



Fafnir Becomes First Academic Journal to Win a World Fantasy Award

At the start of November, Fafnir’s editors-in-chief had the very great honour of accepting a World Fantasy Award, one of the leading international awards in speculative fiction. The awards are bestowed each year by the committee of the World Fantasy Convention; Fafnir won in the category for non-professionally (that is, non-commercially) published or produced works. Below is the acceptance speech that Fafnir’s editors gave at the ceremony.

We’re thrilled to be accepting this award, the first World Fantasy Award ever given to an academic journal, and we congratulate our fellow nominees. The award validates the importance of open-access speculative fiction scholarship as a rich contribution to the discourse about who we are as human beings and who we want to be.

Fafnir has been publishing for only six years, and it’s been the work of many talented people. We’d like to first mention the other two team members who make *Fafnir* possible. Dr. Dennis Wise, our reviews editor, MLA guru, and Swiss army knife of academic editors, has built *Fafnir*’s book-review section up from about three reviews per year to over 15, keeping scholars up to date on recent work in the field; worked to get *Fafnir* accepted into the Directory of Open-Access Journals; and initiated work on our style sheet, our recent journal redesign, and our newly liberalised copyright policy.

Our managing editor, Ms. Jaana Hakala, is similarly multitasking: she modestly characterises her wizardry as “just wrapping whatever you give to me in as nice a package as I can with the tools I have”, but that entails typesetting, layout, document management, and website management for each issue, as well as serving as an abundant font of institutional memory. Their skills and professionalism are crucial to producing a quality journal.

We’d like to thank all the other people who have made this very great honour possible: the board and members of our publisher, the Finnish Society for Science Fiction and Fantasy Research; the editors-in-chief who have served before us and built *Fafnir* from the ground up; the authors who send us their

research; the peer reviewers who graciously donate their time and expertise to advance the field of speculative-fiction research; our readers; the World Fantasy Award judges; and the broader speculative-fiction community.

Meillä on kunnia jatkaa työtämme osana tätä eloisaa yhteisöä ja olla mukana näyttämässä maailmalle, miten ajatella uusia ajatuksia, uneksia uusia unelmia ja rakentaa uusia tulevaisuuksia.

Vi är hedrade att fortsätta vårt arbete med denna livfulla gemenskap för att visa världen hur man tänker nya tankar, drömmer nya drömmar och bygger upp nya framtidsutsikter.

We are honoured to continue our work with this vibrant community as we all show the world how to think new thoughts, dream new dreams, and build new futures.

Kiitos, tack, thank you.