

## FROM THE DIRECTORS' OFFICE WELCOME TO VOX

---

Dear Friends:

We are pleased to bring you the very first issue of *Vox*: a publication of the Vanderbilt Bill Wilkerson Center for Otolaryngology and Communication Sciences. *Vox* will bring you news of our research, people, and programs as we pursue our mission of being the first fully integrated educational, research and patient care center in the country dedicated to serving individuals with otolaryngologic and communicative disorders.

This issue focuses on how our new building, now a year old, has brought us together as a team and helped us better our research and service abilities. You will learn more about our brain mapping lab, new diagnostic procedures in the Voice Center, innovative research in cochlear implant surgery, and the wonderful programs at the Mama Lere Hearing School at Vanderbilt.

Why *Vox*? *Vox* is Latin for voice, sound, language and tone. *Vox* represents much of the wide array of subspecialties at work at the Vanderbilt Bill Wilkerson Center. More than that, *Vox* will be the voice of the Center, keeping you in touch with our pursuits and accomplishments into the future.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Ossoff, D.M.D., M.D.  
*Director*

Fred H. Bess, Ph.D.  
*Associate Director*

*Vanderbilt Bill Wilkerson Center for Otolaryngology and Speech Sciences*

The new Vanderbilt Bill Wilkerson Center for Otolaryngology and Communication Sciences occupies the top five floors of Medical Center East – South Tower. The clinics, which had been scattered across campus, finished moving in together almost a year ago. Every day, the clinicians and researchers find more ways that the synergies created by the new building are helping them provide better patient care and discover new frontiers in science. The following profiles are just a snapshot of the many fascinating new arenas that have opened up in the past year