

PREFACE

A dominant theme in microbiology for many decades has been the diversity of respiratory and energy-generating pathways. These stand in stark contrast to the 'simpler', more focused pathways that exist in higher organisms, where the general rule is that respiration is aerobic, utilising oxygen as sole terminal electron acceptor; moreover, the oxygen-reducing chemistry is generally contained in one terminal oxidase.

The area of diverse energy-yielding pathways in microbes was covered in *Advances in Microbial Physiology* Volume 61, where some of the work presented at an international symposium in Sweden was published. In the intervening years, many other reviews have appeared in this series on related topics; now Volume 68 publishes eight reviews based on talks presented at the meeting on Bacterial Electron Transfer and Its Regulation held in Vimeiro, Portugal, March 2015, and organised by Jeff Cole and Ligia Saraiva. Topics covered are aspects of anaerobic respiration, roles for iron, proteomic approaches to respiratory complexes, transmembrane signalling and interactions with extracellular redox species.

I am grateful to the many authors who contributed authoritative and fascinating accounts of their specialist research areas so promptly and efficiently and to my Elsevier colleagues for their tireless efforts.

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