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## Acknowledgments

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

As always, we are indebted to all those who helped with the many aspects of this enterprise. While it was of special pleasure for us to share ideas and intimate time with this cohort of authors, we are ennobled by the readiness of our community of letters to partake and reinforce our confidence that the International Roundtable is a tradition in the making destined to become part of the permanent tissue of the College.

But there is a sad note to the appearance of this volume. Paul Gerdes '98, who contributed to this Roundtable and was a superior student in International Studies, died this spring. We mourn his loss and what could have been, but we will continue to remember the intelligence and cosmopolitan commitments that marked his presence at Macalester.

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The Macalester International Roundtable, an intellectual festival convened each October, is an occasion for serious conversations across the College on topics of transnational significance. The practice is to commission a set of essays — a keynote address, followed by four additional essays delivered by seasoned scholars — which become the center of debate and discussion. Each of the four essays receives public response from a Macalester student, a faculty member, and a fellow of the World Press Institute, which has been affiliated with the College for more than thirty-five years. The purposes of the Roundtable are to cogitate together upon crucial but difficult global questions and to cultivate further the equipoise that minds of the Macalester academic community have long been expected to hold between local anxieties and transnational pressures.