Acknowledgment

Reading maketh a full man; conference a ready man; and writing an exact man.
—Sir Francis Bacon, 1625 essay, Of Studies

Putting pen to paper for any research/analytical/theoretical work is essentially a solitary undertaking and its ultimate completion is a test of the commitment and perseverance of the author—no one else really having such a vital stake. At the same time, such an effort would be impossible to accomplish without the support of many others who provide a wide range of “conference,” from guidance and information to less tangible but nevertheless critically important inspiration, validation and encouragement.

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