Foreword

When Dr. Victor C. X. Wang invited me to write a foreword for his new book on Scholarly Publishing and Research Methods, I told him that I was willing to write one. Previously, I published one refereed book chapter with my graduate student from Columbia University in one of Dr. Wang’s Handbooks of Research regarding Adult Learning and Technology in the new century. I am familiar with Dr. Wang’s research interests that address a variety of topics ranging from Pedagogy (the art and science of teaching children) to Andragogy (the art and science of helping adults learn). Indeed, his books provide cutting-edge research for both faculty and graduate students from across the disciplines such as Education, Business, and Social Sciences. After I read the preface and table of contents prepared by Dr. Wang, I felt honored to write the foreword to share with our readers of this book. I cannot help but commend him for his ability to publish refereed chapters from so many of my “outstanding” colleagues whose books and journal articles have been adopted as required textbooks and reading materials by numerous universities worldwide. Some of their books have been translated into different languages. I published of my own research with some of these outstanding scholars via venues such as the Adult Education Quarterly.

As you flip through the pages of this volume, you will come across the names of well-known scholars. Therefore, I don’t have to tell you who they are or whether they are inductees of the International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame or whether a certain scholar is a national director of research. These scholars have shared with readers decades of expertise. This significant and timely title is published by IGI Global whose books and journals are distributed worldwide. Even though some of these authors are in their early 60s or late 60s or have retired, they are still actively involved in publishing their research and assisting researchers, young and old, from across the disciplines. To me, these scholars are truly generous scholars with the notion of altruism as their motto in life.

What strikes me as equally important is the uniqueness of title chosen by Dr. Victor C. X. Wang. We do have more than enough books on research methods. We do not have nearly enough books on scholarly publishing. To date, I have seen only one book on scholarly publishing by Dr. Rocco from Florida International University. I have not found a book that flows from scholarly publishing to research methods and vice versa. Once again, I wish to commend Dr. Wang for his innovation in proposing and publishing unique, cutting-edge titles for both faculty and graduate students. The book chapters also tell me that the book should be adopted as a required textbook and a reference book in Education, Business, and Social Sciences. I would like to make a prediction: this book will remain a best seller for the next decade or two.

Lyle Yorks
Teachers College, Columbia University, USA
Lyle Yorks is Associate Professor in the Department of Organization and Leadership, Teachers College, Columbia University, where he teaches courses in adult learning, strategy development as an organization learning process, strategic human resource development, and research. Articles authored and co-authored by Lyle have appeared in the Adult Education Quarterly, Academy of Management Review, Academy of Management Education and Learning, California Management Review, Journal of Applied Behavioral Science, Teachers College Record, Sloan Management Review, and other scholarly and professional journals. His 2004 article “Toward a Political Economy Model for Comparative Analysis of the Role of Strategic Human Resource Development Leadership” in the Human Resource Development Review received the Outstanding Article Award. Lyle was a co-researcher with Professor Schon Beechler on a three-year project on learning transfer and return on investment from Columbia Senior Executive Program, Executive Education, Columbia University School of Business.