## Introduction for special issue

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This special issue on molecular biology includes 12 review articles, covering various areas of research in this discipline. It serves as an overview for the symposium "Molecular Biology in the 21st Century: Interface, Integration, and Perspectives" that was held at Academia Sinica in Taipei, Taiwan, on November 12–14, 2006. This symposium was part of the celebration for the 20th anniversary of the Institute of Molecular Biology at Academia Sinica, the first molecular biology institution established

in Taiwan. In addition to serving as a significant milestone, it also represented a snapshot of the ongoing research efforts in this area and a window for viewing the changing perspectives in molecular biology in the world. It is hoped that the symposium, as well as this special issue, would provide a platform for contemplating the interfaces and the integration of biological researches in the new century.

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