



Preface

The 10th European Bioenergetics Conference (EBEC) to be held in Göteborg, Sweden, on June 27–July 2, 1998, will be special because it is a jubilee meeting celebrating the fact that it is now 20 years since the first EBEC meeting in Urbino, Italy, in 1980. Therefore, the meeting in Göteborg will be the largest so far with 88 invited speakers covering some 20 topics, some of which have not been common in the past. Studies on structure–function relationships of proteins, e.g., membrane proteins, have always been a key area of bioenergetics. It is therefore no coincidence that of the few known structures of membrane proteins, most are involved in bioenergetically important processes. This development was recently recognized by the award of the 1997 Nobel Prize in Chemistry to P.D. Boyer, J.E. Walker and J.C. Skou for their studies on ATPases.

Other ‘new’ areas are included in the programme ranging from ‘Structure and theory formulation’ to ‘Artificial bioenergetic systems’ and ‘Genomics and bioenergetics’. It is also obvious that diseases with a bioenergetics basis receive an increasing attention and this area is also well represented. This Special Issue of BBA Bioenergetics contains short reviews by most of the invited speakers at the 10th EBEC covering key areas of bioenergetics. These Special Issues serve as valuable and popular sources of up-to-date information for all categories of scientists in the field of bioenergetics.

Jan Rydström
Chairman
Organising Committee 10th EBEC
Göteborg March 14, 1998