

Acknowledgements

One of the most difficult tasks in a project of this magnitude is to find the appropriate language that rises to the level of our respect and gratitude to all who have contributed to this undertaking. Coming in a close second is making certain that no individual is omitted.

In our attempt to satisfy the latter, who might we include?

- Certainly those who helped us to identify and evaluate the ‘market need’ to enlist the entrepreneurship research community in an engaged effort to increase both the quality and quantity of scholarship in this domain;
- Certainly those who helped us to develop a solution to satisfying that market need, through the unselfish giving of their time, efforts, and talent;
- Certainly those who provided us with keen and creative insights that led to the development of both the strategy and tactics required to obtain our common desired outcome;
- Certainly those who helped us to operationalize said strategy and tactics;
- Certainly those who stepped forward unselfishly without hesitation and provided us with unfettered access to their hard earned reputational capital and broad and diverse networks to engage the entrepreneurship research community – the exemplars, journal editors, and innumerable scholars;
- Certainly those who participated in the 2009 and 2010 Exemplars Conferences – the 125 on-site contributors and the more than 650 web participants from nearly 250 institutions in 35 countries representing every continent except Antarctica;
- Certainly those individuals who lent us their sharp sets of eyes that found every place we had fallen short in our effort to transform words into tacit knowledge and communicate that knowledge to you, the reader; and
- Certainly our families who provided us the time and support to devote to this project and many of our colleagues who provided their insights that sharpened our focus.

In our attempt to find the words, we have concluded that oftentimes the most polished and complete communiqués rely on their simplicity. We trust that this is one of those times. With this in mind: if you helped, supported, or contributed to this project in any way, you have our sincerest recognition, thanks and appreciation.

Ron and Rich

