

Preface

Two of our favorite quotes are “It is very easy to answer many of these fundamental biological questions; you just look at the thing!” (Richard Feynmann)^a and “Sometimes you can see a lot just by looking” (often attributed to Yogi Berra). Both are wonderfully true—in fact the history of cell biology has been punctuated by advances in microscopy and imaging that have allowed scientists to see ever more about the inner workings of the cell.

This volume of *Methods in Microbiology* is therefore dedicated to current and emerging technologies in the field of microbial imaging. The intended audience includes research scientists as well as medical and industrial professionals interested in microbes and the technologies used to understand them. We thank the authors of each chapter and Alex White, Hannah Colford, Sarah Lay, and Vignesh Tamilselvvan at Elsevier for overseeing the project.

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^aThere's plenty of room at the bottom: An invitation to enter a new field of physics, a talk to the American Physical Society Dec. 1959 published in *Caltech Engineering and Science* 23:22–36.