

PREFACE

Receptor site studies are probably one of the most intriguing and challenging problems in current bioorganic chemistry. The dramatic progress made recently in the fields of isolation and purification techniques, spectroscopy, chemical concepts and reaction is making it possible for chemists to participate in receptor site investigations. The science here is quite different from the more "exact" chemistry that most organic chemists are accustomed to, and this change is sometimes bewildering and frustrating until one gets used to the concept of handling biopolymers.

It is hoped that chemists can eventually make some important contributions to this area by introducing new approaches and thus clarify the life-science related phenomena on a more structural basis. Some authors who have kindly contributed articles to this issue have been in this field for some time while others are relative newcomers. I am most grateful for these various contributions.

*Centennial Professor of Chemistry
Columbia University*

KOJI NAKANISHI