

Preface

This book grew out of the RIPE@2002 conference about broadcasting and convergence organised jointly by the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Tampere, and Yleisradio [YLE], the Finnish Public Broadcasting Company. The 2002 conference materials may be reviewed at: www.yle.fi/keto/ripe.

Re-Visionary Interpretations of the Public Enterprise [RIPE] is an initiative to strengthen collaborative relations between media scholars and practitioners. The focus of this initiative is the contemporary relevance of the remit for public service broadcasting, and public service media more generally.

The participants in the 2002 conference express appreciation to the Academy of Finland [in relation to the project *Changing Media, Changing Europe*, under the auspices of the European Science Foundation] to YLE's Office for Corporate Development (YLE Kehitystoiminta) for the sponsorship and support.

The RIPE@2002 conference greatly benefited from the work of the Conference Planning Group and their sponsoring universities: Jo Bardoel (University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands), John Jackson (Concordia University, Canada), Per Jauert (University of Aarhus, Denmark), Henrik Søndergaard (University of Copenhagen, Denmark) and Alan G. Stavitsky (University of Oregon, USA). On behalf of the entire Conference Planning Group, we wish to thank so many colleagues and friends that contributed papers and presentations in the 2002 conference.

The editors extend warm thanks and best regards to the authors for their contributions to this volume. This book is the fruit of their respective and collective good work, and we certainly appreciate your patience, encouragement and unwavering support.

Finally, we are pleased to announce the RIPE@2004 conference that will take place in Denmark and is being co-sponsored by the University of Aarhus and Denmark's Radio [DR]: *Mission, Market and Money: Public Service Media and the Cultural Commons*.

Helsinki and Tampere in May, 2003

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