Preface

This book expands upon concepts initially discussed in *Life Skills Instruction for All Students with Special Needs: A Practical Guide for Integrating Real-Life Content Into the Curriculum* (Cronin & Patton, 1993). In the 1993 book we presented a continuum for teaching life skills that included comprehensive life skill course development and infusing life skill information into existing course content. Our intent in writing the *Life Skills Instruction* book was to provide an array of instructional options for teachers to assist their students of varying abilities in acquiring skills for successful adult functioning. Since the publication of that book, many teachers, school administrators, and university faculty have encouraged us to expand the infusion option presented in the book because instructing all students in general education classes in the real-world application of content information has become a national goal through GOALS 2000: Educate America Act of 1994, the School-to-Work Opportunities Act of 1994, and the Secretary's Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS) (1991) projects. This book is the result of that growing need.

In the compilation of this document, we were reaquainted with the complexities of obtaining copyright approval. We would like to acknowledge the following publishers who, by granting permissions to reprint pages from student textbooks, assisted us in making this book possible: Addison-Wesley Longman (Menlo Park, California); Glencoe McGraw Hill (Mission Hills, California); Holt, Rinehart and Winston (Orlando, Florida); Houghton Mifflin (Evanston, Illinois); PRO-ED, Inc. (Austin, Texas); Silver Burdett Ginn (Upper Saddle River, New Jersey); and Steck-Vaughn (Austin, Texas).

This book would not be in your hands had it not been for the generosity of others and the continued faith that sunny days do come eventually. We would like to recognize and acknowledge the professionals and their schools who were very generous in letting us search endlessly for just the right examples from student textbooks: Dr. Peggy Kirby and Jeanne Monte of the Jefferson Community School in Metairie, Louisiana, Dr. Roslyn Smith, Cynthia Horne, and Anita Williams of Areatha Castle Haley Elementary School in New Orleans, Louisiana; Barry Newberger and Gilly Jaunet of Jesuit High School, New Orleans, Louisiana; the teachers and administrators of Bishop Perry Middle School, New Orleans, Louisiana; Dr. Jay Miller and Sonja Yates, University of New Orleans; Robin Spencer, Austin, Texas; and all our students at the University of New Orleans and the University of Texas at Austin and their students who continue to remind us how important life skills are for all of us.

J. R. P., M. E. C., S. J. W.