

Acknowledgements

No one was press-ganged into this. I therefore owe a huge and multiple debt of thanks to all those volunteers – all very busy persons elsewhere – who agreed to come to my retirement workshop in Leuven and to write papers for this book. They were: Pertti Ahonen, Johnston Birchall, Tony Bovaird, Geert Bouckaert, Tom Christensen, John Clarke, John Halligan, Christopher Hood, Erik-Hans Klijn, Jeremy Lonsdale, Janet Newman, Edoardo Ongaro, Stephen Osborne, B. Guy Peters, Jon Pierre, Isabella Proeller, Fabio Rugge and Turo Virtanen.

There were others who graced the Leuven event but for various good reasons were not able to – or chose not to – write papers. They were: Mark Bovens, Sorin Dan, George Frederickson, Katju Holkeri, Annie Hondeghem, Walter Kickert, Elke Löffler, Ed Page, Hilikka Summa-Pollitt, Colin Talbot and Koen Verhoest.

Finally, there were some who were invited but could not come: Steve Harrison, Larry Lynn, Jnr., Amanda Smullen and Sandra van Thiel. Per Læg Reid and Rod Rhodes could not attend either, but nevertheless wrote papers (and thanks too to Rod's co-author, Mark Bevir).

To all the above I owe great debts of intellectual stimulation, professional comradeship and/or personal friendship. It has been a pleasure to know you all, and to work with you.

Thanks also to Edward Elgar, one of the most civilized of publishers, and to Emily Neukomm, one of the most tolerant of editors. Last, but not least, Inge Vermeulen has again done her usual secretarial wonders in knocking the text into shape.

