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Any edited volume is by nature a collective effort. I have been fortunate to have been able to draw on the work of an immensely talented group of leading scholars. I am most grateful to them for rising to the challenge and providing their expertise to the question as to whether our planet is full.

The volume arose out of a seminar series at the Oxford Martin School devoted to this topic. Many of the chapters found their initial inspiration in those seminars and were enriched by the contributions of published and unpublished participants from across the University of Oxford. The seminar series was organized by Alison Sapping and Chris Brown, to whom I am most grateful. Alison took the lead in discussing the project with Oxford University Press. At the time, Aimee Wright was proved in the Oxford Martin School. I am grateful to her for her support and guidance and to David Clark and Chris Brown for their excellent research assistance. I am also grateful to David Clark who once again has demonstrated his extraordinary talents, from substantial contributions to the seminar series to his careful attention to detail in improving each chapter. This volume owes much to David's tremendous contribution to the project.

This book is dedicated to the memory of James Martin who died during the preparation of the manuscript. The subject of the book is one that he repeatedly supported. Our interdisciplinary approach to the question is one that he repeatedly supported. This publication and the seminar series on which it is based are proof of the extent to which Jim's legacy lives on. Jim Martin was a firm believer in the power of ideas and the need to pursue them with the courage and hope policy. My hope is that in addressing the question as to whether our planet is full this volume will arm readers with new insights that will allow them to shape their answer. As Jim Martin emphasized, humanity is at the crossroads, and it is up to us to choose which path we take.

Ian Goldin, Oxford, UK

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