About the Contributors

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Alejandro Elias Ochoa-Arias is professor at the University of Los Andes, Venezuela and senior researcher on Interpretive Systemology and director of the Centro de Investigaciones en Sistemología Interpretativa at the University of Los Andes. Current research interests includes civil society, development, political philosophy and organizational studies, free knowledge and free technology as well as the use and implications of technology in running public affairs. Alejandro has been visiting researcher at the University of Hull (UK) and the University of Cuyo (Mendoza, Argentina). He also co-edited a book titled Community Operational Research: OR and Systems Thinking for Community Development with Gerald Midgley (Springer, 2004). He has several publications on refereed journals and has been invited speaker at many institutions in Venezuela and elsewhere. Alejandro was a member of the Directive Board of a Regional Development Office at Venezuela and member of the Directive Board of the National Council for Free Technology in Venezuela. He got his master's degree in information management at Lancaster University (UK) and his PhD at the University of Hull (UK). Currently, he is developing a study on the holistic design of the city at Mérida, Venezuela.

Ahmed Al-Maimani, is currently reading for a PhD in management at the University of Hull in the UK. He holds an MBA from the same university obtained in 2000. His dissertation topic was the
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**Eduardo Araya Moreno** is assistant professor at the Public Affairs Institute of the University of Chile. He is currently writing a PhD dissertation on ICT using by political parties in Chile, Costa Rica and Uruguay. He has published papers on state features in the informational society, features of personnel training programs in topics related to e-government, and e-government in Chile. He acts as editor of *Estado, Gobierno, Gestión Pública. Revista Chilena de Administración Pública*.

**Alexandre Barbosa** has 30 years of experience in the IT and telecom industries in Brazil. As a specialist in IT strategies he has worked for the largest Brazilian telecom operators and he has been working in large-scale projects of electronic government in the Brazilian governmental agencies. He holds a PhD degree in Business Administration (FGV-EAESP), a master's degree in computer science (UFMG) and in business administration (Bradford University), and a Bachelor of Science Degree in electrical engineering (PUC-MG). He also holds postgraduate diplomas in corporate finance and marketing (FGV). He lectures at FGV (on postgraduate courses in the areas of business policy, marketing, applied information and communication technologies).

**Diego Barría** is a PhD researcher at the Department of Latin American Studies of Leiden University in the Netherlands, where he is writing a dissertation on public sector change in Chile, between 1880 and 1931. He previously has published on topics such as e-government in Chile, Union participation in policy-making processes in Latin America, and administrative reforms in historical perspective.

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**Rajneesh Chowdhury** is senior consultant with Pricewaterhouse Coopers in New Delhi, India. Rajneesh has completed a BA in sociology, MA in sociology and MSc in management systems, and is a qualified Member of the British Chartered Management Institute. His areas of interest include criti-
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Marcelo Fernandez holds a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering and a Bachelor of Laws, both at University of São Paulo. He currently works at the Secretariat of Finance of State of São Paulo as Electronic Invoice Project leader, being responsible for a $15 MM budget and the coordination of 20 collaborators.

Amanda Gregory (PhD) is head of Management Systems in the Business School, University of Hull, UK. Prior to joining the Business School, Amanda was the research worker on a national project funded by the Leverhulme Trust to design evaluation procedures for Councils for Voluntary Service (CVS). This work provided the basis for her doctorate, awarded in 1995, entitled ‘Organisational Evaluation: A Complementarist Approach’. This led to Amanda holding several prominent academic positions including being the deputy editor of the journal Systems Research and Behavioral Science. Amanda’s current consultancy and research interests relate to participatory forms of evaluation, the use of systems approaches to support management decision making, action learning, and lean systems thinking. As regards project work, she has focused on evaluation in the not-for-profit sector and the facilitation of community initiatives.

Alvaro Junqueira holds a Master Degree in business administration at Fundação Getulio Vargas of São Paulo - FGV/SP and a Bachelor of Science Degree in informatics at Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. He also studied one semester at the University of Calgary, Canada, as an exchange student and researcher. Alvaro has particular interest in the process of implementation of electronic government projects and programs, especially when multiple agencies are involved. He has written several articles for Public Administration journals and Congresses, such as RAP - Revista da Administração Pública, BALAS and ENANPAD. Actually he works at the Secretariat of Finance of State of São Paulo as its Information Tecnology Director being responsible for a $50 MM annual budget and the coordination of 300 collaborators.

Endrit Kromidha graduated with First Class Honours, both in international economics at the Budapest Business School – Faculty of International Management and Business in Hungary and in European business administration at the University of Lincoln in UK. He obtained a Master degree in European economic studies from the University of Tirana – Faculty of Economics in Albania, in a joint program with Otto Friedrich (Bamberg) University in Germany. Endrit Kromidha has a special interest on e-government in developing countries, which is also the topic of his PhD at Royal Holloway University of London. He has also been professionally involved in banking, leasing, NGOs and think-tanks for research, marketing, business administration and lecturing.

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