About the Contributors

**Rocci Luppicini** is an Associate Professor in the Department of Communication at the University of Ottawa (Canada) and acts as the editor-in-chief for the *International Journal of Technoethics*. He is a leading expert in technology studies (TS) and technoethics. He has published over 25 peer reviewed articles and has authored and edited several books including, *Online Learning Communities in Education* (IAP, 2007), the *Handbook of Conversation Design for Instructional Applications* (IGI, 2008), and *Trends in Canadian Educational Technology and Distance Education* (VSM, 2008), the *Handbook of Research on Technoethics: Volume I &II* (with R. Adell) (IGI, 2008, 2009), Technoethics and the Evolving Knowledge Society: Ethical Issues in Technological Design, Research, Development, and Innovation (2010), *Cases on Digital Technologies in Higher Education: Issues and Challenges* (with A. Haghi) (IGI, 2010), *Education for a Digital World: Present Realities and Future Possibilities* (AAP, in press).

**Sun Joo Ahn** is a co-founding director of the Gaming and Virtual Environments Lab and an Assistant Professor at the Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Georgia. She earned a B.A. in Communication and another B.A. in Business Administration from Seoul National University. She obtained a M.A. and a Ph.D. in Communication at Stanford University. Ahn’s research investigates using digital technology such as social media, video games, and immersive virtual environments as tools of persuasion, and whether the effect of these virtual interactions transfer into the physical world to influence users’ cognitions, emotions, and ultimately, their behavior.

**Fernando Andacht** is Full Professor of the Department of Communication, University of Ottawa. He researches in the area of media, culture and society from a semiotic perspective. He was researcher of the Centro Nacional de Pesquisa (2005-2007) in Brazil; he was awarded a research grant by the Social Sciences & Humanities Council of Canada (2010-2013) to study the mediated representation of the real in documentaries and television. He has published over one hundred chapters and articles in journals of Europe, United States and Latin America, and nine books. Some recent publications are: *El Padre Nuestro Artigas* (with M. Atme, 2011); Reflections on iconic celebrity (2010), Peircean mediation seen through a multilayered documentary lens (2010); On the media representation of reality (2010), Télé-réalité et campagne électorale: le règne de l’index-appeal (2010), The predictable and accidental journey of the self as semiosis” (with M. Michel, 2009), A paisagem dos índices dúbios (2008).

**William Sims Bainbridge** holds a degree in sociology but also has extensive experience in anthropology, history, and computer science. His most recent books include two that bridge between the sociology

**Francesc Ballesté** started and leads the Operators Service of the Center of Telecontrol (Water Agency of Catalonia) based on a Real-Time Data Acquisition System. The aim is to help improve the efficiency of technological applications for public benefit. After finishing Telecommunications studies with specialization on Electronics at the Industrial School of Arts and Crafts in Barcelona, his professional experience began at LGAI (General Lab of Testing and Investigation depending on the Public Administration of Catalonia) and the automobile industry, giving support to the Dpt. of Engineering and Robotic Design. He completed a Humanities degree and postgraduate studies on Team Leadership at UOC (Open University of Catalonia), as well as Industrial Control Technologies and SCADA at Fundació CIM-UPC (Polytechnical University of Catalonia). As a public servant, he is concerned about ethical issues relating science, technology, and society.

**Rachel Barker** holds a DLitt et Phil at the University of Johannesburg, as well as a postgraduate certificate in Marketing Management from the University of Pretoria (Cum laude) in 1993. She has more than 20 years’ experience in governmental, non-governmental and private institutions up to directorate level, and 15 years’ experience in the academic environment. As a scholar, Prof Barker is a renowned researcher in organisational communication, and has published widely both locally and internationally. She received a Research Leadership Award from the University of South Arica’s Women-in-Research in 2010, and was nominated for the university’s Chancellor’s Award. She is a fellow member of the Public Relations Institute of South Africa (PRISA), the South African Communication Association and Marketing Executive for Africa of the Academy of World Marketing, Management and Business Marketing and Management Development initiated by the University of Southern Queensland, Australia. Since 2004, she has acted as Track Chair for four international conferences, and is currently an executive member of the organizing team. As editor (Africa) for the journal Technology and Sustainable Development (WRSTSD), she received an award as Best Regional Editor 2003/4 presented at the 2nd International Conference 8–10 November 2004, Napier University, Edinburgh, UK. She is an editorial member for various nationally and internationally accredited publications.

**Marlin Bates, IV** is an Associate Professor of Communication and the Director of Forensics at University of the Pacific in Stockton, CA. He studied Rhetorical Communication and History at University of the Pacific (B.A. & M.A.) and received his Ph.D. in Speech Communication from The Pennsylvania State University. He has been involved with video games and computers since he bought a TI 99/4a in 1983. Raised on the Atari 8-bit computers, he was first exposed to MMORPGs when a friend showed him *Ultima Online* in 1996. Although he has less time then he would like to dedicate to immersing himself
in the *ur-real* world, he can sometimes be found in Azeroth—or any other *ur-real* instantiation—under the name MacRorie.

**Daniel Black** lectures in the School of English, Communications, and Performance Studies at Monash University, Australia. He is the Editor, with Stephen Epstein and Alison Tokita, of *Complicated Currents: Media Flows, Soft Power and East Asia*, and has published in journals including *Body & Society*, the *Journal of Popular Culture*, and *Fibreculture*. His research is focused on our embodied relationship with technology, and the ways in which understandings of machine and body have influenced one another.

**Julie Carpenter** is a Doctoral candidate at the University of Washington’s College of Education, Learning Sciences. Ms. Carpenter received her B.S. in Communications from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and an M.S. in Technical Communication from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. In order to aid the development of humanlike robots that are effective in human collaborative/team or training situations, her work focuses on user expectations of, and attachment to, humanoid robots, especially in field applications (e.g., space exploration, defense and humanitarian relief efforts). After fully analyzing investigative interviews with a number of EOD personnel, she hopes presenting the results of this research in her dissertation will contribute meaningfully to the understanding of the unique challenges of designing robots that aid military personnel.

**Darren D. Chadwick** is an applied psychologist who is interested in the development of research and application of research findings that aim to improve the lives of people. Darren’s primary research focus is on the empowerment, quality of life, communication and life course of people with intellectual disabilities. His research work has concentrated on the health and social wellbeing of people with intellectual disabilities at different life stages. He has also been involved in a number of multidisciplinary collaborative investigations into the impact and effectiveness of interventions for people with intellectual disabilities and those who support them. Current research work includes the interface between people with intellectual disabilities and the criminal justice system, communication of people with profound intellectual and multiple disabilities, work with the families of people with intellectual disabilities and the use of social networking sites by people with intellectual disabilities. Darren coordinates the Wolverhampton Applied Research Group (WARG).

**Chaka Chaka** holds a PhD in English Language and is currently a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Applied Languages (Faculty of Humanities) at Tshwane University of Technology, South Africa. He previously taught at Walter Sisulu University and the University of the Free State (South Africa). His research interests include the following areas: computer-mediated communication; e-learning/m-learning; computer-assisted language learning; mobile-assisted language learning; Web 2.0 learning/mobile Web 2.0 learning; online genre and discourse analysis; knowledge management; and learning organizations. He has published book chapters in edited volumes related to these research areas. Some of his book chapters published in edited volumes are: “Enterprise 2.0: Leveraging Prosumerism 2.0 Using Web 2.0 and Web 3.0”; “From CMC Technologies to Social Participation Technologies”; “Globalisation and Localisation: Integrating Global Knowledge and Local Knowledge through a Multiple Theories Approach”; and “Social Computing: Harnessing Enterprise Social Networking and the Relationship
Economy.” In addition, he has contributed journal articles to the *Cutter IT Journal*, the latest of which is “Consumerization of IT, Social Computing, and Mobility as the New Desktop.”

**Anna Croon Fors** is an Associate Professor at Department of Informatics, Umeå University. Her PhD-Thesis, *Being-With Information Technology: Critical explorations beyond use and design*, is heavily influenced by Martin Heidegger’s thinking on technology and post-phenomenological thoughts. Her research revolves around philosophy of technology, experiential computing, feminist technoscience, and design theory. In that respect notions of alterity, otherness and transcendence are especially important characterizing much of her research on digitalization, digital materiality and design. Presently, Croon Fors is running a research program around Feminist Technoscience together with colleagues and PhD students where questions regarding the intersection of identity and technology are especially prominent.

**Kerstin Dautenhahn** is Professor of Artificial Intelligence in the School of Computer Science at the University of Hertfordshire where she coordinates the Adaptive Systems research group. She received her doctoral degree in natural sciences (Dr. rer. nat.) in 1993 (University of Bielefeld, Germany). Her main areas of research are human–robot interaction, social robotics, social learning and robot-assisted therapy. She is founding Editor in Chief of the journal *Interaction Studies* (published by John Benjamins), and Associated Editor of several other international journals. She is currently Principal Investigator for her team as part of 3 European projects: LIREC, Roboskin, and ACCOMPANY. Also, she is an Editor of the book series Advances in Interaction Studies, published by John Benjamins. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce (RSA), as well as a Member of the IEEE, ACM, and SSAISB.

**Robert Andrew Dunn** is an Assistant Professor of Communication at East Tennessee State University and head of the journalism concentration. He teaches both journalism and mass communication courses. His research focuses on avatars, virtual identity, and communication technology. He also has a strong interest in media psychology. He has four refereed journal publications and more than a dozen conference presentations. Academically, Dunn holds a Ph.D. in communication from the University of Alabama, a Master’s degree in Communication from Florida State University, and a Bachelor’s degree in Communication from Auburn University Montgomery. Professionally, Dunn worked in newspapers for nearly a decade. He served primarily as an education reporter and occasional legislative reporter for both the *Tallahassee Democrat* in Tallahassee, Fla., and *The Ledger* in Lakeland, Fla. He has also served as an instructor for Florida Southern College and the University of Alabama.

**Nelly Elias** is a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Communication Studies, Ben-Gurion University, Israel, and specializes in audience studies of immigrants and their children, with particular interest in immigrants’ media uses and diasporic virtual communities. She has various academic publications in the field of mass media and immigrants integration, including a book entitled *Coming Home: Media and Returning Diaspora* in Israel and Germany (SUNY Press, 2008) and peer-reviewed articles in English, Hebrew and Russian in journals such as *Israeli Sociology, International Communication Gazette, New Media & Society, Journal of International Communication, Diasporas, Sociological Papers, Television and New Media*, and *Journal of Advertising Research*. 
About the Contributors

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Jesse Fox is an Assistant Professor in the School of Communication at The Ohio State University. She holds B.A.s in English and in Communication from the University of Kentucky, an M.A. in Communication from the University of Arizona, and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Communication from Stanford University. Fox’s areas of interest include health and sex, gender, and sexuality in new media contexts. Her current research is investigating identity and relationship development in new media environments and the effects of virtual representations on online and offline attitudes and behaviors.

Chris Fullwood is a cyberpsychologist whose core research interest is communication, particularly in relation to the use of the Internet and emerging technologies. His recent work has focused on the manner in which being online influences self-presentation and person perceptions. Current work also focuses on the manner in which personality influences online behavior; for example, do individuals with different personality profiles blog for different reasons? Chris is similarly interested in the positive applications of the Internet and has carried out research which has investigated the use of online forums for social support. Related areas of interest include: the use of video links in the courtroom and language use in online spaces (particularly the use netspeak). Chris coordinates the Wolverhampton Internet and Technology Society (WITS) research group.

Antonio García-Gómez is an Associate Professor of Linguistics at the University of Alcalá de Henares, Madrid (Spain) where he teaches discourse analysis and functional linguistics. He holds a Ph.D. in Linguistics from Universidad Complutense de Madrid. His expertise lies mainly in discourse analysis and discursive psychology. Professor García-Gómez’s main and most developed research interest is conflict talk. A main strand of his research has focused on the pragma-discursive strategies employed in conflictual episodes in talkshow interaction. Other current research interests include gender, identity and language use in new media. He has published numerous articles and authored two books. Professor García-Gómez was an Honorary Research Fellow at University College London (Department of Psychology), and presents regularly at conferences across Spain and Europe.

Jeremy Geelen is the Research and Project Coordinator at the University of Ottawa’s Institute for Science, Society and Policy. He holds a PhD in philosophy from the University of Ottawa (2011). While most of his philosophical training is in the core areas of analytic philosophy (epistemology, metaphysics, the philosophy of language, and the philosophy of science) and its history, he also counts political philosophy, governance, and science policy among his interests.

Nick Haslam is a Professor of Psychology at the University of Melbourne. He completed his PhD in Social and Clinical Psychology at the University of Pennsylvania. His main research interests are in
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**Jason Hawreliak** is a Doctoral candidate in English Language and Literature at the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada. He examines the cultural and psychological functions of new media in general, and videogames in particular. Drawing on the works of Ernest Becker, Kenneth Burke, and Ian Bogost, his research focuses on rhetorics of heroism and immortality in video games, particularly within the first person shooter genre. To supplement his rhetorical analyses, his research also involves the design and administration of social psychological experiments, using terror management theory as an experimental apparatus by which to analyze the relationship between death and videogames. Ultimately, he is interested in the potential death denying function of videogames, or the way they propagate rhetorics of heroism and immortality.

**Victor Ho** completed his PhD in linguistics at Macquarie University. He has been teaching English proficiency and linguistics at various tertiary institutes in Hong Kong. He is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of English of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Victor Ho’s research interests include professional communication, English for academic and specific purposes, and systemic functional grammar. He has published in the *Journal of Pragmatics, Text & Talk, and Discourse Studies*.

**Wan Ching Ho** received his first BSc and PhD degrees from University of Hertfordshire in year 2002 and 2005 respectively. The title of his PhD thesis is Computational Memory Architectures for Autobiographic and Narrative Virtual Agents. He is now working as a full-time post-doctorate research fellow in the Adaptive Systems Research Group in the same university. His research has been focusing on developing autobiographic/episodic memory control architectures for virtual agents and robots in EU funded projects. From 2006 to 2009 he was working in EU Framework 6 funded project eCircus for creating narrative virtual characters in educational games. From 2009 onward he has been working in EU Framework 7 funded project LIREC and 2011 ACCOMPANY for developing high-level cognitive architectures and interfaces for physical robots in the context of human-robot interaction.

**Ana-Cristina Ionescu** is Head of Foreign Affairs, within the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Romania (CCIR). She holds a BA in Communication and Public Relations from the National School of Political and Administrative Studies and a MS in International Business Studies from the Economical Studies Academy, in Bucharest, Romania. She spent the last 7 years working in the European Chamber System, as Head of Foreign Affairs, Head of Protocol, Deputy Director of a chamber practices division, Head of a training center, and Public Relations specialist within the CCIR, which is nationwide promoter of sustainable economic development in Romania. Her fields of interest are public affairs, social sciences, chambers systems, corporate social responsibility - CSR for small and medium enterprises - SMEs, gender equality, information and communication technologies (ICTs), innovation, and innovative entrepreneurship. Her writings include chapters on the importance of CSR and innovation for SMEs, ICTs, gender, and cyber identity.

**Li Jin** is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Westminster, UK. She has an interest in interdisciplinary research on virtual environments, social interaction, sociology of science and technology. Her
expertise and research are centered on the emerging social media technologies and cost-effective digital solutions for real time interactive applications such as cultural informatics and online education in order to meet the needs of business and society. Her current research is mainly on a number of projects related to social virtual worlds for Technology Enhanced Learning driven by socio-technical innovations. She is now synthesizing this research that will link how people interact in virtual environments to expand a new dimension of self—‘technoself’ within an evolving technological society and further challenge ideas of the next generations of virtual learning environments. She has published a number of research papers in international conferences, book chapters, and journals.

**Sara Konrath** received her PhD in Social Psychology from the University of Michigan in 2007. She is currently an Assistant Research Professor at the Institute for Social Research at University of Michigan, with affiliations in Social Psychology (University of Michigan) and Psychiatry (University of Rochester). Konrath is the director of the Interdisciplinary Program on Empathy and Altruism Research (iPEAR), a research lab with a primary focus on empathy, altruism, and other-focused behavior. Her work examines causes, consequences, and changes in empathy and related traits from a variety of perspectives, including psychophysiological and neurological. Konrath’s work has been funded by the American Association for University Women, the Hay Group, and the Templeton Foundation.

**Luciano L’Abate** is Professor Emeritus of Psychology at Georgia States University, United States of America. Luciano L’Abate was born in 1928 in Brindisi, and raised in Florence, Italy. After receiving a UNESCO scholarship at Wichita State University where he received a M.A.(1953), he earned a Ph.D. from Duke University (1956). After working for two years as a clinical psychologist at the Pitt County Health Department (Greenville, NC) and teaching in the extension division of East Carolina College (now University) (56-57), he received a USPHS postdoctoral fellowship in child psychotherapy at Michael Reese Hospital, Chicago, Illinois (1958-59). After this training, he became Assistant Professor of Psychology in the Department of Psychiatry at Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri (1959-64). He moved to Atlanta, Georgia when he became Associate Professor and Chief Psychologist in the Child Psychiatry division of the Department of Psychiatry at Emory University School of Medicine (64-65). He has been Professor of Psychology at Georgia State University since 1965, where he was Director of the Family Psychology Training Program and the Family Study Center. He retired as Professor Emeritus of Psychology from GSU on December 1990.

**Stephen Marmura** received his Doctorate in Sociology from Queen’s University in 2004, and is now an Assistant Professor of Sociology at St. Francis Xavier University, Canada. His research interests are varied and include exploring the ways in which competing social actors make use of the internet to further their political/ideological agendas, the relationships between public attitudes towards state surveillance/security practices and dominant mass media narratives, and the roles played by mainstream and alternative media in relation to populist forms of conspiracy theorizing. His recent publications include the book Hegemony in the Digital Age: The Arab/Israeli Conflict Online (2008; 2010), a chapter contribution to the volume Surveillance, Privacy and the Globalization of Personal Information: International Comparisons (2010), and several journal articles dealing with various aspects of mass media, technologically mediated communication and social identity.
About the Contributors

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**Erica Orange** is Vice President of Weiner, Edrich, Brown, Inc. (WEB), a leading futurist consulting group in the United States. WEB helps their clients to identify trends and opportunities in the areas of marketing, product development, strategic planning, investments, human resources, public affairs and advertising. Clients have ranged from the U.S. Congress to many of the Fortune 500. Ms. Orange has authored several articles on various social, technological, economic and political trends, and has addressed a number of corporate, organizational and academic audiences. Ms. Orange is a member of The World Future Society, serves as a Board member on the Career Advisory Board presented by DeVry University, and for four years served as Co-Chair of the Adjunct Board of Directors for ThinkQuest NYC, an organization that brought technology to New York City students. Ms. Orange received her B.A. in Political Science and Psychology from the University of Rochester.

**Fotios Papadopoulos** received his BSc and MSc degrees from University of Crete (in Computer Science and Applied Informatics) and University of Lancaster (Advanced Computer Science) in 2007 and 2008 respectively. His main areas of research are human-robot interaction, robot communication and
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**Rabindra (“Robby”) Ratan** is an Assistant Professor and AT&T Scholar at Michigan State University’s Department of Telecommunication, Information Studies, and Media. His work offers social and psychological approaches to research on technology for improvement and enjoyment. Most recently, he has focused on the concept of self-presence, or the ways that people connect to their virtual self-representations (avatars) in video games and virtual worlds. For his dissertation, he studied people’s physiological output (e.g., heart rate, facial muscle contractions) while they played a Nintendo Wii game using various types of avatars (e.g., same or opposite gender). In addition to this type of experimental work, he also examines gamers and virtual world users in their “natural” environments, i.e., by analyzing back-end databases provided by the host companies.

**José Carlos Ribeiro** has a PhD in Communication and Contemporary Culture, Federal University of Bahia, graduated in psychology on the Federal University of Bahia (UFBA), Coordinator of GITS - Interactions, Digital Technologies and Society Research Group - CNPq. Participating Researcher in the International Center for Study and Research on Cyberculture and in Cibercities Research Group at FAcOM / UFBA. He is professor in the Department of Psychology (UFBA) and at the Graduate Program in Communication and Contemporary Culture (POSCOM) and Psychology (POSPSI), Federal University of Bahia. He has experience in the areas of psychology (clinical and social) and communication, with emphasis on new digital technologies, mainly in the following subjects: cybertecture, social skills, social interactions, cyberspace, and psychosocial processes.

**Martine Rothblatt**, Ph.D. launched United Therapeutics Corporation (www.unither.com) in 1996 and has served as Chairman of its Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer since its inception. Prior to forming United Therapeutics she started Sirius Satellite Radio (1990) and served as its Chairman & CEO. Dr. Rothblatt earned a Ph.D. in Medical Ethics from the Royal London College of Medicine & Dentistry, chaired the International Bar Association’s Law & Medicine Committee and authored the book Your Life or Mine: Resolving the conflict Between Public and Private Interests in Xenotransplantation (Ashgate House, 2004). Dr. Rothblatt has also published other books on satellite communications, gender differences, genetic engineering, organ transplantation, and Middle East peace.

**Jimmy Sanderson** (Ph.D Arizona State University) is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication Studies at Clemson University in Clemson, South Carolina. His research interests center primarily on the influence of social media on sports media, sports organizations, and fan-athlete interaction. His work has appeared in outlets such as Communication Quarterly, International Journal of Sport Communication, Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication, and Southern Communication Journal and most recently in It’s A Whole New Ballgame: How Social Media is Changing Sports, through Hampton Press.
Marc Saner is the inaugural Director of the University of Ottawa’s Institute for Science, Society and Policy and an Associate Professor in the University of Ottawa Department of Geography. Prior to this appointment, he served as Executive Director of the Regulatory Governance Initiative at Carleton University’s School of Public Policy and Administration and Director of Assessments and Executive Vice-President of the Council of Canadian Academies. Previously, Dr. Saner was a Director at the Institute on Governance where he built the Ethics and Risk Management Sector and co-managed the Technology and Governance Program. For the last decade, his primary interest has been multi-disciplinary work at the intersection of science, ethics and governance. He holds a Ph.D. in applied ecology from the University of Basel, Switzerland (1991) as well as an M.A. in applied ethics from Carleton University (1999). Dr. Saner publishes in peer-reviewed journals in the areas of technology ethics, bioethics, risk management, biotechnology, and ecology and has been invited to speak at seminars, workshops, and international conferences around the world. He was also appointed Adjunct Research Professor in Philosophy and in Biology at Carleton University.

Kristi Scott, M.A. is a Graduate Student in Media Theory and Research at Southern Illinois University Carbondale and an Affiliate Scholar with the Institute for Ethics and Emerging Technologies (IEET). She received her first Master’s Degree in Liberal Studies at the University of Southern Indiana where she focused on the way identity related to the real and virtual world self. Her general interests are the intersection of mass communication, media theory, philosophy and sociology with a focus on the interaction of technology and culture. Her specific interest is on how popular culture presents issues of the technologically mediated body as they relate to identity, body modification, cosmetic surgery, and emerging technologies. She has served as an intern, writer/blogger, volunteer, teaching assistant, and coordinator for the IEET beginning in 2007, and a reviewer, copy-editor, and layout editor for the Journal of Evolution and Technology.

Tarcízio Silva has a Master’s degree in Cyberculture at the Graduate Program in Communication and Contemporary Culture (Facom/UFBA) and a BS in Communication with emphasis in Cultural Production. He studies the relationships between production and circulation of digital data in its interactional and corporate aspects, like identity construction, impression management, social media monitoring, and measurement.

Sylvia Söderström is an Associate Professor at Sør-Trøndelag University College, Department of Health and Social Science in Trondheim, Norway. Her research field is disability studies within social sciences. Her research interests are especially on technology’s significance in young disabled people’s daily life, the social construction of disability, identity constructions, and inclusion and exclusion processes. She has published articles and book chapters on these issues, and on communication challenges in healthcare workers’ interaction with migrant families with disabled children, and on children with congenital heart disease social experience in everyday life.

Yuji Sone is a Lecturer in the Department of Media, Music, Communication, and Cultural Studies at Macquarie University in Australia. He is a Sydney-based Japanese artist who has produced numerous media-based performances and installations. His academic research focuses on mediated performance and performance of the body in conjunction with objects, spaces, and technology, especially from cross-
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cultural perspectives, such as that of Japanese culture and performance. Dr. Sone has published articles in performance studies and cultural studies journals including *Performance Research*, *Performance Paradigm*, *Visual Communication*, and book chapters in *Performing Japan: Contemporary Expressions of Cultural Identity* (2008) and *The Ends of the 60s: Performance, Media and Contemporary Culture* (2006).

**Alessandro Tomasi** is an Adjunct Professor currently teaching Philosophy at the University of Rhode Island and Rhode Island College. His areas of interest are the philosophy of technology and continental philosophy. He has a Ph.D. in Philosophy from the New School, former New School for Social Research, in New York.

**Carme Torras** is Research Professor at the Spanish Scientific Research Council (CSIC). She received M.Sc. degrees in Mathematics and Computer Science from the Universitat de Barcelona and the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, respectively, and a Ph.D. degree in Computer Science from the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC). Prof. Torras has published five books and about two hundred papers in the areas of robot kinematics, geometric reasoning, computer vision, and neurocomputing. She has been local project leader of several European projects, among which the ongoing Gardening with a Cognitive System (GARNICS) and Intelligent observation and execution of Actions and manipulations (IntellAct). She was awarded the Narcís Monturiol Medal of the Generalitat de Catalunya in 2008, and she became ECCAI Fellow in 2007 and member of Academia Europaea in 2010. Prof. Torras has also received the Pedrolo and Ictineu science-fiction awards for her novel “The Sentimental Mutation,” about the ethical issues that social robotics might raise in the near future.

**Caroline Wesson** is a social psychologist with research interests primarily related to impression formation, decision-making heuristics and social influence. She has specifically focused upon the role of confidence within these areas, derived from her PhD research into the communication and influence of verbal confidence and uncertainty. Related applied areas of interest lie in eyewitness confidence and confidence in medical decision-making. Recent work has explored academic confidence in undergraduate students as well as more general pedagogic research. She also has research interests within the field of forensic psychology. Areas of teaching include social psychology, psychology of criminal behaviour, and research methods.

**Samuel Wilson** is a Lecturer in Psychology at Monash University. He completed his Master of Psychology (I/O Psychology) and PhD in Social Psychology at the University of Melbourne. His main research interests are in the areas of dehumanization, human enhancement ethics, socially situated cognition, and the functioning of social networks in rural social-ecological systems. He is the author of a number of theoretical and empirical papers in social psychology and bioethics and is the co-author of *The moonlight effect: Debunking business myths to improve wellbeing*. 