

Preface

The genesis of this book came from Jill Leonard, who was formerly the books editor for Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, and Virology at Elsevier Academic Press. Jill approached me after learning about my work investigating retrovirus-cell interactions and encouraged me to submit a book proposal to Elsevier. After considering her offer, I realized that a book on this topic had not been released recently, outside of conferences summaries and special issues in journals. I drafted a proposal, which was reviewed by several experts in the field. These scientists made insightful comments and suggestions for chapter topics, and overall they were quite supportive about developing the topic into a book. I was especially grateful for the constructive input from Stephen Goff, PhD, and Alan Engelman, PhD, and both of them later agreed to provide chapters. Fortunately, additional preeminent leaders in retrovirology joined the project as chapter authors, culminating in the collection of works in the book. These colleagues wrote outstanding current reviews of topics in their areas of expertise, and working with them was a pleasure. Their passion for their research is evident, and the book only became a reality because of their dedication. After Jill Leonard left Elsevier, Linda Versteeg, Senior Acquisitions Editor, took over the project leadership, and Pat Gonzales, the Editorial Project Manager, guided me through the publishing process. I am appreciative of Pat for her patience and guidance and also Mohanapriyan Rajendran, the Senior Project Manager, who pulled everything together at the end. I would like to acknowledge many mentors and colleagues who shaped my scientific development, and my students and postdoctoral fellows who developed the projects in our lab exploring how retroviruses co-opt host cell machinery during the replication cycle. I am grateful to the National Cancer Institute at the National Institutes of Health, which has supported our research for over 20 years. We also appreciate the research funding received from the Penn State College of Medicine and the Pennsylvania Department of Health. I am especially thankful for encouragement throughout the project from my husband and daughters, who have always supported my career as a physician and a scientist—they continuously inspire me with their insight, humor, and compassion.