# NEUROSCIENCE INITIATIVE
## ADVANCED SCIENCE RESEARCH CENTER

# FALL SEMINAR SERIES 2023

The ASRC's *Neuroscience Initiative* is proud to host a monthly seminar series featuring the latest neuroscience research and highlighting investigators using interdisciplinary approaches.

For this installment, we're excited to welcome guest scientist *Jennifer Bussell*, Associate Research Scientist in the Axel Lab at Columbia University discussing *Representations of information value in mouse orbitofrontal cortex during information seeking.* This research asks whether mice value information and whether a representation of information value can be detected in mouse orbitofrontal cortex (OFC).

Humans and other animals are curious and seek information in the world, even when it cannot be used to gain other rewards. This suggests that information has intrinsic value. We have asked whether mice value information and whether we can perceive representations of the intrinsic value of information in the mouse brain. We developed a behavioral task in which mice choose to receive information they cannot use to increase rewards and recorded the activity of hundreds of neurons in the orbitofrontal cortex (OFC) as mice learned this information seeking task. We followed individual neurons across weeks of training in the information seeking task and used state-of-the-art machine learning methods to identify distinct neural representations of information value and water reward value in mouse OFC.

**Jennifer Bussell**
ASSOCIATE RESEARCH SCIENTIST, AXEL LAB, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

**Date:**
Thursday, November 2, 2023

**Time:**
12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**Location:**
ASRC — 1st Floor | Auditorium
85 Saint Nicholas Terrace
New York, NY 10031

**Host:**
Pinar Ayata, PhD

**For further details, contact:**
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FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
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https://www.neurosciencephd.columbia.edu/content/laura-b-duvall

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