This volume tries to make a bold step forward. For the first time ever, it unites a number of highly renowned neuroscientists and philosophers, from all over the world, who are together investigating the way in which the content of subjective experience is correlated with events in the brain. The current collection grew out of the conference “Neural Correlates of Consciousness: Empirical and Conceptual Questions,” which took place June 19–22, 1998, in Bremen, Germany. I had the honor to act as the principal organizer for this conference, and I am now very pleased to be able to present a small selection of the many excellent contributions that were made there.

The 1998 Bremen meeting was a special event for the consciousness research community for several reasons. One was that it was organized and supported by two newly founded and particularly dynamic academic institutions: the Association for the Scientific Study of Consciousness (ASSC) and the Hanse-Wissenschaftskolleg in Delmenhorst. I am deeply indebted to both organizations, and want to take the opportunity to thank some of the people who have helped me. First, the members of the ASSC conference committee: Bill Banks, David Chalmers, Christof Koch, Antti Revonsuo, and Patrick Wilken. They assured the scientific quality of the meeting, and in doing so indirectly made it possible for this volume to come into existence. Second, I wish to thank all those who have supported me on the level of local organization. Professor Dr. Dr. Gerhard Roth, as director of the hosting institution, financially secured the enterprise and, with continuous enthusiasm, backed it up on many levels. Ingeborg Mehser, Diana Garde, Martin Meier, Beatrice Riewe, and Marion Wachholz-Logemann mastered a number of unforeseeable difficulties and took countless burdens off my back. I could not have done without the continuous support from the superb team in the Hanse-Wissenschaftskolleg. The same is true, in particular, of my wife, Anja. She is my continuous source of strength and inspiration. In a way, however, I am most proud of the student team led by John-Dylan Haynes, Harald Schmidt, and Sven Schütt: Jakob Bösenberg, Christina Egger, Christine Häßler, Martin Haindorff, Jürgen Hanken, Alexander Hillmann, Stefan Huth, Tobias Gronau, Ulrich Kühne, Heide Müller-Leiendecker, Marcus Naumer, Anett Noster, and Andreas Wawrzinek. Some of them may not yet know it, but they are the consciousness researchers of the future.

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