Acknowledgements

AUTHOR'S ACKNOWLEGEMENTS

This book represents the synthesis of research, practice, teaching, learning, conversations, reading and observation over a variety of contexts. I remain grateful to my early mentors in assessment and evaluation: J. D. Brown, Frances Butler, James Popham, Harold Levine and the late Leigh Burstein. What I have managed to learn over the years has also been the result of working with excellent colleagues, students and friends in the ESL Service Courses and the Department of TESL and Applied Linguistics at UCLA, and in the Centre for Communication Skills and the Department of Linguistics and Applied Linguistics at the University of Melbourne. I want to give particular thanks to my colleagues in the Department of Applied Linguistics at Portland State University: Kim Brown, Tucker Childs, Susan Conrad, Jan DeCarrico, Tom Dieterich, Lynn Santelmann, Marge Terdal, and especially Kathy Harris and Steve Reder. Thanks also to Betsy Kraft, Kristen Setzler, Erik Simensen, Sharon Canada, Reika Okumura, Karin Tittelbach and the students in my TESOL Methods, Research Design and Language Testing classes. Without the supportive environment that these people have shared with me, the book would not have been completed. I want to acknowledge a few people who have inspired me with their own work as well as their friendship: Russ Campbell, Fred Davidson, Liz Hamp-Lyons, Thom Hudson, Alastair Pennycook, Peter Shaw, Elana Shohamy, Neomy Storch, and, most importantly, Tim McNamara. It is also important to acknowledge the invaluable assistance of Sarah Edwards, the series co-editors Alan Davies and Keith Mitchell, and the entire Edinburgh University Press staff. I owe a great debt to Alan Davies, in particular, for his encouragement and support of this project. Finally, I offer a special thanks to my brother, Dennis, and my mom, Margaret, for their constant love and inspiration, and to my wife Buni and son Sam for letting me all but disappear from their lives during the writing of this book.