NEURAL ENGINEERING SEMINAR SERIES

Cerebellar Control of Nonmotor Behaviors

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

January 10, 2024

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

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ABSTRACT:

The primary role of the cerebellum is to coordinate movements, and here I present several pathways by which it plays important nonmotor roles. Pathways emanating from the output nuclei of the cerebellum innervate the VTA, hypothalamus, septum, amygdala, and more, enabling it to modulate a number of behaviors only tangentially related to sensorimotor processing. These pathways are the likely substrate for nonmotor conditions related to cerebellar dysfunction, like autism, affect dysregulation, executive processing, or even schizophrenia.

BIOGRAPHY:

I am a new Assistant Professor in the NBS department at PSCOM. My lab focuses on understanding the outputs of the cerebellum and how they underly nonmotor behaviors. I did my postdoc with Wade Regehr at Harvard Medical School and my PhD with Kamran Khodakhah at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, both studying cerebellar physiology.