

## Acknowledgments

*I would like to acknowledge the help of all those involved in the collation and review process of the book, without whose support the project could not have been satisfactorily completed. A definite special note of thanks goes also to all the staff at Idea Group Inc., whose contributions throughout the whole process from inception of the initial idea to final publication have been invaluable.*

*Most of the authors of chapters included in this book also served as referees for articles written by other authors. Thanks go to all those who provided constructive and comprehensive reviews. I would also like to thank all the authors for their valuable contributions, without which this book would not have been possible. These include: Susan Baim, Miami University; Alcina Prata, ESCE, Pedro Faria Lopes, ISCTE; Sean Eom, Michael Ketcherside and John Cherry, Southeast Missouri State University; Matthias Brust, University of Trier; Timothy Shih, Nigel Lin and Louis Lin, Tamkang University, Jason Hung, Kuang Wu Institute of Technology; Pierre Laforcade and Franck Barbier, LIUPPA; Vincent Kwisnek, Duquesne University; Kathryn Marold and Wayne Haga, Metropolitan State College of Denver; George Yee and Larry Korba, National Research Council Canada.*

*Special thanks also go to the publishing team at Idea Group Inc, in particular to Jennifer Wetzel, who of late has continuously prodded via e-mail for keeping the project on schedule; to Amanda Appicello and Mehdi Khosrow-Pour, whose initial invitations for becoming an editor and follow-up messages prodded me to begin down the path to this book; and also to Jennifer Sundstrom for her efforts in marketing and promotion, I know I have been difficult.*

*In closing, I wish to thank all the rest of the staff at Idea Group that I am unable to name, and who work very hard to make these publications possible. Again, this book would not have been possible without the ongoing professional support from Mehdi Khosrow-Pour. Finally, I want to thank my wife Kay, and children Mai-Ling and Adam for their love and support throughout this, and all my publishing projects.*

***Paul Darbyshire***  
***Victoria University, Australia***  
***February 2004***