3:30 pm  Keynote Address
Dr. David Argyle,
BVMS, PhD, DECVIM-CA (Oncology) MRCVS
William Dick Professor of Veterinary Clinical Studies
Dean of Veterinary Medicine
University of Edinburgh
RCVS/European Specialist in Veterinary Oncology
Diplomate of the European College of Internal Medicine in Oncology
Co-Scientific Editor of the Journal of Veterinary and Comparative Oncology

“A funny thing happened to me on the way to malignancy: Can comparative biology inform rational cancer drug development?”

Despite an exponential growth in our understanding of cancer biology, for some cancers such as pancreas and gastric cancer, survival times have not improved in the last 100 years. Fundamental studies on tumor cell heterogeneity, cancer stem cells, metastasis programs and cellular targets have demonstrated significant promise in identifying therapeutic targets. Although several molecularly targeted drugs have entered clinical trials, failure to respond and the development of drug resistance remains a significant problem. In addition, we still rely on quite rigid linear drug testing pathways to move promise into clinical reality, a situation that is becoming unsustainable. In this lecture, we will explore how our changed understanding of classical cancer biology needs to inform drug development pathways. In this we will look at advances in comparative cancer and stem cell biology in dogs and cats, and how studies on naturally occurring malignancies in our domestic species may open up new clinical avenues in both human and veterinary oncology.

David Argyle graduated from the University of Glasgow. After a period in practice he returned to Glasgow to complete a PhD in Oncology/Immunology. He was senior lecturer in clinical oncology at Glasgow until 2002 when he became head of veterinary oncology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA. In 2005 he returned to Edinburgh University to the William Dick Chair of Veterinary Clinical Studies. In 2009 he became the dean for postgraduate research and international for both medicine and veterinary medicine. In 2011 he was appointed as Head of School and Dean for the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies. He in an RCVS/European specialist in Veterinary Oncology, Diplomate of the European College of Internal Medicine in Oncology and co-scientific editor of the Journal of Veterinary and Comparative Oncology. His major research interests are cancer and stem cell biology.

Details of the symposium schedule are available at the conference website: www.ocv.uoguelph.ca/icci/symposia/2013
Abstract deadline is May 13 and pre-registration deadline is May 17.
All members of the university community interested in cancer research are invited to attend.