

# PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION

The wide acceptance of the first edition of *Biology: A Human Approach* has provided us with a great sense of satisfaction. We are pleased to know that the book is being used by so many students and that instructors have found our view of teaching biology in harmony with their own. Yet over the last few years, as readers have told us of their views, we knew portions of the text could be revised and improved upon. This second edition is our attempt to respond to these challenges.

The major changes in this edition have involved a condensation and simplification of the chemistry found in Part I (The Cell), the addition of a totally new chapter, Animal and Human Behavior, to Part II (The Human Organism), and the rewriting and amplification of topics that have changed markedly in the past few years (for example, genetic engineering, environmentally induced cancers, and immunology). At the end of each chapter there is a summary, a list of key words that are boldfaced and ordered as they are defined in the text, and topics for review and discussion. No chapter, figure, or figure legend in need of improvement was left untouched. At the same time, we felt that change for its own sake was not constructive; thus material that we felt was satisfactory remains unchanged.

As in the first edition, the index may also be used as a glossary. Key terms are boldfaced where they are defined in the text; the page number where their definition may be found is likewise boldfaced in the index, providing a quick and easy reference. We hope that students will find this method of indexing and the lists of key words added to the end of each chapter to be useful study aids. For example, after they read a given chapter, students may wish to run down the list of key words. If they can successfully define all key words for themselves, they are on the way to achieving a good grasp of the chapter's content. Definitions of unknown terms can be checked quickly by looking back through the chapter, since the key words are listed in order as they appear in the chapter; or definitions may be easily found by turning to the index.

We would like to thank Clay Sassaman and Charles Taylor for their assistance in updating the genetics and ecology chapters.

As before, any errors remain our own.

I.W.S.  
V.G.S.

February, 1978  
Riverside, California