

# CONTENTS

|                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| Contributors ..... | vii |
|--------------------|-----|

## **Mechanism of Depolymerization and Severing of Actin Filaments and Its Significance in Cytoskeletal Dynamics**

Shoichiro Ono

|                                                                                |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| I. Introduction .....                                                          | 1  |
| II. Proteins That Depolymerize and/or Sever Actin Filaments .....              | 2  |
| III. Cell Biological Significance of Actin Depolymerization and Severing ..... | 28 |
| IV. Concluding Remarks .....                                                   | 45 |
| References .....                                                               | 46 |

## **Biology of Polycomb and Trithorax Group Proteins**

Achim Breiling, Luca Sessa, and Valerio Orlando

|                                                                                                |     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| I. Introduction .....                                                                          | 83  |
| II. PcG, trxG, and Their Protein Complexes .....                                               | 85  |
| III. Epigenetic Regulation of Gene Expression by PcG and trxG Proteins .....                   | 90  |
| IV. Targets of Maintenance Complexes .....                                                     | 110 |
| V. Roles for PcG Complexes in DNA Methylation, X Inactivation,<br>and Genomic Imprinting ..... | 115 |
| VI. Conclusions and Perspectives .....                                                         | 118 |
| References .....                                                                               | 120 |

## Cell and Molecular Biology of Transthyretin and Thyroid Hormones

Samantha J. Richardson

|                                                                          |     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| I. Introduction.....                                                     | 138 |
| II. Transthyretin and Thyroid Hormones.....                              | 139 |
| III. Transthyretin Gene and Transthyretin Synthesis .....                | 147 |
| IV. Regulation of Transthyretin Gene.....                                | 153 |
| V. Evolution of Transthyretin Structure and Function in Vertebrates..... | 164 |
| VI. Additional Features of Transthyretins .....                          | 172 |
| VII. Concluding Remarks .....                                            | 180 |
| References .....                                                         | 183 |

## Development and Role of Tight Junctions in the Retinal Pigment Epithelium

Lawrence J. Rizzolo

|                                                                |     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| I. Introduction.....                                           | 195 |
| II. General Properties of Retinal Pigment Epithelium.....      | 197 |
| III. Protein Composition and Assembly of Tight Junctions ..... | 204 |
| IV. Tissue Interactions That Regulate Tight Junctions .....    | 216 |
| V. Concluding Remarks .....                                    | 227 |
| References .....                                               | 228 |
| Index .....                                                    | 235 |