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BOOK REVIEW

MCINTOSH, J. R. (ed.): SPATIAL ORGANIZATION OF EUKARYOTIC CELLS. — Alan R. Liss, Inc., New York 1983. 582 pp. £ 38.00.

The spatial organization of eukaryotic cells has been a topic of controversy for many years, attracting a broad spectrum of contradictory viewpoints. Many of these viewpoints were expressed at a symposium, held in honor of K. R. Porter, in Boulder, Colorado in April 1982. A wide range of aspects of spatial organization of cells is covered in 20 papers, some of which are of a review nature, while others represent more specialized studies. The introductory paper deals with the scientific achievements and contributions of K. R. Porter to modern cell biology. The first two sections provide a detailed description of the organization of cell membranes, compartmentalization of cytoplasm and the organization of the fibrous components of cytoplasm. Such topics as the memory and membranes, regulation of membrane organization, organelle assembly, centrosomes as organizer of the cytoskeleton are discussed. In section III presentations examine some aspects of cytoskeleton action in cytoplasmic organization, e.g. macrophage cortical cytoplasm, the cycle of contraction in non-muscle cells and the cytoplasmic matrix. Several aspects of the organization of nuclear structure and the control of gene action are thoroughly treated in section IV, containing papers on gene organization and information expression, C-value paradox, globin chromatin structure etc. The concluding section focuses on the global organization of cells and extracellular space.

This publication forming Volume II in the series Modern Cell Biology, will prove useful to researchers and graduate students involved in cell and membrane biology.

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