

From - the - Dean

Our respiratory care degree program was named a recipient of the Apex recognition award by the American Association for Respiratory Care. This recognizes a commitment to excellence in professional development and the education of respiratory therapists to deliver the highest quality of care and elevate the profession. Across the nation, only 11 others earned this prestigious honor for 2024-2025. Congratulations.

Anna Zanotto, Ph.D., an instructor in the Department of Occupational Therapy Education, delivered [a webinar](#) for Braintrust, a United Kingdom-based charity supporting people affected by a brain tumor. Titled "Make Them Wonder How You Smile – Living with a Brain Tumour," she shared the findings of her research into coping with a diagnosis. Nice work.

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation selected current speech-language pathology doctoral student **Olivia Boorom** to receive a student research grant in early childhood language development. The proposal was titled "Understanding How Caregiver Behavior Shapes Reciprocal Communication in Nonspeaking Autistic Children." Great job.

The School of Health Professions was well represented in "In Case You Missed It: A Look Back at 2023," [a recent article](#) from KU Medical Center News. It highlights our impressive overall growth in research funding, studies on the effects of the ketogenic diet by our faculty in the Department of Dietetics and Nutrition, and a recent grant awarded to train more pulmonary rehabilitation specialists for rural parts of the state of Kansas.

Hope you have a wonderful holiday break, please be safe and thank you for all that you do.



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