

Gillian Jane McLellan, BVMS, PhD, DipACVO, DipECVO, DVOphtthal, FARVO, MRCVS is a Professor of Comparative Ophthalmology and Chair of the Department of Surgical Sciences at the University of Wisconsin–Madison School of Veterinary Medicine. She also holds a joint executive appointment in the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences at the UW School of Medicine and Public Health.

Dr. McLellan earned her BVMS degree from Glasgow University Veterinary School in 1990. She worked in general veterinary practice in the North of England for three years, obtaining a Certificate in Veterinary Ophthalmology from the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS; 1993). She pursued clinical and research training in Ophthalmology and Cell Biology, respectively, at the Royal Veterinary College (UK) and was awarded a PhD by the University of London in 2000. She holds the RCVS Diploma in Veterinary Ophthalmology and is a Diplomate of both the European and American Colleges of Veterinary Ophthalmologists.

Her academic career spans positions as Lecturer at the Royal Veterinary College (UK) and UC, Davis; Assistant Professor at Iowa State University, and faculty roles at UW–Madison since 2008. She was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure in 2018 and to full Professor in 2022 and has served as Department Chair since 2021. Dr. McLellan has held leadership roles in major professional organizations, including serving as President of the European College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists (2012–2014), Chair of the ARVO Animals in Research Committee (2019–2021), and Board Member of the Vision for Animals Foundation (2018–2024). She is a Fellow of ARVO and the Big Ten Academic Alliance Department Executive Officers Program. Honors include the Zoetis Award for Veterinary Research Excellence (2022) and the Tim and Nancy Speaker Chair in Canine Health (2020–2027).

An internationally recognized clinician-scientist, Dr. McLellan's research focuses on glaucoma and neurodegeneration. She has secured substantial and sustained extramural funding, and has a strong publication record. Her work has advanced understanding of glaucoma in people and animals, and she co-directs the Animal Models and Organ Culture Module of UW's NIH-funded Core Grant for Vision Research. She is widely sought as an invited speaker and has a long track record of service on grant review panels and editorial boards. She has mentored and advanced the careers of diverse students, trainees and junior faculty, many of whom now hold academic and clinical leadership positions, in research and health sciences in the USA and internationally.