Hello Students –

Let the finals begin!!! AND then let the Winter Break begin!!!

Hopefully you had time to attend our Holiday Social. We had a record attendance of almost 300 students, faculty and staff at the event!

A SPECIAL thank you to all those who were able to make cards for the troops. We will be sending those out this week.

If you did not have time to attend the event, please come to the Neuroscience and Behavioral Biology office between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm to pick-up your new t-shirt.

This will be the last Weekly Email until the beginning of spring semester. Be sure you take some time to relax over break. See you at the end of January.

SENIORS GRADUATING THIS SEMESTER: If you would like to receive this email next semester – please contact Linda White at linda.m.white@jhu.edu.

Happy Studying and Happy Holidays to all!!!

**News and Upcoming Events: December 11th – December 17th**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEUROSCIENCE AND BEHAVIORAL BIOLOGY HOLIDAY SOCIAL</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thank you to all that attended the Annual Neuroscience &amp; Behavioral Biology Holiday Social this past Friday!!! We hope you had fun and enjoyed yourselves. Pictures from the Social will be online and in the office soon.</td>
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If you did not attend the Social, you can stop by the office to pick up your Behavioral Biology 2017-2018 T-shirt designed by **Sage Otterson**. Animal lovers (especially penguins) rejoice!!!
As is our tradition, we had a Holiday Social Cookie Decorating Contest at the Social. Thank you to all the participants and to Dr. Shreesh Mysore, Dr. Jason Trageser and special guest judge, Akshara (Dr. Mysore and Adwanikar’s daughter) for judging this year. Here are this year’s winning cookies....

COOKIE DECORATING CONTEST WINNERS

Best Traditional Cookie - Mattie Rocks

Best Neuro Cookie - Gina D’Addario    Best BB Cookie - Jianna Cressy
**Kiss Count Winner (263 piece)**
Monica Herrera at 262

**Raffle Winners**
Grace Lee
Marcella Sierra
Kyle Otazu
Gwynnie Lamastra (2nd year in a row!)
THANK YOU TO OUR COOKIE MAKERS!!!

I would like to personally thank all of the students who helped bake the Gingerbread cookies for the Holiday Social. We made the cookies in the Charles Common kitchen and due to the subpar oven – we could only cook 1 cookie sheet at a time….we made 27 dozen!!!

As promised, here is my now famous Gingerbread cooking recipe (they really are YUMMY!!!). I have had it since graduate school. (Full disclosure – I found it in a holiday magazine – but, I hadn’t learned about good referencing skills yet!!!)

Gingerbread Cookie Recipe
STUDYING FOR EXAMS

You’re ALMOST there.......  

Here are some things to think about while studying for your exams this week....  

Stressbusters on campus

Helpful tips for exam week:  
- sleep regularly  
- eat & drink regularly  
- get frequent exercise (even just walking)  
- spend time outside during daylight hours  
- learn and practice a relaxation technique that suits you  
- rest when you rest, study when you study (switch off internet etc)  
- socialize
# 2017 Study Spaces for Finals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Hours/Features</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMR I</td>
<td>Reading &amp; TV rooms open until 3am</td>
<td>LGBTQ Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>AMR II</td>
<td>Blue Jay Lounge and Study Room open until 3am</td>
<td>Mattin Center Lobby</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brody Learning Commons</td>
<td>Open 24/7: 500 seats including 16 group studies. (All group studies can be reserved in advance). Cafeteria with extended hours.</td>
<td>MSE Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>Center for Social Concern</td>
<td>12/11 – 12/14 &amp; 12/18 - 12/21 5 - 10 PM with coffee, tea, &amp; snacks.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles Commons</td>
<td>Winter Library, Charles Street building group study room (past the Computer Lab on the ground floor), and MPR open until 3am (when not reserved – check with monitor).</td>
<td>Nolan's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresh Foods Cafe</td>
<td>Sunday through Thursday until Midnight, Friday and Saturday until 8:00 PM.</td>
<td>Resident Lounges</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homewood Apartment</td>
<td>Meeting/Study Room (2nd floor)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hutzler Reading Room</td>
<td>Open 24/7 (quiet conversations during Learning Den and Writing Center hours)</td>
<td>Smokler Center (Hillsman Hall)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interfaith Center</td>
<td>Open 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM 12/10 to 12/21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Levering Hall</td>
<td>Lounge and lobby open 24/7 (food court dining area open when building is open); Levering Kitchens open M – F 11 AM – 2 PM; Levering Cafe open M – F 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM</td>
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Periodically, we receive requests from PI’s or from programs at other institutions about opportunities for students to get experiences outside of the classroom. We post these on the website under the “Current Students – Student Opportunities” section.

We only post opportunities from other institutions if our faculty feel they are appropriate – otherwise I send them to the Career Services office and they post them.

Here is one from Dr. Marina Bedny in PBS:

**The Neuroplasticity & Development Lab in the Johns Hopkins Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences invites applicants for a full-time Research Assistant position.**

Our research: The Neuroplasticity & Development Lab investigates how experience shapes human cognition and brain function using functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI), transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) and behavioral measures. We compare the minds and brains of populations with different development experiences e.g. congenitally blind, late blind and sighted individuals. The lab is specifically interested in the effects of experience on higher-order cognitive processes. A key research direction in the lab investigates the reorganization of visual cortex in blindness as a window into understanding the functional flexibility of human cortex. We also investigate the influence of sensory and non-sensory experience on the organization of conceptual systems and experience-based plasticity in higher-cognitive systems.

For more information about the Neuroplasticity & Development Lab please go to:

http://pbs.jhu.edu/research/bedny/

Responsibilities: The position is an excellent opportunity to gain research experience for someone interested in graduate school in psychology or neuroscience. Research assistants will get experience at all levels of the research process. Responsibilities will include assist in experimental design and implementation of stimulus presentation, behavioral and fMRI data collection, neuroimaging data analysis and maintenance of fMRI analysis infrastructure. Administrative duties include: recruitment and scheduling of participants, preparation of IRB protocols and general lab management.

Requirements: An interest in cognitive neuroscience and/or cognitive psychology. The following are strongly preferred but not required: previous research experience, strong technical skills, including basic computer programming. Familiarity with any of the following: Matlab, shell scripting, python. The ideal
candidate will be self-motivated, organized and able to work independently. Strong communication and interpersonal skills are important.

How to Apply: Interested candidates should submit a letter of interest, a CV and contact information for three references by emailing the lab’s current Research Assistant Rashi Pant at rpant3@jhu.edu. Applications will be evaluated on an ongoing basis until the position is filled. The starting date is flexible however, we prefer no later than July 1st, 2018.

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**NEUROSCIENCE & BEHAVIORAL BIOLOGY LINKEDIN PAGE**

Winter Break is the PERFECT time to sign up on our LinkedIn page!!!

In an effort to stay connected with our alumni and have a forum for our current students and alumni to network, we have created a LinkedIn page. The link for this can now be found on the Neuroscience home page.

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**CONFERENCE ROOM - ACCESS**

The Neuroscience and Behavioral Biology Conference Room will be open and stocked for your studying pleasure during finals.

In order to use the Conference Room late at night or on weekends, you will need a Brain Sticker on your jCard. You can come into the Neuro/BB office to get your sticker. Show this sticker to the Security Guard outside of Dunning and they will let you in.

*Note: Please be sure to leave the conference room in better shape then you found it.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMMENT/SUGGESTION BOX</th>
<th>Do you have any comments or suggestions that might make the program better? Would you like to see different snacks in the Conference Room? Visit the comment box link and make your thoughts known anonymously.</th>
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</thead>
</table>

Please refer to the BB website: [http://krieger.jhu.edu/behavioralbiology/](http://krieger.jhu.edu/behavioralbiology/) for more information.