Prof. Roger Nicoll Biography

Roger Nicoll grew up in Princeton, New Jersey, attended Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisc., and obtained his MD, with honors, from the University of Rochester School of Medicine in 1968. Following a medical internship at the University of Chicago he moved to the National Institutes of Health in Washington, DC. From 1973-1975 he worked with Nobel laureate Sir John Eccles in Buffalo, New York. In 1975 he moved to the University of California at San Francisco and is currently a Professor in the Department of Cellular and Molecular Pharmacology. Nicoll’s research focuses on understanding how neurons in the brain talk to each other and also on the cellular basis for learning and memory. For his accomplishments Nicoll has received several awards including the Borden Award for the best research completed during medical school, a Javits Award, the Alden Spencer Award, the Luigi Galvani Award, 2 NIH Career Development Awards, 3 NIH MERIT Awards, election to the National Academy of Sciences in 1994, election to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1999, and selected for the Morris Herzstein endowed Chair in 1999. In 2006 he was awarded the Perl/UNC Neuroscience Award and the Peter Gruber Foundation Prize for outstanding achievement in neuroscience. In 2008 he received the J. Allyn Taylor International Prize in Medicine.