

**WCFM – 91.9 FM**  
**THE VOICE OF THE BERKSHIRES**  
Williamstown Massachusetts

**QUARTERLY ISSUES/PROGRAM LIST**

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**October, November, December 2021**

**This is a sample of quarterly issues/programs presented on WCFM during the fourth quarter of 2021. Content is rotated throughout the broadcast day.**

## **October 2021 – Issues/Program List:**

### **Campus News - News supplied by the Williams Record (College Newspaper)**

- **Dining staff say they are overworked, frustrated as a result of labor shortage**

**Aired Oct 7 at 17:43, 20:17 and 22:50, Oct 12 at 19:36 and 20:25, Oct 14 at 18:55, Oct 18 at 21:31 and 22:33 and Oct 22 at 20:35 - 3 minutes**

#### **Issue\Need - Employment Issues, Labor Shortage, Local Employment/Services**

As the College navigates a local and national labor shortage, some members of the Dining Services staff say they are overburdened, lack confidence in the quality of their work, and are experiencing low morale. Of the eight dining hall workers who responded to an anonymous survey by the Record, seven expressed dissatisfaction with their experiences working in Dining Services this year.

- **Faculty votes to extend Pass/Fail deadline**

**Aired Oct 27 at 17:35, Oct 27 at 19:20 and Oct 29 at 19:25 - 3 minutes**

#### **Issue\Need - Academics, Pass/Fail Deadline Extended**

The faculty voted at the Oct. 20 faculty meeting to extend the fall semester deadline for all students to designate courses as Pass/Fail to Jan. 3, a week after grades are set to be released. The spring semester deadline will be extended until June 6.

The motion, put forward by the Committee on Educational Affairs (CEA), was presented by Professor of Political Science and committee chair Cathy Johnson. It passed by a vote of 68-23, with seven abstentions.

- **Christina Walsh arrives at the College as new dean of first-year students**

**Aired Oct 17 at 22:20 - 3 minutes**

#### **Issue\Need - New Dean, Academics**

On Sept. 14, Walsh was announced as the new dean of first-year students at the College, replacing interim Dean Rachel Bukanc, who will continue to serve as the senior associate dean of students. The dean of first-year students works with first-year students and Junior Advisors (JAs), in addition to taking on more specialized responsibilities.

Walsh completed a cross-country move last week and has already begun to collaborate closely with the first-year class. Walsh brings a wealth of experience working in higher education to the College.

- **The Williamstown Select Board has decided to hire neither finalists candidates for the town manager**

**Aired Oct 25 at 22:25 and Oct 27 at 22:15 - 5 minutes**

**Issue\Need - Local Government, Town decides not to hire either Town Manager finalist**

The Williamstown Select Board has decided to hire neither of the two candidates who were selected as finalists for the town manager position during a months-long search, which followed the February 2021 resignation of former town manager Jason Hoch '95.

Instead — with one month left in the tenure of interim town Manager Charlie Blanchard — the Select Board will commence another search for a permanent town manager, Select Board Chair Andy Hogeland '76 announced at a board meeting on Friday.

## **Campus Happenings**

- **Hopkins Forest Fall Festival — Saturday October 23rd from 10:00-1:00**

**Aired Oct 14 at 18:51, Oct 17 at 22:10, Oct 18 at 21:22, and Oct 20 at 17:15 -**

**Duration - 2 minutes**

**Issue\Need - Student Life, Fall Festival**

After a year hiatus, this annual fall event is returning to Hopkins Forest on October 23rd, 2021. Attendees will be able to take part in some traditional fall and forest related activities including cider pressing, cross-cut saw, shake splitting, canopy walkway, games and exhibits. There will be live music and locally sourced apples and refreshments.

All activities will take place outdoors. We ask that anyone not yet vaccinated against Covid-19 please wear a face mask and keep a social distance of 6 feet. Hopkins Forest is located at 271 Northwest Hill Road in Williamstown. Parking is limited so we encourage ride-sharing or cycling to the event.

- **Curatorial Close Looks: Repro Japan**

**Aired Oct 28 at 22:51, Oct 29 at 20:45 and 23:22, Oct 30 at 17:30 - 2 minutes**

**Issue\Need - Cultural Enrichment, Student Life, Japanese Cultural Exhibition**

Learn about some of the ways Japanese visual culture has been reproduced and transformed across media and through time—from woodblock printing to 19th century photography to contemporary cosplay—with "Repro Japan" exhibition co-curators Christopher Bolton, Williams College Professor of Comparative and Japanese Literature; Eron Rausch, artist and critic; and Maggie Wu, MA '19, PhD candidate at the University of California, San Diego. The curators will look closely at some of the works on view while discussing their collaborative process and taking audience questions. Event will

take place on November 15, 2021 12 PM - This event will place virtually over Zoom. Registration is required for this free event.

## **November 2021 – Issues/Program List:**

### **Campus News - News supplied by the Williams Record (College Newspaper)**

- **College will not be making a public commitment to fossil fuel divestment**

**Aired Nov 3 at 19:30 and 22:30, Nov 4 at 20:17, Nov 5 at 20:50 - 5 minutes**

#### **Issue\Need - Environmental Issue, College declines to commit to fossil fuel divestment**

The College will not be making a public commitment to fossil fuel divestment but does not hold any direct investments in fossil fuels and plans to eliminate indirect investments in fossil fuels in the next several years, President Maud S. Mandel said at the Oct. 20 faculty meeting. According to Mandel, the College's investment plan mirrors those of peer institutions that have committed to divestment.

"Williams is taking the same steps as other schools you're reading about and some steps they're not taking," Mandel said at the faculty meeting. She confirmed that the College will not put out an official announcement about these steps.

"Investment strategies, including ours, shift all the time in relation to events, analyses, and market changes. We don't announce them and never have," Provost Dukes Love wrote in an email to the Record. "[Mandel] took the unusual step of discussing this issue at a faculty meeting in direct response to some questions she received about this issue, to help answer the question of how Williams compares to other schools.

- **Students protest for public divestment from fossil fuels**

**Aired Nov 11 at 16:48, Nov 17 at 22:20, Nov 18 at 18:47 and 22:52, Nov 19 at 16:38 and 21:25, Nov 19 at 23:56, Nov 20 at 14:54, Nov 21 at 16:29 and 18:22 and Nov 22 at 21:31 - 5 minutes**

#### **Issue\Need - Environmental Issue, Students protest for divestment from fossil fuels**

In recognition of the College Climate Coalition's Divestment Day of Action on Nov. 12, the College's Young Democratic Socialists of America (YDSA) chapter held a protest on Paresky steps, calling on the College to publicly commit to divesting from fossil fuels. During the event, protesters drew on the steps in chalk, listened to two student speakers, and marched to the balcony on the second floor of Paresky, from which organizers hung a signed banner reading "WILLIAMS MUST DIVEST."

At the Oct. 20 faculty meeting, President Maud S. Mandel said that the College will not be making a public commitment to fossil fuel divestment. The College does not hold any direct investments in fossil fuels and plans to eliminate indirect investments in fossil fuels in the next several years, but the lack of a public policy announcement sparked this week's student-organized protest.

- **College holds first-ever Williams Firsts Celebration Week**

**Aired Nov 19 at 17:48 and 19:26, Nov 22 at 17:53 and Nov 28 at 18:03 - 2 minutes**

**Issue\Need - Student Life, First Years Celebration Week at Williams**

Williams Firsts Celebration Week — which ran from Nov. 6 to Nov. 12 — marked the first time the College has dedicated a week to recognizing and celebrating Williams Firsts students. The College has adopted a definition of first-generation status that Dean of Williams Firsts Rebecca Garcia said is more inclusive than those used at other institutions. Rather than the “first-generation” or “first-generation, low-income” definitions used by other institutions, the College’s definition of Williams Firsts acknowledges many different experiences, Garcia said. “It defines the experience of a student who is the first in their family to attend college, the first in their family to travel away from high school, the first in their high school to attend a college like Williams,” she noted.

- **College plans to relocate WCMA to site of old Williams Inn, enters design phase for new building**

**Aired Nov 4 at 18:45, Nov 5 at 22:50 and Nov 7 at 19:30 and 21:50 - 3 minutes**

**Issue\Need - Student Life, Art Education, Plans for relocation of College Museum enters design phase**

Lawrence Hall, where the Williams College Museum of Art (WCMA) has resided since its founding in 1926, was never meant to be an art museum. Rather, the octagonal core of the building was constructed in 1846 as the College’s first library.

Director of WCMA Pam Franks said that this was part of the reason that, on Oct. 8, the Board of Trustees voted to relocate the museum to a new building at the intersection of Routes 2 and 7 — where the former Williams Inn stood until its demolition in 2020. Although the new site was chosen in late 2019, delays produced by the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic allowed for a 22-month consultation period involving WCMA leadership, the College administration, and Deborah Berke Partners, a New York City-based architecture firm.

## **Campus Happenings**

- **Ephs Beat Wesleyan 25-0 in Homecoming Game to Advance to 8-0**

**Aired Nov 6 at 21:01, Nov 7 at 17:05 and 21:10 - 2 minutes**

## **Issue\Need - Student Life, Recreation, Sports, College Football wins Homecoming Game**

For the first time since 2010, the Williams Ephs are 8-0 after a 25-0 shutout of the Wesleyan Cardinals (6-2) in which the Ephs racked up 290 total rushing yards and prevented the Wesleyan offense from reaching the red zone for the entirety of the game.

This is the first time the Ephs have been 8-0 since 2010. Due to the NESCAC's expansion to a 9-game season in 2017, Williams has the opportunity to advance to 9-0 next week for the first time in the school's history.

- **Pre Health Society is Hosting a Blood Drive at First Congressional Church**

**Aired Nov 5 at 19:08 and 20:10, Nov 9 at 14:30, Nov 10 at 15:43 - 1 minutes**

### **Issue\Need - Health, On Campus Blood Drive**

The pre-health society will be hosting a blood drive in collaboration with BHS bloodmobile and First Congregational on Wednesday from 9am to 2:30 pm at the First Congregational parking lot. To sign up, call 413-447-2597 or email [camuso@bhs1.org](mailto:camuso@bhs1.org). Drop ins are welcome as well if there is space in the time slot. Make sure to eat iron rich foods and drink a lot of water before donating.

- **As students struggle with mental health, unprecedented demand for therapy overwhelms IWS**

**Aired Nov 10 at 15:20, Nov 12 at 16:31 and 20:31, 21:11 and 22:30, Nov 14 at 19:30, Nov 15 at 21:30 - 2 minutes**

### **Issue\Need - Mental Health, Increased demand for mental health services**

Amid a nationwide crisis in student mental health, a Record survey found that students at the College are facing significant mental health challenges this semester, while the College has struggled to keep up with unprecedented demand for mental health services.

Integrative Wellbeing Services (IWS) has seen 549 students already this semester — about two dozen more than the 525 who visited IWS throughout the entire fall of 2019, which Director of IWS Wendy Adam said was its busiest ever semester before the COVID-19 pandemic.

## **December 2021 – Issues/Program List:**

### **Campus News - News supplied by the Williams Record (College Newspaper)**

- **College changes masking policy for some student performances, athletic practices**

**Aired Dec 11 at 20:21 and Dec 15 at 18:59 - Duration 2 minutes**

**Issue\Need - Covid Concerns and Health Safety for Student Activities, Student Life**

Masks are no longer universally required for athletes and performers in certain venues, as Director of Student Involvement and Events Mike Bodnarik announced in an all-campus email on Nov. 15. While some students welcomed the change, others have questioned perceived inconsistencies in the policy.

In-season varsity athletes, club sports athletes, and Registered Student Organizations (RSOs) can engage in competitions and officially scheduled practices indoors without masks. Students participating in theatrical, vocal, and dance performances can also be unmasked when performing in Goodrich Hall, Paresky Center, or residential spaces. Performers in the '62 Center for Theatre and Dance must stay masked, however, because the space is an academic building. Some students involved in theatre have criticized this rule, suggesting that the '62 Center should follow the same guidelines as other performance spaces.

- **Leaky truck causes chemical spill on Routes 2, 7, 8**

**Aired Dec 4 at 17:40, Dec 8 at 18:22, Dec 11 at 14:50, Dec 12 at 16:28, 18:26, and 20:38 - Duration 2 minutes**

**Issue\Need - Environmental Issue, Health and Safety, Chemical spill on local roads close to the College**

A spill of aluminum sulfate — a water treatment chemical that can be toxic when ingested by humans or animals — along Routes 2, 7, and 8 closed Route 7 from Sand Springs Road in Williamstown to Pownal, Vt., on Saturday morning. The closure lasted from 6:29 a.m. to 11 a.m., according to a Facebook post by the Williamstown Police Department (WPD). Campus Safety Services Director Eric Sullivan alerted the College community of the chemical spill by text and email emergency messages at 9 a.m. on Saturday.

- **Goodrich grapples with rising prices, \$5 swipe limits**

**Aired Dec 8 at 19:40, Dec 9 at 16:20, Dec 10 at 20:25 and 22:30, Dec 12 at 17:10 and 19:36 - Duration 5 minutes**

**Issue\Need - Student Life, Rising Food Costs for Student run Coffee Bar**

More than 300 students get customized bagels and drinks from Goodrich Coffee Bar every day. But behind the scenes, the student-run business is struggling to deal with rising overhead costs and an inability to raise College-determined swipe values. Following the pandemic, the business is barely breaking even.

The problem is straightforward, according to Goodrich Finance Manager Ana Wever '24: Every time a student orders coffee using a meal swipe, Goodrich receives \$5 from the College, a value that has

remained fixed since the coffee bar's establishment in 2012. But a shifting national economy has made Goodrich's current swipe model — which accounts for 60 percent of transactions at the coffee bar — difficult to sustain.

"The economy has changed," Wever said. "We've had inflation, and the minimum wage, particularly the minimum wage, is going up." When Goodrich was established in 2012, the Massachusetts minimum wage was \$8 an hour. Now, it's \$13.50 — and next year, it is set to rise to \$14.25.

"We need to change our prices — otherwise we're going to start significantly losing money," Wever added.

Changes to swipe values cannot be made without approval from the College. Because of the timing of budget reviews, the earliest the College could raise the value of swipes would be in September 2022, after a full year of Goodrich selling its products for suboptimal prices.

## Campus Happenings

- **The American Studies Program presents "Movement Media and Feminist Solidarities", a talk by Natalia Duong**

**Aired Dec 4 at 21:16 and Dec 5 at 18:16 - Duration 2 minutes**

**Issue\Need - Educational, Cultural Enrichment, Student Life**

The American Studies Program presents "Movement Media and Feminist Solidarities," a talk by Rachel Kuo (Ph.D. in Media, Culture, and Communication, NYU), on Monday, Dec. 6, 2021, 4:30 p.m., in Schapiro Hall, Room 129.

Kuo's research brings together studies of race, feminism, media, and social movements, with an emphasis on Asian American politics. She co-founded the Center for Critical Race and Digital Studies (CR+DS), based out of the NYU Institute for Human Development and Social Change. Kuo is currently Visiting Scholar in Asian American and Diasporic Studies at Duke University and a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for Information, Technology, and Public Life (CITAP) at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

- **Stephen Sondheim '50, visionary theatre composer, dies at 91.**

**Aired Nov 28 at 18:19, Dec 1 at 19:50, Dec 2 at 15:47 and 21:17, Dec 3 at 16:29, 22:35 and 23:52, Dec 4 at 21:32, Dec 5 at 20:24, 21:40, 22:10 and 23:33, and Dec 7 at 19:25 and 20:33 - Duration 2 minutes**

**Issue\Need - Cultural, Death of visionary Theatre Composer and College**

### Alumni

Stephen Sondheim '50, visionary theatre composer, dies at 91. Stephen Sondheim '50, widely revered as musical theatre's most visionary composer and lyricist, died on Friday in his home in Roxbury, Conn., according to The New York Times. He was 91.

Sondheim started his theatre career by writing lyrics before beginning to compose music as well, creating hit musicals like *Company*, *Sweeney Todd*, and *Into the Woods*. Acclaimed not just for the

breadth of his body of work, Sondheim is widely considered to have reinvented the American musical by tackling deeper, darker, and more sophisticated themes than in musicals before him.

Among his many accolades are eight Tony Awards — including a Lifetime Achievement Award — eight Grammy Awards, an Oscar, a Pulitzer Prize, and a Presidential Medal of Freedom.

- **Select Board keeps Blanchard as interim town manager**

**Aired Dec 5 at 18:19, Dec 6 at 21:32 and Dec 7 at 16:40 - Duration 1 minutes**

**Issue\Need - Local Government, Town votes to keep interim Town manager while continuing search**

The Williamstown SelectBoard voted 4-1 on Nov. 18 to retain interim town manager Charlie Blanchard through the end of April while it continues to search for a permanent town manager.

Blanchard was hired in April 2021 following the resignation of former town manager Jason Hoch '95. Blanchard's contract was slated to expire in November, but the Select Board extended it through April 2022.