



June 12, 2023

Dear Colleagues,

First, I want to sincerely thank everyone who voted in last month's elections for AAA and Section leadership. Candidates are being notified and the election results will be publicized soon.

We now have an equally important all-member [referendum](#) about whether AAA should boycott Israeli academic institutions, which will be held for 30 days, from June 15 – July 14. Beginning this Thursday, June 15th, you will receive an email from AAA with details on how to participate. The email will contain a link to the referendum ballot and your voting credentials.

Please also note that:

- To vote on the first day of balloting, Thursday, June 15th, you will need to be a full member in good standing by COB Monday, June 12.
- You can still join after that to make your voice heard, but there will be a 2-3 business day lag from when you join to when you will have access to the referendum ballot.
- If your membership expires at the end of June, and you have not voted by then, you will not be allowed to vote after that time unless your membership is renewed.
- If you are a member and you do not receive an email by noon on Friday, June 16th, please first check your spam folder for an email from noreply@email.americananthro.org. If the email is not there either, contact us at elections@americananthro.org.

This is indeed a contentious issue and I want you to know that we will do everything we can to find the proper balance on all the considerations before us as we prepare to make decisions appropriate to our scholarly and professional society. We know that our actions must be accountable to the membership and responsible to the life of the Association, including commitment to a range of other important AAA projects.

Toward that end, it is important that we emphasize the impact the vote will have on our Association. We have placed a "[Points to Consider for our Association](#)" reflecting AAA's experience from the 2014-16 referendum among the additional resources we are offering regarding the issue. An overview of [reasons to vote for the boycott](#), and an overview of [reasons to vote against the boycott](#) have also been added. I encourage all our members to review it as we move forward.

It is important that our members inform themselves on the issues at stake, the potential impacts on the Israel-Palestine conflict and on the Association, and take part in this referendum. We encourage members to view the referendum, the [Frequently Asked Questions](#), the information provided by various stakeholders, and other relevant information in the AAA [Resources Regarding Engagement with Israel/Palestine](#) section on our website, and we urge you to weigh in with your vote!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ramona Pérez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "P".

Ramona L. Pérez, President
American Anthropological Association