

RYERSON UNIVERSITY

**THE DEPT. OF CHEMISTRY  
AND BIOLOGY**

*SUMMER 2016 COLLOQUIUM*

“The actomyosin-regulatory ROCK kinases in  
tissue homeostasis and cancer”

**By: Professor MICHAEL F. OLSON**

Cancer Research UK Beatson Institute  
Glasgow, UK

When: 12:00 PM, August 4th, 2016

Where: 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Auditorium,

Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute (209 Victoria St.)

Abstract: Actomyosin contraction is a key source of mechanical force that acts at scales ranging from the subcellular to tissue-level. The ROCK1 and ROCK2 kinases act downstream of the RhoA and RhoC GTPases to regulate actomyosin contraction through the phosphorylation of substrates that collectively promote filamentous actin stability and myosin motor activity. Recent findings on the role of ROCK signalling in promoting pancreatic cancer progression and in the inflammatory responses to liver damage will be presented in this colloquium.