## Chapter 4: Cellular Form and Function

Development of the cell theory:

- Hooke in 1663, observed cork (plant): named the cell
- Schwann in 1800's states: all animals are made of cells
- Pasteur's work with bacteria ~ 1860 disproved idea of spontaneous generation (living things from nonliving)
- Modern cell theory emerged by 1900



# Modern Cell Theory

- All organisms composed of cells and cell products.
- A cell is the simplest structural and functional unit of life. There are no smaller subdivisions of a cell or organism that, in themselves, are alive.
- An organism's structure and all of its functions are ultimately due to the activities of its cells.
- Cells come only from preexisting cells, not from nonliving matter. All life, therefore, traces its ancestry to the same original cells.
- Because of this common ancestry, the cells of all species have many fundamental similarities in their chemical composition and metabolic mechanisms.





#### **Evolving Perspective on Cells**

- Early study with light microscope revealed surface membrane, nucleus and cytoplasm
- Electron microscopes have much higher resolution and revealed much greater details, such as the cell ultrastructure of the cytoplasm
  - fibers, passageways and compartments, and organelles surrounded by cytosol (a clear gelatinous component also called intracellular fluid)

#### Cell Size

- Human cell size
  - most range from 10 15  $\mu m$
  - egg cells (very large)100  $\mu$ m diameter, visible to naked eye
  - nerve cell over 1 meter, muscle cell up to 30 cm, (too slender to be seen)
- Limitations on cell size
  - as cell enlarges, volume increases faster than surface area so the need for increased nutrients and waste removal exceeds ability of membrane surface to exchange















### Endoplasmic Reticulum

- Rough ER
  - extensive sheets of parallel unit membranes with cisternae between them and covered with ribosomes, continuous with nuclear envelope
  - function in protein synthesis and production of cell membranes
- Smooth ER
  - lack ribosomes, cisternae more tubular and branch more extensively, continuous with rough ER
  - function in lipid synthesis, detoxification, calcium storage

- Golgi Complex

  Synthesizes CHO's, processes proteins from RER
- and packages them into golgi vesiclesGolgi vesicles
  - irregular sacs near golgi complex that bud off cisternae
  - some become lysosomes, some fuse with plasma membrane and some become secretory vesicles
- Secretory vesicles
  - store a cell product for later release



## Mitochondrion

- Double unit membrane
- Inner membrane contains folds called cristae
  - ATP synthesized by enzymes on cristae from energy extracted from organic compounds
- Space between cristae called the matrix
  - contains ribosomes and small, circular DNA (mitochondrial DNA)
- Reproduce independently of cell and live for 10 days



#### Cytoskeleton

- Microfilaments
  - made of protein actin, form network on cytoplasmic side of plasma membrane called the membrane skeleton
    - supports phospholipids of p.m., supports microvilli and produces cell movement, and with myosin causes muscle contraction
- Intermediate fibers
  - in junctions that hold epithelial cells together and resist stresses on a cell
- Microtubules

## Mitochondrion, Electron Micrograph























