

Preface

Animal cell technology is a newly growing discipline of cell biology which aims not only to understand structure, function and behavior of differentiated animal cells but also to uncover their ability useful for industrial and medical purpose. The goal of animal cell technology includes clonal expansion of differentiated cells with useful ability, optimization of their culturing in industrial scale, modulation of their ability for production of pharmaceutical proteins and monoclonal antibodies. When we regard the genetic information expressed during differentiation of fertilized eggs into over 200 different cell types of adult animal bodies as our natural resources, there is vast region to be explored by animal cell technologist. Most of the genetic information is expressed during limited period of animal development, and we might have many opportunity of utilizing such genetic information by cell technology. The subjects of animal cell technology are physical, physiological and genetical modulation of animal cells for full expression of their activity of our interest.

The last nine Annual Meetings of the Japanese Association for Animal Cell Technology (JAACT) had attracted increasing number of participants. At the Tenth Meeting (JAACT'97) held in Nagoya from November 5 through 8, 1997, we had more than 60 participants from outside of Japan and 140 from Japan. We have here completed the Meeting Proceedings which contains about 60 articles. We hope that this book will help worldwide researchers to envisage the present status and future trends in animal cell technology.

The editors express their sincere gratitude to all researchers who joined the meeting, to the organizers of the Symposium Sessions, to members of the organizing committee who dedicated themselves in assuring the Meeting's success, and the graduate students of Nagoya University who supported management of the Meeting. We also thank to Nagoya Convention & Visitors Bureau and Nagoya University Foundation for the financial support.

The Editors