

NAME: Anthony J Ricci PhD

Location: Stanford, CA, USA

Title: Professor, Department of Otolaryngology and by courtesy Molecular and Cellular Physiology, Stanford University School of Medicine.

Education: 1986: BA Chemistry Case Western Reserve University Cleveland OH
1992: Ph.D., Neuroscience Tulane University.

Post-Doctoral Training:

1992-1995: Department of Otolaryngology and Neuroscience, University of TX:
Manning Correia

1995-1997: Hair cell Mechanotransduction, University of WI, Robert Fettiplace

Prior service to ARO:

2021-present: Program Committee

2023- present: SPARO mentor

2009-2012 (?): Section editor for JARO

Research Interests: My laboratory studies hair cell function, largely mechanotransduction and synaptic transmission. We develop and implement tools to more directly investigate the biophysical properties of the sensory hair bundles, the tools center around optical tools, stimulating tools and better electrophysiological tools. We similarly study synaptic transmission, recording from pre and/or postsynaptic elements. Hereto we implement novel technologies, like the dual sine wave stimulus to monitor membrane capacitance and high-speed imaging to monitor synaptic calcium changes. We also are interested in functional development and bridging cellular function to system level function.

Clinical Interests: Our translational interests stem directly from our basic science work. We have a long-standing interest in ototoxicity, particularly aminoglycoside toxicity where we have elucidated the pathway into endolymph and into the sensory cells, while also designing new less toxic compounds. Similarly, we are interested in neuropathy associated with aging and noise and how synapses compensate. Most recently we have expanded these interests to investigate how cognitive function is impaired with hearing loss. Why are some more sensitive than others and can we identify interventions to reduce the cognitive decline. Also what level of auditory loss triggers cognitive decline and what level of restoration is needed to reverse or reduce the cognitive decline.

Personal interests: I have many interests. In particular I love sports, both observing and participating. I still play a lot of softball, squash and pickleball. I enjoy baseball, football, tennis and hockey. If there is a ball, I will chase it. I also enjoy cooking and gardening. Preparing meals from food you have grown is still novel for me as I grew up in the Bronx, where there was not a lot of food growing. I also enjoy nature, hiking, fishing, being outdoors particularly by water.

Statement of Goals: I have been participating in ARO since 1988 as a graduate student. I have watched the society grow in number and scope in mostly positive and impactful ways. To date, most of my academic service has been spent scientifically in the review process either with numerous granting organizations or journals. My other major contributions have been building pipeline type programs; while at Stanford I have created an onboarding program for graduate students (ADVANCE), a program to help postdocs transition into faculty positions (PROPEL) and most recently a postbac program (REACH). Each of these targets providing the opportunity for young scholars to reach their potential and in doing so reshape academic institutions. I see now that I may be useful in helping our society grow in and be impactful more broadly and given that ARO has been an important part of my professional career, it seems fitting that I help support the community for the future generations. Identifying and celebrating role models is an important part of what ARO does.