# Monthly Neuro Seminar Series

*Fall 2023*


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## Neural crest and taste bud development

Taste bud, the sensory organ for taste, is a cluster of 50–100 specialized cells that are classified into four types: glial-like type I, receptor cells type II, and neuronal-like type III and basal type IV. Taste bud cells have a short lifespan and undergo continuous renewal. Knowledge of the sources of taste cell progenitors and the molecular regulation in taste cell differentiation is beneficial to understanding the causes of taste dysfunctions and developing therapeutics for the treatments. The peripheral nervous system is primarily derived from the neural crest. In the past several years, my lab has investigated the contribution of the neural crest to taste buds. We found that neural crest cells do not migrate and differentiate to taste bud cells. However, the neural crest-derived mesenchymal cells control taste bud cell differentiation through molecular signaling to govern the production of a large group of secretory proteins.

Tuesday, September 5
4:00 PM
Coverdell S175

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