

Acknowledgements

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Higher Education Authority (HEA) in Ireland, who made this publication possible by their generous funding.

This publication is a collaborative exercise which involved colleagues from many of the Universities and Institutions in Ireland. Without their authority and openness, and their graciousness throughout the revisions of the manuscript, this book would not have been possible. Thus, very special thanks to the contributing authors of this collection.

I wish to thank my colleague, Ms Jade Barrett for her excellent and upbeat administrative support of the project; and my appreciation to my colleague, Dr Jacqueline Potter for her positive reaction to this book, and her support and advice during the project.

Finally, I would like to express special thanks to our copy editor, Dr Catherine Pratt for her patience, her diligence, her judicious reading of all chapters and her insightful comments on them. An exceptionally talented and professional copy editor, we were privileged to have her on board.

Ciara O'Farrell