

Monday, October 6, 2025 at 10:39:22 AM Pacific Daylight Time

Subject: EM: Neuroscience Speaker Series: Jaime Castellon UCLA
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NEUROSCIENCE SPEAKER SERIES



Jaime Castellon

**Department of Psychology
University of California, Los Angeles**

Neuromodulation of motivation in

social and non-social decisions

**Thursday, October 9th
4:30 PM**

**Burns Lecture Hall (E007)
Department of Natural Science**

Abstract: Motivation to support costly choices in pursuit of rewards can affect personal wellbeing and engagement in society. While prior studies have shown that the neurotransmitter dopamine is an important neuromodulator of motivation in non-social decisions, its role in social decisions is much less well understood. This talk will cover (1) research on basic mechanisms of dopaminergic modulation of motivation and decision making and (2) how individual differences in dopamine function shape decisions in social contexts like choosing to spend time with loved ones and costly prosocial behavior in pursuit of fairness and equality.