

## PREFACE

This book actually began its life under the rather abstract title of *Core Data*. The aim of the series editors of the *Essential Data* series was to assemble together in one book the core data required by all types of cell and molecular biologists, much of which would not sit comfortably in the more specialized volumes of the *Essential Data* series. The final title of the book, *Cell and Molecular Biology*, reflects the expected audience for this book rather than any wildly optimistic hopes of covering the whole of these fields within the limited space available. We have tried to create a balance between basic information and the more specialized areas of cell and molecular biology, but in creating such a balance it is inevitable that some areas receive less attention than they merit.

As with all data books, we have relied upon input from our colleagues as to which data should be included, and a number of people have been involved in this process. However, special thanks must go to David Hames who was intimately involved in the conception of this book. Apart from helping to devise the contents and coverage of this book, David's suggested editing of the final manuscript brought the length of the book to within an acceptable size, and for this and his other help during the preparation of this book we are very grateful.

*D. Rickwood and D. Patel*

*Preface*