Acknowledgements

To my family, *in every sense of the word*

Family: A group of individuals related by blood or marriage or by a feeling of closeness.
I’ve always been a dreamer, but if someone would have told me when I was 10 that I’d get paid to feed my own curiosity and to travel around the world studying migrating birds, even I might not have believed them. And yet, in many ways that is what I’ve been privileged enough to do these past four years. But doing a PhD is not all the stuff of dreams, it is hard work and many people have helped me on this journey.

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Deborah M. Buehler – Toronto, 1 September 2008