

PREFACE

Going back to the dawn of light microscopy, imaging techniques have provided the opportunity for developing models of cellular function. Over the past 40 years, the availability of technology for high-resolution imaging and for evaluation of those images in live cells has extended our reach and, accordingly, our ability to understand cell function. Given the large number of choices in equipment and approaches, sorting out the best approach can be challenging, even to seasoned investigators.

The present volumes provide descriptions of methods used to image living cells, with particular reference to the technical approaches and reagents needed and approaches to selecting the best techniques. The authors explain how these methods are able to provide important biological insights in normal and pathological cells.

Authors were selected based on research contributions in the area about which they have written and based on their ability to describe their methodological contribution in a clear and reproducible way. They have been encouraged to make use of graphics, comparisons to other methods, and to provide tricks and approaches not revealed in prior publications that make it possible to adapt methods to other systems.

The editor wants to express appreciation to the contributors for providing their contributions in a timely fashion, to the senior editors for guidance, and to the staff at Academic Press for helpful input.

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