

# Acknowledgments

---

This book is based on my dissertation – prepared and defended while a doctoral student at New York University (NYU). Although my name appears in the byline, I certainly cannot take full credit for the end product. There are so many people who have contributed over the years – not only to this manuscript, but also to my personal growth and academic development. Without them, I would certainly have achieved far less. No words can adequately express how grateful I am to those who have helped me along the way with their encouragement, guidance and criticism. I remain forever indebted.

First, I would like to thank my thesis committee members at New York University – J. Myles Shaver, Xavier Martin and Bernard Yeung – for their enormous faith in my work and for pushing me to achieve more than what I thought was possible. Despite competing demands, they offered their time generously and contributed immeasurably to my development in the PhD program, and to this book.

I consider J. Myles Shaver to be not only a mentor, but also an esteemed colleague and friend. He instilled in me his love for academic research and his respect for the process of scholarship. He taught me that good researchers never stop thinking about how to solve puzzles, and he pushed me to consider fully both the theoretical and the empirical implications of my work. His breadth of knowledge in economics and econometrics was a fantastic resource, and I invariably came out of our meetings with more precise insight and more interesting questions than I had going in. Myles offered suggestions when I needed guidance, challenged me when my work needed development, offered encouragement when I was down, and justly criticized my work when it was merited. I benefited tremendously from working with him, and I will carry those lessons learned with me throughout my career.

Xavier Martin served as a mentor from my very first year in academia, and I would probably have been lost without his guidance. When I first entered the program I had a general interest in strategy and international business, but did not know the best way to satiate my curiosity. Xavier invested a great deal in my scholarly development, much more than the likely pay-off. He met with me every several weeks during my first year to check on my progress, offering his time unselfishly and counseling me on various aspects of the PhD program. He even agreed to tailor an

individualized class geared towards our mutual interests in international business and technology strategy. From this class came several academically fulfilling research projects. It has been a joy working on those projects with him. Over the years, Xavier pushed me to realize that research is never complete, that it can always be improved. Xavier, like Myles, played a tremendous role in shaping who I am as an academic.

Bernard Yeung challenged the very foundations of my arguments and pushed me to think more deeply about competing theories and possible alternative explanations, which undoubtedly added rigor and strength to my thesis, and to this book. Further, I am grateful to Bernie for counseling me and providing unwavering support in my final year in the doctoral program. In my final year in the NYU doctoral program, Bernie took it upon himself to check in with me regularly throughout an exhausting job-search process.

Two other professors who did not serve on my final dissertation committee provided invaluable feedback and support on my proposal. I thank José Campa for his advice and his help in obtaining data. I am also grateful to Rachelle Sampson for her guidance, not to mention her expertise in the fields of technology and innovation. Rachelle could not serve on the final committee but offered to provide feedback anyway. I am amazed by her dedication and appreciate all of her help.

I would like to thank the countless professors who advised me throughout the years, especially Wilbur Chung, Andy King, Mike Lenox, Juan Alcácer, Melissa Schilling, Ya-Ru Chen, Tom Pugel, Frances Milliken, Zur Shapira, Roger Dunbar, Bill Greene, Chris Tucci and Will Mitchell. I would also like to express my gratitude to those in the NYU doctoral office, especially Donna Lashley and Emily Mills, for making the experience an enjoyable one.

Many thanks also to Ned Elton, Tom Pugel and Zur Shapira for making sure that the resources necessary to complete my doctoral studies were always available. Each of these individuals was incredibly generous in providing not only monetary support for my work, but also for allowing me the time to focus on my research.

I would like to thank my PhD colleagues at New York University for their help and advice throughout the years, especially Naomi Gardberg, Namgyoo Park, William Newburry, Andac Arikian, Elizabeth Boyle, Dawn Porter, Corey Phelps, Mike Barnett and Lance Erickson. Each of them was instrumental to me completing my dissertation.

I would also like to acknowledge, and thank, Alison Rooney for providing invaluable editorial assistance on this project. She helped me to convert my dissertation into this book, and to logically structure and frame the end product. She is a wonderful collaborator.

Finally, I would like to thank my family for the friendship, love and unwavering support that allowed me to realize this goal. I love you all. To my children, Ben and Sophie, for providing the inspiration. And to Julie – my confidante, companion and best friend. I dedicate this book to them, however small a token of gratitude this might represent for all they have given.

