Anyone who has ever watched the Academy Awards show knows there is never enough time to acknowledge everyone who has contributed to a body of work. It is also painfully clear during those acceptance speeches that the more the winner tries to be inclusive, the more inevitable it is that they leave someone out or shortchange those they list at the end. To that end, I want to first thank everyone who had a hand in making this volume a reality.

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I want to thank two mentors in my professional life whom I am also privileged to call friends. Jack Dempsey was my committee chair during my doctoral studies at the University of South Alabama, but this does not begin to convey the influence he had and continues to have on my life. From responding to an unknown doctoral program applicant’s question about games as an area of study to involving me in research well before I could be much help to him in doing so, to treating me as much as a colleague and friend as a student, his mentorship has been key to any success I have had. His is a hard example to follow in this regard, but it has served as a guide to me in my own experience as a professor in higher education.
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