Series Editor's Note

I have taught structural equation modeling (SEM) for over 25 years. For most of those years, I relied on a set of readings and other resources because I was dissatisfied with the lack of depth and breadth afforded to the measurement model in the works that were available at the time. The first edition of Timothy Brown's *Confirmatory Factor Analysis for Applied Research* (2006) was the first book that I required for my courses related to SEM. In 2006, there was no other book that covered the nuts and bolts of confirmatory factor analysis (CFA). Not only did Tim's book fill a crucial void; it did so with acumen and elegance. Both editions are full treatments that are very accessible, but the second edition accomplishes two critical goals that make it a must-have. First, it retains the accessible nature and applied focus that made the first edition a great read and thorough resource. Second, as a scholar of methodology and statistics, Tim has provided critical updates and integrated the most recent advances in the area. A lot of new ideas have emerged in the past decade, and Tim has gleaned the important advances from the literature and woven them into the fabric of his masterful tapestry.

The material covered in Tim's book represents about 90% of the effort and knowledge that are needed and utilized in conducting an SEM analysis. Somewhat ironically, it represents only about 10% of what is actually presented in the results section of a paper (i.e., all the foundational issues associated with properly specifying and estimating the measurement model). This material is the stuff behind the scenes that shines the spotlight on your analyses—like all the credits that scroll at the end of an award-winning movie. Tim's treatise is itself award worthy.

As an amazingly accomplished applied researcher, Tim understands the needs of researchers who are in the trenches doing the hard work of behavioral science research. Graduate students just learning advanced statistical techniques will relish the comprehensive coverage of all things CFA (e.g., Bayesian approaches, non-normal and categorical indicators, multitrait–multimethod models, factorial invariance—heck, just check