

**JOHN ROBERTSON VMD PHD (PATHOLOGY)**  
**CHIEF SCIENCE OFFICER**



Dr. Robertson's career in science began when he received his BS in Biology from the State University of New York at Stony Brook in 1969. He then worked as the Supervisor of Clinical Services at the Division of Laboratory Animal Medicine, University of Rochester.

In 1972 he was admitted to the dual doctoral degree program (Veterinary Medicine/Pathology) at the University of Pennsylvania. He was awarded his VMD (Magna Cum Laude) in 1976 and his MS (1973) and PhD in Comparative Medical Pathology in 1977. As part of his training, he studied human kidney and pancreatic islet transplantation, under the direction of Drs. Clyde Barker and Leonard Perloff at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

After graduation, Dr. Robertson was employed in the pharmaceutical industry as Senior Research Scientist, Pre-Clinical Drug Safety Evaluation, at Hoechst-Roussel (Aventis) Pharmaceuticals and at ICI Americas (Astra Zeneca) Pharmaceuticals. Here, he studied the effects of novel pharmaceuticals and chemicals on translational animal safety models, before these compounds were used as new drugs for treating human diseases. He was a lead safety investigator for cardiorenal drugs (diuretics and anti-hypertensive agents) and gastroprotectant drugs (histamine receptor antagonists). As part of his duties, he managed professional staffs of 6 to 40 people.

During his employment in the corporate world, he maintained his interest in academic medicine, with adjunct faculty appointments in Small Animal Internal Medicine (Nephrology) and Pathology at the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania (1980-89). Dr. Robertson was part of a team of veterinary research investigators who first described the genetic and clinical aspects of spontaneous hypertension in dogs and who clarified the pathogenesis of renal dysfunction associated with canine pyometra. In 1989, he entered the academic world on a full-time basis at the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Tech (VT), where he rose to the rank of Full Professor with Tenure. He had major teaching responsibilities in the areas of pathology, physiology and oncology. He served as the Director of the Center of Comparative Oncology from its inception in 2001. During his career at VT, he published over 130 books, book chapters, clinical and research papers. With his research team, he secured over \$2.9M in research funding. He maintained joint research faculty appointments in Radiation Oncology, Wake Forest University Comprehensive Cancer Center and in the Department of Basic Sciences, Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine, beginning in 2006 and 2009, respectively.

Dr. Robertson has been a consultant for ten pharmaceutical and medical device companies, as well as for the Food and Drug Administration (CDER, CFSAN), Environmental Protection Agency, and for Health Canada. He served as both the Secretary-Treasurer and President of the Society of Toxicologic Pathology and as a member of the Editorial Board of the journal, Toxicologic Pathology.

Since joining the BioMed Innovations/Smart Perfusion team, he has been responsible for research proving the biocompatibility of complex nanocarbon assemblies, as well as materially assisting in the design and testing of a range of biomedical devices used to treat serious human diseases caused by organ failure.