

Whitehead Scholar

Eva A. Naumann, PhD

Dr. Eva A. Naumann studied biology at the University of Konstanz in Germany with a focus on molecular and neurodevelopmental biology. As a doctoral candidate at the Max Planck Institute for Neurobiology, she worked to characterize genetically encoded calcium sensors and subsequently transitioned to the zebrafish as a graduate student in Florian Engert's laboratory at Harvard University. There, she focused on advancing experimental tools and methodologies for linking whole-brain neural circuits to behaviour. This included the design and engineering of a novel method to measure neural activity in freely behaving zebrafish.

As the Marie Curie Fellow in Jason Rihel's laboratory at University College London and again at Harvard, she used detailed behavioural analysis and brain-wide two-photon calcium imaging of neural activity to develop whole-brain functional circuit models of a visually guided orienting behaviour, the optomotor response. Dr. Naumann's future research interests include the internal and external factors that shape neural circuit function and behaviour, with an emphasis on the neural mechanisms underlying individuality.

