Acknowledgment

The editor would like to express his sincere appreciation and gratitude to all who have rendered support in one way or another to this year-long book project, without which this book could not have been satisfactorily completed. The editor would like to first thank members of the Editorial Advisory Board for their support and help in this project, despite their demanding work schedules and commitments.

The editor would also like to thank all who are involved in the review process of the book, which includes most of the chapter authors in this book who also served as referees for chapters written by other authors. Special thanks must also go to a number of individuals who volunteered their time to serve as external referees and offered some of the most comprehensive, critical, and constructive comments in their reviews. They are: Thadpong Pongthawornkamol of University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Chintada Suresh of Motorola Research Labs; Dr. Aaron Harwood of University of Melbourne; and Dr. John Buford, a Research Scientist at Avaya Labs Research.

Grateful acknowledgement must also be given to the publishing team at IGI Global for its contributions throughout the whole process from setting up a website for my initial call for chapters to the final publication of the book. In particular, the editor is most grateful to Julia Mosemann for her assistance throughout the development process of the book and her consistently quick responses to my many questions and requests via e-mail.

I am also grateful to professor Wen-Jing Hsu, whose encouragement and kind words motivated me to initially accept the challenge of taking on this project. Last but not least, I would also like to thank my parents for their moral support and encouragement over the years, which have been instrumental in getting me to where I am today.

In closing, I sincerely wish to thank all of the authors for sharing their research insights, ideas, and experiences through their excellent chapter contributions to this book.

Boon-Chong Seet
Editor, PhD
Auckland, New Zealand
December 2008