Acknowledgments

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Without the financial support and moral encouragement of John Dobson and the John Dobson Foundation’s dedication to excellence in entrepreneurship (and international entrepreneurship by extension), we could not have achieved what we have attained routinely at MIE. Not only is John Dobson a highly successful international entrepreneur in his own right, he has been the enabling force behind entrepreneurship studies in Canada for the past two decades. Furthermore the support of the John Dobson Foundation for entrepreneurship education across the country has made entrepreneurial studies rewarding and successful. Our scholarly community has benefited tremendously from John’s genuine support and encouragement and, on behalf of all who have benefited, I would like to extend a special thank you to him and to the Foundation.

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Ironically, the signs of an excellent editor and a quality publishing house are lost when authors and editors face no major problem as the manuscript travels through the various preparatory stages. This gives the erroneous impression that there were no problems to solve in the first place. Our personal experience, however, indicates otherwise. Publishing, Regardless of form and milieu, is riddled with problems. Professional editors and their staff in supportive publishing houses dissolve problems before they can develop. Experience, patience and methodical attention to detail – in a word, professionalism – characterize Elgar and are among Elgar’s special qualities, rarely found elsewhere. Alan Sturmer, the Acquisition Editor of Elgar’s North American Operations (Northampton, Massachusetts), stands among a host of truly capable and genuinely dedicated professionals. Again the team is large and I will not be able to recognize them all. I must make do by only highlighting a short list of those with whom I have had direct and repeated contacts over the past years. The Associate Editor, Tara Gorvine, at the Northampton office and the Senior Desk Editor, Karen McCarthy, in the United Kingdom office shouldered the real brunt of preparing the manuscript. I know full well that their proven competencies and diligent efforts behind the scenes avoided many unforeseen difficulties. At the interfaces of Edward Elgar, the scholarly community and society at large are two capable marketing executives: Katy Wight, in charge
of the North and the South American markets, and Hilary Quinn, marketing in
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final analysis, the solitary and prolonged nature of scholarly work deprives the
family of their fair share of quality time. It even shifts the burden of certain
time-consuming responsibilities to other family members. My case is no
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Hamid Etemad
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