THIS PROJECT originated in a conference on “Elegy and Narrativity” which took place at Princeton University on April 30 and May 1, 2004. That event could not have been possible without the support and hard work of Andrew Feldherr and the department of classics at Princeton, and the financial support of St. Peter’s College and Princeton University. To them we are indebted and offer our grateful thanks. We are also grateful to the conference respondents—John Miller, Joseph Farrell, Ronnie Ancona, Lowell Edmunds, and Joy Connolly—whose insightful comments helped to shape and inform several of the papers now collected in this volume.

Montclair State University provided Patricia an SBR grant to work on this project and she thanks colleagues and friends from Montclair for their constant support—in particular, Prudence Jones, Jean Alvares, and Tim Renner. Genevieve also received financial support from the University of Bristol to attend the Princeton Conference and to travel to the U.S. for editorial meetings.

We are indebted to the anonymous readers of The Ohio State University Press and our acquiring editor, Eugene O’Connor, who provided excellent feedback and keen observations at different stages of this book. But most of all, we would like to thank all our contributors—a remarkable group of internationally renown scholars and vibrant junior classicists. We are grateful for their ideas, their efficiency, and their patience.

On a more personal note, Patricia would like to thank Ken Mitchell and Carol Mitchell for babysitting for endless hours over Christmas 2006 so that
she could edit the manuscript. And Alex Mitchell, her son, who with his incredible smile and humor, always made even the most tedious moments of editing cheerful. She is grateful to her parents as well for their constant support and encouragement of her work. Genevieve would also like to thank Richard Huxtable for his humor and for providing suitable distractions during the editing process.

Finally, we would like to thank our teachers for introducing us to the potential of reading Latin elegy through the lens(es) of narratology: Alison Sharrock, Duncan Kennedy, and Don Fowler—whose intellectual spark and acute insights into narratology are dearly missed.