

Foreword

The papers in this book were presented at the Xth International Conference on Biological Membranes—Information and Energy Transduction in Biological Membranes—held in Crans-sur-Sierre (Valais), Switzerland, June 13–17, 1983. The topics that were covered range from bacteriorhodopsin, theory of proton conduction and pumping, proton ATPase, locomotion, phototaxis and chemotaxis in prokaryotes, acetylcholine receptor, rhodopsin membranes and cytoskeleton, to specialized transport functions. The wealth of new information, including new or refined physical techniques and their applications, attests to the vitality of this field and indicates the progress achieved in the last few years. We expect that this collection of papers will receive attention among specialists, but we also hope that this timely edition will be appreciated by biochemists, physicochemists, and molecular biologists who may not be directly engaged in research in this area, but who wish to inform themselves as to the present state of a field that has always occupied a special place in modern biology.

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