John D. Boughter Jr., PhD

EDUCATION:
1985 – 1989 Binghamton University (NY), Psychology, B.A.
1989 – 1992 Florida State University, Exp. Psychology, M.S.
1992 – 1995 Florida State University, Neuroscience, Ph.D.
1996 – 1999 Univ. Maryland School of Medicine, Anatomy & Neurobiology, Postdoc

FACULTY APPOINTMENTS:
2000 – 2002 Research Assistant Professor, University of Maryland School of Medicine.
2002 – 2008 Assistant Professor, Department of Anatomy & Neurobiology, University of Tennessee Health Science Center.
2008 – 2019 Associate Professor, Department of Anatomy & Neurobiology, University of Tennessee Health Science Center.
2010 – 2019 Associate Professor, Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery, University of Tennessee Health Science Center (adjunct appointment).
2019 – present: Professor, Department of Anatomy & Neurobiology, University of Tennessee Health Science Center.
2019 – present: Professor, Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery, University of Tennessee Health Science Center (adjunct appointment).

RESEARCH INTERESTS: I study the organization of pathways in the brain that contribute to sensory processing, especially focused on the sense of taste, which plays a crucial role in eating behaviors. Currently, my lab uses neuroanatomical and calcium imagining approaches to map and characterize neural circuits in the mouse brain that underlie taste processing. I also have a broad range of research interests pertaining to Otolaryngology. Recent projects, in collaboration with Otolaryngology faculty and resident, included the analysis of quality-of-life measures in patients before and following thyroidectomy, and characterizing the effect of an angiogenesis-blocking drug on thyroid volume and vasculature in a rat model (Smith et al., 2018).

TEACHING: I teach Head and Neck Anatomy to first-year medical students at UTHSC, including several lectures and 4 weeks of body dissection lab. In my lectures, I use a mixture of didactic content, active learning of nervous pathways, and clinical correlations. I also teach in several Graduate courses, including Behavioral Neuroscience (Course Director), and Functional Neuroanatomy.