

Preface to the Second Edition

It is now over seven years ago since we published the first edition of our *Textbook of Structural Biology*. Our coauthor of the first edition, Jure Piskur, died prematurely in 2014 due to cancer. We very much miss his insights and skills.

The field has made very rapid and extensive progress since the first edition was released. In particular, it is becoming evident that many molecular systems are highly integrated with each other and sometimes very large assemblies are formed. This complexity is gradually emerging and accessible for structural investigations. The field of membrane proteins is making remarkable progress and is more extensively covered in this edition with its own dedicated chapter. Furthermore, we have added a chapter on carbohydrates, which is an emerging area that is deeply integrated with protein and cellular structure and function.

Given the impressive number of unique protein structures now available, it is of course impossible to cover all of these in any single volume. We have therefore tried to concentrate on the growing body of lasting knowledge of the structure and the roles of macromolecular systems.

We have received help from many colleagues who have used the first edition of the textbook for courses. In addition, we have had expert help in reviewing certain chapters. We are indebted to Prof Ulf Lindahl for expert insight into carbohydrates. Furthermore, we wish to express our thanks to Lars Erik Andreas Ehnborn and Saraboji Kadhivel for expert skills in producing parts of the illustrations. Many illustrations are produced using the program Molscrip by Per Kraulis.