About the Contributors

**Solomon Negash** specializes in e-learning, business intelligence, and information and communications technology (ICT) for developing economies. He is the 2007 Distinguished Graduate Teaching Award recipient from his university and the 2005 recipient of the distinguished e-learning award from his department. His work is published in *Information & Management, Communication of the ACM, Psychology and Marketing, Communication of AIS, International Journal in ICT Education*, and at conference proceedings in the U.S., Canada, Spain, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Malaysia. Professor Negash is the program coordinator for the Bachelor of Science in information systems (BSIS) program at Kennesaw State University. With an engineering, management and information systems background, his over 20 years of industry experience include consulting, entrepreneurship, management, and systems analysis. His teaching area includes system analysis and design, project management, information systems policy, and information technology management.

**Michael E. Whitman**, PhD CISM, CISSP, is a professor of information systems at Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, Georgia, where he is also the director of the KSU Center for Information Security Education and the coordinator of the Bachelor of science in information security and assurance program, which is the first program of its kind in the Southeast. Dr. Whitman is an active researcher and author in information security policy and curriculum development, ethical computing, and information systems research methods. He currently teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in information security, local area networks, and data communications. Dr. Whitman has five information security textbooks currently in print and has published articles in *Information Systems Research, Communications of the ACM, the Journal of International Business Studies, Information and Management*, and the *Journal of Computer Information Systems*. Dr. Whitman earned his PhD and MBA at Auburn University, Al, and has taught previously for the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and Auburn University.

**Amy B. Woszczynski** is MSIS director and an associate professor of information systems at Kennesaw State University. She completed a bachelor’s in industrial engineering from Georgia Tech, an MBA from Kennesaw State University, and a PhD in industrial management from Clemson University. Dr. Woszczynski’s current research interests include diversity in IT and distance learning pedagogy and curriculum initiatives. She has published papers on these and other topics in *Journal of Information Systems Education, Journal of Computer Information Systems, Computers in Human Behavior, and Industrial Management & Data Systems*. She also coedited *The Handbook of Information Systems Research*.

**Herbert J. Mattord** is MSIS director and an associate professor of information systems at Kennesaw State University. She completed a bachelor’s in industrial engineering from Georgia Tech, an MBA from Kennesaw State University, and a PhD in industrial management from Clemson University. Dr. Woszczynski’s current research interests include diversity in IT and distance learning pedagogy and curriculum initiatives. She has published papers on these and other topics in *Journal of Information Systems Education, Journal of Computer Information Systems, Computers in Human Behavior, and Industrial Management & Data Systems*. She also coedited *The Handbook of Information Systems Research*.
before joining faculty as a full time tenure-track instructor. During his career as an IT practitioner, he has been an adjunct professor at a number of universities throughout the South for over 20 years. He currently teaches courses in information security, data communications, local area networks, database technology, project management, and systems analysis and design. He is the coauthor of *Principles of Information Security*, *Management of Information Security*, *Principles of Incident Response and Disaster Recovery*, *Readings and Cases in the Management of Information Security*, and *The Hands-On Information Security Lab Manual*. He was formerly the manager of corporate information technology security at Georgia-Pacific Corporation.

* * *

**Panagiotes Anastasiades** is currently assistant professor on lifelong and distance learning in the Department of Education at the University of Crete. He is also tutor counsellor at the Hellenic Open University (postgraduate level, master’s in education, Module: EKP65 Open and Distance Learning). He has been visiting assistant professor in the Department of Computer Engineering and Informatics at the Polytechnic School of the University of Patras (1999-2002), and also visiting faculty in the Department of Computer Science at the University of Cyprus (2000-2002). His current research emphasis focuses on lifelong and distance learning via advanced learning Internet technologies and interactive videoconferencing, social and educational informatics, and information society theories. He has additional papers published in *Journal of Computers and Education*, *Computers in the Social Studies Journal*, *ACM Special Interest Group on Computers and Society (ACM SIGCAS)*, *Lecture Notes in Computer Science*, *International Journal of Communication*, *International Journal of Learning*, *International Journal of the Humanities*, and so forth. Home Page: [http://www.edc.uoc.gr/~panas/index.html](http://www.edc.uoc.gr/~panas/index.html)

**Roma Angel** is an assistant professor in the Department of Leadership and Educational Studies and currently serves as assistant dean in the Reich College of Education, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC. She received her EdD from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and a master’s degree from Wake Forest University. Dr. Angel has held various positions in higher education including serving as developer/director of the teacher education program at Lees-McRae College. Her research interests include examination of leadership roles in developing effective environments for communities of learners.

**Silvia Braidic** serves as an assistant professor in the Administrative Program for Principals at California University of Pennsylvania. Currently she is teaching online for the Principal’s Program. Previously she served as an assistant professor and director of graduate and undergraduate secondary education at Duquesne University. Her research interests include teaching online, online professional development, instructional strategies/differentiation, and principal/teacher leadership. In addition to her work at the university level, she has experience as a principal and assistant principal in the Mt. Lebanon School District in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She also served as the district’s coordinator for strategic planning. Prior to her work in administration, she taught middle school mathematics. She holds a Doctorate of Education in administrative and policy studies-educational administration from the University of Pittsburgh, K-12 Principal Certification from Carnegie Mellon University, a MSEd in elementary education, and a B.S.Ed in secondary education-mathematics from Duquesne University.
**About the Contributors**

**Steven C. Bronack** is an associate professor of instructional technology in the Department of Leadership and Higher Education, in the Reich College of Education at Appalachian State University Boone, NC. His research interests include teaching and learning in virtual worlds, social constructivist learning environments, and case-based approaches to education. Dr. Bronack holds BS and MA degrees from Appalachian State and a PhD in education from the University of Virginia.

**Sudhanva Char** has a Master of Commerce degree from Bombay University and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in industrial economics from the Gokhale Institute of Economics, Poona University. He has diplomas in C+, Oracle, and data base management. He has taught business courses on distance learning programs at Chattahoochee Technical College. Earlier Dr. Char served as executive-in-charge in the Corporate Information Services Department of a steel conglomerate. He is currently an associate professor in the Business Department at Life University, Georgia. Dr. Char has published research papers in refereed, trade, and e-journals, as well a book on farm income taxation.

**Amelia Cheney** is an assistant professor in the instructional technology program at Appalachian State University in the AETZone. Prior to joining the faculty, she worked in K-12 for more than 13 years in teaching and CTO capacities for two school districts in North Carolina. She holds BA and MEd degrees from Wake Forest University, and an EdD from Appalachian State.

**Morten Falch** is an associate professor in the Center for Information and Communication Technologies at the Technical University of Denmark. He holds a PhD degree from DTU, a master’s degree in economics, and a bachelor’s in math. His research interests include a wide range of issues related to information and communication technologies such as cost analysis of telecom networks, e-government, regulation of the telecom sector, ICT industry policy, the role of competition in innovation of new services, use of ICT in knowledge services, and tele-based community centres. He has participated in many EU funded research projects and conducted a large number of consultancies for national and international organisations such as ITU, UNCTAD, the World Bank, and the National Telecom Agencies in Denmark, Norway and Sweden.

**Grandon Gill** is an associate professor in the Information Systems and Decision Sciences Department at the University of South Florida. He holds a doctorate in management information systems from Harvard Business School, where he also received his MBA. His principal research focus is in the area of information systems (IS) education, and he has published many articles describing how technologies and innovative pedagogies can be combined to increase the effectiveness of teaching across a broad range of IS topics. Currently, he teaches programming, database, and managerial courses to both undergraduate and graduate students.

**Regis M. Gilman** recently became associate dean of educational outreach at Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC. Prior to joining WCU, she was assistant professor of instructional technology in the Department of Leadership & Educational Studies at Appalachian State University. Before joining the faculty at ASU, she directed the Appalachian Transition to Teaching Program, a $1.6 million US Department of Education initiative. She holds a BSEd from Northwest Missouri State University, a MS in adult education from Drake University, an EdD in educational policy–higher education from the University of Kansas, and a postdoctorate MA in ed media–instructional technology.
About the Contributors

Keith Lindsey is an assistant professor of business administration at Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas. He holds a PhD in management information systems from the University of Memphis. His research interests include the use of technology in higher education, business intelligence and knowledge management, applying information strategies in small and medium sized enterprises, and accounting information systems.

Lim Hwee Ling is an assistant professor in the Communication Department at The Petroleum Institute (Abu Dhabi, UAE). She has bachelor’s (English language, literature), master’s (English language) degrees, and a professional diploma in education from The National University of Singapore. Dr. Lim has a PhD (information technology) from Murdoch University (Perth, Western Australia). Her areas of research interest are educational technology, computer-mediated communication, and distance learning.

Richard E. Riedl is a professor in the instructional technology program at Appalachian State University and assistant department chair of the Leadership and Educational Studies Program. He received his PhD in curriculum and instruction from Arizona State University.

Albert D. Ritzhaupt is an instructor in the School of Computing at the University of North Florida. He has a BS in computer and information sciences and an MBA from the University of North Florida. His research focuses on the meaningful integration of information and communication technology in higher education and computing education, and has been published in several venues. Albert is a PhD candidate at the University of South Florida, and has taught in the areas of operating systems, database systems, computer programming, multimedia applications, and computer networking to undergraduate students.

Carla Ruiz Mafé is an assistant professor in the Department of Marketing at the University of Valencia (Spain) and coordinator of postgraduate training programs in the Chamber of Commerce of Valencia. She received her PhD from the University of Valencia. She is the author of international publications on e-commerce and e-learning. Her primary research interests include e-commerce, communication, interactive marketing, and consumer behaviour.

Silvia Sanz Blas is an assistant professor in the Department of Marketing at the University of Valencia (Spain). She received her PhD from the University of Valencia. She is the author of international publications on distance shopping and e-learning. Her primary research interests include communication, sales, e-commerce, interactive marketing and consumer behaviour.

Robert L. Sanders coordinates the Appalachian State University Library Science program. Prior to this, Dr. Sanders served as the president of *para instructional designs*, an e-learning design company based in Cincinnati, OH. These roles have provided numerous opportunities to explore applications of information and instructional technologies and the impact of these technologies on student and patron behaviors, perspectives, and interactions. Dr. Sanders’ current research is focused on the utilization of action learning in 3D immersive learning environments, and students sense of presence and the role of serendipitous interactions in virtual worlds.
Stephen B. Springer, LPC, CPM is the program chair and associate professor in occupational education at Texas State University-San Marcos. He has taught elementary through graduate college and has held administrative positions in both public education and at the university level. He has developed courses for online as well as DVDs for classes at the university. The current university program he chairs is a nontraditional adult program that has been in existence since 1973. Dr. Springer also had a private counseling practice and has served in public office as well as an officer in the State Guard.

Tom Stafford is Suzanne Downs associate professor of management information systems for the Fogelman College of Business and Economics at University of Memphis, and editor of ACM Data Base for Advances in Information Systems. He holds doctorates in MIS from University of Texas–Arlington and in marketing from University of Georgia. Stafford’s research spans issues of human computer interaction and technology adoption, and has appeared in journals such as Decision Sciences, Communications of the ACM, and IEEE Transactions on Engineering Management.

Fay Sudweeks is a senior lecturer at the School of Information Technology (Murdoch University). She has bachelor’s (psychology, sociology) and master’s (cognitive science) degrees from the University of New South Wales, and a PhD from Murdoch University. Her current research interests are social, cultural, and economic aspects of CMC and CSCW, group dynamics, and e-learning. She has published six edited books and more than 50 papers in journals, books, and conference proceedings. She is on the editorial review board of International Journal of e-Learning, Journal of CMC, and Journal of Electronic Commerce in Organizations.

John H. Tashner is a professor and coordinator of the instructional technology program at Appalachian State University with 30+ years experience in university teaching. Prior to this, John served in various roles as a central office school administrator, an assistant principal, and a public school science teacher. He received his BS in biology and an MS in science education, both from Old Dominion University. He earned his EdD in curriculum and instruction-science education from the University of Virginia in 1973. Current research interests involve the creation and study of viable pedagogies for use in 3D immersive worlds for education.

José Tronch García de los Ríos is a part-time professor in the Department of Marketing at the University of Valencia (Spain) and expert for International Cooperation Programs in the Foreign Trade Department of the Chamber of Commerce of Valencia. He is the author of Spanish publications on e-learning. His primary research interests include e-commerce, e-learning, service quality, and consumer behaviour.

Hanne Westh Nicolajsen is an assistant professor in the Center for Information and Communication Technologies at the Technical University of Denmark. Her research interests include organizational implementation and use of IT, knowledge management, and computer-mediated communication. Her current research focuses on the use of information and communication technology for innovation in the service sector. Nicolajsen holds a PhD from the Technical University of Denmark.

Marlene Wilcox is an assistant professor in the Department of Business Management and Administration at Bradley University. Marlene is a graduate of Claremont Graduate University’s (CGU) School of Information Systems and Technology. She holds a PhD and MS in management of information sys-
tems from CGU and an MBA and BS in management from Pepperdine University. Marlene’s research interests include knowledge management, organizational and interorganizational learning, and online education.

Levent Yilmaz is assistant professor of computer science and software engineering at the College of Engineering at Auburn University. Dr. Yilmaz earned his PhD and MS degrees from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech). His research focuses on (1) improving cognition in modeling and design education, (2) advancing the theory and methodology of simulation modeling via novel modeling and simulation formalisms, and (3) agent-directed simulation. Dr. Yilmaz is a member of ACM, IEEE Computer Society, Society for Computer Simulation International, and Upsilon Pi Epsilon.