

Preface

Towards the Future of Cell Migration Research

As often stated, cellular migration is the crown achievement in biology. The chapters of this book highlight cell behavior with respect to inducing, controlling and terminating the mechanisms of cell migration. This book was only made possible because leading experts from different relevant disciplines contributed to the state of the art of this most fascinating field at the frontier of biological network research with special reference to the field of stem cells, tumor cells and immune competent cells.

Cellular migration research, which has in part been pioneered by the continuous contributions of the Institute of Immunology and Experimental Oncology, University Witten/Herdecke over the past 20 years, is now an area which is rapidly expanding and attracting an increased amount of interest among a broad audience of scientists and clinicians. Besides other cellular features such as proliferation, differentiation and apoptosis, the key elements of cellular migration are now focused on for their potentials in health and disease. Here, we provide a wide and updated view on the major mechanisms involved in cell migration.

We have been fortunate to recruit eminent scientists from around the world who give overviews in their fields of expertise. We would like to thank these distinguished authors for their contributions, which we hope will give the readers a sufficient and fascinating insight into this biological issue – cell migration.

We are grateful to Karger Publishers and to Samuel H.H. Chan, the Series Editor of the newly established and important series *Translational Research in Biomedicine* for publishing this volume. It is our belief that, at the beginning of this new series of publications, this added volume will provide interesting and thought-provoking aspects on this fundamental part of cell behavior in health and disease.

Frank Entschladen and Kurt S. Zänker, Witten
Volume Editors