CONTENTS

Acknowledgments ix

Introduction 1

1 Composition Research: Issues in Context 8

2 Research in Composition: Current Issues and a Brief History 28

3 Numbers, Narratives, and He vs. She: Issues of Audience in Composition Research 56

4 From Epistemology to Epistemic Justification: Toward a Contextualist Research Paradigm 87

5 A Contextualist Research Paradigm: An Illustration (including reprint of “Writing Quality of Seventh, Ninth, and Eleventh Graders, and College Freshman,” by Eileen I. Oliver) 119

6 A Contextualist Research Paradigm: A Demonstration 164

7 Predictor Variables: The Future of Composition Research 190

8 Conclusion 205

References for Oliver Article 210

Works Cited 215

Index 226

About the Author 230