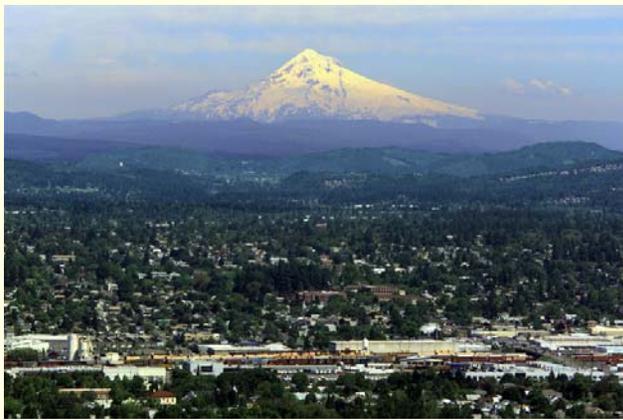


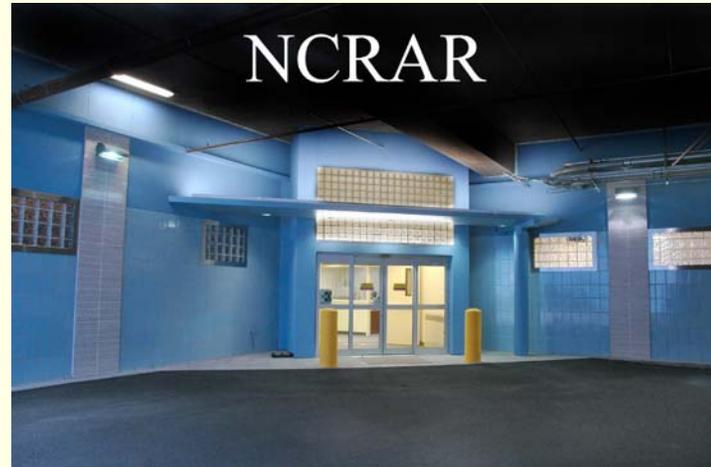
The National Center for Rehabilitative Auditory Research (NCRAR) and VA Audiology: Collaboration, Mentoring and Education

**Stephen Fausti Ph.D.
Gabrielle Saunders Ph.D.
NCRAR, Portland Oregon**



NCRAR

National Center for Rehabilitative Auditory Research
VA Rehabilitative Research & Development



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Mission

" to benefit veterans by alleviating the communicative, economic and social problems resulting from auditory system dysfunction"

National Center for Rehabilitative Auditory Research

Dedicated to the discovery of effective solutions for auditory disabilities, and the translation of evidence-based research findings into practice throughout the VA healthcare system and the nation

Performance Expectations for VA RR&D Centers

“Facilitate effective information dissemination for a broad spectrum of audiences”

“Support the growth and enhancement of a vigorous and creative learning environment”

Components

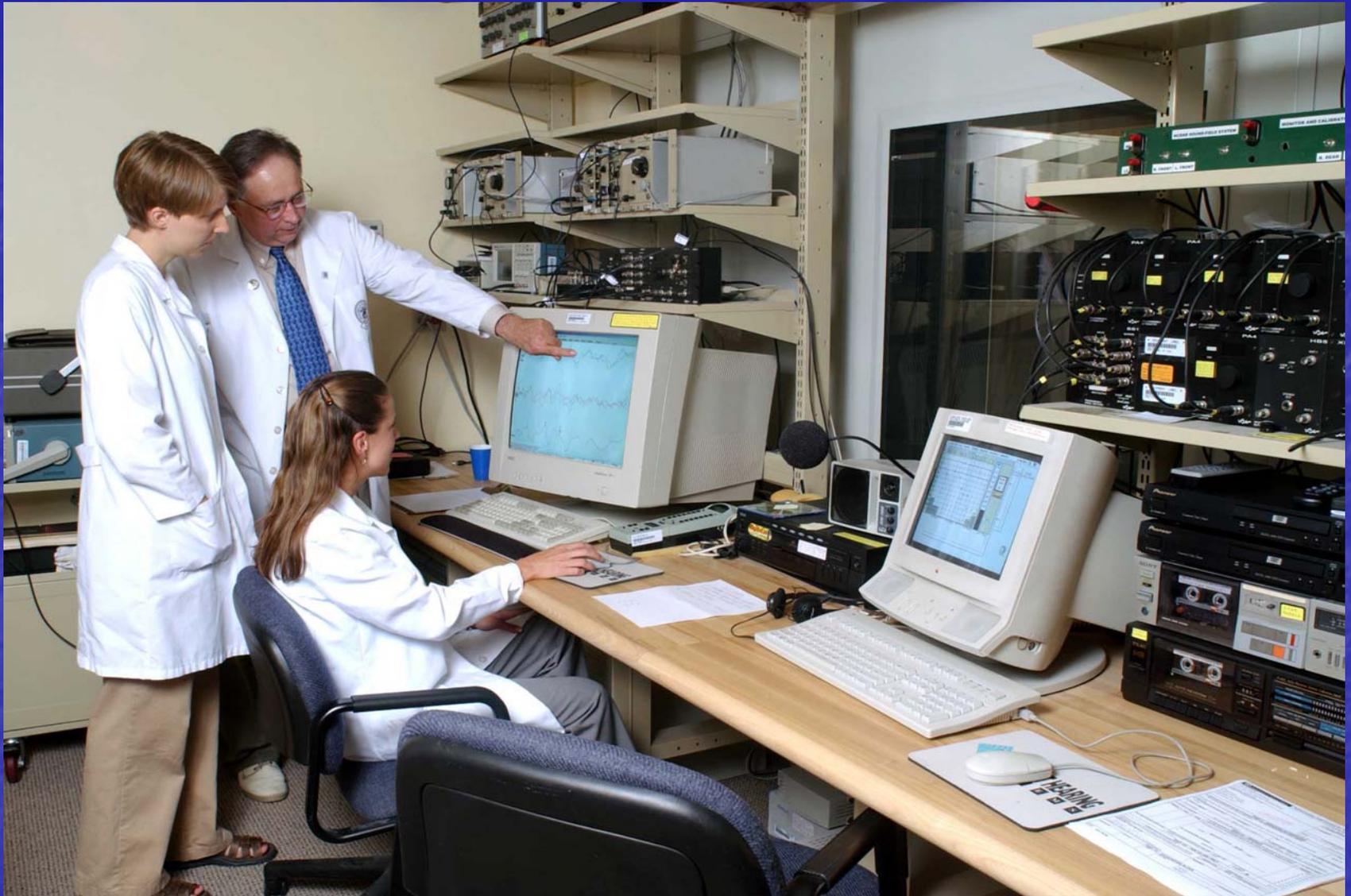
➤ RESEARCH

- Prevention of Hearing Loss, and Hearing Conservation
- Diagnosis and Assessment
- Rehabilitation Strategies, Devices and Techniques

Anechoic Chamber



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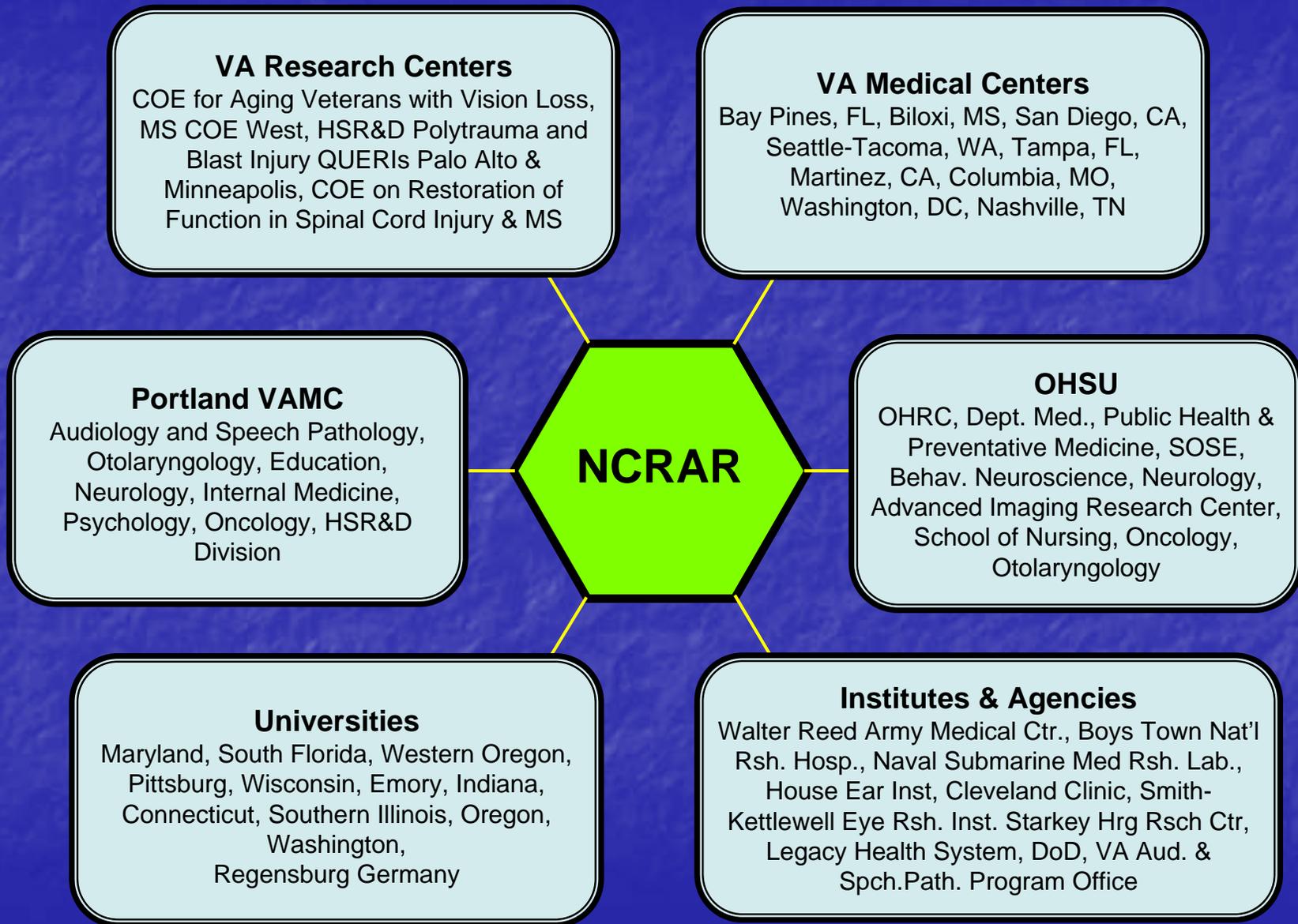
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Components

➤ **COLLABORATION**

- **VA Clinicians**
- **VA Researchers**
- **DoD**
- **Universities**
- **Industry**

NCRAR Collaborating Sites



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Components

➤ MENTORING

- 'The next generation of auditory scientists' (post-doctoral fellows, career development candidates, career scientists, visiting scientists)
- VA clinicians who have a desire to participate in conducting research
- Au.D. students

Components

➤ EDUCATION

- Professionals
- Students
- Veterans
- Community

Education

- Seminar series through 10/07
- In process of planning live V-Tel broadcasts

Upcoming speakers:

George Frye

Chris Stecker

Bill Noble

Terry Chisolm

Arthur Boothroyd

Joshua Miele



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Education

➤ **NCRAR Biennial Conferences:**
Hearing Therapies for the Future
September 27th & 28th 2007

➤ **Pre-conference workshop:**
Best practices in hearing loss
prevention" Theresa Schultz Ph.D., Kyle
Dennis Ph.D. & David Chandler Ph.D.



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Education

➤ Au.D. students

- 4th year externships: a research-based clinical experience
- NIH-sponsored summer research internship experiences: four students/year over the next 5 years

Education

➤ Veterans and the Community

NCRAR Community Lecture Series:

**“Treatment for Hearing Loss and Tinnitus:
State of the Art” presented by Jim Henry
Ph.D. & Dave Lilly Ph.D.**

May 17th at Portland VAMC

Educational Materials

➤ **Brochures** (available at: www.ncrar.research.va.gov)

- *Why Can't I Understand Speech?* by Vaughan N.
- *Tips for Improving Your Listening Experience* by Lewis MS & Saunders GH.
- *Ototoxicity* by Konrad-Martin D & Fausti SA
- *What is Tinnitus?* by Henry JA, Schechter M, Zaugg T, Kaelin C, & Oliver SR. VA National Audiology Patient Education Workgroup.
- *Tools to Help with Hearing* by NCRAR and Portland VAMC Audiology & Speech Pathology Service
- *Questions and Answers About Tinnitus* by Henry JA. Posted on the VA Audiology and Speech Pathology website: www.vaww1.va.gov/audiospeech

Educational Materials

➤ Video/DVD/multimedia

“Ringing in the Ears – what can I do about it?”

by VA Audiology Patient Education Workgroup
Tinnitus Planning Committee, VISN 8 Employee
Education Service, NCRAR, Audiology and
Speech Pathology Service Program Office.

Has been disseminated to VA Audiology clinics
(NCRAR has extra copies available)

Educational Materials

➤ Training Programs/workshops

- Ototoxicity workshops at NCRAR and national meetings
- Tinnitus Training at VA Medical Centers and national meetings

NCRAR welcomes opportunities to put on other workshops as requested

Educational Materials

➤ Web-based Programs

- Online training for VA audiologists to learn tinnitus management techniques *by Jim Henry & Paula Myers*
- VA Audiology Tutorial for Interdisciplinary Online Learning *by Henry JA, Schechter MA, Zaugg TL, Dennis KC. Lesson 8: Tinnitus. In Veterans Health Initiative Hearing Impairment module.*
- Hearing Loss Prevention Program multimedia presentation for veterans *by Gaby Saunders & Susan Griest. Components: education, video, interactive, automated hearing test*



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Research Mentoring

➤ Pilot funding available

Will be for new VA clinician researchers to conduct mentored collaborative studies with NCRAR investigators

Future Research Directions

- Rehabilitation of blast-related and noise-induced auditory injuries
- Rehabilitation strategies based on neural plasticity of the central auditory system
- Rehabilitation of dual-sensory impairment
- Telehealth and web-based audiological services and programs
- Translational Hearing Research Initiatives
- Veterans Hearing Loss Prevention Program

NCRAR

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NCRAR and VA Audiology

- Support pilot studies
- Facilitate generation of research protocols with other VAs
- Mentor new VA researchers
- Continue biennial international conference series
- Expand NCRAR seminar series
- Continue to develop professional education materials and tools

NCRAR and AVAA

➤ **Input from AVAA to**

- **identify directions for future NCRAR research and development**
- **maximize benefit NCRAR can provide for VA Audiology Program**

Contact Information

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NCRAR Staff



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Questions and Answers



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