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## Introduction

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This special issue of the *Journal of Microbiological Methods* provides updated papers of significant new methods which were originally reported at the "Third International Symposium on the Interface between Analytical Chemistry and Microbiology: Analytical Chemistry in Environmental Toxicology", held at The University of Tennessee Conference Center (Knoxville, TN, USA), March 12–15, 1995. This interdisciplinary conference was made possible through the support of grant N00014-95-1-0434 from the Office of Naval Research, Department of the Navy, US Department of Defence and a grant

from The Center for Environmental Biotechnology, The University of Tennessee (Knoxville, TN, USA). We thank participants who provided a stimulating program on a wide variety of topics which were enjoyed by all. The delightful spring-time ambience of the East-Tennessee mountains made this a memorable event. We thank the editors and editorial staff of the *Journal* who nurtured the manuscripts in this special issue.

*David C. White, M.D., Ph.D.*