually, everyone just forgot about it except for us. We are still feeling the effects of it, and everyone else forgot."

Lopez, after collecting his thoughts, finally expressed, "I want people to understand that while this entire situation completely beat a lot of us down, at the end of the day, when we graduate together, and we walk that stage, in their school, it will be bigger than anything they could have ever done to us."

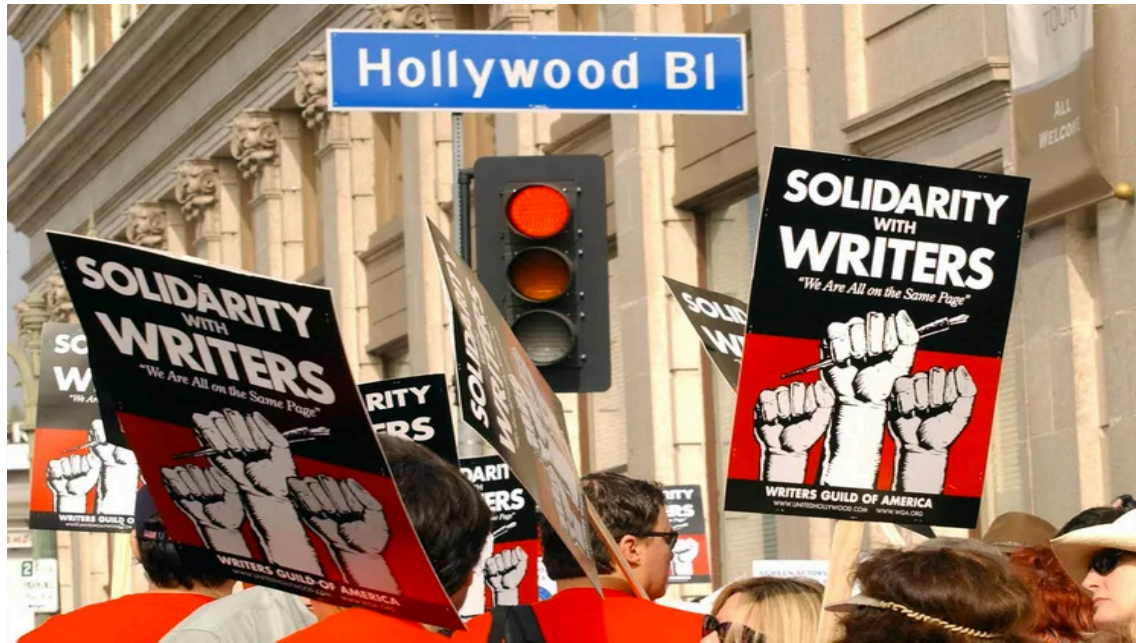
The Uncertain Future of the Film Industry

Gabriel Ramirez
FOR THE QC

On May 2, 2023, the Writers Guild of America (WGA) announced that they will be going on strike following a dispute with Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP). The strike began with WGA members voting an astounding 97.85 percent in favor, should a satisfactory contract not be reached by the end of that month. Since the launching of the strike, over 11,000 writers have joined the strike with many more entertainers from all corners of the industry offering their support. From actors to prop designers, to set dressers and even stand-up comedians, they have all joined with the WGA in what is now the largest entertainment strike in American history.

The main concerns of the union revolve around the ability for writers to earn a proper living from the work they do. The primary demand is for a wage increase across the board. In the last 10 years alone, the number of writers living on the industry's minimum wage has risen from roughly 33 percent to almost half. In that same time, the average writer has suffered a pay decrease between 14 and 23 percent.

This issue is compounded by the union's concern regarding residual income from released content. With the rise of streaming services



CHRIS DELMAS / AFP VIA GETTY

The second strike of the century involving Hollywood writers reveal issues that transcend industries.

becoming the primary source of entertainment for many households, the long-standing system of earning residual checks from reruns have been completely circumvented. In the time of cable television, writers would receive a cut of episodes that reran after their initial airing. However, streaming platforms do not provide records to studios regarding how popular their shows are on the platform. Instead, a one-time payment is issued in exchange for full right to run the content on the platform. This explains why the WGA is advocating for much heftier upfront fees to offset the long term payouts that writers were accustomed to.

Another cause for alarm is the use of AI bodies such as *ChatGPT* to write filler episodes and fluff scripts. This is of particular concern for the union as there is real fear that AI may soon be good enough to replace human writers entirely. The union is pushing for an agreement from the studios that they will not be able to use AI for original writing purposes, only for research and the like. On Aug. 23, a preliminary offer was made by the AMPTP to end the strike. Their offer included protections like disallowing AI from being used to draft scripts, as well as clear paths for internal promotions that would pave a clear path for young writers

to one day become executive producers of their own projects. This deal was rejected by the union on the grounds that it did nothing to address pay concerns that lay on the cornerstone of the strike.

Salvador Lopez, a union actor who has worked in the film industry for over 40 years and been on the picket line since the beginning of the strike, states that what inspired him to join the picket line "is the fact that [he] agrees wholeheartedly with the demands of the union [and] that the threat of AI to infringe on our image and writing skills is something that has to be negotiated because our art would be exploited without compensation,

and that is not fair." He comments further, "The pay instruction that exists as of now is outdated. The streaming of products of our art, acting, writing, etc. has not been renewed for a long time. Much of the product is now being streamed and that template is not fair for the performer and writer." But even though the strike is entering its fifth month, Lopez says that, "The mood on the ground is extremely good in terms of morale. We know that we are on the right side of this issue, and that eventually we will have to succeed because the product of our art is indispensable. The big studios will not be able to create the work that they normally do without our talent."

Lopez gives hopes to students going into the film industry, "There are many different fields in the entertainment industry, other than writing and acting. There are so many. I would suggest learning many aspects of the craft in college and then getting into the industry with contacts that you have or create through internships. Be persistent, and develop your talent on your own. You must be persistent, tenacity is key. More importantly you must want to be part of that industry. You must want to love it so that you are driven to succeed."

This article has been condensed for print. If you would like to read the full article visit medium.com/thequakercampus.

Upcoming Fall Films to Close Out the Year

Meylina Tran
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

With all the chaos surrounding the film industry these days—the simultaneous Screen Actors Guild and American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (SAG-AFTRA) and Writers Guild of America (WGA) strikes, the halting of numerous film productions because of the strikes, the plethora of films originally slated for later this year being pushed to early next year (my beloved *Dune: Part Two* and *Challengers*, sadly) because of the strikes, etc., etc.—it's hard to keep track of what the Fall 2023 slate actually looks like.

Fortunately, the QC's got you covered. Here's a condensed list of almost every film scheduled for release either on streaming or in theaters this fall.

Sept. 15

Remember when a bunch of guys on Reddit pushed up the stock price of GameStop so significantly that they basically destroyed Wall Street for a couple of weeks? Well, they made a movie about it! *Dumb Money*, starring Paul Dano and Pete Davidson, premieres exclusively in theaters Sept. 15.

Sept. 20

Wes Anderson has been busy. Not only did he release the feature film *Asteroid City* earlier this year, but he's also set to release the short film *The Wonderful Story of Henry Sugar* along with three other films on Netflix later this month. Go Wes!

Sept. 29

The end of September is a bit of a doozy. First, Gareth Edwards' (*Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*) science-fiction action thriller film *The Creator* drops in theaters. Are you curious what the war between mankind and AI might look like? Then watch *The Creator*. You know what else is dropping on Netflix that same day? *Fair Play*, an erotic thriller starring Phoebe Dynevor and Alden Ehrenreich! Finally, for all you horror fans, *Saw X* slashes its way into theaters.

Oct. 6

Do you love the Irish like we do? Do you love science fiction or psychological thrillers, or both? Then *Foe* is the film for you! Releasing exclusively in theaters, *Foe* stars Irish actors Saoirse Ronan and Paul Mescal as married couple Hen and Junior. Their quiet life is thrown into turmoil when an uninvited stranger appears at their door with a startling proposal.

Oct. 13

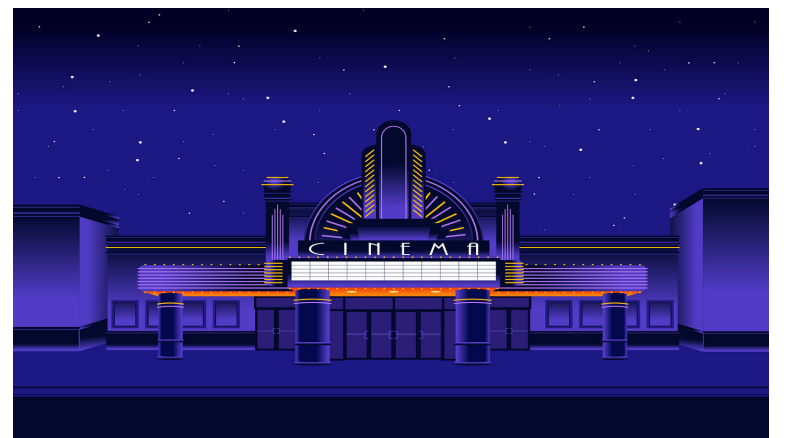
And now for the first exciting quadruple feature of this list. *The Exorcist: Believer* (the sixth film in the beloved horror franchise), *What Happens Later* (starring romantic comedy titan Meg Ryan in her long-awaited return to the genre), *Taylor Swift: The Eras Tour* (a whole 45 minutes shorter than the live concert, so aren't you just a little curious about what got cut?), and Martin Scorsese's *Killers of the Flower Moon* will all have a theatrical debut! Buy your tickets now!

Oct. 27

The Killer (starring Michael Fassbender as an assassin that is slowly losing his mind) and *Five Nights at Freddy's* (the live action adaptation of the popular video game series starring Josh Hutcherson in his long-awaited return to the big screen) are the two thrillers being released in late October on Netflix and in theaters, respectively.

Nov. 17

Alright, it's time for a double feature! First, *The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds & Snakes* (adapted from the book of the same name, which acts as a prequel to the Jennifer Lawrence-starring film trilogy) returns us to a Panem that is more derelict than we're used to. Nov. 17 also has the Taika Waititi film *Next Goal Wins*



JEFF JACOBS / PIXABAY

Grab a friend and watch a film every month!

releasing in theaters. Also starring Michael Fassbender, *Next Goal Wins* is a biographical sports comedy-drama that follows Fassbender's character as he attempts to lead the American Samoan national soccer team to qualification for the 2014 FIFA World Cup.

Nov. 22

For all of you Disney animation fans, the new film *Wish* is releasing exclusively in theaters on Nov. 22! Another theatrical release coming the same day is the epic historical drama film *Napoleon*, starring Joaquin Phoenix as the titular character. The film depicts Napoleon's rise to power as well as his relationship with his wife, Empress Joséphine. And there's another film—not quite epic, but still biographical—that follows the relationship be-

tween a legend and his wife: *Mae-tro*, which will debut on Netflix.

Nov. 24

Finally, the film that this writer is most excited about is *Saltburn*. Starring Barry Keoghan (in his first starring role!), Jacob Elordi, and Rosamund Pike, *Saltburn* is a psychological thriller drama about a student who is invited to an eccentric student's estate for an exciting summer. It's already being hailed as delightful, twisted, and hot. Sign me up.

Enjoy the show!

This article has been condensed for print. If you would like to read the full article visit medium.com/thequakercampus.

The QC's Favorite Summer Watches!

Emily Henderson
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
FEATURES EDITOR

What better way to think about the summer than remembering our favorite watches! *The Quaker Campus* has got your back, recommending ours.

Emily Henderson (Editor-in-Chief & Features Editor)

"My favorite movie I watched this summer was Wes Anderson's *Asteroid City*. *Asteroid City* is a television broadcast of the behind-the-scenes story of the play *Asteroid City*, while also showing a performance of the play itself, and ultimately the grief that permeates all of it. And man, do I love Jason Schwartzman."

Alissa Portillo (Deputy Editor & Opinions Editor & Social Media Manager)

"My favorite watch this summer was docuseries *Undercover Underage*. It focuses on showing you the "behind-the-scenes" work of decoys, talking to the predators, the social media and photo editing behind the decoys' accounts, and the secret investigations trying to identify predators. It is far more interactive than a normal show. Also, after watching the series, it shines new awareness on the importance of online child abuse."

Sarah Licon (News Editor)

"My favorite watch this summer



NOAH MACMILLAN / ST. LOUIS MAGAZINE

Choose a film to check out from the variety of films the QC loved over the summer!

is *The Good Place* because it's funny and poses questions about life, death, and morals that threw me into an existential crisis. But in a much needed way. I love the characters so much and it's just a clever and well-written show."

Shelby Silva (Arts & Entertainment Editor)

"I have been waiting for the sixth season of *Peaky Blinders* for what felt like forever, especially after the major cliffhanger at the end of the fifth season. The soundtrack, the actors (Cillian Murphy and Tom Hardy), and plot twists are what make the series brilliant. Every episode is packed with suspense that leaves me

yearning for more."

Meylina Tran (Campus Life Editor)

"My favorite watch this summer is the movie *Past Lives*, by Celine Song. Oh my god, I just remember wanting to curl up into a ball throughout the film. The film deals heavily in "what ifs", and it wrestles with combining all of your past selves with your current selves. It's like Celine Song reached into my head."

Lucy Campbell (Sports Editor)

"My favorite watch this summer was the TV show *Normal People*. The show is based on two "normal people" who come into one another's

lives, and even though they had to separate physically, they changed each other for the better. Life is chaotic and beautiful in that way. We can't keep everyone we love close forever, but we always hold that part of them inside of our hearts."

Alejandra Ortega (Staff Writer)

"This summer I watched the Netflix series *Derry Girls*. It's a great coming-of-age story about how teenage drama always trumps world issues. I'm also a sucker for an accent, I'm sorry."

Chelsea Bartilad (Copy Editor)

"It was a great experience seeing everyone dressed up to see a film of a childhood icon—*Barbie*. *Barbie*

leaves her home and experiences what it's like to be a woman in the real world. I loved seeing the references and inside jokes. I would describe it as a cinematographic emotional roller coaster (in the best way possible)."

Sam Watanabe (Photographer & Graphic Designer)

"A show I enjoyed this summer was *Good Omens*. *Good Omens* is a fantasy show with characters from the Bible (I know, "weird" right?). But the fact that an angel and demon team up in a fight against the beginning of the Armageddon [is great.] The interaction of some characters makes the drama more interesting to watch!"

Nune Papikyan (Photographer & Graphic Designer)

"After reading *The Hunger Games* trilogy over the summer, I finally read the prequel novel, *The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes*. I have never been more intrigued and yet annoyed by a main character before. The prequel novel follows the villainous Snow from the original trilogy and the first District Twelve winner Lucy Grey Baird, exploring the aftermath of the war between the districts, with the Capitol and the very early days of the Games."

This article has been condensed for print. If you would like to read the full article visit medium.com/thequakercampus.

Ahoy Poets! *One Piece* Gets a Live Action Series

Julia Centeno
ART & PHOTOS EDITOR

*This article contains minor spoilers for the *One Piece* series.*

Ahoy poets! The new original series just landed at *Netflix* port this past Friday: A live-action adaptation of the hit shonen anime series *One Piece*.

If you're already a *One Piece* fan, then this announcement may have left you feeling a bit seasick, as live-action anime adaptations are notoriously regarded by fans as... well, usually not very good. As an anime fan myself, I completely understand how it's no easy task translating the fast-paced world of animation into live-action format. And yet, *Netflix* has undertaken the daunting challenge of adapting the beloved 1,000-episode animated series (we're currently at 1,071 episodes, if you want to be precise). Since *One Piece* is well-renowned internationally, I feel obligated to start my review with this disclaimer: despite being an anime fan, I haven't watched *One Piece* before. I know that this may come across as a bit blasphemous to some of you—it is one of the most popular anime series of all time, as well as the best-selling

manga series in history. But this does allow me to review the first episode of this adaptation with a much less biased perspective, which is great for the sake of journalism.

The first episode opens with some backstory to get viewers settled into the *One Piece* lore. The Pirate King of the seas (Michael Dorman) has been captured and is about to be executed. But before that can happen, he announces to the crowd that his treasure is somewhere out at sea for anyone to find. The crowd loses their minds over hearing this, and the Great Pirate Era is unleashed as a new generation of pirates attempt to find his treasure. As far as your average live-action adaptations introductions go, I thought the intro did a great job of showing the audience the rules of the world so that they could understand and enjoy the events that would follow afterwards.

Fast forward to the present day, and Monkey D. Luffy (Iñaki Godoy) is one of those hopefuls sailing the seas. Rounding out the first episode's cast are Nami (Emily Rudd), a fast-thinking thief, and Roronoa Zoro (Mackenyu), a pirate-hunter who looks like he just graduated straight out of a JPOP academy (I say this as a compli-

ment, he's a dreamy-looking guy). I have to praise Godoy's skills as an actor in particular, as he perfectly nailed the optimistic attitude of a shonen anime protagonist without being too over-the-top. Out of the entire cast, his cheerful acting was easily the standout for me. Luffy has the power of being made of rubber, so he can stretch in ways that are otherwise inhumanly possible. It's a creative ability not commonly seen in media, which leads to some interesting fight scenes (for example, Luffy's signature "Gum-Gum Fist," in which he stretches his fist back inhumanly far and then uses the tension to punch his unlucky opponent).

The fighting choreography was well-executed and fun to watch, and contains everything from your standard punches and backflips to a man who can fight with a sword in his mouth. That being said, Luffy's stretching powers looked a little bizarre in CGI live-action, and I caught myself wincing at times watching his body stretch and distort in various ways. It's something that is perhaps better suited to traditional 2D animation.

I was a little confused on what time period it was supposed to take place in. This was mostly due to the costume choices.

Some characters were dressed in old-timey nautical outfits. But other characters were decked out in clothes such as t-shirts and zebra-print pants that very much looked like they had been ordered off of some modern fast fashion website (you know exactly which ones I'm talking about). I understand that this may have been a result of attempting to stay faithful to the character designs in the animated show, but in a live-action format it ended up looking like a weird historical costume mishash. Maybe a time traveler accidentally left their t-shirt behind in this uni-

verse, I don't know.

Even if the costumes may be a little confusing, the show does a great job of making the universe seem believable. The set design is gorgeous, and perfectly captures the feel of a nautical world run by pirates. It has everything that an enjoyer of nautical adventure films would recognize.

Overall, I enjoyed the first episode and will definitely be watching more. It's an excellent watch if you're looking for something fun and adventurous, even if you're not familiar with the franchise like I am.



CASEY CRAFTORD / NETFLIX

The beloved characters Zoro, Luffy, and Nami come to life in the series!

Poet's Playhouse Trivia

1. When did Whittier College open?

a. 1889 b. 1888 c. 1887

2. T or F, was Whittier College always the name of the school?

3. What is the name of the elementary school attached to Whittier College?

a. Broadoaks b. Wideoaks c. Smallpine

Poet's Playhouse Word Scramble

HOYJNN EOPT	_____
RQAKEU SUPCMA	_____
HTE OTSP	_____
IDHLE AHLL	_____
MSANNAPTOHEI	_____
OJE YNLLONED	_____

Answer Keys

1. CORRECT ANSWER: C
 2. FALSE! IT WAS NAMED WHITTIER ACADEMY FOR A SHORT TIME.
 3. CORRECT ANSWER: A

HOYJNN EOPT	JOHNNY POET
RQAKEU SUPCMA	QUAKER CAMPUS
HTE OTSP	THE SPOT
IDHLE AHLL	IDEAL HALL
MSANNAPTOHEI	METAPHORIANS
OJE YNLLONED	JOE DONNELLY

KPOET PRESENTS

OPEN MIC:

EMO NIGHT

DOORS OPEN AT 5PM
CLUB 88

SEPTEMBER 29TH

KANDI BRACELET TABLE