Acknowledgments

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who directly or indirectly have influenced my career as an academic and by doing so have contributed to the creation of this book.

First, I thank Wendy Hall, who was the first to suggest that software measurement was a topic she believed I would be enthusiastic about.

I also thank Steve Counsell, a great friend with whom I had the great opportunity to collaborate with, and who gave me one of his own books on statistics.

I thank Barbara Kitchenham, who has been a remarkable mentor and a role model, from whom I always have learned so much and to whom I will be forever indebted.

I would also like to thank all the colleagues and friends with whom I had the opportunity to collaborate on publications on the topic of software or Web effort estimation, namely, Steve Counsell, Rachel Fewster, Chris Lokan, Chris Triggs, and Ian Watson.

Finally, my deepest gratitude goes to my husband for his constant help and infinite support, and for bringing light into my life.

Emilia Mendes
May 2007