Preface

People develop preferences for different pastimes. When I was in grade school, I began reading encyclopedias for fun. I still do. Figure 0.1 shows an 1898 publication that I was recently reading – cover to cover.

Figure 0.1 Pears' Shilling Cyclopædia; photographed by the author

Not surprisingly, I was elated when Edward Elgar Publishing's commissioning editor Francine O'Sullivan invited me to assemble the first *World Encyclopedia of Entrepreneurship*. I was delighted with the popularity of that volume and again thrilled when approached to compile a second edition with new topics that have recently gained importance in our changing world. Thank you Francine!

Baumol (1968: 64) described the entrepreneur as 'one of the most intriguing and one of the most elusive characters in the cast that constitutes the subject of economic analysis'. That was published the year that Babson College offered the first undergraduate entrepreneurship concentration. By 1970, just over a dozen schools in the United States offered courses in entrepreneurship; in 1975, the number was 104 (Katz, 2003).

This volume is the second edition of a project launched in 2005, reflecting that entrepreneurship is no longer at the margins but, instead, is a legitimate field of research. What has not changed is that the entrepreneur is still intriguing and elusive.

I would like to thank friends and colleagues for their input making this a richer volume than the first edition; this includes contributors and the many who reviewed entries and provided constructive suggestions.

As Vernon Howard told us, 'Always walk through life as if you have something new to learn and you will'. Now let your fingers walk through these pages and enjoy a wonderful learning experience.

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Katz, J.A. (2003), 'The chronology and intellectual trajectory of American entrepreneurship education', *Journal of Business Venturing*, **18** (2), 283–300.