

Curriculum Vitae



Robertson McClung

Robertson McClung is Professor of Biological Sciences at Dartmouth College. He earned his bachelor's degree in biology at Queen's University in 1976 and his M.Sc. in biology from Dalhousie University in 1979. His Ph.D. (1986) is from Michigan State University where he studied the symbiosis between nitrogen-fixing bacteria and soybeans. This interaction allows the plants to grow in the absence of nitrogenous fertilizer and is of considerable agronomic significance, especially in the developing world. McClung came to Dartmouth in 1986 to conduct postdoctoral research with Jay C. Dunlap in the Biochemistry Department of Dartmouth Medical School. There he studied circadian rhythms in the model fungus, *Neurospora crassa*, using a combination of genetic and molecular biological techniques. In 1988 took a faculty position in the Dep. of Biological Sciences, where he has moved through the ranks, becoming full professor in 2001 and, in 2010, the Patricia F. and William B. Hale 1944 Professor in the Arts and Sciences. He served as Associate Dean for the Sciences. His research focuses on the basis of endogenous biological clocks, now emphasizing the model plant, *Arabidopsis thaliana*. Because plants are closely related, it is quite likely that understanding derived from *Arabidopsis* studies will be readily transferred to agronomically important species. In the context of climate change and the need to exploit increasingly marginal habitats, fuller understanding of clock mechanism may offer strategies to improve crop productivity. He has been awarded grants from the National Science Foundation to expand his research into the crop plant, *Brassica rapa*.

Speaker at:

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