



Department news



A Message From Our Chair

Dear CU Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery,

I am thrilled to have completed my first 3 months as Chair of the Department, and I could not be more grateful for the outstanding faculty, staff and trainees I have had the chance to connect with over the last 3 months. I've had the opportunity to visit our adult and pediatric practice sites throughout the region including in Boulder, Broomfield, Highlands Ranch and Colorado Springs, and at some of our partner hospitals like Denver Health and the VA, and have done the walk many times between UCH and CHCO. I've also had the chance to hear our visiting sub-I's present over the summer, participate in a specific aims review with our research faculty, and spend time getting to know our administrative and clinical staff. There is excellence and good will everywhere! I'd like to use this bimonthly Headlines newsletter to highlight the great things happening in our Department for us to celebrate the impact we are having on one another, our patients, and our communities. We may be living and working across the Front Range, though share in our commitment to excellence and representing the Department by delivering the best Otolaryngology care to our patients now and in the future. Thank you for all you do, and please keep the stories and updates coming at Erika.kroll@cuanschutz.edu.

All the best,

Yuri Agrawal, MD
Department Chair, Department of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery

Announcements



Congratulations to Scott Hirsch! His daughter, Margot, arrived in September.



Erika Kroll has returned from maternity leave! Her son, Liam, arrived in August.

Happy holidays

Wishing you and yours a wonderful holiday season and a happy new year!



In the news



The Department of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery is pleased to announce the 2023/2024 recipient of the Richard D. Wyant Endowed Award in Audiology, Ana Sanchez!

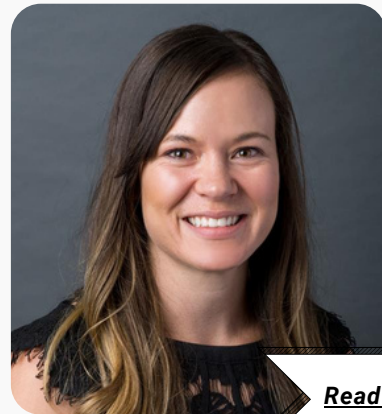
Ana is a promising second year student in CU Boulder’s Audiology program. Ana is a first generation Hispanic/Latina woman who has a physical and mental disability. Regardless of these conditions, Ana is doing exceptionally well in her doctoral studies and is highly committed to improving access to hearing health in underserved populations. As part of her diversity initiative, Ana wants to work on offering education about hearing loss and providing clinical hearing screenings in minority neighborhoods in the Denver/Front Range area. She will supervise Audiology undergraduate students and first year AuD graduate students who volunteer to conduct the screenings. Given her fluency in Spanish, Ana will be able to counsel patients who may not pass the screenings and refer them to UCH or other appropriate clinics. She will also inform them about possibilities for participating in a joint research project between CU Boulder and Anschutz campuses where participants will be eligible to receive free hearing tests, cognitive screenings and hearing aids at no cost for a year.

[READ MORE](#)

Congratulations to Dr. Soham Roy, who is the President-Elect of the Society of Ear, Nose, Throat Advancement in Children (SENTAC), the premier pediatric otolaryngology professional society. Dr. Roy will become President at next fall’s SENTAC meeting in Denver!



Dr. Laura Campos' research was recently highlighted in NPR story by their health correspondent. She was interviewed about her recent publication linking consistent hearing aid use with reduced fall risk in older adults.



[Read Full Story](#)

Pearls from Your Peers: Functional Septoplasty Surgery - Dr. Andrew Winkler provides tips and recommendations for septoplasty surgery.



Check out this [interview](#) between Dr. Cabrera-Muffly and Dr. Winkler!



Faculty & Staff Updates

The department is pleased to welcome the following faculty and staff members who joined us this Fall:



ERIN AMACK, NP-C
Inpatient Nurse Practitioner
10/1/2023



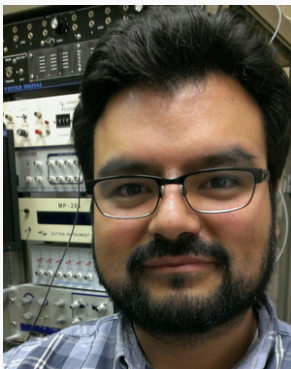
MACKENZIE CASWELL, PA-C
Advanced Practice Provider
12/1/2023



CHRISTOPHER DISCOLO, MD
Associate Professor
9/1/2023



EMILY GALE, PA-C
Advanced Practice Provider
11/1/2023



OMAR LOPEZ-RAMIREZ
Research Associate
10/1/2023



ALYSSA MORGAN, PA-C
Advanced Practice Provider
12/1/2023



SAMANTHA ROECKER, FNP
Advanced Practice Provider
10/1/2023



SARA STONER
Postdoc
8/1/2023



JULIANNA SMELTZER
SLP Fellow
8/14/2023



EMILY TAMKIN
Research Associate
10/1/2023



**ADRIANA WARWICK, DNP,
CPNP-AC, RN**
Advanced Practice Provider
12/1/2023



BLAIR WHITESIDE
Speech-Language Pathologist
8/15/2023

WELCOME to the team!



Department of Otolaryngology
Head & Neck Surgery

Events



January 28 –
February 1, 2024
The Hythe - Vail, CO

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

**DEPARTMENT OF
OTOLARYNGOLOGY
PHILANTHROPY TRAINING EVENT**

Hosted by:
Dept of Otolaryngology Chair Yuri Agrawal, MD and the Office of Advancement

JOIN YOUR FACULTY COLLEAGUES FOR INSPIRATION
AND TACTICS TO INCREASE PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT WITHIN THE
DEPARTMENT OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY, FACILITATED BY THE OFFICE OF
ADVANCEMENT.

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28,
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM**

The Benson Hotel and Faculty Club
13025 E. Montview Blvd.,
Aurora, CO 80045

DINNER AND DRINKS WILL BE PROVIDED



For questions or more information please contact Lindsay
Kindschy at lindsay.kindschy@cuanschutz.edu or 608-
332-6020



**Leadership evening with Dr. Reilly and
Don Elliman**

March 27, 2024

The Benson Hotel & Faculty Club

*More information to come

Departmental Faculty Retreat

April 12, 2024

*More information to come



The Benson Hotel & Faculty Club



Other news

T32 SEMINAR SERIES



Please visit our [website](#) for a detailed seminar schedule, and reach out to Dr. Sue Kinnamon with questions.

RESIDENCY INTERVIEWS

Residency interviews will be held January 4th and January 11th. Social nights will take place the night before each residency interview day (1/3, and 1/11) at 6:30 pm at [FlyteCo Tower](#). Faculty attendance is encouraged!



FACULTY CAREER ADVANCEMENT AWARD



A Career Enhancement Award has been created in an effort to support the professional growth of Associate and Full Professors. This award will provide funding to be used towards the development of clinical, scholarly and leadership skills to advance a faculty member’s career and expertise in the field of Otolaryngology. One awardee per academic year will receive up to \$15,000. All MD faculty who have been in the Department for at least five years are encouraged to apply. Additional information on the application process will be sent out to faculty.

BETTER TOGETHER COACHING

Enrollment will open 1/2/24 for Feb-May 2024 session. Repeat participation is encouraged.

WELLNESS SURVEY

The survey is anticipated to launch on January 8, 2024. It will be open for three weeks. Please participate!

Please reach out to anne.getz@cuanschutz.edu with questions.



DEI Update

Dr. Ashoke Khanwalkar has been named Department Diversity Leader!



The current objectives of the DEI committee include creating an environment where diverse students, trainees, and faculty feel heard, validated for their identities and contributions, and respected as well as increasing the proportion of women and minority students, trainees, faculty, staff, and leadership where underrepresented. Stay tuned for updates from Dr. Khanwalkar.

Department Fun for a Good Cause

Several members of our department recently volunteered at the Denver Botanic Gardens. They spent their time preparing pumpkins for the Glow in the Gardens exhibit.



Request for Content

Did you know people usually look online to get a first impression of an organization? Our website and Facebook page are the best place to provide our real voice. Regularly posting quality content has a big impact on gaining people's interest in us. We are turning to you – our valued faculty, alumni and staff - to help generate this content! Did you recently learn something interesting at a conference? Did you encounter an unusual case that would be a fascinating read for your peers? Do you have a piece of work you want to share? Send anything you would like included in our content calendar to Erika Kroll (erika.kroll@cuanschutz.edu). Copy editing is available, so you can concentrate on the ideas and not on the writing!