SDCL Director Bestowed with Great Honour

Dr. Paul Levett, Assistant Clinical Director, Saskatchewan Disease Control Laboratory, recently returned from a trip to the UK, where he graduated with a prestigious DSc degree from the University of Surrey. The DSc is the highest doctorate awarded by universities in the UK and is "awarded only for published work of an exceptional standard containing original contributions to the advancement of knowledge and learning which has given the candidate international distinction in their field of study." (University of London website)

The degree was awarded after examination of Dr. Levett’s published research work in the field of clinical and public health microbiology, specifically in the areas of leptospirosis (a zoonosis that is common in the tropics but occurs worldwide), anaerobic infections (primarily C. difficile) and the application of molecular testing to the diagnosis and epidemiology of communicable diseases. Paul is a former graduate of Surrey and to be considered for this award was required to present a 15,000 word commentary. His 706-page thesis contained 98 of his published research papers and book chapters.

During the citation, the University orator noted that the DSc degree is a mark of rare distinction. The University of Surrey last awarded this degree in 1997.

The graduation ceremony took place within the Guildford Cathedral, which sits on top of Stag Hill, surrounded by the university campus.

Congratulations on this grand award Paul!