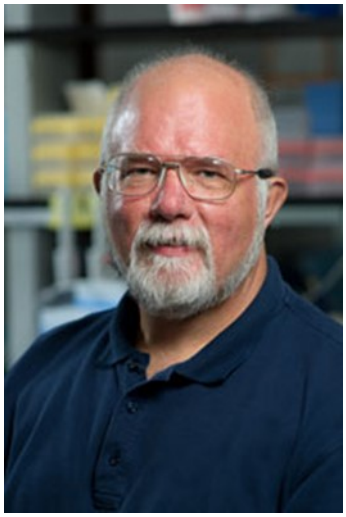
CBR

The Centre for Blood Research Seminar Series

Wednesday, May 7th, 2014
LSC 3 - Life Sciences Centre
2350 Health Sciences Mall
12-1pm



Dr. Russell Tracy

The University of Vermont
Department of Pathology

"Inflammation, Adaptive Immunity and Aging: an Epidemiological Perspective"

Over the last 20 years, it has become clear that an inflammatory response to a chronic stimulation is a major part atherosclerosis, and most (all?) other chronic diseases of aging. In fact, the aging process itself, characterized in part by slow, progressive loss of end-organ function, likely contains a chronic low-level inflammatory component. We have also come to realize that "inflammation" is a fundamental system with deep connections to many other systems such as adaptive immunity, coagulation and fibrinolysis, oxidative stress and response, etc. Using epidemiological studies as our main platform, we propose a model whereby the slow, progressive loss of adaptive immune function with age leads to increased reliance on innate immunity and inflammation, thereby accelerating both the underlying aging process and the chronic diseases of aging.