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There are a number of presentations given at the symposium that are not gathered in this volume, and are forthcoming in other publications. The editors wish to warmly thank these participants for enriching the symposium with their valuable contributions.

We also wish to thank our symposium host, St. Athanasius College together with the wonderful team of community members and volunteers for their warm hospitality and their crucial support in organizing the three-day event. The symposium also featured a photo exhibition showcasing over one hundred photographic images of Coptic modernity. Several of the photos, that are now in St. Athanasius College's private collection, have been included in this volume. We wish to thank Dilip Suriel for kindly purchasing the photos for the symposium's exhibition.

The editors are also grateful to our colleagues at FSC, Rev. Fr. Magdelin van Zuylen, and Casper van den Hoven, who smoothly brought the volume through the publication process with their crucial oversight.

Finally, this symposium was a celebration of Copts in the modern era, and genuinely we were truly blessed and honored to have had in our presence a contemporary angelic character in every sense of the word: His Grace Bishop Athanasius, of blessed memory, the abbot of the Monastery of St. Macarius in the Wadi al-Natrun. We delighted in his company, his warmth, his simple-