



Don Knowles

Earned a DVM from the University of Illinois in 1982, a PhD from Washington State University in 1988 and Board Certification in Veterinary Pathology in 1990. Don is the current Research Leader of the Animal Disease Research Unit (ADRU), of ARS-USDA, Location Coordinator for USDA activities at Washington State University, Pullman Campus, and an Affiliate Professor within the Department of Veterinary Microbiology and Pathology and the Paul G. Allen School for Global Animal Health, College of Veterinary Medicine, WSU. He is designated as an Office of International Epizootics (OIE) Expert for equine piroplasmiasis and small ruminant (sheep and goat) lentiviruses and was inducted into the USDA Research Hall of Fame in 2012. He serves as an infectious disease consultant for the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, the American Horse Council, the American Goat Federation and the American Sheep Industry. Research of ADRU and WSU is collaborative and focused on broadening the synergistic infectious disease missions of the two units. The ADRU is co-housed and fully integrated into the WSU College of Veterinary Medicine. Significantly, ADRU plays an active role in supporting WSU's graduate education mission and supports DVMs through WSU that are earning their PhDs in infectious disease biology. Don was recently selected as the U.S. representative to the Research Committee of the Global Strategic Alliances for the Coordination of Research on the Major Infectious Diseases of Animals and Zoonoses (STAR-IDAZ) International Research Consortium (IRC). The ADRU's current research mission includes solving agricultural related problems associated with the following infectious diseases: prion based scrapie and chronic wasting disease (transmissible spongiform encephalopathies), malignant catarrhal fever virus, bovine and equine babesiosis, bovine anaplasmosis, equine theileriosis and ovine progressive pneumonia virus. A major focus of ADRU is diseases impacting U.S. trade. Recent additions to ADRU's problem solving efforts is defining infectious disease risk at the wildlife – domestic animal interface and vaccine development for *Theileria parva*, a tick-borne pathogen that causes East Coast Fever. Wildlife – domestic animal infectious disease interface issues threaten grazing in the Western U.S. and therefore a component of the food supply. East Coast Fever is an economically devastating infectious disease of cattle in Africa and represents a major ongoing threat to global food security. ADRU's funding base includes USDA (intramural and extramural), USAID, NIH and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.