Editor’s Introduction

Welcome to the first issue of the Molinari Review, a peer-reviewed, open-access, print-on-demand, interdisciplinary journal of libertarian research published by the Molinari Institute.

The Molinari Review publishes scholarship, sympathetic or critical, in and/or on the libertarian tradition, broadly understood as including classical liberalism, individualist anarchism, social anarchism, anarcho-capitalism, anarcho-communism, anarcho-syndicalism, anarcho-feminism, panarchism, voluntary-ism, mutualism, agorism, distributism, bleeding-heart libertarianism, Austrianism, Georgism, public choice, and beyond – essentially, everything from Emma Goldman to Ayn Rand, C. L. R. James to F. A. Hayek, Alexis de Tocqueville to Michel Foucault. (A version of that last sentence appeared in our original call for papers; I’m pleased to see that the very first article in this issue draws links between Tocqueville and Foucault.) We see exciting affiliations among these strands of the libertarian tradition; but you don’t have to agree with us about that to publish in our pages.

Many adherents of these strands, to be sure, would strenuously deny any affiliation with adherents of other strands. In particular, social anarchists routinely deny that anarcho-capitalists count as genuine anarchists, while anarcho-capitalists for their part routinely deny that social anarchists count as genuine libertarians. But as individualist anarchists in the tradition of Benjamin Tucker, Lysander Spooner, and Voltairine de Cleyre, we at the Molinari Institute stand closer to both the social anarchist and anarcho-capitalist traditions than they stand to each other, which is perhaps why we find it easier to see points of commonality, and avenues for fruitful conversation, between them.

Disciplines in which we seek to publish include philosophy, political science, economics, history, sociology, psychology, anthropology, theology, ecology, literature, and law. We aim to enhance the visibility of libertarian scholarship, to expand the boundaries of traditional libertarian discussion, and to provide a home for cutting-edge research in the theory and practice of human liberty.

The Molinari Review will be published both in print and online (with free access); all content will be made available through a Creative Commons Attribution license. We regard intellectual-property restrictions as a
combination of censorship and protectionism, and hope to contribute to a freer culture.

The *Molinari Review*, like the Institute that publishes it, takes its name from Gustave de Molinari (1819-1912), arguably the founder of market anarchism. There were market-friendly anarchists before Molinari – Thomas Hodgskin, Josiah Warren, and Pierre-Joseph Proudhon being the most prominent examples – but Molinari was the first thinker to describe how market mechanisms might provide security functions in the absence of the state. His account is not necessarily the best, but it has at least the merit of being the earliest.

Without my previous experience (2004-2008) editing the *Journal of Libertarian Studies*, I would have had a much harder time figuring out how to put this journal together. In particular I’m grateful to Judy Thommesen, my managing editor on the *JLS*, for originally showing me the ropes. I’d also like to thank the *Molinari Review*’s editorial board for the invaluable support they’ve given to this project, with especial mention of Per Bylund, Stephan Kinsella, and Jeffrey Tucker.

Roderick T. Long
Auburn, Alabama
May 2016