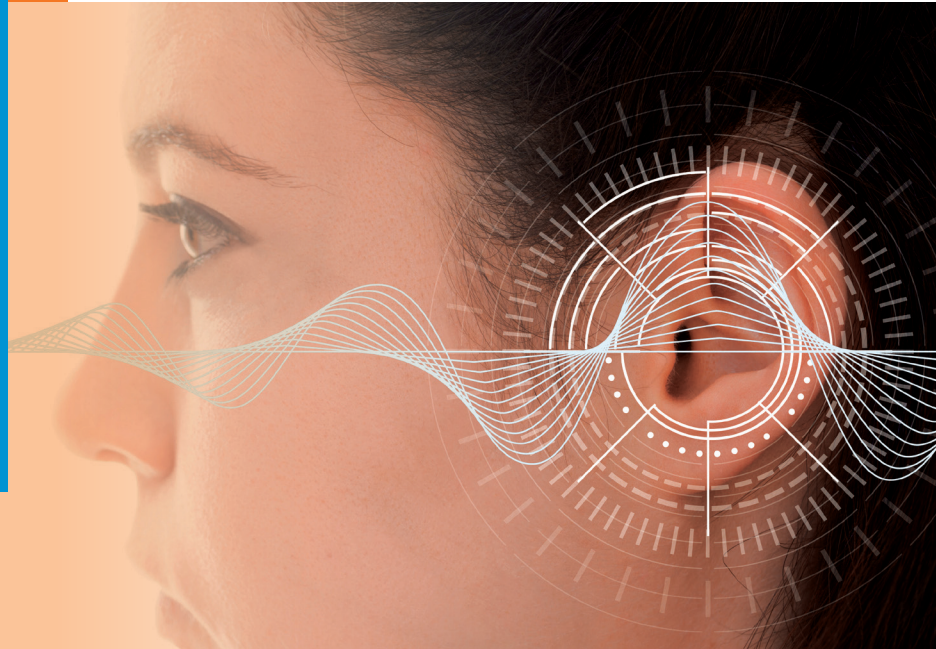


# HeadsUp!

News from the  
UCSF Department of  
Otolaryngology –  
Head and Neck Surgery



*Christoph E. Schreiner, MD, PhD, to Retire*

## Unlocking the Mysteries of How Sound is Encoded

In a small village in Germany, nestled in the Elbhöhen Forests, Christoph Schreiner grew up surrounded by the sounds of nature. Identifying and understanding the mechanisms that underlie sound perception would later shape his career and leave an indelible mark on the field of auditory research. As Dr. Schreiner approaches retirement on June 30, 2024, his impact on the field and the nurturing of future researchers will undoubtedly endure as a profound legacy.

Dr. Schreiner's interest in sound processing was established under the mentorship of Professor Manfred R. Schroeder at the Third Institute for Physics in Göttingen, Germany. A physicist with experience at Bell Laboratories, Professor Schroeder applied innovative mathematical approaches to study speech, hearing, and concert hall acoustics.

After several years of immersing himself in the world of auditory research, Dr. Schreiner recognized a fundamental truth: understanding psychophysical phenomena requires a foundation rooted in the biophysics and physiology of the sensory system. This realization led him to pursue medical school after completing his master's and doctoral degrees in physics.

"Psychophysics tells you what we perceive, but it doesn't tell us how this is accomplished," Dr. Schreiner said. "That really requires studying the physiology of the brain to see how perception is derived from the activity of the neurons throughout the auditory system."

After finishing medical school in 1980, Dr. Schreiner accepted a one-year postdoctoral fellowship in the auditory neurophysiology laboratory of Professor Michael Merzenich, PhD, at UCSF. The Merzenich group at that time was achieving highly promising initial results while developing a multi-channel cochlear implant device and testing it on adult patients. While working in the Coleman Laboratory at UCSF during that year, he met his wife, Marcia, an audiologist and fellow auditory neuroscientist.

After a brief stint back in Germany, Dr. Schreiner returned to UCSF and embarked on a four-decade career in the Bay Area.

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## Firing on all Cylinders

UCSF is in a major growth spurt, the likes of which I have not seen in my three decades at this institution.

As I write this, UCSF is in contract to complete the purchase of St. Mary's Hospital and St. Francis Hospital. The purchase is expected to become final in the next few months. There are days when UCSF is completely full, with no ability to admit additional patients, and the addition of these two hospitals will allow much needed additional capacity.

In August, the new Bayfront Building at Mission Bay will open. The building is just down the street from Chase Center, home of the Golden State Warriors. Bayfront will have an OHNS ambulatory office on the fourth floor and 16 ORs on the second floor, with limited overnight stay capability. In addition, two more ambulatory surgery centers will open within the next year – one at the Berkeley Outpatient Center and one in Burlingame – and OHNS will have a presence at both centers. Adding to

the institution's growth is a new hospital at the Parnassus campus. We have broken ground for the new hospital, which should open in 2030. Needless to say, we are very excited about this clinical growth.

The department has welcomed Tyler Crosby, MD, to the Laryngology Division and Song Cheng, MD, to the Otology/Neurotology Division. This summer, Nikki Jiam, MD, will return to UCSF in the Otology/Neurotology Division, and Kara Brodie, MD, will return to the Pediatric OHNS Division. Also this summer, Ilya Likhterov, MD, will join our head and neck oncologic surgery and reconstruction team.

As we greet new faculty, we celebrate our enduring stars. This summer we will have a festschrift to honor Christoph Schreiner, MD, PhD, who is retiring after about 40 years at UCSF. Christoph's accomplishments as director of the Coleman Laboratory are premiere in the field of discovery in auditory central processing. We are looking forward to the many scientists who will return to UCSF to help honor and celebrate Christoph's legendary career. And we look forward to recruiting the next leader in neuroscience to take on this legacy of discovery.

It is a point of pride to observe how the leadership characteristics of our faculty are being recognized among our professional organizations. Clark Rosen, MD, just completed his term as President of the ALA. Andy Goldberg, MD, is President of the Triological Society, and it is worth noting that the Trio just had its best year ever with regard to recruitment.

The recognition continues with the induction of VyVy Young, MD, into the prestigious UCSF Academy of Medical Educators. Charles Limb, MD, has been chosen for the 2024

Stibitz-Wilson Award from the American Computer and Robotics Museum in recognition of contributions to cochlear implantation and music perception. And our PGY-3 resident, Taylor Erickson, MD, has been appointed to the OHNS Residency Review Committee of the ACGME.

In the domain of publications, Daniel Knott, MD, Jolie Chang, MD, and Megan Durr, MD, currently serve on the Editorial Board of *Laryngoscope*. Patrick Ha, MD, is now Editor-in-Chief of *Head and Neck*. And Clark Rosen, MD, Patrick Ha, MD, and Charles Limb, MD, edited the newly published 6th edition of *Bailey's Head and Neck Surgery – Otolaryngology*.

While numbers don't tell the whole story, they are nonetheless impressive: The UCSF School of Medicine is again ranked #1 in NIH funding for a school of medicine, and the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery is ranked #7 for a department of OHNS in the most recent (2023) funding tally. I should point out that the UCSF School of Medicine has been ranked #1 for nearly two decades. These rankings don't include funding outside of the NIH, so the tally doesn't even include Dylan Chan, PhD, MD, who has approximately \$6 million in support from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI). But it's not about the numbers; it's about the impact, and Dylan's work in detecting and treating early childhood hearing loss is making a huge difference in our community and in our region.

Finally, this year's Sooy graduation event is June 14-15, and we are pleased to have as our guest speaker Sydney Butts, MD, Interim Chair at SUNY Downstate. Her lecture should be enlightening, and I hope you can come by to hear her.

Warmly,

Andrew H. Murr, MD, FACS

*Professor and Chair*

*UCSF Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery*



Andrew H. Murr, MD



Architect's rendering of the new Bayfront Building in Mission Bay, set to open in August.



## *Administrative Transition Occurs at OHNS*

# Celebrating Mary Bobel on Retirement

**F**ebbruary 29 marked a day of transition for the Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery. That’s when Mary Bobel concluded her tenure as chief administrative officer (CAO) for the department. Her departure leaves behind a profound legacy of excellence and dedication. Throughout her time as CAO, Mary actively contributed to the department’s evolution, shaping it into a hub of innovation and collaboration within health care administration.



Mary Bobel at her retirement party

Equipped with an MBA, Mary held numerous roles in finance and administration before coming to UCSF in 2015.

Upon joining OHNS, Mary encountered a department experiencing transformative development. Reflecting on her initial impressions, Mary recalled that “the department was characterized by growth.” In fact, significant expansion occurred during her time as CAO. Perhaps the most notable activity was the recruitment of physicians to staff Benioff Children’s Hospital in Oakland as part of UCSF’s integration with the former Children’s Hospital, Oakland. Mary observed that under Dr. Murr’s leadership, the department was integrated, with the specific aim of stationing UCSF OHNS faculty there.

In addition to her instrumental role in faculty recruitment, another of Mary’s standout achievements was the development of an administrative infrastructure to bolster departmental operations. When recently reflecting on her accomplishments, she emphasized her satisfaction in “helping to hire many faculty members while developing an administrative team to provide support.”

Her influence extends far beyond the confines of internal operations, leaving a profound mark on the field of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery. Her strategic recruitment and post-award support efforts propelled UCSF OHNS to the forefront of innovation, ensuring that grant recipients had vital resources for progress.

As one who skillfully fostered partnerships within and beyond the department, collaboration epitomizes Mary’s leadership style. From recruitment to securing crucial support from UC Health, her ability to forge alliances advanced the department’s mission. In her humble words, she said, “I hope I have contributed by hiring great staff who can use their expertise to further the department’s goals.”

As it has throughout her career, Mary’s professional growth flourished at UCSF. OHNS’s nurturing environment empowered her to lead initiatives and advocate for the department. As she transitions to the next chapter, Mary encourages aspiring medical professionals to seize opportunities and venture beyond comfort zones.

The retiree offered parting wisdom: “Enjoy the ride, seek new opportunities, and build a network of colleagues.” Though her departure will be felt, her enduring legacy will serve as inspiration for generations to come.

Acknowledging Mary’s invaluable contributions, Andrew Murr, MD, expressed gratitude by saying, “I feel so fortunate to have worked with Mary over the last eight years. She is an insightful diplomat, expert financial sleuth, and budget wizard.”

Dr. Murr’s heartfelt message to Mary resonates deeply within the department: “You made a major difference in facilitating the lives of our team and therefore the patients we serve. We will miss you greatly!” ■

## Welcome to Our New CAO, Vanessa Reyes

**V**anessa Reyes has taken over as chief administrative officer of the Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery. With more than 25 years of experience in academic medicine, Vanessa is well-equipped to further the growth of OHNS at UCSF.

As a first-generation Mexican American growing up in Chicago, she was exposed to a multitude of diverse cultures, and her early childhood experiences shaped her career aspirations. A love of language and the arts shaped her formative years and led to her time working with directors and actors from Steppenwolf Theatre and directing a CAN TV series. Those activities solidified her passion for the arts. However, after spending time in the classroom as a student teacher, she completely changed her career focus toward academic medicine.

That career began in 1998 when she joined the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) as a business administrator. After spending 10 years at UIC, Vanessa found a deep connection to the mission of academic medicine. That drove her to embark in the next phase of her career as she took on the roles of director and senior director at Northwestern University, Loyola University Chicago, and the University of Chicago.

Vanessa has shown dedication as an accomplished professional with a proven track record of driving organizational excellence, strategic growth, and innovation in complex healthcare and educational environments. She is an adept administrator with a comprehensive understanding of healthcare management, research administration, financial management, and academic affairs.

“As I embark on this next chapter of my career in academic medicine, I invite each of you to share your personal ideas, insights, and feedback as we journey together into this next phase of growth in OHNS. I look forward to working alongside each of you during the next chapter in OHNS history,” she said. ■



## Christoph E. Schreiner, MD, PhD, to Retire

*Continued from page 1*

### Exploring an Uncharted Realm

Driven to comprehend the physiological underpinnings of auditory perception, Dr. Schreiner focused on exploring the auditory cortex, a realm relatively uncharted in the 1980s. In 2022, the Association for Research in Otolaryngology presented its prestigious Award of Merit to Dr. Schreiner for his remarkable contributions to the field of auditory neuroscience. During the ceremony Harvard Medical School Professor Dan Polley, PhD, recognized Dr. Schreiner's impact by describing the era before Dr. Schreiner as the "BC (Before Christoph)" period, when studies of the auditory cortex were overshadowed by those of the visual cortex. Today, thanks in part to Dr. Schreiner's contributions, the auditory cortex is the subject of over 10,000 studies.

As one of the key figures in the Coleman Lab ([tiny.ucsf.edu/ColemanLab](http://tiny.ucsf.edu/ColemanLab)), Dr. Schreiner helped spearhead the research for the physiological and anatomical principles underlying the encoding of auditory sensation and the effects of learning on its neural representation. The results of those studies ultimately revealed essential aspects of how neurons encode and process auditory information.

Utilizing advanced electrophysiological techniques, Dr. Schreiner and his team meticulously recorded the activity of individual neurons, unraveling the complex patterns of neural responses to sound stimuli. He helped pioneer advanced analysis tools, which were informed by pure mathematics and computational neuroscience. In addition, fruitful collaborations with the late UC Berkeley Professor Jeffery Winer, PhD, established important links between the anatomy and physiology of the auditory cortex.

### Cortical Plasticity

One of the central themes of Dr. Schreiner's research was the elucidation of how the brain adapts and reorganizes in response to

sensory input. His groundbreaking studies on cortical plasticity, frequently in collaboration with Professor Merzenich, revolutionized our understanding of brain function by demonstrating the remarkable capacity of the brain to adapt and rewire itself in the face of sensory perturbations.

Beyond the realm of basic research, Dr. Schreiner's work has important implications for clinical practice, particularly in the field of cochlear implants and hearing aids. By clarifying the neural mechanisms underlying hearing impairment and auditory rehabilitation, Dr. Schreiner's research has paved the way for the development of innovative interventions aimed at restoring auditory function and enhancing quality of life for individuals with hearing loss. Dr. Schreiner is one of only a few cochlear implant researchers who has focused on how single neurons at higher stations of the central auditory pathway encode cochlear implant stimulation and whether experience and learning can improve cochlear implant outcomes.

### A Revered Mentor

As Dr. Schreiner embarks on the next chapter of his life in retirement, his legacy looms large. Beyond the accolades and publications, he sees his greatest legacy as the many mentees who have passed through his lab and who are now leaders in the field themselves.

"That's the legacy that will keep on giving," he said. Many of the former mentees, who are now professors continuing the research of the Schreiner lab, will gather at "The Auditory Cortex: An International Symposium Honoring Christoph Schreiner, MD, PhD" on May 31 at UCSF.

When offering advice to fellow researchers, Dr. Schreiner emphasizes the importance of scientific inquiry for the sake of knowledge and discovery: "When we do our work, we don't necessarily expect it to be a huge breakthrough. But you're really grateful when people eventually say 'that influenced me.'"

In retirement, Dr. Schreiner plans to continue serving as a mentor in addition to traveling, working on music, and spending time with his wife and daughter as well as his many friends both locally and abroad. ■

### Dr. Schreiner's Contributions Beyond the Laboratory

- Auditory System Study Section, Chair
- Brain Research Through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative.
- Hearing4All (a German research cluster)
- National Deafness and Other Communications Disorders Council
- Tinnitus Research Consortium
- UCSF Department of Otolaryngology, Vice Chair for Research

## Faculty News

### Triological Society Selects Murr as EVP



The Triological Society has selected Andrew H. Murr, MD as Executive Vice President-Elect to succeed

Myles Pensak, MD in 2025.

Dr. Murr is currently the Treasurer of the Triological Society.

### Jacobson Helps Tanzanian Health Workers



Pediatric otolaryngologist Lia Jacobson, MD, is among a team that developed smartphone-

accessible audiology training modules for health care workers in Tanzania to identify and screen patients with hearing loss in the region. The modules address a gap in access to education in ear and hearing care for first line health care workers. That gap was identified by colleagues in OHNS and Audiology at Bugando Medical Center in Mwanza, Tanzania. Other collaborators are in OHNS and Audiology at the University of Melbourne in Australia.

### Kudos to Rosbe



Kristina Rosbe, MD, chief of Pediatric Otolaryngology, graduated from the inaugural UCSF Health

Affiliates Network Leadership Academy. She was also on the winning Shark Tank ABC team for the "Safe@Home" pitch, securing funding to monitor post-surgical patients at home using wearables. ■



## Honors & Awards

### Resident Taylor Erickson, MD, Receives Prestigious Appointment

**T**aylor Erickson, MD, a third-year resident, has been appointed to the ACGME Review and Recognition Committee (RRC) for Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery.

“This is a significant accomplishment for Dr. Erickson and a point of pride for our program, as only one otolaryngology resident nationally is named to the committee every two years,” said Andrew H. Murr, MD, department chair.

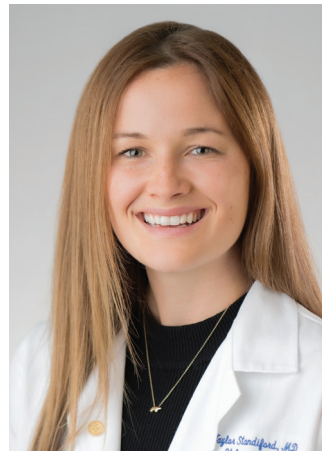
The RRC is composed of 11 otolaryngology physician faculty members and one resident member. As a member of the RRC, Dr. Erickson will be involved in evaluating the accreditation of sponsoring institutions and otolaryngology – head and neck residency programs across the country.

The RRC sets accreditation standards, provides peer evaluation to assess the degree to which the program complies with educational standards, and confers an accreditation status to institutions meeting such standards. In addition to accreditation activities, Dr. Erickson will be involved in preparing, revising, and/or recommending otolaryngology-specific or institutional requirements to reflect current educational and clinical practice. RRC members also provide input on revision of common program requirements. RRC members can initiate discussion in matters of policy, best practice, and innovation relating to graduate medical education in their specialty. They also work to recommend changes in policy, protocols, and requirements.

In this position, Dr. Erickson will also be appointed to the ACGME’s Council of Review Committee Residents (CRCR), which is composed of resident members who sit on the review committees across all medical specialties. The CRCR serves as an advisory body to the ACGME and convenes two to three times per year across the country to discuss issues concerning resident matters, graduate medical education, and accreditation. The goal of the CRCR is to provide valuable resident perspectives to the ACGME. Members actively contribute to the ACGME’s focus on physician well-being, parental leave, specialty specific milestones, duty hours, professionalism, and many other important issues related to graduate medical education and accreditation.

Dr. Erickson has devoted much of her training thus far to improving the residency application and training experience. She has been active in defining and solving systems level problems and leading initiatives that have significantly benefited the medical education community. Her work in helping develop and study the Preference Signaling Initiative, as well as a specialty specific standardized interview offer day for otolaryngology, has enhanced the residency application process by making it more equitable and efficient. Dr. Erickson has also contributed to developing a novel leadership curriculum for residents at UCSF that addresses core underdeveloped ACGME competencies such as interpersonal skills and professionalism.

“Her commitment to innovate in the graduate medical education space and improve the overall residency experience made her an outstanding candidate for this role. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Erickson on this prestigious appointment and tremendous opportunity!” said Dr. Murr. ■



*“This is a significant accomplishment for Dr. Erickson and a point of pride for our program.”*

–Dr. Andrew Murr



*“It has been a great privilege to advance UCSF faculty and enterprise interests through the agency of the Academic Senate.”*

–Dr. Steven Cheung

### Dr. Steven Cheung Receives Distinguished Service Award

**P**rofessor Steven W. Cheung, MD, was awarded the 2023 UCSF Academic Senate Distinguished Service Award. He received the award for his commitment to the Academic Senate of UCSF as demonstrated by the formation of the Academic Senate Committee on Space and relocation of permanent Academic Senate offices in the new Valley Center for Vision on the Mission Bay campus.

Dr. Cheung also impacted the UCSF community through his work on the UAW Agreement Funding Gap Relief Program, approval of two new UCSF graduate programs, and development of a more streamlined process to hire academic staff critical to UCSF’s research mission.

“It has been a great privilege to advance UCSF faculty and enterprise interests through the agency of the Academic Senate,” Dr. Cheung said.

The award is presented annually to a UCSF Academic Senate faculty member at the associate or full professor level who has demonstrated outstanding and creative services with a lasting and significant impact on the excellence of shared governance at UCSF, exceptional abilities in collaborating with the university’s many diverse stakeholders, and a sustained excellence and promise in serving the UCSF Academic Senate. The award carries an honorarium of \$1,500 from the UCSF Academic Senate’s Chancellors Fund and is presented at the last division meeting of the academic year as recognition of service to the UCSF academic community. ■

*VyVy Young, MD*

## Nurturing Excellence Through Mentorship

When it comes to mentorship, the spotlight shines on VyVy Young, MD. With an educational journey that took her from Pittsburgh for fellowship training to her impactful role at UCSF's Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery, Dr. Young's story underscores the pivotal role of mentorship in her professional trajectory and its broader impact within the department.

Excelling not only as a clinician but also in leadership roles, Dr. Young expresses her gratitude for the mentorship that has shaped her career.

"I've been incredibly fortunate throughout my faculty career," she shares, having served as associate director for the Otolaryngology Residency Program and faculty for the Laryngology Fellowship Program since joining UCSF five years ago.

Reflecting on her mentors' influence, Dr. Young acknowledges their crucial role in guiding her choices, from encouraging

fellowship training to establishing a national presence.

"There is no way I would be where I am today without my mentors," she says. Even in mid-career, mentors provided unwavering support and suggested opportunities that aligned with her interests. Dr. Young's journey stands as a testament to the enduring impact of mentorship on professional growth and success.

Highlighting the diversity of mentor-mentee relationships, Dr. Young emphasizes that there's no one-size-fits-all approach.

"Some may have a big impact on you, and some will not. The key is that all mentoring experiences have value," she notes. To optimize these relationships, open communication and goal identification are essential. Dr. Young encourages individuals to actively participate in the mentoring process, making it a mutually beneficial experience.

Dr. Young cherishes UCSF's collaborative and innovative culture, crediting mentorship for perpetuating this mindset across all levels of the medical hierarchy. In acknowledging the changing landscape of health care, she voices concern about the shift toward viewing it as shift work and the potential erosion of the doctor-patient relationship. She also believes mentorship is crucial in maintaining focus on the true purpose of medicine.

"Mentorship is a vital part of keeping us all focused on our True North – our why for why we decided to go into medicine in the first place. Mentorship can keep your focus properly aligned and can provide a safe space and listening ear when you need help in any big or small way," she says.

Dr. Young's journey at UCSF OHNS, shaped by impactful mentorship, serves as a compelling example of the transformative power of mentorship in fostering excellence within health care and beyond. ■



## *Around the Department*

### ZSFG OHNS Engages with San Francisco Chinatown Community

UCSF medical students Connie Zhou and Brooke Warren led colleagues in addressing head and neck cancer screening, smoking cessation, and HPV vaccination for more than 150 attendees at several recent events in collaboration with the Chinatown Community Development Center and NICOS Chinese Health Coalition.

Members of the Department of Otolaryngology at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital (ZSFG OHNS) and the UCSF Health Head and Neck Oncologic Surgery team participated. They also performed head and neck cancer screening at a San Francisco Chinatown community health fair in October.

A commitment to community engagement will drive future outreach events that will focus on hearing health, smoking cessation, head and neck cancer, and other issues. ■



### UCSF OHNS Team Wins Third Place in iHackHealth Competition

What if AirPods could be hearing aids? That was what UCSF's Team Pinnacle argued during the 2024 iHackHealth Appathon 3.0 competition held at UC Berkeley between 1/25–2/6/24. For their efforts, Team Pinnacle took third place in the competition.

UCSF OHNS faculty member Nicole Jiam, MD (team principal investigator), UCSF OHNS resident Alexandra Bourdillon, MD, and UCSF medical students Lourdes Kaufman and Amritpal Singh comprised Team Pinnacle. They were

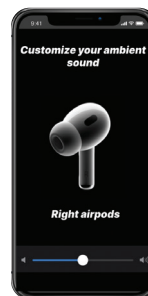
selected as one of 10 teams to partner with UC Berkeley engineering and graduate students to create an iOS mobile app prototype to solve a critical unmet need in the healthcare space.

Team Pinnacle's presentation focused on resolving critical pain points that those with hearing loss suffer from, including the high cost of hearing aids and the stigma associated with them. The team collaborated with Apple to use its open-source tool kits to develop hearing aid technology. They proposed a

pure-tone audiometry app that would export hearing settings to AirPods to amplify or safeguard hearing. The clinical settings would also modify and personalize front-end sound input to improve music enjoyment. The competition's final event involved pitching and presenting prototypes to judges from Apple, UC Berkeley, UCSF, members of the digital health industry, and venture capitalists.

Prizes were awarded based on five criteria: demonstrated customer need, innovative solution, market readiness, effective use of Apple frameworks, and overall presentation.

As winners, Team Pinnacle won a Fung Institute "Meet and Greet" with CITRIS Foundry and UCSF Innovation Ecosystem. The team was awarded a monetary prize and will be connected with iOS developers at Apple. ■





## Audiology Explores Boothless Audiometry

**B**ecky Lewis, AuD, PhD, chair of Audiology, is conducting a research initiative examining a novel hearing test technology in partnership with Payal Anand, AuD, director of Audiology.

The research is comparing traditional audiometry tests conducted in sound-treated rooms, known as booths, to boothless audiometry tests performed in a standard office environment without sound treatment.

Boothless audiometry enables hearing tests to be conducted outside the conventional booth environment. The technology makes it easier to administer tests in various settings, which can benefit those who have great difficulty reaching physical clinics. It can also be especially beneficial for inpatient appointments where noise levels can be less predictable.

"From my perspective, boothless audiometry brings a fresh solution to a familiar struggle: making sure vital hearing services are reachable for everyone, no matter where they are," says Dr. Anand.

Later this year, after data collection and analysis is completed, Drs. Lewis and Anand expect to share the outcomes of the study, which is supported by Hearing Research, Inc. The next phase of their research will focus on better understanding the system's susceptibility to noise, which can be widely variable across different environments.



## Addressing Gender Disparities in Academic Medicine: An Update

**J**ennifer R. Grandis, MD, FACS, an American Cancer Society Clinical Research Professor, has been continuing her work to create a diverse community dedicated to understanding and rooting out inequities in medicine and science with a focus on gender.

Individuals underrepresented on the basis of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation and other identities experience similar exclusionary practices, but women are the "canary in the coal mine," Dr. Grandis says. Today, women comprise half of medical school and graduate school classes in biomedical science, yet their representation among senior leaders has not changed over decades.

Understanding what gender inequity looks like and how to measure it, is an important strategy to addressing inequities of all underrepresented communities in our field.

In 2019, Dr. Grandis traveled around the country and interviewed 52 men and 52 women at 16 different academic medical centers to better understand the role of gender in career advancement and satisfaction. She published some of her results from this qualitative research study in three articles in the peer-reviewed literature [*Academic Medicine*, *JAMA Network Open* and *EClinicalMedicine* (a Lancet journal)] and presented her work throughout the US and overseas.

In October 2023, Dr. Grandis addressed the subject while delivering the prestigious John J. Conley Lecture at the opening ceremony of the annual American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery meeting.

In February 2024, she ventured outside of traditional academic settings and presented her work at San Francisco Nerd Night, a lecture-in-a bar series held monthly at Rickshaw Stop, a former TV studio in Hayes Valley.

Dr. Grandis is working hard to build a community through a professional social media campaign where she posts regularly about her work and experiences, and she encourages colleagues to follow her on Twitter/X, LinkedIn, TikTok, Instagram, and Facebook @jennifergrandismd. ■



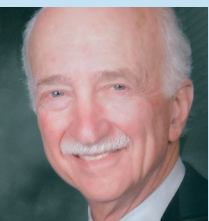
## Peds Otolaryngology Launches Successful Care Model

**T**he Pediatric Otolaryngology Division launched a Multidisciplinary Feeding Assessment Program in March 2023. The new care model enabled the division to increase its access to infants and families with feeding concerns and avoid frenotomy in 82% of patients. The care model, which acknowledges that breastfeeding challenges are often multifactorial and rarely due to a tethered frenulum, helps the division to provide successful feeding support to breastfeeding dyads. ■

## In Memoriam

### Sheldon Kabaker

We mourn the passing of Sheldon S. Kabaker, MD, a facial plastic surgeon in the Bay Area who was well known to the UCSF community for his entire career. He was instrumental in mentoring individuals in his fellowship in facial plastic and reconstructive surgery and was internationally recognized for his expertise in hair restoration. ■





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## Upcoming Events

### The Auditory Cortex: An International Symposium Honoring Christoph Schreiner, MD, PhD

May 31, 2024 | 10:00 am – 8:00 pm

Sandler Neurosciences Conference Center

### 22nd Annual Resident Research Symposium

June 14, 2024 | Noon – 5:00 pm

Rock Hall Auditorium

### Francis A. Sooy, MD Lectureship

June 15, 2024 | 7:30 – 11:30 am

Speaker: Sydney Butts, MD, *SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University*  
Byers Auditorium, Genentech Hall

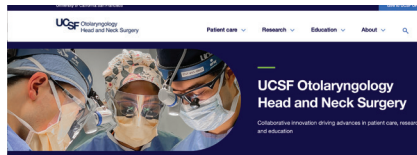
## Check Out Our Revamped Website

**H**ave you visited the UCSF OHNS website – <https://ohns.ucsf.edu> – recently? If so, you’ve probably noticed how it’s been upgraded to enhance the user experience and provide quicker access to vital information.

“At UCSF OHNS, we understand the importance of seamless access to information regarding our patient-centered approach to medical care, research, and educational initiatives. We’ve collaborated with a dynamic team to bring an enhanced online experience that aligns with our commitment to excellence,” said Caroline Schlocker, MD, who was the driving force behind the redesign with Yasmine Castañeda, MSC.

Yasmine and Dr. Schlocker worked with a design and development team at Y3TI. The project involved thoughtful design work from Nica Lorber, followed by a Drupal upgrade and development by Lolita Vasquez and Elodie Fétiqueau.

With the generous support of the department, the website upgrade made use of prior content developed by Rahul Seth and Hanh Ryan and the resources of the UCSF brand identity department. ■



## HeadsUp!

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Reconstructive Surgery, UCSF Helen Diller

Family Comprehensive Cancer Center

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Head and Neck Surgery and Oncology

Head and Neck Endocrine Surgery

Salivary Gland Center

**415/885-7528**

Balance and Falls Center **415/353-2101**

Voice and Swallowing Center **415/885-7700**

Audiology **415/353-2101**

Berkeley Outpatient Center **510/985-2000**

UCSF Health Redwood Shores Specialty Care  
Clinic **415/476-7877**



*To support* the UCSF Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery, please visit <https://tiny.ucsf.edu/OHNSgift> (or scan code at left). For more information, contact Assistant Director of Development Ian Shore at 415/502-3482 or [ian.shore@ucsf.edu](mailto:ian.shore@ucsf.edu).