

Moving towards Interpretable Models of Functioning Brains For Adaptive Real-World Behavior and Sustainable Health



Dana Small is a Professor of Psychiatry and Psychology at McGill University. The primary interest of her lab is to use functional neuroimaging techniques in combination with neuropsychological, behavioral, psychophysical, genetic and physiological assessments to understand brain representation of taste, smell, flavor, and feeding in humans. She is particularly interested in understanding the dynamic relationship between brain and obesity. How do the neural circuits governing feeding and flavor preference formation predispose certain individuals to gain weight? How do weight gain and the associated physiological adaptations influence brain function? She is also interested in uncovering the fundamental neural organization of the human gustatory and flavor systems. Her lab is equipped with an fMRI simulator, a fully automated and fMRI compatible olfactometer and gustometer, and a BODPOD for measuring percent body fat.