Preface

From the December 7–9, 2015, about 175 academicians, researchers, teachers, students, consultants, and others, gathered in Mumbai, India and focused on caring for people through humanizing work and work environment. They came not only from all parts of India, but also from all over the globe to present about 260 papers in different forums of the HWWE 2015 conference. These participants represented many different disciplines and interests, and this is reflected in the spectrum of the papers included in this volume.

Of these papers, around 80 papers were considered suitable by the panel of independent referees for acceptance in the Peer Review category, that is, papers which the authors considered were worthy of consideration in a peer-reviewed publication. An internal review of these 80 papers by the editors following the Springer guidelines resulted in a final selection of 43 quality papers for this volume. Apart from quality, the brief given to the selectors was diversity, the result being that agriculture, accessibility, industry (particularly the un-organized sector), occupational health, and psychophysiology are just some of the themes covered here.

Though the conference organizers’ initial paper submission guidelines specified rigorous formatting requirements, there was a fair amount of divergence which needed editorial effort and correspondence with the authors, especially to match the stringent standards of the publisher. The final product is entitled “Ergonomics in Caring for People—Proceedings of the International Conference on Humanizing Work and Work Environment 2015.”

HWWE 2015 was the thirteenth such conference under the aegis of the Indian Society of Ergonomics. As in the case of the first conference, the editors of the present volume hope that it will provide guidance to all concerned in ergonomics application, research, and teaching, and lead to a discussion of needs and strategies for the further growth and development of ergonomics.

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