

**Mark A. Rutherford, PhD**

Washington University in St. Louis  
Department of Otolaryngology  
660 South Euclid Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63110

**Title:**

Associate Professor of Ear and Hearing

**Education/Training:**

BS, University of Missouri, Nutritional Sciences  
PhD, University of Oregon, Biology  
Postdoctoral Fellowship, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, University of Göttingen,  
Auditory Neuroscience

**Prior service to ARO:**

Long-range Planning Committee  
Hair-ball Organizer  
JARO Mentor  
JARO Associate Editor

**Research Interests:**

Ribbon synapse structure and function  
Synaptic transmission in the cochlea  
Auditory nerve electrophysiology  
Noise induced hearing loss  
Glutamate excitotoxicity  
Drug development

**Clinical Interests:**

Perilymph sampling and analysis  
Cochlear implant stimulus encoding  
Dementia and hearing-balance interconnection  
Interventions to halt progression of inner ear pathologies

**Personal interests:**

Family; Outdoors; Backcountry backpacking hiking and camping, swimming, biking, snow sports (beach is fine, too); Live music; Grant writing; Volunteering; Gardening.

**Statement of Goals:**

ARO brings together a vast range of approaches for a common purpose, leveraging the combined expertise of pre-clinical and clinical researchers across many fields and disciplines. Through networking, the ARO enhances careers through advancement of science. As an active member since graduate school (20+ years), I think it is important for scientists to engage with ARO early and often to contribute their talents to the community and to receive the benefits of what others have to offer. If elected, I plan to help nominate leaders who share the goal of supporting cross-pollination among diverse fields of science and between ARO members of all career stages and backgrounds.

