

THE BIOGENESIS OF MITOCHONDRIA

edited by

A. M. Kroon

C. Saccone

THE BIOGENESIS OF MITOCHONDRIA

*Transcriptional, Translational
and Genetic Aspects*

edited by

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Preface

The International Conference on the Biogenesis of Mitochondria, held in Rosa Marina near Bari, Italy in June 1973, was the ninth in the series of annual meetings on mitochondria organized by members of the Laboratory of Biochemistry of the University of Bari in collaboration with their colleagues from other Italian Universities and from abroad. Within this series it was the second completely devoted to the different aspects of mitochondrial biogenesis. Since 1967, the interest in, and the number of laboratories working on, the biogenesis of mitochondria has grown tremendously. For this reason, it was decided to put some restriction on the topics of the conference. Thus, the physical characteristics of mitochondrial DNA and the mechanism of mitochondrial DNA replication were not discussed. As a consequence, the mechanism of mitochondrial translation and transcription could be dealt with in more detail, as could the genetic approaches to the unraveling of the complicated interplay between the nuclear and mitochondrial genetic systems in the assembly of mitochondria within the cell.

All but one of the contributions to the symposium appear in this volume. An abstract of the missing contribution appears. In the last chapter of the book we have tried to summarize the main points of consensus reached during the conference and have indicated a few of the unsolved or controversial problems raised.

We want to seize this opportunity to thank all those who have contributed to the organization of the conference. The members of the advisory board, P. Borst, Th. Bücher, H. Küntzel, A. W. Linnane, and G. Schatz, gave valuable advice for drawing up the scientific program. We thank Professor Quagliariello, Rector of the University of Bari, who rendered the organization possible and contributed in facilitating its direction. Finally we thank our own scientific and technical staffs for their cooperation before, during, and after the conference.

PREFACE

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