Preface

In compiling *Epidermal Growth Factor: Methods and Protocols*, we have tried to include a wide spectrum of methods used to study this very important developmental and therapeutic target. These methods range from the study of the purified EGF receptor to complex signaling and processing networks in intact cells. Because the EGF receptor system is becoming increasingly recognized for its involvement in multiple aggressive cancers, it is also a major focus of clinical and pharmacological analyses. With this in mind, we have also incorporated a chapter on the clinical and pharmacological considerations in cancer therapy. We hope that the contributions of many of the leading experts in the field will help advance the basic and clinical research on EGF.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the authors for their contributions, without which this volume would not have been possible. We also thank Lorraine Grimsby for her administrative help in the compilation of this volume.

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