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It appears appropriate as an introduction to selecting, assembling, and categorizing the material in this volume, that upon the invitation of the Guest Editors, the authors have been asked to provide focus for their work. The Guest Editors wanted the help of renowned experts in the field of higher education. They felt that the scope of the volume should deal primarily with institutions of higher education, rather than the more specialist areas of theory within the domain of educational leadership. The Guest Editors felt that the work should reflect the greatest degree of freedom in approach, allowing for a combination of theory and practice. They knew what they had tried to achieve.

Knowing what we wanted to achieve, it was essential to find writers who could contribute to the volume. Our focus was on those who were both experienced and respected in the field. We were fortunate to have the participation of the authors who included presidents, provosts, and deans from some of the most well-known institutions in the United States, as listed in the U.S. News & World Report "America's Best Colleges." We asked these authors to contribute to the volume, knowing that the faculty members had been recognized for their expertise and contributions to higher education. We asked them to provide insights into their experiences and to share their knowledge with others interested in the field. We are confident that the contributions of these authors will provide valuable insights and guidance for those involved in the field of educational leadership.