
Preface

The collection of systems represented in *Sourcebook of Models for Biomedical Research* is an effort to reflect the diversity and utility of models that are used in biomedicine. That utility is based on the consideration that observations made in particular organisms will provide insight into the workings of other, more complex, systems. Even the cell cycle in the simple yeast cell has similarities to that in humans and regulation with similar proteins occurs.

Some models have the advantage that the reproductive, mitotic, development or aging cycles are rapid compared with those in humans; others are utilized because individual proteins may be studied in an advantageous way and that have human homologs. Other organisms are facile to grow in laboratory settings or lend themselves to convenient analyses, have defined genomes or present especially good human models of human or animal disease.

We have made an effort not to be seduced into making the entire book homage to the remarkable success of the

genomic programs, although this work is certainly well represented and indexed.

Some models have been omitted due to page limitations and we have encouraged the authors to use tables and figures to make comparisons of models so that observations not available in primary publications can become useful to the reader.

We thank Richard Lansing and the staff at Humana for guidance through the publication process.

As this book was entering production, we learned of the loss of Tom Lanigan, Sr. Tom was a leader and innovator in scientific publishing and a good friend and colleague to all in the exploratory enterprise. We dedicate this book to his memory. We will miss him greatly.

P. Michael Conn



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