

# Acknowledgments

We would like to thank Mehdi Khosrow-Pour for this opportunity. It has been a challenge and a great learning experience. We would also like to acknowledge the Idea Group staff for their support and advice, mainly to Jan Travers, Sara Reed and Renée Davies, for their guidance, professional support, and continuous stimulus.

We also want to thank all of the people who assisted us in the reviewing process. First, thanks to the encyclopedia authors, which have served as referees, doing an invaluable job refereeing other articles by providing constructive and comprehensive reviews.

Thanks also to the external reviewers who had provided many significant and constructive comments:

From Universidad Nacional del Centro, Argentina

Dr. Eduardo Caselli

MSc. Mariana del Fresno

D.E.A. Liliana Favre

MSc. Carmen Leonardi

MSc. Virginia Mauco

From LIFIA, Universidad Nacional de La Plata, BA, Argentina

Dr. Silvia Gordillo

Dr. Claudia Pons

From Universidad Nacional de La Matanza, Argentina.

Professor Alejandro Oliveros

From the Agricultural University of Athens, Greece

Dr. Nikos Lorentzos.

From the Department of Computer Sciences, University of Tampere, Finland.

Professor Pirkko Nykänen

From University of Rhode Island, USA.

Dr. Joung-hae Bang

From the Universidad Nacional de San Luis, Argentina;

MSc. Nora Reyes

From the Universidad Argentina de la Empresa, Argentina;

Dr. Ricardo Orozco

From University of North Carolina, USA.

Dr. Shannon Schelin

From University of Jyväskylä, Finland.  
Dr. Virpi Lyytikäinen

From Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain.  
Dr. Roberto Moriyón

From Kettering University, USA.  
Dr. Andrew S. Borchers

From Universidad Nacional de Belgrano, Argentina  
Professor Graciela Hadad

From Università of Salerno, Italy.  
Dr. Monica Sebillio

From IT Transfer Office (ITO) at Darmstadt University of Technology, Germany.  
Dr. Jan Steffan

From Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha, Spain.  
Dr. Eduardo Fernández-Medina Patón  
Dr. Mario Piattini

From University of Sharjah, UAE  
Dr. Zaher Al Aghbari

From Kyushu University, Japan  
Dr. Akifumi Makinouchi

From Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University College of Engineering, Kukatpally, Hyderabad  
Dr Chandra Sekharaiah

From Integral Science Data Centre, Switzerland.  
Dr. Mohamed Tahar Meharga

We are grateful to the authors for their insights and excellent contributions to this encyclopedia.

The editors would like to acknowledge the help of all people involved in the collation and review process of this encyclopedia, without whose support the project could not have been satisfactorily completed.

In closing, we would like to express our deep gratitude to the many colleagues and friends who have encouraged us to face this project and who have animated us in those long work days.

*Laura Celia Rivero*  
*Universidad Nacional del Centro de la Provincia de Buenos Aires, Argentina*

*Jorge Horacio Doorn*  
*Universidad Nacional del Centro de la Provincia de Buenos Aires, Argentina*

*Viviana Elizabeth Ferraggine*  
*Universidad Nacional del Centro de la Provincia de Buenos Aires, Argentina*