



MEET SHANAHAN FELLOW

IRIS STONE

Iris Stone joined the Allen Institute and the UW as a Shanahan Foundation Fellow in October 2023. She received her Ph.D. in Quantitative and Computational Neuroscience and a graduate certificate in Statistics and Machine Learning from Princeton University. During her graduate studies, she worked with Prof. Jonathan Pillow and Prof. Ilana Witten to develop latent variable models for characterizing the dynamic structure underlying complex behaviors in mice, such as decision-making and exploration. Her past experience also includes an internship at a biotech startup focused on using cerebral organoids to develop treatments for neurological diseases, as well as a B.S. in Physics from George Mason University, where she researched the use of organic and nanomaterials in biomedical applications. Iris is enthusiastic about working on open, team-oriented science and supporting the Allen Institute's mission of unlocking treatments and cures for human health.

What I am working on...

This week: wrapping up introductory meetings with researchers at the Allen Institute as I explore all the cool science happening in the building and consider projects I might want to work on as a Shanahan fellow

This month: narrowing down a list of a few mini-projects that I want to dig into in the new year. These projects will likely span a list of topics, from models of Alzheimer's disease pathology to development of the behavioral training software used for the mouse foraging tasks in the Allen Institute of Neural Dynamics (AIND).

This year: figuring out which of these smaller projects I will take with me into my work in years two and three of the fellowship!

I am excited to attend...

the Computational and Systems Neuroscience (COSYNE) Conference in March, where I'll get a chance to connect with the other Shanahan Fellows, re-connect with former colleagues, learn cool science, and enjoy spending some time in Portugal!



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