

NEURAL ENGINEERING SEMINAR SERIES

Risk signals in the brain: Estimating behavior in the lab & real world

<https://psu.zoom.us/j/92405373420>

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12:15 -1:15 p.m. (ET)
W306 Millennium Science
Complex



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ABSTRACT:

Every day we make choices that involve risk. Adolescence is a formative period when heightened risky decision making can have long-lasting consequences. In this talk, I will present research that combines behavioral economics, neuroimaging, and theoretical perspectives from developmental science and microeconomics to address i) how the adolescent brain encodes risk and how brain responses in the lab relate to self-reported risk-taking; and ii) what may make some adolescents more likely to make unhealthy risky choices. Finally, I will present work that iii) examines whether neuroimaging paradigms in the lab can be translated to estimate real-world risky behavior beyond self-report.

BIOGRAPHY:

Dr. Nina Lauharatanahirun is the Director of the PSU Decision Neuroscience Lab and Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering and Biobehavioral Health at The Pennsylvania State University. She received her Ph.D. in Neuroscience and Biological Psychology from Virginia Tech. She completed her postdoc at the University of Pennsylvania and worked as a research scientist within the Human Research and Engineering Directorate for the U.S. Department of Defense Army Research Laboratory. Her interdisciplinary research program uses computational modeling, behavioral economics, and functional neuroimaging (fMRI/EEG) to understand the neural and behavioral mechanisms of risky decision making.