

Preface

The need for a cumulative subject index was recognized by the founding editors of *Methods in Enzymology* who prepared one for Volumes I through VI by weeding and interpolating from the entries that had been indexed in the individual volumes. As the series developed in number and complexity, different individuals with different backgrounds served as volume indexers. Subsequently, the series was fortunate in having Dr. Martha G. Dennis and Dr. Edward A. Dennis accept the challenge of digitizing the data available from these indexes, and this effort resulted in Volumes 33, 75, and 95, which cover Volumes 1 through 80.

Although each of these three books produced with the aid of digitization provided an appropriate cumulative index, major problems were encountered. One was time, both expensive computer time and lag time before such efforts resulted in publication. The most important difficulty was that the compilers were hampered by the lack of uniformity in the indexing of the individual volumes, resulting in the need for much hand editing to achieve a reasonable collation. The products were very decent, if uneven, indexes that also contributed to the methodology of computerized indexing, albeit with much delay and great expense.

This cumulative index was produced by the staff of Academic Press. Following a set of established guidelines, the indexers collected and compiled the entries from the individual volume indexes to produce the cumulative index. Since there is a tendency to identify specific topics and methods with particular individuals, a contributor index is included as well as the complete table of contents of each of the volumes indexed. In addition to Volume 265, the cumulative indexes in this series include Volumes 33, 75, 95, 120, 140, 175, 199, and 229.