



Diversity and Inclusion at the Watson Institute

This quarterly email contains curated content to showcase research, events, and initiatives that are relevant to the diversity and inclusion work across Watson.



New Leadership for Watson's DIAP Committee Seeks to Connect the Dots

In 2019, anthropologist Nadjé Al-Ali came to the Watson Institute from SOAS University of London, arguably one of Europe's most diverse and progressive universities. There, in addition to doing research and teaching, she served as equality and diversity representative and eventually chair of the SOAS University College Union (UCU) branch, the trade union for academic and support staff.

That same drive to "become involved" pushed her to join Watson's Diversity and Inclusion Committee, a group formed in 2016 and made up of students, faculty, and staff. Then, last September, she and MPA Program Manager Melissa Nicholaus became co-chairs of the committee.

[Read more >](#)



Does the Meeting Style Matter? The Effects of Exposure to Participatory and Deliberative School Board Meetings

Would public meetings incite more civic engagement if they were structured in ways that are simply more engaging? Jonathan Collins addresses this question by conducting an original survey with an oversample of racial and ethnic minorities and individuals from low-income households.

[Read More](#)



ADHD: Who Gets Diagnosed, Who Gets Overlooked, and What It Means for Kids' Education

On this episode of Watson's Trending Globally podcast, Sarah Baldwin '87 talks with Jayanti Owens, assistant professor of sociology and international and public affairs, about how this highly common, often misunderstood condition is diagnosed and treated.

[Listen to the Full Episode](#)



Disparities in Learning Mode Access Among K–12 Students During the COVID-19 Pandemic, by Race/Ethnicity, Geography, and Grade Level

Emily Oster recently co-authored this report focused on access to full-time in-person learning for non-Hispanic White students, non-Hispanic Black students, Hispanic students, and students of other race/ethnicities from January–April 2021.

[Read More](#)

Events

[Watson and U-Fli: A Community Building Dinner](#)

Sponsored with Watson's Student Advisory and Diversity and Inclusion Committees
Thursday, October 21, 6 p.m.

[Decolonizing Sociological Theory and Knowledge](#)

Friday, October 22, 9 a.m.

[Virtual Career Chat with Kakenya Ntaiya](#)

Tuesday, November 2, 12 p.m.

[Human Rights in Practice: Complementary Approaches to Advancing Human Rights](#)

Tuesday, November 2, 5 p.m.

Member Spotlight



Conference Celebrates 60th Anniversary of SNCC

Formed in 1960, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) was the nation's only youth-led national civil rights organization of that decade. Professor Geri Augusto recently helped organize a three-day virtual conference to mark the occasion and inspire future action.

[Read More](#)

Community Engagement

[Seeing Silicon Valley Is Writer/Photographer Mary Beth Meehan's Newest Installation](#)

Photographer Mary Beth Meehan's large-scale installations, which engage communities in civic dialogue around issues of identity, access, visibility, inclusion, and social equity, include "SeenUnseen," about Providence; "City of Champions," about Brockton, MA; and "Seeing Newnan," about Newnan, GA.

[Bridging Theory and Practice: Senior Fellows, Practitioners to Lead Study Groups](#)

Students once again have the opportunity to learn how theory and research can be put into practice to solve real-world problems, thanks to study groups led by Watson's new cohort of Senior Fellows: Ambassador (ret.) Keith Harper, Kakenya Ntaiya, and returning fellow Tom Perez '83. Pam Thiessen '90, a longtime Senate staffer for U.S. Senator Rob Portman (R-OH), will join in spring 2022.

[Making Public Policy Personal with Anna Lenaker '19 MPA '20](#)

After getting a master's degree in public affairs at Watson, Anna Lenaker '19 MPA '20 wrote a memoir about her childhood growing up with a mother who suffered from struggles with mental health, poverty, and addiction. On this episode of Watson's podcast, Sarah Baldwin '87 talks with Anna about her at-times-unbelievable journey from the streets of Tijuana, to fire-ravaged forests of California, to the halls of Brown University. In telling this story, she also provides a powerful argument for how we might re-envision the role of public policy in an interconnected world.

Student Spotlight



Political Organizations and Social Change with Professor Margaret Weir

Jon Lin '23 discusses how his independent study with Professor Margaret Weir impacted his work with Representative Hubert Vo in the Texas legislature.

[Read More](#)

Announcements & Resources

As Watson faculty, staff and students continue to engage with decolonizing the curriculum, the DIAP committee will regularly share teaching resources, course development funds, staff opportunities and other tools. Here is a quick round up this Fall:

- [Sheridan Center Inclusive Teaching Resources](#)
- [Self-assessment tool for course syllabi](#) - Created by Decolonization at Brown's Watson Student Task Force
- [Course Development Funds](#)
- [Native American and Indigenous Studies Initiative Funding Requests](#)
- [CSREA Course Innovation Grant](#)
- Campus Affinity Groups for Staff - Groups are being formed for people with shared identities across campus to connect and support each other. Contact Tiffany Enos (tiffany_enos@brown.edu), Director of Inclusion and Campus Engagement for more information.

DIAP at Watson

The Watson Institute embraces Brown's goal of increasing representation, voice, and participation by members of historically-underrepresented groups, with equal regard to research and teaching, event programming, and student experience. Since 2016, a Diversity and Inclusion Committee of faculty, staff, and students has convened regularly to foster the Watson Institute's realization of these values. [Learn more about the committee](#) and email suggestions and ideas to Watson-DIAP@brown.edu.

*Interested in learning more about Watson's DIAP Committee? Join us on Zoom the third Tuesday of each month at 2 p.m.



