

## Presentation of Dr. Rick Johnson

Dr. Rick Johnson is a Professor of Veterinary Anatomy and Neuroscience at the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine. He received his anatomical and neuroscience training at the University of California, Davis, School of Veterinary Medicine. He teaches a number of courses at the University of Florida, including Equine Anatomy, Equine Lameness and Imaging, and Veterinary Neuroscience. His expertise area is primarily the peripheral nerves of domesticated animals (large and small animals), in addition to primates and humans, and how these sensory and motor neurons interact with central and peripheral neural circuits and reflexes. His research investigations, in animal models, include how somatic and visceral neural circuits are affected by spinal cord/peripheral nerve traumatic injury or pathology. His expertise/interests includes the autonomic nervous system and how it interconnects peripheral organs with the brain/spinal cord via viscerosomatic neurons. Current projects include investigations of the sensory innervation of the vasculature, fascia, and specialized “affective touch” receptors in the skin.