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Thomas Beale has been a practising software engineer since 1986, and has worked in Australia and the United Kingdom in supervisory control systems, software and document management, and currently works in health informatics. Since 1993 he has been studying how information technology can be used to address social and environmental problems, particularly with communities as a focal point. His professional work in health informatics, which now includes funded projects leading toward an electronic health record for primary care, including in developing countries and disadvantaged areas, has provided many insights into the use of IT outside the corporate sector. During the last two years, he has worked with members of an intentional village in Australia to develop an approach for the introduction of a village network.

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His major research area is “economic and social implications of advanced telecommunication services.” This includes telecommunication economics, regulation, electronic commerce and financial sector applications. Morten Falch has also performed a large number of consultancies for the European Commission, UNCTAD and others. Among others he has contributed to a World Bank study on Multi-Media Multi-Purpose Communication Information Centres.

Susana Finquelievich completed her architectural degree at the National University of Rosario, Argentina, but she soon changed both her profession and her country. She graduated in urban and regional planning at the Polytechnic University of Szczecin, Poland, and later established herself in Paris. There, she finished a master’s degree in urbanism and a doctorate in urban sociology, under Manuel Castells’ direction. Dr. Finquelievich worked for several years as coordinator for Latin American Research in the Food/Energy Program of the United Nations University. In 1987 she returned to Buenos Aires, where as a senior researcher of the National Council of Scientific and Technical Research, she coordinates a team working on the social—and particularly the urban impacts—of the informational revolution. She also coordinates a research team at the University of La Plata.

She has published three books on the subject of social uses of ICT: *New Technologies in Town: Information and Communication in Everyday Life*, with J. Karol and A. Vidal, 1992; *Cybercities: Informatics and Local Management*, with J. Karol and G. Kisilevsky, 1996; and *The City and its ICTs*, with E. Schiavo, 1998. Nearly 100 of her papers have been published in specialized journals in U.S., Europe and Latin America.

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Antonietta Grasso (Antonietta.Grasso@xrce.xerox.com) studied computer science at the University of Milano where she got her degree in 1990. After that she joined the Cooperation Technologies Laboratory at the University of Milano where she worked on open architectures for process support until the end of 1995. Then she joined the Grenoble Laboratory of Xerox Research Centre Europe as research engineer in the Coordination project on technology assessment at University of Ghana.
Technology group. Her work focused first on wide area inter-organizational process support systems, while her current research is on usage on multiple interfaces to support the creation of community memories and on collaborative information search. Her research interests are in the CSCW field, in particular the design of open architectures for process support and information sharing. A recent interest is around the design of user interfaces complementary to GUI ones. Her main current activity is in coordinating the activities in the European project, Campiello.

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Dr. Gurstein has published widely in both scholarly and more popular journals and has contracted (with Idea Group Publishing) for this volume “Community Informatics: Enabling Communities With Information and Communication Technologies,” and has the book “Burying Coal: Research and Development in a Marginal Community” (1999) by Collective Press. “The Net Working Locally: Information and Communications Technology in Support of Local Economic Development” is currently under review by several publishers.

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Networking, and the Alliance for Community Media. He helped found the annual New England Computers and Social Change Conference and the Boston Computer Society’s Nonprofit Assistance Program. Peter was previously the Executive Director of the Somerville (MA) Community Computing Center and Urban Planning Aid, Inc., the country’s first advocacy planning agency. His articles on community technology have frequently appeared in the Community Technology Center Review which he founded and edits, and the Community Media Review, and the CPSR Newsletter.

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James Stewart is a research fellow and doctoral student in the Research Centre for Social Sciences at the University of Edinburgh (http://www.rcss.ed.ac.uk/rcss_home.html). His doctoral work is on the appropriation of new media technologies in everyday life. He has researched and published on the innovation, development and use of new ICT systems in retailing, education and in other contexts, and is a writer and consultant on interactive television and the convergence of TV and the Internet. He edits Interactive Television News, an on-line industry newsletter (www.itvnews.com). This research was conducted as part of a major international study ‘Social Learning Multimedia’ funded by the European Commission. (http://www.rcss.ed.ac.uk/SLIM/SLIMhome.html). Acknowledgements for this research go to Stephanie McBride and Aphra Kerr of Dublin City University and Robin Williams at the University of Edinburgh.

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