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**Professor Colin R. Howard**, DSc, PhD, FRCPath, FIBiol

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***Career Profile***

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I am presently a Vice-Principal (Pro-Vice Chancellor status) of the Royal Veterinary College (RVC), a constituent college of the University of London. My current remit includes developing overseas collaborations in line with the corporate international objectives of the RVC.

With over 35 years experience as an academic scientist and adviser to the vaccine manufacturing industry and the World Health Organisation, I have held senior management positions in both the academic and commercial sectors. My specific interests include the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of infectious diseases, latterly focusing on animal diseases transmissible to humans. I have collaborated and taught in these areas on all five continents. In particular, I have been closely involved with biocontainment and security issues for many years and in this context I am a member of the UK Advisory Committee on Dangerous Pathogens. I have direct experience of levels 3 and 4 containment of dangerous pathogens and am presently advising the Chinese and Hong Kong Governments on new facilities for the safe containment of SARS and avian influenza.

In parallel with my career as an academic scientist, I have successfully forged links between universities and the business community, most notably by establishing the London BioScience Innovation Centre, the first incubator for life science companies originating in London's universities and institutes. My assignments with the World Health organisation have included conducting site visits to various commercial production facilities in Europe, the US and Asia.

**Royal Veterinary College** **2002-**  
***Vice-Principal for Strategic Development and Professor of Veterinary Microbiology***

I am presently responsible for business development in the College and all associated aspects of commercialising the intellectual property of the RVC. Over the

last 5 years, a business development team has been assembled of key professionals with responsibility for contracts, patents, and spin-out activities. The teaching of entrepreneurship has been introduced through our links with Simfonec, a Science Enterprise Centre led by Cass Business School of City University.

**Royal Veterinary College** **1991-2002**  
*Head of Department (1991-1997) and Vice-Principal for Research (1997-2002)*

During my tenure as Head of the Department of Pathology and Infectious Diseases, the department was rejuvenated and biocontainment facilities expanded, culminating in the opening of the Mill Reef Pathology Block, a state-of-the-art facilities for animal pathology.

As Vice-Principal for Research, I was responsible for directing the College's research effort and had responsibility for major funding initiatives. I successfully led the College to a grade 5 in the Research Assessment Exercise carried out in 2001.

**London BioScience Innovation Centre (LBIC)** **2001-**  
*Chief Executive and Director*

This project was begun in November 2000 with seed funding from the Royal Veterinary College. Three phases have now been completed, having secured £4.3m of funding from the London Development Agency and £2.9m from the Royal Bank of Scotland. LBIC is recognised as being at the forefront of the drive to encourage innovation in London's life sciences community.

**Proteus Molecular Design Limited** **1991-1994**  
*Associate Director*

I had a close involvement with the management of the company research programme directed towards the design of novel vaccines directed against hepatitis B and C. I also advised on other research programmes being undertaken by Proteus. This led me to have a full appreciation of the issues facing the private sector in developing and manufacturing new biological products.

**London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine** **1971-1991**  
*Academic promotions to Professor of Virology (1990)*

During my time at the LSHTM I instigated and organised new courses for the teaching of virology and became Director, WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research in Viral Hepatitis. I also served as Commercial Development Officer, reporting to the Dean. My work also brought me into contact with scientists at Merck & Co, USA with whom we had regular contact with respect to Merck's hepatitis vaccine programme.

In parallel with these activities I developed a second strand of research activity focusing on animal diseases of medical importance. In addition to charitable and research council funding, I received funding from the Ministry of Defence for this work and for giving advice on related issues.

### ***Other Activities and Appointments***

**Scripps Clinic Research Institute, La Jolla, USA** **1981-1982**  
*Visiting Investigator*

Having spent a sabbatical year in the laboratories of Michael Oldstone and Michael Buchmeier, I was subsequently appointed a Visiting Investigator from 1983 to 1986. My sabbatical year coincided with the substantial investment by Johnson & Johnson in the research facilities of Scripps. He remains associated with colleagues at Scripps through his continuing interests in emerging and zoonotic diseases.

**World Health Organisation** **1991-1997**  
*Temporary Adviser*

During this period I co-chaired the Task Force for Controlled Release Vaccines on behalf of the Transdisease Vaccinology Steering Committee. This brought me into regular contact through site visits with companies specialising in drug delivery and also the USA, Dutch and UK regulatory authorities.

I have on occasion acted as a specialist adviser and scientific expert to the legal profession in the context of intellectual property disputes and patent claims.

### ***Other Directorships and Trusteeships***

I serve as a full member of the HSE/DoH/DEFRA Advisory Committee on Dangerous Pathogens. I have recently joined the TSE Working Group of this committee.

I am a Director of Bloomsbury BioSeed Fund Ltd, a University Seed Fund established with OST support and led by University College London. I represent the non-UCL partners on the board and take an active role in monitoring investments and reviewing the activities of the fund manager.

I act as a trustee and Honorary Treasurer of The Great Britain China Educational Trust. The Trust serves to promote educational exchange between China and the UK, primarily by awarding small grants to Chinese students undertaking postgraduate research in the UK and grants for language training aimed at UK academics wishing to work in China.

Recently I have been appointed a Trustee for the Charitable Foundation established by the Chinese author Han SuYin. The trust exists to offer specialised postgraduate training for Chinese medical doctors and environmental scientists at universities in the UK and elsewhere in Europe.

I also serve as Deputy Chairman of the Innovation China-UK, a UK government initiative to encourage business development and technology transfer between the academic and business communities in China and the UK.

### ***Education and Memberships***

DSc Birmingham University	1984
PhD London University	1976
MSc Birmingham University	1971
BSc Durham University	1970
Royal College of Pathologists (Fellow)	1991
Institute of Biology (Fellow)	1985
Diploma, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine	2001

### ***Awards and Honours***

London Biotechnology Network: Entrepreneur of the Year (2001)  
Royal Veterinary College: Bett's Prize (2002)  
Visiting Senior Scholar, Fudan University, Shanghai (2008)

### ***Published Works***

I have published continuously since 1972. To date, I have written 5 books, published 99 peer-reviewed scientific papers in international journals, and 70 reviews and book chapters. A full list is available on request.

Last updated: 1<sup>st</sup> March 2008.