

Global Center for Hearing and Speech Research

Colleges of Engineering and Behavioral & Community Sciences

University of South Florida

January 2012

Department News

The Global Center for Hearing & Speech Research (GCHSR) at the University of South Florida is a multi-college interdisciplinary research center established in collaboration with the Colleges of Engineering and Behavioral & Community Sciences. Central GCHSR facilities include conference room, administrative offices, research offices, and the primary laboratories of the founding GCHSR faculty. These facilities are located in Suite 210 of the Business Park Building (BPB) of the USF Research Park at 3802 Spectrum Blvd.

The founding faculty laboratories include the Auditory & Speech Sciences Laboratory, the Auditory Neurophysiology Laboratory, and the Cellular, Systems and Molecular Neuroengineering Laboratory. The Auditory & Speech Sciences Laboratory is directed by Drs. David A. Eddins and Ann Clock Eddins and focuses on auditory perception, speech and voice science, neural correlates of auditory perception, hearing enhancement devices, and diagnostic instrumentation. Current topics of research include age-related perceptual and physiological changes in audition, development and evaluation of new hearing enhancement technology, models of auditory perception including perception of the pathological voice, and the development and evaluation of instruments for assessing hearing and fitting hearing enhancement devices. The Auditory Neuroscience Laboratory is directed by Dr. Joseph P. Walton. His research focuses upon systems level neuroscience and neuroengineering investigations of how the normal and hearing-impaired auditory systems function, and the system plasticity that occurs in cases of hearing loss. The Cellular, Systems and Molecular Neuroengineering Laboratory is Directed by Dr. Robert D. Frisina and focuses on centers on understanding the neuro-chemical, structural and molecular aspects of different types of hearing loss, with the goals of developing new biomedical engineering systems and biomedical interventions to prevent, or eventually treat permanent sensori-neural hearing loss.