Taken together, the articles in this volume cover different theoretical positions from contact-linguistic to cognitive, as well as offering empirical data-based investigations of Englishes spoken in many different kinds of setting.

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support given by the Academy of Finland, first to the research consortium Global English: contact-linguistic, typological, and second-language acquisition (grant no. 133119), and then its sequel, Changing English: users and learners worldwide (grant no. 269385). We would like to thank Professor Elizabeth Traugott, the TiEL series editor, for her expert review and incisive comments on the manuscripts of the individual chapters as well as the general structure of this volume. Dr Julie Miess, the editor in charge at de Gruyter, also deserves our thanks for her patience and professional help in various stages of the editing process. Dr Izabela Czerniak made an important contribution to this volume through her painstaking input to the copyediting of the chapters for the print production and to the compilation of the list of abbreviations. Finally, we wish to thank Ms Helen Bilton for compiling the indexes for this volume.