

Acknowledgments

This edition of this book was, in fact, the original idea of Dr. Miltiadis Lytras, and it came to light during my stay in Athens with him in 2004. My interest in research on competency-based techniques for the Semantic Web and e-learning resulted in a chapter in Dr. Lytras and Dr. Ambjörn Naeve's excellent book *Intelligent Learning Infrastructure for Knowledge Intensive Organizations: A Semantic Web Perspective*, published by IGP. That chapter was the seminal concept for this book. Later, I received feedback from the ideas on that paper from many colleagues worldwide. Those comments helped me in setting the scene for this book, which attempts to provide a comprehensive account of the use of competencies in organizational learning.

In other aspects, this book is also a result of the patience and understanding of my wife Elena and my two-year-old son, Miguel-Angel. They are the real energy behind all my undertakings.

I have also to mention the help, support, and patience of Kristin Roth, Idea Group development editor, and the rest of the IGI staff.

Dr. Miguel-Angel Sicilia

Alcalá de Henares

July 2006