## **About the Authors**

James R. Patton is currently the Executive Editor at PRO-ED and an Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Texas at Austin. He has taught students with special needs at the elementary, secondary, and postsecondary levels in Charlottesville, Virginia, Honolulu, Hawaii, and Austin, Texas. He received a BS in preprofessional studies from the University of Notre Dame and completed his graduate work at the University of Virginia. Dr. Patton's primary areas of professional activity are life skills instruction, transition assessment and planning, lifelong learning, adults with learning disabilities, and accommodating students with special needs in inclusive settings.

Mary E. Cronin is Professor of Special Education and Habilitative Services at the University of New Orleans. She has had experiences in teaching students with special needs at the preschool, elementary, and secondary levels. Her research interests include curriculum development, life skills instruction and materials development, behavior management, transition planning, and instructional needs in inclusive settings. Her current interests include teacher training, life skills program development, and transition issues at each educational level. Mary received her BA from Avila College in Kansas City, Missouri; her MEd from the University of Kansas; and her PhD from the University of Texas at Austin.

Susan J. Wood is a doctoral fellow at the University of New Orleans. Her experience includes teaching students with special needs at the middle and high school levels. Her research interests include life skills, transition issues, applied behavior analysis, and self-management techniques. Currently, she is developing a self-monitoring program for at-risk middle school students. Susan earned a BS in elementary education a BA in Psychology, and an MEd in special education from Boston University. She has an MEd in educational administration and a PhD in special education from the University of New Orleans.