

Acknowledgment

The editor would like to acknowledge the help of all involved in the preparation and review process of the book, without whose support this project could not have been satisfactorily completed.

I am grateful to and deeply appreciate the contributions of my colleagues and research students at Dublin City University for their support of our activities in e-learning and software engineering research. In particular, Claire Kenny, Edmond Holohan, Declan McMullen, and Mark Melia have, with their efforts, made a project like this book possible.

Special thanks go to the School of Computing at Dublin City University for providing the resources for the early stages of this book project. I would also like to thank the Software Engineering group at the Department of Computing Science at the University of Oldenburg, where I spent my sabbatical during the last stages of the book preparation, for their support.

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 authors who provided constructive and comprehensive reviews. Special thanks go to Edmond Holohan and Mark Melia from Dublin City University, to Francois Magnan from the University of Quebec in Montreal, and to Ivan Ganchev and Stanimir Stojanov from the University of Limerick who helped to provide additional reviews.

Special thanks also go to all the staff at IGI Global, whose contributions throughout the whole process from inception of the initial idea to final publication have been invaluable. In particular, I am grateful to Lynley Lapp, Meg Stocking, and Deborah Yahnke, who continuously helped to keep the project on schedule and provided support and answers for my queries, and to Kristin Roth, who motivated me to initially accept her invitation for taking on this project.

In closing, I wish to thank all of the authors for their insights and excellent contributions to this book. I am also grateful to all the people who assisted me in the reviewing process. Finally, I want to thank my wife and daughter for their love and support throughout this project.

Claus Pahl
Dublin, Ireland
June 2007