

As National Program Leader (NPL) for Veterinary Science for the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), I am one of a team of NPLs providing agency leadership in animal production and health sciences. I am responsible for overall planning, development, evaluation and management of related extension, education and research programs, serve as leader of the Section 1433 Animal Health and Disease Research funding program, the Food Animal Residue and Depletion Program (FARAD), the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP), and co-leader of the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN). In these capacities I broadly promote development of improved national animal disease biosecurity programs, and initiate and facilitate networks, liaisons and collaborations among internal and external high-level partners and stakeholders. I received a Bachelor's degree (1975) in Animal Science and Zoology from the University of Rhode Island, an MS degree (1978) in cell biology from the University of Illinois-Chicago, and DVM (1984) and PhD (1989) degrees from the University of Illinois-Urbana. My PhD studies focused on reproductive pathology in cattle and subsequent postdoctoral studies at Case Western Reserve University (Cleveland, Ohio) addressed comparative molecular endocrinology of gonadotropin hormones. After 20 years in academia, serving on the veterinary faculties of the Universities of Illinois (1989-98) and Nebraska (1998-2001), I joined the FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM) Antimicrobial Food Safety and Toxicology Technical Section teams from 2001-2005. In 2005, I moved to my current post at USDA NIFA.



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