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John M. Swales
The University of Michigan

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Series editors' preface

The field of genre studies entered applied linguistics in the early 1980s, blossomed in the 1990s, and looks set to flourish for many years to come. The rapidly growing interest has been due not only to the theoretical insights it offers into communication in academic, workplace, and other settings, but also to its relevance for major areas of language teaching, most obviously, but not only, languages for specific purposes.

One of the most distinguished genre scholars is Professor John Swales, of the University of Michigan. His 1990 book, *Genre Analysis*, is a benchmark in the field and remains one of the most widely respected and widely cited volumes in the *Cambridge Applied Linguistics Series* well over a decade since its appearance. Now, *Research Genres: Explorations and Applications* will assuredly appeal to an even wider audience of researchers, graduate students, and classroom practitioners in applied linguistics, and to scholars and practitioners in communication, rhetoric, and education, as a whole.

Professor Swales's new book focuses on research genres, in both the oral and written modes, at the graduate level in higher education, especially at U.S. universities. Issues discussed include the growing influence of English and globalization on today's research world; the potential for "non-native speakers" to be marginalized, as a result; the nature of genres; approaches to genre analysis; the impact of corpus linguistics, computers, and other technology on genres; and much more.

Research Genres offers insights for university administrators and faculty in almost any discipline. Most of their work, after all, at some stage involves a wide range of common events, procedures, and processes in higher education: from public relations brochures, development plans, and position announcements, through curriculum vitae, research talks, and conference presentations, to the Ph.D. dissertation, the Ph.D. defense, and journal articles. John Swales writes insightfully on all these and other genres, and does so in an erudite yet accessible style that will appeal to almost any reader. We are especially pleased to welcome this latest addition to *CALS*.

Michael H. Long
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Acknowledgments

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In other ways, the current volume has not sprung suddenly out of nowhere but has its antecedent traces in earlier work with which I have been associated. Earlier versions of parts of Chapter 2 appeared in my 1997 Wei Lun lecture at the Chinese University of Hong Kong and in Swales and Feak (2000). The issue of *repurposing* genres (Chapter 3) was first discussed in an article with Inger Askehave published in 2000, while questions pertaining to textual silence were first aired in Dressen and Swales (2000). Aspects of my study of Michigan dissertation defenses were presented at the 2002 annual general meeting of the British Association of Applied Linguistics (BAAL). Various parts of sections in Chapter 7 on the research article have progenitors: The section on Methods owes something to Swales and Feak (2000), and that on Discussions to Swales and Luebs (2002). I have also used some pieces of a talk at the 2000 Hong Kong conference on "Research and Practice in Professional Discourse" in Chapter 8, and this chapter's penultimate section on Corpus Linguistics is in part a rethinking of an essay published in the 2002 volume on *Academic Discourse* edited by John Flowerdew.

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