

CONTENTS

Contributors

vii

1. The Bacterial Etiology of Preterm Birth	1
Kimberly K. Jefferson	
1. Preterm Birth and Associated Morbidity and Mortality	2
2. Intrauterine Invasion by Vaginal Bacteria	3
3. The Pathogenesis of Infectious Preterm Birth	7
4. Prevention and Treatment	14
5. Conclusion	16
Acknowledgments	16
References	17
2. The Future of Taxonomy	23
Amanda Lousie Jones	
1. Introduction	23
2. The Past	25
3. The Present	26
4. The Future	29
Acknowledgment	33
References	33
3. Mathematics Make Microbes Beautiful, Beneficial, and Bountiful	37
John R. Jungck	
1. Introduction: Bacterial "Blooms"	38
2. Counting, Measuring, and Calculating	42
3. Graphing, Mapping, and Ordering	49
4. Problem-Solving	54
5. Analysis of the "Bacterial Bonanza"	58
6. Hypothesis Testing	65
7. Modeling	68
8. Conclusion	75
Acknowledgments	75
References	76

4. Pleiomorphism in <i>Mycobacterium</i>	81
Leif A. Kirsebom, Santanu Dasgupta, and Brännvall M. Fredrik Pettersson	
1. Introduction	82
2. Morphological Variations in Bacteria	84
3. <i>Mycobacterium</i> spp.—Morphology and Pleiomorphism	91
4. Symmetric Versus Asymmetric Cell Division	94
5. Regulatory Genes and Spore Formation in the Firmicutes	97
6. Regulatory Genes Involved in the Sporulation Pathway— <i>B. subtilis</i> Versus <i>Mycobacterium</i> spp.	100
7. Domestication—"You Study What You Select For"	102
8. Concluding Remarks	103
Acknowledgments	104
References	104
5. Review: Metal-Based Nanoparticles; Size, Function, and Areas for Advancement in Applied Microbiology	113
Michael J. Sweet, Ashley Chesser, and Ian Singleton	
1. Introduction	114
2. Current Forms, Function, and Production of Commercially Synthesized Nanoparticles	117
3. Biological Synthesis of Nanoparticles (Focus on Fe and AgNPs)	120
4. Potential Molecular Genetic Manipulation of Microbes to Enhance Nanoparticle Production	132
5. Conclusion	134
Acknowledgments	134
References	134
<i>Index</i>	143
<i>Contents of Previous Volumes</i>	149