CONTENTS

PREFACE

It has been nearly 10 years since work started on the first edition of this book. Ten years is a long time for just about any field of science, but especially for a fast-moving one such as marine microbial ecology. Here, finally, is the second edition.

This book is more than just a revision of the first edition which was published back in 2000. Some chapters from that edition are not repeated here, because work in those areas has slowed and the basic principles covered before have not changed. However, those topics and principles remain as important and as valid today as 10 years ago, and readers should hang onto the 2000 book (or get it if they do not have it already); much of it is still relevant. Other chapters of this book have titles similar to those in the first edition, but even in these cases, the chapters have been substantially rewritten, often by authors who have different perspectives on the topics covered previously. Finally, several chapters discuss microbes and biogeochemical processes that we were just beginning to learn about 10 years ago, and still others that we did not even know existed back then.

What remains the same is the intended audience: advanced undergraduates, beginning graduate students, and colleagues from other fields wishing to learn about microbes and the processes they mediate in marine systems. This book, aided by the first edition, is meant to be as close to a textbook as a multi-authored book can be.

I wish to thank several people who helped to get this book published. First and most importantly, I thank the chapter authors for agreeing to work on this project and also for looking over another chapter (or two) in the book. Each chapter was reviewed by another chapter author and an outsider not connected to the book. I especially want to thank Jens Boenigk, Hugh Ducklow, Pete Conway, Stefan Hulth, Rick Keil, Karin Lochte, Alison Murray, Jack Middelburg, Jarone Pinhassi, Thomas Reinthaler, Janice Thompson, Daniel Vaulot, Tracy Villareal, and Peter Williams. The anonymous reviewers (and those I've forgotten to mention by name—sorry) also deserve thanks. I greatly appreciated Dave Karl's support during a critical junction of this project, and I acknowledge the help of Karen