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PSYCHOLOGE-MATTERS

A DIGITAL NEWSLETTER FROM
THE DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY AT UW-MADISON

The recent murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery, and the ensuing protests, here in Madison and elsewhere, have yet again shone a floodlight on the systemic racism and violence experienced by the Black members of our community. We fully support [Chancellor Blank's call for systemic change](#) and affirm that this change requires action, particularly from those who do not have to live the consequences of inequity and injustice. As a department, we stand in solidarity with all of our Black students, faculty, staff, and alumni; your lives matter.

Our next newsletter will share the steps the Department of Psychology is taking to increase diversity, address inequities, improve departmental climate, and create a community where all members can thrive. We welcome your input; please email chair@psych.wisc.edu



Breaking Bias

After spending her career studying it from every imaginable angle, Professor Patricia Devine has found the tools to triumph over implicit bias. The question is, [are people motivated to use them?](#)

*Also: Devine offers insight into [how to talk about race with your friends and family](#) in this month's *Women's Health*.*



Netflix Features Jenny Saffran's Infant Learning Lab

The [Infant Learning Lab](#), led by Professor Jenny Saffran (far right), is featured in the Netflix docuseries, [Babies](#), out now. In the fourth episode, First Words, Saffran discusses how babies figure out where words begin and end by tracking the statistics of sound. Go inside her lab and see how babies learn words by detecting which sounds tend to go together.



Coping with Quarantine Blues

"[Loneliness] is not something you can fix by just putting someone with others. You have to change how they're perceiving their world," says Karen Smith, post-doctoral fellow in the Department of Psychology.

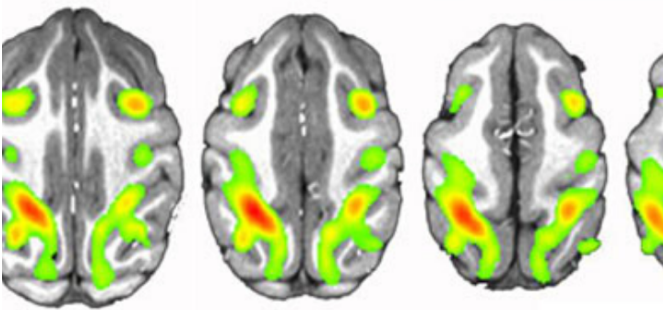
[Read](#) the full interview or [watch](#) Smith's Badger Talk on ways to cope with the stress of spending so much time at home during the COVID-19 crisis.



With SuccessWorks, Badgers Have Each Other's Backs

Recent psychology graduate Daniela Karpenos '19 participated in mock interviews and connected with a Wisconsin alum who was working in Karpenos's dream job in digital consulting - all through help from SuccessWorks.

"We met at Memorial Union over lunch and just chatted about the position. It was informal and friendly, while also incredibly helpful." [Read on.](#)



Identifying the 'Engine' of Consciousness

A small amount of electricity delivered at a specific frequency to a particular point in the brain will snap a monkey out of even deep anesthesia, pointing to a circuit of brain activity key to consciousness and suggesting potential treatments for debilitating brain disorders, finds a team of brain researchers from Professor Yuri Saalman's lab. [Read on.](#)



Wear Your Badger Pride

Whether you graduated three weeks ago or thirty years ago, you can share your pride in your UW–Madison Department of Psychology degree. For a limited time, you can find Psychology-branded UW clothing at the [University Bookstore](#).

Need a little U-rah-rah in your life? Check out our [virtual graduation videos](#). On, Wisconsin!



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