The research focus of the Cardin Lab is to understand the virus-host interactions that are important for CMV pathogenesis and immunological control of long term latent CMV infection. CMV encodes viral homologs to host proteins (such as IL-10, TNF, chemokine receptors) that interfere with the host immune response by immune evasion or by mimicry. Understanding the advantages provided by 'hijacking' of host proteins by CMV will lead to the development of effective vaccine strategies. Dr. Cardin received her AB in 1983 from Washington University in St. Louis and her PhD from LSU in 1989. She joined LSU SVM having trained in laboratories at Tulane, LSU, Stanford, and St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, where she was in the laboratory of Peter Doherty, DVM, the only veterinarian who is also a Nobel Laureate. Before coming to LSU, she served on the faculty in the Division of Infectious Diseases at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.