

Preface to Volume Three of the Second Edition of *Bergey's Manual*[®] of Systematic Bacteriology

A number of important changes occurred at Bergey's Manual Trust during the preparation of this volume. In 2006, George Garrity retired from the Trust, and the Trust moved its offices from Michigan State University to the University of Georgia. We are deeply indebted to Professor Garrity, under whose supervision much of this volume was prepared. James T. Staley's wise council guided this transition until he retired from the Trust in 2008 after 32 years of service.

The officers of the Trust have also changed during this time. Barney Whitman became Treasurer and Director of the Editorial Office in 2006. Michael Goodfellow succeeded Professor Staley as Chair in 2008 and Peter Kämpfer succeeded Professor Goodfellow as Vice-Chair in 2008. The Trust was also fortunate to acquire the services of Dr Aidan Parte as Managing Editor in 2007.

Much as things have changed, prokaryotic systematics has remained a vibrant and exciting field of study, one of challenges and opportunities, great discoveries and gradual advances. To honor the leaders of our field, the Trust presented the Bergey Award in recognition of outstanding contributions to the taxonomy of prokaryotes to Jean Paul Euzéby (2005), David P. Labeda (2006), and Jürgen Wiegel (2008). In recognition of life-long contributions to the field of prokaryotic systematics, the Bergey Medal was presented to Richard W. Castenholz (2005), Kazuo Komagata (2005), Klaus P. Schaal (2006), Fergus Priest (2008), and James T. Staley (2008).

Acknowledgements

The Trust is indebted to all of the contributors and reviewers, without whom this work would not be possible. The Editors are grateful for the time and effort that each has expended on behalf of the entire scientific community. We also thank the authors for their good grace in accepting comments, criticisms, and editing of their manuscripts.

The Trust recognizes its enormous debt to Dr Aidan Parte, whose enthusiasm and professionalism have made this work possible. His expertise and good judgment have been extremely valued.

We also recognize the special efforts of Dr Jean Euzéby and Professor Aharon Oren for their assistance on the nomenclature and etymologies.

We also thank the Department of Microbiology at Michigan State University and especially Connie Williams, for her assistance in bring this volume to completion, and Walter Esselman, the Chair of the Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, who facilitated our move to the University of Georgia. We thank our current copyeditors, proofreaders and other staff, including Susan Andrews, Joanne Auger, Frances Brenner, Robert Gutman, Judy Leventhal, Linda Sanders and Travis Dean, whose hard work and attention to detail have made this volume possible. Lastly, we thank the Department of Microbiology at the University of Georgia for its assistance and encouragement in thousands of ways.

William B. (Barney) Whitman