About the Authors

John Yearwood is Professor of Informatics and Dean of the School of Science, Information Technology, and Engineering at the University of Ballarat, Australia. His research spans areas of data mining, argumentation, reasoning, and decision support, and its many application in health and law. Professor Yearwood received a Queen Elizabeth II Fellowship from the Australian Research Council to work on argumentation and narrative. Professor Yearwood developed the Generic/Actual Argument Model (GAAM) for the representation of practical reasoning with co-author Andrew Stranieri. This model has been used in modelling decision making in discretionary domains such as family law, career advice, refugee law, intensive care, and research ethics. Professor Yearwood’s research on learning algorithms, based on non-smooth global optimisation, have led to contributions in terms of the strategies for hybridisation. He has published over 150 peer reviewed journal and conference articles and books.

Andrew Stranieri Associate Professor, is the Director of the Centre for Informatics and Applied Optimisation in the School of Science, Information Technology, and Engineering at the University of Ballarat. He adapted his training in psychology and counselling experience to inform his research into cognitive models of argumentation and artificial intelligence. With co-author Professor John Yearwood, he developed the Generic/Actual Argument Model (GAAM). This research was instrumental in modelling decision making in refugee law, copyright law, eligibility for legal aid, sentencing, and research ethics developed by a spin-out company he managed. His research in health informatics spans data mining in health, complementary and alternative medicine informatics, telemedicine, and intelligent decision support systems. He is the author of over 100 peer reviewed journal and conference articles and books.