

Preface

Paris is cosmopolitan city where roaring life, wonderful museums and excellent science can be found. It was during the XI IUMS conference held in this city that the *Pseudomonas* book series was first envisaged. On the first row of the auditorium sat a group of outstanding scientists in the field, who after devoting much of the valuable time, contributed in an exceptional manner to the first three volumes of the series, which saw the light simultaneously. The volumes were grouped under the generic titles of “Vol. 1. *Pseudomonas*: Genomics, Life Style and Molecular Architecture”, Vol. 2. *Pseudomonas*: Virulence and gene regulation; Vol. 3. *Pseudomonas*: Biosynthesis of Macromolecules and Molecular Metabolism.

Soon after the completion of the first three volumes, a rapid search for articles containing the word *Pseudomonas* in the title in the last 10 years produced over 6000 articles! Consequently, not all possible topics relevant to this genus were covered in the three first volumes. Since then three other volumes were published: *Pseudomonas* volume 4 edited by Roger Levesque and Juan L. Ramos that came to being with the intention of collecting some of the most relevant emerging new issues that had not been dealt with in the three previous volumes. This volume was arranged after the *Pseudomonas* meeting organized by Roger Levesque in Quebec (Canada). It dealt with various topics grouped under a common heading: “*Pseudomonas*: Molecular Biology of Emerging Issues”.

Yet the “*Pseudomonas* story” was far from complete and a new volume edited by Juan L. Ramos and Alain Filloux was deemed necessary. The fifth volume was conceived with the underlying intention of collecting new information on the genomics of saprophytic soil *Pseudomonas*, as well as on the functions related to genomic islands and was published in 2006. It was followed by volume 6 is a sequel to the story and add some other items at the request of a number of scientists and colleagues working in the field, we have collected a new set of chapters that are called on to provide further views on the biology of *Pseudomonas*.

To further update the series we have produced this new volume for the series. Chapters in *Pseudomonas* volume 7 have been grouped under the following topics: Pathogenesis, Biochemistry and Physiology, Soil Microbiology, and we have incorporated a chapter of the history of *Pseudomonas* by Bruce Holloway.

It would not be fair not to acknowledge that this seventh volume would never have seen the light if it were not for a group of outstanding scientists in the field who have produced enlightening chapters to try to complete the story that began with the six previous volumes of the series. It has been an honor for us to work with them and we truly thank them.

The review process has also been of great importance to ensure the high standards of each chapter. Renowned scientists have participated in the review, correction and editing of the chapters. Their assistance is immensely appreciated. We would like to express our most sincere gratitude to:

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Pseudomonas

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