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## Preface

*Viral Vectors for Gene Therapy: Methods and Protocols* consists of 30 chapters detailing the use of herpes viruses, adenoviruses, adeno-associated viruses, simple and complex retroviruses, including lentiviruses, and other virus systems for vector development and gene transfer. Chapter contributions provide perspective in the use of viral vectors for applications in the brain and in the central nervous system. *Viral Vectors for Gene Therapy: Methods and Protocols* contains step-by-step methods for successful replication of experimental procedures, and should prove useful for both experienced investigators and newcomers in the field, including those beginning graduate study or undergoing postdoctoral training. The “Notes” section contained in each chapter provides valuable troubleshooting guides to help develop working protocols for your laboratory. With *Viral Vectors for Gene Therapy: Methods and Protocols*, it has been my intent to develop a comprehensive collection of modern molecular methods for the construction, development, and use of viral vectors for gene transfer and gene therapy.

I would like to thank the many chapter authors for their contributions. They are all experts in various aspects of viral vectors, and I appreciate their efforts and hard work in developing comprehensive chapters. As editor, it has been a privilege to preview the development of *Viral Vectors for Gene Therapy: Methods and Protocols*, and to acquire insight into the various methodological approaches from the many different contributors. I would like to thank the series editor, Professor John Walker, for his guidance and help in the development of this volume, and Thomas Lanigan, President of Humana Press. I would also like to thank Danielle Mitrakul for her administrative assistance in the preparation of this volume. Danielle is deeply appreciated for her willingness to help and for her tireless work. I would also like to acknowledge the support of my laboratory members, Ying Bai and Philbert Kirigiti, and thank Dr. Tom Shearer, Associate Dean for Research, for his support of my research program. Special thanks are extended to my wife Dr. Cindy Machida, and my daughter, Cerina, for their support during the long hours involved in

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