To tweak the old adage, many hands make quality work. The collaborative nature of this project means that many, many hands had a part in it, and I am thankful for each of them. These hands include the early visionaries of the Society for the Study of Disability in the Middle Ages (SSDMA), who saw the need for such a volume; the contributors, who worked hard to meet the project’s goals and specifications; the copy editors, whose hands have shaped countless details; the publisher, who has graciously supported the volume; and all those who have contributed feedback and encouragement along the way.

The idea for a sourcebook on medieval disability was first conceived back in 2012 by the members of SSDMA. The concept was originally Moira Fitzgibbons’s, and those members first involved were Jonathan Hsy, Wendy Turner, John Sexton, Joshua R. Eyler, Tory V. Pearman, Will Eggers, Julie Singer, and others. I am grateful for their vision for moving medieval disability studies forward and making it more accessible to students. I inherited not just their vision but their ideas and even sample entries when I took over as General Editor. Without these foundational documents, the project would not be what it is today.

This volume boasts forty contributors, myself excluded, and each has worked diligently to make their texts as engaging and accessible to the readers as possible. The contributors hail from numerous disciplines (as well as half a dozen countries and as many languages), and has brought different perspectives and expertise to their entries. They truly were a pleasure to work with.

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