About the Authors

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**Boris Roussev** is an associate professor of CIS at the University of the Virgin Islands (USA). His diverse background includes teaching and research experience in Europe, South Africa, and the U.S. Dr. Roussev’s interests are in the areas of object-oriented and economic-driven software development, require-
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Ram Akella is professor and director of information systems and technology management at the University of California at Silicon Valley Center/Santa Cruz (USA). At Stanford, Berkeley, and Carnegie Mellon, as a faculty member and a director, Dr. Akella has led major multi-million-dollar interdisciplinary team efforts in high tech and semiconductors. He earned his BS degree from IIT Madras and his PhD from IISc Bangalore. Dr. Akella completed postdoctoral work at Harvard University and worked at MIT. His research and teaching interests include IT, enterprise software, knowledge management, product lifecycle management, supply chain management, financial engineering and investment, business process optimization, and e-business. Faculty awards include those from IBM, AMD, and KLA, and Dr. Akella has been cited in Marquis’ Who’s Who. He has interacted extensively with industries, including many of the U.S., European, Asian, Japanese, and Indian software and hardware companies. Dr. Akella has served as an associate editor for Operations Research and IEEE.

Jorn Bettin is a software consultant with a special interest in techniques to optimize the productivity of software development teams and in designing large-scale component systems. He is managing director of SoftMetaWare, a consultancy that provides strategic technology management advice, with resources based in the U.S., New Zealand/Australia, and Europe. Prior to co-founding SoftMetaWare in 2002, he worked for over 13 years as a consultant and mentor in the IT industry in Germany, New Zealand, and Australia. He has
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**Stefan Roock** works as a consultant for agile methods, object-oriented architectures, and technologies. He has many years of industrial experience helping software development teams to go agile.

**Yvonna Rousseva** teaches English at the University of the Virgin Islands (USA). She holds a master’s degree in English philology, and continues to be fascinated by the nature of the linguistic sign and the inexhaustible possibilities of language. Among her versatile interests are language theory, object-oriented linguistics, discourse and communication theory, hermeneutics, active learning, modeling, and metaphors. Professor Rousseva is also a poet whose creative journey is inspired by the search for the similar in the dissimilar, and by the notion that there is no disparity between poetry and abstract thought.

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