Acknowledgements

Writing and publishing this *Handbook of Innovation Policy Impact* has been an extensive and collective exercise. In addition to the authors of each of the chapters, we need to profoundly thank many others for their valuable contributions.

Our acknowledgements start with Nesta, the innovation charity that was our initial sponsor. Stian Westlake and Kirsten Bound at Nesta raised the need for a broad, systematic account of innovation policy impact which could be used by academics and policy makers alike. Together with Albert Bravo-Biosca and Jen Rae, our Nesta colleagues were encouraging yet critical friends throughout the entire study, reflecting and commenting on our findings. Nesta also helped to mobilise the wider stakeholder community, hosting three stakeholder workshops in London. We are deeply grateful for the encouragement and support of Stian and his team.

Throughout the writing of this *Handbook*, we received exceptional support from an advisory committee. The advisory committee comprised Luke Georgiou (University of Manchester), Mark Glover (formerly of the Technology Strategy Board), Fergus Harradance (formerly with the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills and now at Her Majesty’s Treasury), Mark Franks (Department for Business, Innovation and Skills), Michael Keenan (OECD) and Stefan Kuhlmann (University of Twente). These advisers commented on our approach, methodology and selection of policy instruments from both academic and policy-making perspectives. Most notably, they provided feedback on initial drafts of the policy instrument chapters and discussed them in workshops. Advisory committee comments proved to be indispensable, and we are deeply grateful.

We greatly appreciate the numerous academic colleagues and policy makers who participated in four workshops at which draft versions of the *Handbook* were discussed. We also thank academic colleagues and other stakeholders who commented on various presentations about the *Handbook*, including at sessions of the 2014 Conference of the European Forum for Studies of Policies for Research and Innovation (EU-SPRI), the 2015 Globelics International Conference, and the 2015 Atlanta Conference on Science and Innovation Policy. These discussions improved the chapters and also confirmed great interest in the innovation and policy communities for the comprehensive treatment of evidence on impact offered in the *Handbook*.

We further thank Evgeny Klochikhin, Carlos Ramos Perez, Jaime Humberto Sierra Gonzalez and Omid Omidvar. These were all doctoral students at the Manchester Institute of Innovation Research during the preparation of this *Handbook*. We much appreciate their support in our search for existing evidence and in addressing the technicalities involved.

xii
It must be stressed the book would not have seen the light of day without the tremendous efforts and diligence of Kalle Stahl-Nielsen and Kathryn Morrison, who shouldered the burden of editing and formatting the Handbook. These tasks were performed with great patience and understanding for their academic colleagues.

We extend our appreciation to David Willetts, UK Minister of State for Universities and Science 2010–14, for contributing the Foreword and for his continued interest in our activities.

Finally, as the book editors we sincerely thank all the chapter authors for their creativity, endurance, resilience and critical discussions throughout the entire process. The authors retain responsibility for each of their chapters, while any further errors and shortcomings in the Handbook are attributable to the editing authors and not to any of the colleagues named above.

Jakob Edler, Paul Cunningham, Abdullah Gök and Philip Shapira
Manchester, December 2015