SEMINARS IN HEARING AND COMMUNICATIONS SCIENCES (SHACS) PRESENT:

“Great Colleagues Have Filled 32 Wonderful Years at UW”

Edwin W Rubel, PhD
Professor Emeritus
Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery,
Department of Physiology & Biophysics,
Virginia Merrill Bloedel Hearing Research Center
University of Washington

Friday 27 April 2018 @ 3:30 PM
Eagleson Hall, Room 001
***New Location!***

After a bit of UW hearing history, I will present “recent” studies aimed at discovering how inner ear hair cells die when exposed to ototoxic therapeutic drugs, and a parallel research program aimed at development of new drugs to prevent hearing loss and balance disorders. In 2001 Dave Raible and I began using the lateral line system of larval zebrafish to study modifiers of aminoglycoside and cisplatin hair cell toxicity. The goal was to discover some of the cellular events that underlie the variability of susceptibility to acquired hearing loss. Little did we know – or even suspect – where this would lead. This platform is particularly advantageous for in vivo cellular analyses for genetic screening and for screening large libraries to discover protective and toxic compounds. I will focus on two aspects of this work. The first will be a couple of samples from a series of studies aimed at understanding the disruption calcium regulation by aminoglycoside antibiotics that leads to hair cell death. The second will be our studies attempting to develop a new drug that robustly prevents hearing loss, by screening small molecule libraries of drug-like compounds, medicinal chemistry and preclinical testing, as well as proof of concept and the path to FDA approval.

SHACS is a collaboration between the UW Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences and the Virginia Merrill Bloedel Hearing Research Center (VMBHRC).
To learn more, contact Llyne Foy at 206.616.6655 or lfoy@uw.edu.

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