

CURRICULUM VITAE
EVAN A. ILIAKIS, Ph.D.

Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania
evan.iliakis@pennmedicine.upenn.edu
Updated September 23, 2026

EDUCATION

- 2022-2028 (expected) UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, Philadelphia, PA
M.D. Candidate (following internal transfer), Medical Scientist Training Program
Ph.D., Neuroscience (2025), *Roles of Two Striatal Interneuron Subtypes in Value-Based Decision-Making*
Advisor: Marc Fuccillo, M.D., Ph.D.
Committee: Ethan Goldberg, M.D., Ph.D. (chair), Eric Yttri, Ph.D. (external examiner), Joseph Kable, Ph.D., Tim Machado, Ph.D.
- 2020-2022 UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, Philadelphia, PA
M.D. Candidate, Twenty-First Century Scholar (Full-Tuition Scholarship)
- 2014-2018 POMONA COLLEGE, Claremont, CA
B.A., Linguistics and Cognitive Science, *Summa Cum Laude*, Phi Beta Kappa
GPA: 4.00/4.00; MCAT: 525

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2024-2028 NRSA Ruth L. Kirschstein Individual Predoctoral NRSA for MD/PhD and other Dual Degree Fellowships (F30), National Institute of Mental Health
- 2025 UPenn Jameson-Hurwich Travel Award to Attend Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting (\$1,000)
- 2025 Reimbursement of Registration and Travel Fees for Speakers, Gordon Research Conference – Inhibition (\$1,135)
- 2024 Trainee Professional Development Award, Society for Neuroscience (\$1,500)
- 2021 Clinical Neuroscience Training Program Summer Research Fellowship, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania (\$2,400)
- 2018 Michael H. Rosen Pre-Medical Award, Pomona College
- 2018 Distinction in Senior Thesis, Pomona College
- 2016, 2018 Barbara Sanford Allen Prize in Music, Pomona College
- 2017 Phi Beta Kappa, Early Induction, Pomona College
- 2017 Pomona College Internship Program Summer Experience award for research in biomedical engineering at Kogakuin University, Pomona College (\$3,989)
- 2017 Philip Goldberg Memorial Prize in Music, Pomona College

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

1. Ferrigno SM*, **Iliakis EA***, Zhang N, Pandey S, Galanaugh J, Muhsinov J, Fuccillo MV: Indirect pathway neurons in the tail of the striatum regulate inhibitory control over sensory driven behavior. *Sci Adv.* 2026;12(31):eab5352.
2. Muhsinov JM*, **Iliakis EA***, Tu W, Ramirez AN, Muniak MA, Wasilczuk AZ, Davatolhagh MF, Proekt A, Mao T, Fuccillo MV: Comprehensive 3D mapping reveals distinct spatial gradients of genetically-identified SST, PV, and TH interneurons across the mouse caudoputamen. *Front Cell Neurosci* 2026;20:10.3389/fncel.2026.1795921.
3. Linares-Garcia I*, **Iliakis EA***, Juliani SE, Ramirez AN, Woolley J, Díaz-Hernández E, Fuccillo MV, Margolis DJ: An open-source joystick platform for investigating forelimb motor control,

auditory-motor integration, and value-based decision-making in head-fixed mice. *ENeuro* 2025;20(4):ENEURO.0038-25.2025.

4. **Iliakis EA**, Sonley AKI, Ilagan GS, Choi-Kain LW: Treatment of borderline personality disorder: is supply adequate to meet public health needs? *Psychiatr Serv.* 2019;70(9):772-781.
5. **Iliakis EA**, Ilagan GS, Choi-Kain LW: Dropouts rates from psychotherapy trials for borderline personality disorder: a meta-analysis. *Personal Disord.* 2021;12(3):193-206.
6. **Iliakis EA**, Masland SR: Internet interventions for perfectionism: a meta-analysis and proposals for the college setting. *J Am Coll Health.* 2021;1-6.
7. **Iliakis EA**, Choi-Kain LW: Advance directives: another gap in services for people with borderline personality disorder. *Psychiatr Serv.* 2020;71(5):529-530.
8. Ilagan GS, **Iliakis EA**, Wilks CR, Vahia IV, Choi-Kain LW: Smartphone applications targeting borderline personality disorder symptoms: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Borderline Personal Disord Emot Dysregul.* 2020;7:12.
9. Finch EF, **Iliakis EA**, Masland SR, Choi-Kain LW: A meta-analysis of treatment as usual for borderline personality disorder. *Personal Disord.* 2019;10(6):491-499.
10. Ilagan GS, **Iliakis EA**, Choi-Kain LW: Validation of computerized reflective function: a replication study. *Psychother Res.* 2021;31(6):789-801.
11. Finch EF, Choi-Kain LW, **Iliakis EA**, Eisen JL, Pinto A: Good psychiatric management for obsessive-compulsive personality disorder. *Curr Behav Neurosci Rep.* 2021;8:160-171.
12. Choi-Kain LW, Reich DB, Masland SR, **Iliakis EA**, Ilagan GS: Longitudinal course of borderline personality disorder: what every clinician needs to know. *Curr Treat Options Psychiatry.* 2020;7(5):429-445.
13. Choi-Kain LW, Wilks CR, Ilagan GS, **Iliakis EA**: Dialectical behavior therapy for early life trauma. *Curr Treat Options Psychiatry.* 2021;8:111-124.
14. Volkert J, Ilagan GS, **Iliakis EA**, Ren B, Schröder-Pfeifer P, Choi-Kain LW: What predicts psychosocial functioning in borderline personality disorder? Investigating the association with reflective functioning. *Psychol Psychother.* 2024. Online ahead of print.

*equal contribution

PREPRINTS

1. **Iliakis EA**, Muhsinov JM*, Ramirez AN*, Rinaldi FG, Galanaugh JG, Pandey S, Linares-Garcia CI, Tachau A, Song EZ, Vargas L, Choi K, Woolley JT, Ferrigno SM, Diaz Hernandez EA, Holly EN, Margolis DJ, Piasini E, Fuccillo MV: Striatal interneuron microcircuits gate reinforcement to stabilize adaptive choice. *bioRxiv [Preprint]* 2026: 10.64898/2026.09.21.753300.

*equal contribution

TALKS

2. **Iliakis EA**, Muhsinov JM*, Ramirez AN*, Rinaldi F, Galanaugh JG, Pandey S, Linares-Garcia I, Tachau A, Song EZ, Vargas L, Choi K, Woolley JT, Ferrigno SM, Diaz Hernandez E, Holly E, Margolis D, Piasini E, Fuccillo MV: Striatal interneuron microcircuits gate reinforcement to stabilize adaptive choice. Neuroscience Department Retreat, University of Pennsylvania; September 2026; Absecon, NJ.
3. **Iliakis EA**, Muhsinov JM, Ramirez AN, Galanaugh JG, Rinaldi F, Pandey S, Linares-Garcia I, Tachau A, Song EZ, Vargas L, Choi K, Woolley JT, Ferrigno SM, Diaz Hernandez E, Holly E, Margolis D, Piasini E, Fuccillo MV: Opponent striatal interneuron microcircuits stabilize value-guided action policies. Invited departmental seminar: Center for Molecular and Behavioral Neuroscience, Rutgers University; August 2026; Newark, NJ.
4. **Iliakis EA**, Ramirez A, Muhsinov JM, Galanaugh J, Woolley JT, Linares-Garcia I, Vargas L, Choi K, Ferrigno S, Diaz Hernandez E, Holly E, Margolis D, Fuccillo MV: Roles of two striatal interneuron subtypes in value-based decision-making. Gordon Research Conference – Inhibition; July 2025; Newry, ME

5. **Iliakis EA**, Ramirez A, Muhsinov JM, Woolley JT, Linares-Garcia I, Vargas L, Choi K, Ferrigno S, Diaz Hernandez E, Holly E, Margolis D, Fuccillo MV: Roles of GABAergic interneurons in the dorsomedial striatum in value-based decision-making. Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting; October 2024; Chicago, IL
6. **Iliakis EA**, Ramirez A, Linares-Garcia I, Vargas L, Choi K, Ferrigno S, Diaz Hernandez E, Holly E, Margolis D, Fuccillo MV: The role of GABAergic interneurons in the dorsomedial striatum in value-based decision-making. Gordon Research Seminar – Basal Ganglia; March 2024; Ventura, CA

SELECTED POSTER PRESENTATIONS

1. **Iliakis EA**, Ramirez A, Muhsinov J, Galanaugh J, Woolley JT, Linares-Garcia I, Vargas L, Choi K, Ferrigno S, Diaz Hernandez E, Holly E, Margolis D, Fuccillo MV: Roles of two striatal interneuron subtypes in value-based decision-making. Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting; November 2025; San Diego, CA
2. Muhsinov J*, **Iliakis EA***, Tu W, Ramirez AN, Muniak MM, Wasilczuk A, Proekt A, Mao T, Fuccillo MV: Comprehensive mapping of SST, PV, and TH interneurons across the mouse dorsal striatum. Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting; November 2025; San Diego, CA
3. **Iliakis EA**, Ramirez A, Muhsinov J, Galanaugh J, Woolley JT, Linares-Garcia I, Vargas L, Choi K, Ferrigno S, Diaz Hernandez E, Holly E, Margolis D, Fuccillo MV: Roles of two striatal interneuron subtypes in value-based decision-making. Gordon Research Conference – Inhibition; July 2025; Newry, ME
4. **Iliakis EA**, Ramirez A, Linares-Garcia I, Vargas L, Choi K, Ferrigno S, Diaz Hernandez E, Holly E, Margolis D, Fuccillo MV: The role of GABAergic interneurons in the dorsomedial striatum in value-based decision-making. Poster presented at: Gordon Research Conference – Basal Ganglia; March 2024; Ventura, CA.
5. **Iliakis EA**, Masland SR, Ilagan GS, Choi-Kain LW: Meta-analysis of Internet-based interventions for perfectionism. Poster presented at: North American Society for the Study of Personality Disorders Annual Conference; April 2021; Pittsburgh, PA.
6. Ilagan GS, **Iliakis EA**, Javaras K, Fertuck EF, Choi-Kain LW: Self-reported attachment, computerized reflective functioning, and borderline personality disorder: a study assessing the role of social and neuro-cognition. Poster presented at: North American Society for the Study of Personality Disorders Annual Conference; April 2021; Pittsburgh, PA.
7. **Iliakis EA**, Ilagan GS, Choi-Kain LW. Generalist treatments of borderline personality disorder – genericization and debranding. Poster presented at McLean Research Day, Harvard Medical School; January 2020, Belmont, MA
8. **Iliakis EA**, Masland SR, Ilagan GS, Choi-Kain LW. Between-group meta-analysis of internet-based treatments of perfectionism. Poster presented at Technology in Psychiatry Conference, McLean Institute for Technology in Psychiatry; October 2019, Boston, MA.
9. Finch EF, **Iliakis EA**, Masland SR, Choi-Kain LW. Is treatment as usual effective for borderline personality disorder: a meta-analysis. Poster presented at: Fifth Congress of the European Society for the Study of Personality Disorders; September 2018; Sitges, Spain.
10. **Iliakis EA**, Sonley AKI, Finch EF, Ilagan GS, Choi-Kain LW. Assessing the feasibility of dissemination of evidence-based treatment modalities for borderline personality disorder. Poster presented at: Fifth Congress of the European Society for the Study of Personality Disorders; September 2018; Sitges, Spain.

RESEARCH AND LABORATORY EXPERIENCE

2023- UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA FUCCILLO LAB, *Philadelphia, PA*
 MD-PhD Student
 ♦ Investigate role of striatal somatostatin-positive low-threshold spiking interneurons (LTSIs) and tyrosine hydroxylase-positive interneurons (THINs) in value-based decision-

making in mice using fiber photometry, optogenetics, chemogenetics, and intracerebral pharmacology

- ◆ Established value-based two-alternative forced choice task; constructed custom-made behavior boxes, coded all behavior phases in Arduino
- ◆ Use various computational analytic approaches to behavioral and neural data including reinforcement learning models and functional linear mixed-effects models
- ◆ Mentor undergraduate, post-baccalaureate, and graduate rotation students in behavior, fiber photometry, optogenetics, computational modeling, stereotaxic surgery, histology, and epifluorescence microscopy

2022

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA SCHOLL LAB, *Philadelphia, PA*
Rotation Student

- ◆ Investigated role of NMDA receptor GluNR1 (GluN1) subunit in mouse visual cortical development and function using targeted CRISPR-Cas9-mediated GluN1 knockout and *in vivo* 2-photon microscopy
- ◆ Executed all stages of experimental pipeline, including stereotaxic injections, cranial window implantation, 2-photon imaging, data processing, and data analysis
- ◆ Contributed to mentorship of undergraduate research technician

2021-

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA FUCCILLO LAB, *Philadelphia, PA*
Medical Student Research Intern

- ◆ Investigated neural ensembles in mice related to positive and negative reinforcement
- ◆ Conducted behavioral experiments with FosTRAP2/Ai14 mice to label neuronal populations active during positive and negative reinforcement discrimination task
- ◆ Developed histology and quantification pipeline to acquire labeled cell counts by brain region
- ◆ Conducted stereotaxic injections of retrograde tracers to better understand topography of amygdalostriatal projections, thought to be implicated in negative reinforcement
- ◆ Trained undergraduate research assistant in histology techniques

2020-2022

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA DERUBEIS LAB, *Philadelphia, PA*
Medical Student Research Assistant

- ◆ Adapted and translated single-session online psychological intervention to Greek and investigated efficacy in Greek adolescents in randomized controlled trial conducted in partnership with Economou Lab at National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
- ◆ Navigated Greek Ministry of Education research ethics approval process and Institutional Review Board approval process at the University of Pennsylvania
- ◆ Analyzed preliminary data on feasibility, acceptability, and efficacy of online intervention

2018-2020

MCLEAN HOSPITAL GUNDERSON PERSONALITY DISORDERS INSTITUTE,
Belmont, MA
Clinical Research Assistant

- ◆ Administered diagnostic interviews, self-report measures, and biological screens with patients with borderline personality disorder (BPD)
- ◆ Oversaw IRB applications, study participant recruitment, and data management
- ◆ Assisted in preparation of talks and trainings, drafted academic papers, and compiled and optimized materials for novel treatments, including dialectical behavior therapy for post-traumatic stress disorder, and good psychiatric management for BPD

2017

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING, KOGAKUIN UNIVERSITY, *Tokyo, Japan*
Research Intern

- ◆ Conducted literature searches on medical infusion-pump-related accidents to contribute to project efforts to optimize infusion pump flow meter technology

- ◆ Held presentations in Japanese summarizing English-language literature
- ◆ Assisted in teaching “English for Global Engineers” for third-year university students

SELECTED SKILLS

Software: MATLAB, Arduino, Bonsai, Python, SPSS, R, Comprehensive Meta-Analysis, REDCap, Qualtrics, MBF NeuroInfo, ScanImage

Laboratory: Mouse Stereotaxic Surgery (fiber optic cannula and cranial window implantation), 2-Photon Microscopy (data acquisition and analysis), Fiber Photometry (data acquisition and analysis), Optogenetics (data acquisition and analysis), Simultaneous Fiber Photometry and Optogenetics, Chemogenetics (data acquisition and analysis), Intracerebral Pharmacology, Mouse Behavior Training (head-fixed and freely moving; data acquisition and analysis), Chemogenetics (data-acquisition and analysis), Mouse Perfusion, Mouse Brain Histology, Epifluorescence Microscopy, Mouse Injections

Structured Clinical Interviews: Mini International Neuropsychiatric Interview (MINI), International Personality Disorders Examination (IPDE), Clinician-Administered PTSD Scale for DSM-5 (CAPS-5)

LANGUAGES

English	Native-level proficiency in speech and writing
Modern Greek	Native-level proficiency in speech and writing
German	Native-level proficiency in speech and writing
Spanish	Advanced proficiency in speech and writing
Japanese	Advanced proficiency in speech and writing (N1; 2019)