Dear Senior Fellows and Friends,

The Hawaiian word "Aloha" is among the most sacred and powerful of all Hawaiian words. Speaking it over time is said to have the power to transform one's attitude, heal one's negative emotions, and help to protect and guide one's lifetime journey. --wiki.answers.com

Although I picked this theme for a more mundane reason (what a mellow way to say Goodbye and Hello), the excerpt above is my enduring wish for all of us, as individuals and as leaders.

It has been a privilege to foster this multi-sector network since 2003. We've been in conversation with other amazing people and have had the opportunity to recharge, reflect, laugh, and learn – from them and from each other. As some of you know, I am retiring at the end of August in order to move to my mother's place in Colorado Springs, to enjoy and help her as she enters her tenth decade on the planet. For those who are still along for the ride in 2014, SFF will reconvene using experimental formats until we find one or two that serve our purposes. In the interim, you'll be able to find me via LinkedIn, Twitter, and Gmail.

There is one short assignment beforehand, which those of us who have done it will "turn in" during introductions. Please take a look at the new report, <u>Building the Enterprise - Nine</u> <u>Strategies for a More Integrated, Effective Government</u>, and come with one thoughtful observation about it. What does it say? What do you think of the recommendations? And so on. Whether or not we're working in government today, this will have an effect and it ought to be on our radar.

This invitation is non-transferable so that I know who's coming and can bring the right nametags.

We will convene in Vie de France's meeting room, right rear off the center atrium in the Graduate School building. This time around, there will be a buffet rather than menu service. There will be no charge for the evening, except that you will be responsible for any alcoholic beverages you order.

The room will open at 5:30 p.m. and we'll do introductions as usual at 6:30 p.m. Hope to see you there!

In the event that a breakfast is held in August, you will receive a second evite.

Regards, Kitty