

# ***Preface***

The highly successful meetings held at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in 1983 and 1984 on Modern Approaches to Vaccines underscored the interest in this topic, and judging from the increase in the number of participants at the meeting in 1985, there appears to be no waning of this interest. As in the previous volumes, Vaccines 86 includes papers on viruses, pathogenic bacteria, and parasites that cause important diseases. There are, however, two important additions to this volume. A complete section is devoted to a single disease, AIDS. With one of the greatest microbiological problems confronting us at this time, it was considered opportune to discuss fully the prospects for a vaccine against this disease. A section on immunology is also included because we recognize that in order to achieve optimal effectiveness of the new vaccines, we must reach a better understanding of the immunological responses that provide maximal resistance to infection and disease.

The meeting was held within 2 weeks of the deaths of three Nobel laureates, F. MacFarlane Burnet, John F. Enders, and Rodney R. Porter, whose contributions to the fields of virology and immunology laid the foundations of much of the work described here. We dedicate this volume to their memory.

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Once again, we thank Dr. James Watson for his continuing support and for making available the conference and publications facilities of Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. The meetings office staff, headed by Gladys Kist, provided invaluable assistance and we thank them for their help in organizing the meeting. We also appreciate the efforts of the publications office, in particular Nancy Ford, Dorothy Brown, and Marty McMaster, for helping to prepare this book for publication. Not least, the efficiency of Herb Parsons in helping all the speakers at the meeting to communicate their data to the participants is greatly appreciated.

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