



VANDERBILT
School of Medicine Basic Sciences
Department of Pharmacology

2024 - 2025 GPCR Seminar Series

Neural Control of Social Homeostasis

Social deprivation triggers social rebound, suggesting a homeostatic regulation of social need. However, how instinctive social need ('loneliness') is encoded in the brain remains unclear. Here, we identified two hypothalamic neuronal populations that are activated during either social isolation or social reunion, orchestrating a dynamic balance between "social wanting" and "social satiety." These neurons express unique neuropeptide receptors that underlie the regulation of social need. We also found that social touch plays a critical role in satisfying social need.

Ding Liu, Ph.D.

Catherine Dulac Lab
Naoshige Uchida Lab
Department of Molecular and
Cellular Biology (MCB)
Harvard University

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4:00 PM

1220 MRB III

Invited by our postdocs

