From the President

Gerry Canavan

We now are getting dangerously close to my last note as president of SFRA! It has been my genuine honor to serve this organization in this way and I look forward to staying on in the role of immediate past president for the next three years. I really want to encourage anyone who is interested in taking on an enlarged service role in the group to respond to Keren Omry’s recent calls for candidates for election this fall (including the next secretary and the president, as well as the two new “at-large” positions) as well as a US-based candidate for the outreach and publicity officer. And if you have experience with grants and/or with investment, we would love to talk to you about the development office position; please reach out! Also note Ida Yoshinaga’s recent call for the “Support a New Scholar” grant—and, if you’re eligible, consider applying! If you have any questions about any of these opportunities, please, reach out.

Last month’s conference in Oslo was a true highlight of my time as president; I want to thank Bodhisattva Chattopadhyay and the CoFutures collective for putting on a simply incredible event that I know people will be talking about for a long time. As discussed at the business meeting on the last day of the conference, the next two conferences for our group will be Dresden 2023 and Estonia 2024; I’m glad to say we have secured US sites for 2025 and 2026 and will publicly announce those as soon as we’ve worked out all the details. If you’re interested in hosting SFRA in 2027 or beyond, reach out! It’s truly never too early to start thinking about this.

As always, if you have an event you’d like SFRA to distribute through its media lists, or any other idea or concern about the work the organization is doing, please don’t hesitate to reach out to me at gerry.canavan@marquette.edu. I’d love to hear from you. These are hard times, and getting harder, but, as I said in my little speech at the awards banquet, the people in this organization lift me up, and bring me hope.