

## **Acknowledgements**

I wish to express my gratitude to Richard Fazzini, who first suggested the idea of organizing a memorial volume in honor of Bill Murnane in early 2001. He has given me his advice and support for the project ever since. To Jacobus Van Dijk, I am grateful for his assistance and encouragement in starting the project as the initial co-editor, and later for securing E. J. Brill's agreement to publish the work. I am indebted, also, to my co-editor and doctoral student Louise Cooper for her invaluable editorial and organizational contributions. Thanks also go to Jennifer Pavelko, my editor at Brill. I must also express my profound gratitude to all of the contributors to this volume for their submissions and for their patience and forbearance during the long publication process. Their contributions stand as a fitting tribute to Bill Murnane's eclecticism and insightfulness as a scholar. Finally, I am very grateful to Bill's sister Annie Miles and especially to his beloved mother, Marie Murnane for their support and encouragement.

Peter J. Brand  
Memphis Tennessee, May 2009