



Dr. Jon Oatley is the Associate Dean for Research, Director of the Functional Genomics Initiative, and a tenured Professor in the School of Molecular Biosciences at Washington State University. Dr. Oatley received a Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Sciences from the University of Nevada-Reno, a Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degree from Washington State University, completed a Postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania, and has been a principal investigator since 2007. Over the course of two decades, Dr. Oatley's research has focused on understanding how germ cells develop which are the eternal cellular link between generations. Because they are the only cell type in the body that provides genetic information to the next generation, germ cells drive traits, diversity, and continuity of all animals including humans. Dr. Oatley's research also focuses on engineering the genetics of farm animals and developing advanced reproductive technologies to impact the efficiency by which the expanding global human population will be fed in coming decades. Dr. Oatley has published more than 85 scholarly works in the areas of germ cell biology and animal genetic engineering and has been awarded multiple grants to pursue these lines of research from the NIH and USDA-NIFA. His program is one of the few around the world to have developed gene editing applications in livestock and to-date they have generated gene edited pigs, cattle, and goats. His Surrogate Sires technology that utilizes CRISPR-Cas9 based gene editing has the potential to revolutionize the livestock breeding industry and impact the genetic makeup of food animal populations all over the world. His research accomplishments have been recognized with numerous awards from professional scientific societies and he is a recognized voice for the application of biotechnology in food animal production. As a principal investigator and director of centers at a major research university, he has managed large teams of researchers that includes formal training of graduate students and postdocs and technical staff of multiple research service core labs. Over the last eight years as Director of the Center for Reproductive Biology and Functional Genomics Initiative at Washington State University, Dr. Oatley has managed a large multi-million-dollar program that serves the research interests of over 70 affiliated investigators and includes the direct oversight of four research service core labs covering the areas of genomics, single cell analysis, gene editing, and animal production. As the Associate Dean for Research in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Washington State University, Dr. Oatley oversees a diverse basic, applied, and clinical research enterprise comprised of 120 faculty across five departments that together garner over \$40 million in extramural funding per year. Beyond the academic world, Dr. Oatley has worked with the FDA, AAVMC, and APLU in workshops and task forces to help shape policies on gene editing of livestock.