ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I was fortunate enough to have studied with Paul Heilker at Virginia Tech and, then, with Christy Friend, John Muckelbauer, and Pat Gehrke at the University of South Carolina. I am intensely grateful to all of them for their persistent influence on my work. This manuscript, in many ways, is shaped by (and, thus, is only possible because of) their influences. Christy Friend, in particular, continues to serve as a guide and an inspiration for my work not only as a scholar, but also as an administrator and teacher.

I would also like to thank my ever patient and thoughtful colleagues at the University of Northern Colorado, who read early drafts of the manuscript and helped me to revise it with a more diverse audience in mind. Those colleagues include Tracey Sedinger, Molly Desjardins, April Miller, Joseph Chaves, and Kristin Bovaird-Abbo.

Finally, I’d like to thank Mom, Liz, and Jason for their patience, support, and grounded perspectives throughout the process of drafting and revising this manuscript. Without them, I’m not sure that I could have sustained the work beyond the first chapter.

An earlier version of Chapter 3 was published in Rhetoric Review in 2010 (volume 29, issue 4, pages 364-78), under the title “The Cultivated Self: Self Writing, Subjectivity, and Debate.” I wish to thank the publisher, Taylor and Francis, for permission to reproduce this material. I am indebted to the reviewers and editors at WAC Clearinghouse and Parlor Press for their invaluable feedback on the manuscript and for their support of this project. I am particularly grateful to Peter Elbow, who served as one of the reviewers, for his generous responses and helpful suggestions at various stages of the project’s development.