

#### Chapter 4: Cell Structure and Function

# The Cell is the Basic Unit of Life

Early History:

- A) Robert Hooke (1660's): Made first observation of cells (cork)
  - Cell = "Tiny rooms" occupied by monks
- B) Anton van Leeuwenhoek (1670's): Early observations of protists



- C) Theodor Schwann (1830's): First observed of animal cells
  - Lack of cell wall delayed discovery (made viewing difficult...)

# Principles of Modern Cell Theory

- 1) Every living organism is made up of 1 or more cells
  - Smallest organisms = Single cells
  - · Cells are functional units of multi-cellular organisms
- 2) All cells arise from pre-existing cells





Figure 4.1 – Audesirk<sup>2</sup> & Byers

Past / present discoveries Size 100 m of cell nature enabled via microscopy: 10 m 1) Light Microscopes 1 m 2) Electron Microscopes 10 cm 1 cm 1 mm 100 µm 10 µm 1 µm 100 nm 10 nm 1 nm 0.1 nm



Chapter 4: Cell Structure and Function

Basic Features of All Cells:

- 1) Plasma membrane encloses cell and mediates interactions between the cell and its environment (remember Chapter 5...)
- 2) Cells contain cytoplasm
  - · All materials / structures inside the plasma membrane
    - Location of metabolic activity (e.g., energy production / protein synthesis)
- 3) Genetic Information = DNA
  - Eukaryotic cells: DNA contained in membrane-bound nucleus
    "True nucleus"
  - Prokaryotic cells: DNA located in nucleoid region (not membrane-bound)
    "Before nucleus"
- 4) Obtain energy and nutrients from environment
- 5) Cell function limits cell size
  - Diffusion too slow in large cells
  - Surface area to volume ratio too low to receive nutrients



# Karyote = "nucleus"

# Surface Area to Volume Ratio:



Chapter 4: Cell Structure and Function

Figure 4.20 – Audesirk<sup>2</sup> & Byers

### Prokaryotic Cells:

- Small (e.g., bacteria)
- · Relatively simple in structure

# External features:

- · Cell walls
- Flagellum (movement)
- Pili (attachment / genetic exchange)
- · Capsule / Slime Layer (host attachment)

### Internal features:

- Plasma membrane
- Cytoplasm (w/ ribosomes); Food granules
- Nucleoid: Central region of coiled DNA





Figure 4.3 / 4.4 – Audesirk<sup>2</sup> & Byers

### Eukaryotic Cells (Table 4.1 – Comparison):

· Large; complex in structure

Internal Features:

- · Plasma membrane
- Cytoplasm (w/ ribosomes)
- Organelles (membrane-bound) / cytoskeleton





#### Chapter 4: Cell Structure and Function



# Eukaryotic Cells (Table 4.1 – Comparison):

- 1) Nucleus: Large organelle housing genetic information
  - A) Nuclear Envelope: Double membrane containing pores
  - B) Chromatin ("colored substance"):
    - DNA and associated proteins (chromosomes)
  - C) Nucleolus: Site of ribosome synthesis





2) Ribosomes: Small structures that function as 'workbenches' for building proteins



Figure 4.9 / 4.10 / 4.11 - Audesirk<sup>2</sup> & Byers

Chapter 4: Cell Structure and Function

### Membrane System

# Eukaryotic Cells (Table 4.1 – Comparison):

- 3) Endoplasmic reticulum: Series of interconnected tubes / passageways in the cytoplasm (continuous with nuclear membrane)
  - A) Rough ER: Major site of protein synthesis (contains ribosomes)
  - B) Smooth ER: Major site of lipid synthesis (e.g., cholesterol)



Vesicles = Membrane-bound sacs



Figure 4.12 – Audesirk<sup>2</sup> & Byers



#### Membrane System

### Eukaryotic Cells (Table 4.1 – Comparison):

- 4) Golgi Apparatus: Series of flattened, stacked membranes
  - · Sorts proteins / lipids received from the ER
  - Modifies proteins (e.g., adds sugar units glycoproteins)
  - · Packages material into vesicles for transport



Figure 4.13 – Audesirk<sup>2</sup> & Byers



Chapter 4: Cell Structure and Function

Figure 4.14 – Audesirk<sup>2</sup> & Byers

Eukaryotic Cells (Table 4.1 – Comparison):

Membrane system also responsible for intracellular digestion

# 5) Lysosomes:

Vesicles filled with digestive enzymes that break down food / cellular debris



Figure 4.15 – Audesirk<sup>2</sup> & Byers

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# Eukaryotic Cells (Table 4.1 – Comparison):

- 6) Vacuoles: Fluid-filled sacs surrounded by a single membrane
  - A) Temporary storage (e.g., Food vacuoles see previous slide...)
  - B) Water regulation (e.g., Contractile vacuoles)
    - · Store / excrete water



Figure 4.16 – Audesirk<sup>2</sup> & Byers

### Eukaryotic Cells (Table 4.1 – Comparison):

### 6) Vacuoles: Fluid-filled sacs surrounded by a single membrane

- A) Temporary storage (e.g., Food vacuoles see previous slide...)
- B) Water regulation (e.g., Contractile vacuoles)
- C) Structure support and long-term storage (e.g., Central vacuoles plants)
  - Maintains water balance (turgor pressure)
  - · Dump site for waste
  - Storage of sugars and amino acids



Figure 5.11 – Audesirk<sup>2</sup> & Byers

Chapter 4: Cell Structure and Function

### Eukaryotic Cells (Table 4.1 – Comparison):

- 7) Mitochondria: Tubular sacs composed of a paired membrane
  - Convert food products into energy (in the form of ATP...)
    - Rely on oxygen (aerobic respiration)
    - Abundant in cells requiring high levels of energy (e.g., muscle)

# Structure:

- Cristae: Deep folds in the inner membrane
- Matrix: Space within the inner membrane

Intermembrane compartment: Space between membranes

Mitochondria present in all eukaryotic cells!



### Eukaryotic Cells (Table 4.1 – Comparison):

Specialized plastids (Plastid = Plant storage organelle)

- 8) Chloroplasts: Spherical sacs composed of a paired membrane
  - Convert energy (sun) into food products (sugars)



Chapter 4: Cell Structure and Function

# Eukaryotic Cells (Table 4.1 – Comparison):

9) Cytoskeleton: Internal framework of cell - composed of proteins

Types of Protein Fibers:

- A) Intermediate filaments: 8 proteins woven togetherJoin together to form cell shape
- B) Microfilaments: Twisted double-strands of protein
- C) Microtubules: Spiraled double-strands of protein
  - · Allow for cell movement
  - Allow for organelle movement
  - · Allow for cell division











### Eukaryotic Cells (Table 4.1 - Comparison):

Cilia ("eyelash) / Flagella ("whip") : Slender extensions of plasma membrane that function for movement

- Composed of microtubules arranged in ring a structure
  - ↑ [mitochondria] at base



Figure 4.8 – Audesirk<sup>2</sup> & Byers

Figure 4.7 – Audesirk<sup>2</sup> & Byers

central pair of

protein