
Preface

This second edition of *Neurobehavioral Genetics: Methods and Applications* is issued about 7 years after the first edition. Since its appearance in 1999, the book has been used as text material for the International Behavioral Neurogenetics Summer School (formerly the French–American Summer School). In September 2005, we held our 12th school in Moscow. This is particularly remarkable because the initial funding, provided by the Scientific Mission of the French Embassy to the U.S. in 1995, was the spark that launched this effort. We will always be thankful to Dr. Jean-Marie Guastavino, attaché for Science and Technology at that time, for arranging for the generous gift from the French government. An alumna of our third school, Dr. Yamima Osher, is author of the chapter on gene–gene interactions.

When we issued the first edition, we knew that the field was developing rapidly, and, in fact, the advances in methods and our knowledge have outstripped even our most optimistic expectations. Methods to examine gene expression, new approaches in bioinformatics, and the rapid growth in knowledge that has followed are remarkable. Major developments in the field of behavioral neurogenetics are the foundation of the Complex Traits Consortium (CTC) and the equally important International Behavioural and Neural Genetics Society (IBANGS). These new societies have provided much needed forums for examination of brain and behavior from a systems genetics perspective. There have been remarkable advances also in single-gene techniques. This second edition has been produced to highlight some of these important advances. We are particularly pleased to include a contribution by Dr. Gilbert Gottlieb, who has been an important and tough critic of behavioral genetics. Fortunately, he has always been kind to behavior geneticists!

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