



FoACC Report

Members: Jeff Maskovsky (chair), Anne Allison, Jada Benn Torres, Elizabeth Chin, Mary Gray, Kenneth Guest, Marcel LaFlamme, Ramona Pérez, and Danilyn Rutherford

AAA Staff and Leadership: Ady Arguelles-Sabatier, Sean Mallin, Whitney Battle-Baptiste, Carolyn Rouse, and Lee Baker

April 22, 2026

Summary

The Future of Anthropological Communication Committee (FoACC) was established in early 2024 to conduct a peer review of the journal portfolio and plan for the next publishing contract. It was given this task in response to growing dissatisfaction with the current publishing arrangement, publisher feedback about the need to streamline the portfolio, and financial challenges facing the portfolio and the AAA more broadly. Its recommendation follows the completion of the peer review process, conversations with potential publishing partners, and collaborative planning with publishing sections conducted throughout 2024 and 2025.

Based on existing journal and section health, the proposals received from the Society for Medical Anthropology, the Society for Linguistic Anthropology, and the Association for Feminist Anthropology, and with an eye toward expanding the presence of archaeology and biological anthropology in the association's larger publishing profile, FoAAC recommends the AAA move forward with a reorganized journal portfolio consisting of six journals: *American Anthropologist*, *American Ethnologist*, *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*, *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*, *Feminist Anthropology*, and a new collaborative journal, *Anthropological Praxis*.

The reorganization offers a more integrated, accessible, intellectually coherent, and forward-looking portfolio. It refocuses AAA publishing to facilitate bold and cross-cutting work, elevate perspectives from the four subfields and practicing anthropology, and allow AAA to better support authors and editors. It also addresses the critical challenges facing the current portfolio: unsustainable size relative to peer associations and publisher expectations, ongoing financial deficits, severe editorial labor crisis, and intellectual siloing. Though the reorganized portfolio has fewer titles, it retains about 52% of research



articles published, 66% of citations, 75% of views, and 66% of direct revenue (79% when including AnthroSource subscriptions) of the current portfolio, while better positioning the AAA to secure a publishing contract aligned with our needs and providing enhanced support to portfolio journals.

Through FoACC's collaborative process, eleven publishing sections elected to pursue publishing options outside the portfolio through library partnerships or section-sponsored arrangements. The AAA fully supports these efforts, and several sections have already identified potential partners that would align with their publishing goals and offer opportunities not available to these journals within the reorganized portfolio. These sections will continue to receive limited AAA support while maintaining autonomy over their publishing activities. As sections are not legal entities, the AAA must retain ownership of all journal titles but will use its role as title owner to support sections in reaching their publishing goals, while also ensuring proper stewardship and member access to back catalogs

This recommendation represents an exciting and sustainable path forward that maintains the breadth and quality of AAA publishing while addressing the structural challenges that have threatened the portfolio's—and the association's—viability. It promises a robust journal portfolio with robust publication opportunities outside of it, ultimately expanding the already diverse ecosystem of anthropological publishing. Portfolio journals will continue to thrive with increased AAA support, having a greater impact on the field through broader reach and diversity and expanded subfield emphasis, particularly in archaeology and biological anthropology. Journals outside the portfolio will be able to find publishing homes better tailored to their needs.

A reorganization on this scale is a risky endeavor, and one that the leadership of the AAA avoided for over a decade despite knowing the challenges facing the portfolio and the association. This reorganization is not just long overdue; it is necessary for the continued viability of AAA publishing and the intellectual communities that it fosters. Feedback from a publisher during the 2022 RFP process mentioned that AAA's expectations were out of sync with the current realities of academic publishing, in part because the association had not taken up the task of addressing its large portfolio and “niche” titles. FoACC took up that task to ensure the continued relevance and impact of AAA journals. Although the shape of the portfolio is changing, the steps we are taking now realign the AAA with the widely supported goal of creating a dynamic, diverse, and accessible ecosystem for anthropological publishing worldwide.

Background

The AAA currently maintains a portfolio of 22 active journals. These journals are part of the AnthroSource platform, which includes the back catalogs of these journals, archives of section journals that are no longer active, and several hosted titles, including *Anthropology News* and *Cultural Anthropology*. This arrangement has been central to AAA publishing for nearly two decades, providing members with easy access to anthropological scholarship and allowing smaller journals to continue publishing through subsidization from larger revenue-generating journals, particularly *American Anthropologist* and *American Ethnologist*.

However, the portfolio faces several challenges that have rendered the current structure unsustainable. These challenges emerge from both external pressures in academic publishing and internal structural issues within the portfolio itself, including year-on-year financial deficits within both the journal portfolio and the AAA.

Origins of the Portfolio Approach

In the early 2000s, publishing sections in the AAA faced a crisis. At the time, the AAA self-published 26 journals, which had grown from nine journals in 1975, with publishing services purchased from the University of California Press. Individual sections were responsible for the publishing costs of their journals, and these costs had soared over the subsequent years, while revenue had declined. Almost all the journals cost more to produce than they generated in revenue for their sections. Several sections nearly went bankrupt trying to support their journals, and several journals folded, unable to keep up with expenses.

AAA developed the portfolio approach in response to this crisis. The association wanted to remove the financial burden from individual sections by pooling costs and revenue so that smaller journals could continue publishing, subsidized by the two main revenue-generating journals, AA and AE. Around the same time, in 2003, AAA built the AnthroSource platform (at a cost of about \$2 million) to give its members a single place to access digital versions of its journals, including back catalogs, which the AAA had paid to collect and digitize. Previously, print issues of journals were only available to section members; through AnthroSource, the AAA made journal content accessible to all of its members, and beyond, expanding the reach of this work. However, AnthroSource has not kept up with changes in how people find and read new articles, and paired with the siloed portfolio structure, limits the visibility of important work for potential readers across anthropology and related disciplines.

With the creation of AnthroSource and the journal portfolio, the AAA took over the publishing costs for each journal and provided publishing allocations to each publishing section, even if their journal did not generate less revenue than it cost to support. While there were immediate concerns about the financial sustainability of this model, these were alleviated for a time with the move to Wiley in 2008, which brought increased overall revenue to the association. Instead of paying UC Press for publishing services, the AAA licensed content to Wiley in return for a guaranteed royalty. Still, in 2012, the AAA Director of Publishing sent a memo to section leaders and editors stating that “in the very near future, the AAA journal portfolio will cost more to produce than there is revenue to support it.”

This prediction proved accurate. Over the past decade, AAA Pubs has consistently run a deficit supporting the portfolio, often drawing on resources from other areas of the association to cover the losses from journal publishing. It has run this deficit even while continuing allocation payments to publishing sections, leading many sections to believe that the portfolio or their section's journal is revenue positive. During this time, there were many conversations among the Executive Board, the Anthropological Communication Committee, the Publishing Futures Committee, and other ad hoc committees about reorganizing the portfolio, but no significant changes were made. In fact, the portfolio added several new journals over the last decade, even while the publishing program continued to run at a net loss.

2023 Wiley Contract

In 2022, the AAA sent out a request for proposals for the expiring publishing contract with Wiley. Only two publishers submitted final offers. Other presses withdrew earlier in the process, often citing the size of the portfolio and transition costs as the main impediments. This was like the previous RFP process, in 2017, when only commercial publishers submitted proposals; university presses that had been contacted said they did not have capacity to take on a portfolio of our size or could not match Wiley's financial offer.

Wiley was awarded the contract, which began in 2023. The selection process had limited section and board consultation, which contributed to dissatisfaction with the new contract terms. Many section leaders and journal editors did not understand the implications of the new contract for their journals and were upset about the lack of transparency and inclusion in the decision process. For example, the new contract came with production requirements that were only disclosed to editors after the contract was signed. Finally,

prior commitments made during the 2023 contract process created expectations that were not fully disclosed to the Executive Board or publishing sections at the time.

Changes in Academic Publishing

The AAA's publishing challenges connect to broader transformations in academic publishing. Over the past two decades, multiple forces have reshaped the publishing landscape:

- The shift from print to digital publishing and distribution fundamentally altered how scholars engage with journals. Readers no longer read journal issues sequentially; instead, they often discover individual articles through databases, digital repositories, or social media. This has altered how standalone journal titles—particularly smaller or more niche titles—are valued.
- Declining university and library funding has eroded the subscription revenue that historically sustained academic journals.
- The evolution of journal subscription models has altered the playing field for society publishers like the AAA. In particular, the rise of “Big Deal” subscription packages, where commercial publishers sell bundled subscriptions rather than individual journal access, has resulted in “publisher lock-in,¹ making it increasingly difficult for society publishers to transition between publishing partners, as subscriber data and institutional relationships become less portable.²
- The rise and transformation of open access initiatives has introduced new business models, including article processing charges (APCs) and transformative agreements, where research funders or institutions pay to make their researchers' work openly accessible. These models have benefited some AAA journals in recent years but remain available primarily through large commercial publishers.
- Consolidation among commercial publishers has concentrated market power in fewer hands, reducing options for associations seeking publishing partners and limiting alternatives to major commercial presses.

But the AAA also faces internal challenges, particularly around the size and composition of the journal portfolio. Feedback during the 2022 RFP process included that the AAA's expectations were out of sync with the current realities of academic publishing, in part because they had not taken up the task of addressing its large portfolio and restructuring

² <https://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/2018/10/04/navigating-the-big-deal/>.

its many “niche” titles. In other words, they did not believe the AAA’s portfolio, with its many “niche” titles, was viable in the future publishing landscape.

FoACC

The AAA Executive Board established the Future of Anthropological Communication Committee (FoACC), chaired by Jeff Maskovsky, in early 2024 to evaluate the portfolio and its publishing options ahead of the next contract. The committee members were nominated by journal editors and section leaders.

In the months before FoACC was established, the ACC held several town hall meetings with editors and section leaders to address urgent operational issues, journal and section relations with AAA Pubs, and dissatisfaction with the new Wiley contract.

FoACC built on these conversations to address the myriad challenges posed to the AAA and publishing sections by the current portfolio structure. These challenges include the significant financial loss regularly incurred by the AAA in supporting the portfolio and the desire among many publishing sections for models better tailored to their needs.

Portfolio Peer Review

From mid- to late 2024, FoACC carried out a portfolio peer review. This included a journal self-study, which gathered qualitative information about each journal's distinct goals and contributions, as well as a AAA member survey on publishing and reading practices. FoACC also held preliminary discussions with publishers to better understand their perception of the portfolio.

The peer review revealed significant alignment around what publishing sections desire: more access, inclusion, visibility/discoverability, multimodal formats, and editorial support, as well as more accessibility for early-career and non-US-based scholars. Sections also expressed a desire for more collaboration, including across journals. But the peer review process also revealed—or reaffirmed—several challenges facing the portfolio: its size, labor demands, financial sustainability, and intellectual siloing.

Portfolio Size

The AAA’s portfolio is significantly oversized compared to peer associations (Table 1). All of these associations have larger memberships but much smaller journal portfolios. The AAA

has about 3.14 journals per 1,000 members, while the other associations in the table average 0.62 journals per 1,000 members.

Table 1. Association Journal Portfolios

Association	Journals	Members (est.)	Journals/1000 members
American Anthropological Association	22	7,000	3.14
American Political Science Association	13	11,000	1.18
American Sociological Association	12	10,000	1.20
American Economic Association	9	23,000	0.39
Society for American Archaeology	4	7,500	0.53
American Historical Association	1	11,000	0.09

The portfolio also exceeds the capacity of many university and independent presses that might otherwise align with AAA’s publishing goals regarding accessibility, diversity, quality, and innovation (Table 2). For these presses, assuming responsibility for 22 additional journals would require substantially increasing publishing staff and expenses, in addition to facing significant transition costs converting Wiley’s subscriber data and metadata into their systems.³ This explains why only commercial publishers, which operate at the scale of hundreds or even thousands of journals, submitted final bids in both 2017 and 2022. Many university presses, facing mounting budget pressures from their home institutions, cannot shoulder this administrative burden and financial risk. FoACC’s conversations with potential partners over the past year reaffirmed this reality; university and independent presses expressed interest only in a portfolio with fewer journals. A streamlined portfolio would allow the AAA to engage with a wider range of publishers during the next RFP process.

Table 2. University and Independent Press Journal Portfolios

Press	Total Journals Published (All Disciplines)
Berghahn	41
University of California Press	46
Duke University Press	60

³ See footnote 1 on publisher lock-in. For more on how subscriptions and related data from commercial publishers have become less “portable” when shifting publishers, see:

<https://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/2018/10/04/navigating-the-big-deal/>



Labor Crisis

Academic publishing, like academia generally, is facing a labor crisis that affects the AAA portfolio at multiple levels. The publish-or-perish model has intensified pressure on authors and peer reviewers. Across the portfolio, peer review backlogs have extended the time from submission to publication to more than a year at some journals. Reviewer fatigue is endemic, with many scholars receiving multiple review requests weekly and declining most of them.

The labor crisis also profoundly affects sections' ability to recruit and support editorial teams. Several journals have experienced failed editor searches, extended searches, or proceeded with less-preferred candidates. Whereas editors historically received course releases or funds for editorial assistants, most editors today receive little or no institutional support. Several journals are currently edited by precarious or untenured scholars without previous editorial experience.

Many publishing sections also struggle to retain members, reducing the pool from which to recruit editors, associate editors, and editorial board members. In July 2025, the average publishing section had only 164 professional members. Eight publishing sections had fewer than 120 professional members, and three had fewer than 85 professional members. When one considers that 22 editor-in-chief positions must be filled every few years across the portfolio—more when accounting for editorial collectives, associate editors, and editorial boards—the magnitude of the challenge becomes clear. Smaller sections especially will continue struggling to field editorial teams with adequate experience and support, though larger sections have also struggled.

Recent events have only intensified these challenges. One editor recently resigned after only months in the position when their university faced severe federal funding cuts, requiring them to focus on departmental survival. As political and economic pressures on higher education intensify, recruiting and retaining editors will only become more difficult. A streamlined portfolio would allow AAA to devote substantially more resources to supporting and training fewer editorial teams, improving the quality and sustainability of editorial operations.



Financial Sustainability

The portfolio's financial situation has become untenable. In most years, all journals except for AA and AE cost the AAA more through direct expenses and publishing allocations than they generate in revenue. By continuing to subsidize these journals, the AAA strains its limited resources and puts other member services at risk. Figure 1 shows the revenue brought in by each journal in 2024.

In 2024, excluding AA and AE, remaining journals brought in \$354,000 in revenue. However, AAA spent \$402,000 supporting the portfolio, not including publishing allocations to sections, which totaled \$239,000. In other words, despite portfolio costs exceeding its revenue, the AAA still distributed allocations to each publishing section—a subsidy made possible only through extra revenue from AA and AE.

AAA Publications has generally operated at a deficit over the last decade. Given the outlook for academic publishing and broader financial pressures facing associations, this trajectory is no longer sustainable and threatens AAA's overall financial health.

Intellectual Silos

The current portfolio reflects intellectual trajectories that were established in the 1980s and 1990s, or earlier, some of which may no longer be well positioned to address emergent or cross-cutting themes in our field. Many publishers also feel that our journals speak to overlapping or “niche” audiences and that the current configuration hasn't adapted to how people now find and read articles. This hurts smaller journals and their authors because the important work they publish doesn't reach as wide a readership.

The current structure emerged during an era when print journals were physically distributed to members, who received and read journal issues. Digital publishing fundamentally changed this dynamic. Scholars now discover individual articles through database searches, rarely browsing journal issues or even visiting journal homepages. The sectioned-off areas of AnthroSource don't facilitate easy searching or discovery across the portfolio. Content that might interest scholars across multiple sections remains confined within individual journal silos.

FoACC recognizes the rich and diverse intellectual communities that developed under the current journal array. However, we believe strongly that a reorganized portfolio will overcome the siloing of important discussions across the discipline. A reorganized portfolio will facilitate more multifaceted work and allow that work to reach broader audiences, benefiting especially early-career scholars who need visibility most.



Collaborative Journal Process

After completing the portfolio peer review and preliminary discussions with publishers confirming that the current portfolio structure was unlikely to generate interest, FoACC decided to reorganize the portfolio through a ground-up process involving publishing sections and journal editors.

Through a series of meetings, FoACC developed a collaborative process that would aim to enhance the depth and diversity of the current portfolio while making it easier to curate and share content, ultimately de-siloing conversations across the field. They hoped the process would result in a new portfolio structure that would address the labor crisis by sharing editorial workloads more effectively. Importantly, the collaborative plan would better position the AAA to find publishing partners aligned with our publishing goals and create a sustainable future for AAA journals.

FoACC designed the process to prioritize section input and cooperation rather than imposing top-down decisions. The goal was to create a new portfolio that could include every publishing section and not exclude any on the basis of their journal's recent performance. This approach proved time-intensive and sometimes challenging, but it reflected our commitment to ensuring sections could shape their publishing futures rather than merely responding to predetermined outcomes.

Initial Collaborative Plan

FoACC's initial approach was to engage sections to design a new portfolio around AA, AE, and up to five new collaborative journals that would bring together existing publishing sections around shared themes, approaches, or values. Most publishers we spoke with expressed interest in a portfolio of five to seven journals. Rather than keep only existing titles, and therefore exclude 15 to 17 publishing sections from the reorganized portfolio, FoACC attempted to include as many publishing sections as possible through the collaborative journals. Moreover, rather than determine in advance what the collaborative journals would cover, we encouraged sections to shape the intellectual content and structure of the new journals, with guidance from FoACC informed by publishing best practices.

Between January and April 2025, Jeff Maskovsky and Sean Mallin met with each publishing section, often with other members of FoACC present, to discuss the AAA's current situation, preview the collaborative process, and answer questions.

On April 30, 2025, FoACC held a meeting for all publishing sections and journal editors to launch the collaborative process. We provided everyone with a detailed outline of the timeline and proposal requirements, with an October 10 deadline. The outline included examples of possible configurations (for an example, see Table 4) but made clear that sections were free to develop their own collaborations.

Table 4. Example Collaborative Journal

Example Journal Title	Potential Collaborating Journals
Anthropology of Economy, Law, and Policy	Anthropology of Work Review
	City & Society
	Economic Anthropology
	Political and Legal Anthropology Review

FoACC also facilitated initial “matchmaking” based on responses from publishing sections to a form asking them to list other sections they wished to collaborate with. FoACC organized group meetings based on mutually expressed interest through May and June with the goal of helping sections develop shared visions for the new journals.

From the start, several sections expressed concerns about the loss of their journals’ identity, community, and history. Section leaders and journal editors also worried about the impact on their members, early-career scholars, and the intellectual fields that their journals have supported. A few communicated that they were not interested in any collaborative effort. However, most continued to participate, attending meetings, posing important questions, and reaching out to other sections about potential collaborations.

While sections were exploring collaborations, FoACC reached out to publishers with a request for preliminary proposals based on the collaborative plan. Three presses submitted proposals indicating interest in the reorganized portfolio. Three other presses indicated interest but asked to wait until the portfolio had been finalized before preparing a full proposal.

Revised Portfolio Plan and Nonportfolio Options

By summer 2025, after many individual and group meetings with publishing sections, it became clear that a critical number of sections were not interested in participating in collaborative journals. This made it difficult for the remaining sections to find suitable partners to make a viable new journal. In response to this feedback from publishing



sections, FoACC proposed additional options for sections wishing to remain within the portfolio or exit the portfolio, hoping to maximize the autonomy and flexibility for sections wishing to find the most appropriate publishing path for their journals (Table 5).

Table 5. New Portfolio and Nonportfolio Options

Option	Model	Association Support Provided	Section Responsibility	Revenue Potential
Portfolio	Anthropological Praxis	Full AAA publishing support	Editorial and administrative work	TBD
Portfolio	Section Showcases	Full AAA publishing support	Editorial and administrative work	TBD
Nonportfolio	Library Partnership	Limited AAA publishing support	Editorial and production work, open access model planning	Non-revenue generating
Nonportfolio	Section-Sponsored Partnership	Limited AAA publishing support	All operational, legal, technical, and financial responsibilities	Section covers all expenses but keeps revenue

Portfolio Options

FoACC developed two additional options for sections wishing to contribute within the AAA portfolio. The first option is collaborating on a new journal, *Anthropological Praxis*. This journal will focus on research from across different subfields and spaces where anthropologists work that critically examines the methodological, ethical, and political-economic dimensions of anthropology, especially in relation to the diverse publics that anthropologists collaborate with or speak to. It will be jointly governed by the participating sections and the AAA. Each participating section will retain specific privileges, such as representation on the editorial board and input into the appointment of the Editor-in-Chief. To participate in the new collaborative journal, interested sections were asked to submit a proposal by October 10.

The second option is contributing to Section Showcases, a new space for special collections that will be published in *American Anthropologist*. Sections can propose these collections on a rolling basis, alleviating labor and publishing pressures currently plaguing

many publishing sections. Guest editors for collections will be appointed by sections and work with an Associate Editor at AA to prepare submissions, which undergo standard AA peer review. Each published collection will list the sponsoring section, allowing sections to highlight their work and members using AA's broader platform. This option is open to all publishing sections, including those participating in *Anthropological Praxis*, with hopes to also open Section Showcases to nonpublishing sections.

These options were designed to provide a range of opportunities for sections to participate in the new portfolio. The portfolio will have space for novel, cross-field conversations addressing a range of audiences through *Anthropological Praxis* and will have space for more focused, thematic contributions, reflecting the range of scholarship in the current portfolio and the intellectual communities that make up our current sections through Section Showcases.

Nonportfolio Options

Some sections have publishing goals that could not be met through the portfolio options, so FoACC developed guidelines for exploring separate publishing arrangements outside the portfolio—for most sections, through a library publisher or a university, independent, or commercial press. Those sections will not be eligible for publishing revenue generated by the portfolio with the onset of the next contract and will also have a more limited set of services and support from the AAA. More details on these options are provided later in the report.

Proposals Overview

FoACC received proposals from all but one section in October 2025. AA and AE were not asked to submit proposals, but their leadership was consulted several times during this process.

Three sections submitted proposals to retain standalone journals in the portfolio:

- Association for Feminist Anthropology (FA)
- Society for Linguistic Anthropology (JLA)
- Society for Medical Anthropology (MAQ)

Their proposals detail significant transformations in the scope and structure of the journals, reflecting the goals of FoACC and the Executive Board for the new portfolio. Changes included enhancement of each journal's four-field approach and inclusion of more interdisciplinary and early-career scholarship. AA and AE have also proposed

changes to strengthen the overall offerings of the new portfolio, including cross-section collaborations.

Six sections expressed interest in collaborating in *Anthropological Praxis*:

- National Association for the Practice of Anthropology (AAP)
- Society for Visual Anthropology (VAR)
- General Anthropology Division (GA)
- Society for the Anthropology of North America (JANA)
- Archaeology Division (AP3A)⁴
- Biological Anthropology Section⁵

Eleven publishing sections stated their intent to pursue nonportfolio options:

- Archaeology Division (AP3A)
- Council for Anthropology and Education (AEQ)
- Critical Urban Anthropology Association (C&S)
- Association for Political and Legal Anthropology (PoLAR)
- Society for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology (JLACA)
- Society for the Anthropology of Consciousness (AoC)
- Society for the Anthropology of Work (AWR)
- Society for Humanistic Anthropology (AH)
- Society for Economic Anthropology (EA)
- Society for Psychological Anthropology (Ethos)
- Council for Museum Anthropology (MA)

The Society for Cultural Anthropology did not submit a proposal but reached out to FoACC to express their interest in possibly rejoining the portfolio, depending on the eventual publishing partner.

FoACC discussed the proposals in a virtual meeting on October 29 and at an in-person meeting on November 19.

⁴ The Archaeology Division expressed interest in collaborating as a section in *Anthropological Praxis*, but they want to continue publishing their journal as an edited book volume with a new publisher.

⁵ The Biological Anthropology Section is not currently a publishing section, but FoACC felt that it was important to reach out to the section about *Anthropological Praxis* to ensure subfield representation.

Portfolio Recommendation

After reviewing the proposals and considering the full scope of challenges and opportunities, FoACC recommends the following portfolio composition to the Executive Board:

- *American Anthropologist*
- *American Ethnologist*
- *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*
- *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*
- *Feminist Anthropology*
- *Anthropological Praxis*

This portfolio allows the AAA to continue publishing diverse, high-quality, and impactful work while offering greater support to authors (particularly early-career scholars and practicing anthropologists) and editorial teams. It also provides a more sustainable administrative and financial approach for the AAA. Finally, it represents an important opportunity to reconcile the portfolio with emerging intellectual needs and changes within the discipline. As detailed below, each existing title plans to expand their scope to ensure intellectual breadth and impact as well as bring their contributions in concert with the rest of the portfolio. *Anthropological Praxis* will give the portfolio a more focused venue for work on emergent themes from anthropologists working in different spaces, and has support from several sections representing anthropologists long underserved by the portfolio, including practicing anthropologists, archaeologists, and biological anthropologists.

While the proposed portfolio contains fewer total journals, it retains a significant portion of the output, impact, and revenue from the current portfolio:

- 54% of manuscripts published
 - This does not include additional articles that may come in through Section Showcases or by increasing the number of articles that appear in the remaining standalone journals, which will now have more visibility within the field.
- 66% of total citations
 - This only includes AA, AE, MAQ, JLA, FA, AAP, and VAR. Journals from three sections participating in *Anthropological Praxis* (AP3A, GA, and JANA) aren't currently indexed, so citation information is unavailable.
- 65% of total views



- This is without a concerted marketing and communication strategy, which would be among the new resources provided for the portfolio, and could potentially increase readership.
- 66% of direct revenue in the current Wiley contract
 - This does not include revenue from AnthroSource subscriptions; if AS subscription revenue stays the same, the new portfolio would bring in approximately 79% of current revenue.

These numbers show that the reorganized portfolio retains the core of the current portfolio while addressing the structural challenges that have made the current 22-journal portfolio unsustainable.

Rationale

The decision to recommend these six journals cannot be reduced to metrics alone—whether publication volume, views, revenue, or impact factor. While these were considered in refining the final portfolio, FoACC did not rely exclusively on industry publishing metrics, foregrounding instead the quality of the RFP responses and the expertise of FoACC members to produce an integrated, accessible, intellectually coherent, and forward-looking portfolio. Traditional publishing metrics miss much of what's important about the work we publish: community-building, developing nascent or emergent intellectual spaces, and fostering the next generation of scholars and scholarship. All of these were considered when deciding the right balance for the final portfolio.

The portfolio retains AAA's flagship journal, AA, which serves as the primary venue for all subfields of anthropology and will fully represent the discipline, now and as it continues to evolve. In recent years, AA has grown into a vibrant space for early-career and global scholars to publish alongside more senior and US-based colleagues; since 2020, more than half of AA's authors have been pre-tenure. AA will also host Section Showcases, providing all publishing sections—and potentially nonpublishing sections—with opportunities to curate thematic collections that showcase their members' work while reaching AA's wider readership. The AAA will work with the new AA editorial team, set to begin in 2027, to continue making the journal an inclusive space for the full range of scholarship in the field.

The portfolio also retains AE, which publishes social and cultural anthropology research by scholars from across career stages and from around the world. AE is second to AA in



output, views, and impact. Importantly, it also covers the breadth of the largest subfield in the association, and has also experimented with new article formats, becoming a vital space for emergent conversations in the field.

MAQ is a leading journal in medical anthropology and has consistently ranked third in our portfolio in most metrics, right behind AA and AE. According to their proposal, the journal plans to engage in several new cross-subfield areas, including critical biological anthropology; bioarchaeology; medicine, law, and public health; disability studies; and medicine and language. The journal also will strengthen its engagement with practicing and applied anthropology. Finally, FoACC recognizes the important role of medical anthropology in the face of growing misinformation and distrust in medical science and widespread attacks on vulnerable communities based on biologized notions of race, gender, or sex.

JLA is a leading journal in linguistic anthropology. As one of the four main subfields in US anthropology, linguistic anthropology has played an important—though at times marginalized—role in the discipline. With the growth of AI, new forms of media, and misinformation, the significance of a language-focused journal is clear. According to their proposal, the journal is eager to engage new authors and audiences beyond the subfield, while continuing to foreground important critical work on many of its current strengths, including Indigenous languages and politics, communication practices, and language and technology. The journal also performs well according to traditional metrics: in 2025, it ranked in the top six in submissions, views, and citations in the portfolio.

Finally, FA is the newest journal in the portfolio, but over the last few years has grown significantly by all measures. In 2024, FA had the highest impact factor of any journal in the portfolio, in 2025 ranked third in views, and in 2026 is projected to have the third-highest revenue in the portfolio. FA (along with AA) has also been at the forefront of rethinking editorial and peer review practices and scholarly mentorship, particularly for early-career authors. Like MAQ and JLA, FA plans to actively solicit more work from across the subfields. But it also fills an important niche in highlighting intersectional work that speaks to current and wide-ranging racial, gender, sexuality, and political-economic issues.

Finally, these journals are supported by sections with strong memberships. While the average publishing section in the current portfolio has 164 professional members, AES has 368, SMA has 344, SLA has 236, and AFA has 264 professional members, as of the end of 2025. As mentioned, many sections in the current portfolio are facing a labor crisis, making it difficult for them to adequately staff their journals. The proposed standalone journals are

supported by sections that are well positioned to continue recruiting editorial teams and fielding peer reviewers.

FoACC believes that many of the approaches employed by FA, MAQ, and JLA can serve as models for editorial practice across the portfolio. Moreover, all the sections displayed a willingness to collaborate as they expand their scopes within the portfolio, explicitly sharing ideas, resources, and approaches, as well as actively recruiting more work from across subdisciplines. This is important as the AAA redesigns the portfolio and its publishing resources to better meet member needs. Working together with these sections, as well as with AA and AE, the AAA will be able to develop a more coherent publishing program that better supports both authors and editorial teams.

Six sections expressed interest in collaborating on *Anthropological Praxis*, a new peer-reviewed journal dedicated to exploring the complex interplay between anthropological theory and practice. The interested sections cover a range of intellectual trajectories that converge around the stated goals of the new journal, including representation from different subfields and from practicing anthropologists. The journal foregrounds praxis not as a fixed method or outcome but as an evolving, situated, and contested process of engagement with the world. It will publish scholarship from across different subfields and spaces where anthropologists work that critically examines the methodological, ethical, and political-economic dimensions of anthropology, especially in relation to diverse publics that anthropologists collaborate with or speak to. An initial planning meeting was held in October 2025, and a second was held in person at the annual meeting in New Orleans. We are holding further planning meetings over the first few months of 2026 to refine the vision, scope, and governance structures of the journal. This journal represents an important opportunity to work with many sections with smaller journals to enhance their contributions through collaboration with like-minded sections.

New Portfolio Summary

The new portfolio will retain more than half of the publication volume of the current portfolio while concentrating that content in six journals instead of 22, making the portfolio more administratively and financially viable for the AAA and more attractive to potential publishing partners, while also reanimating the intellectual possibilities for AAA publishing. The reorganization preserves involvement of 10 of the 22 publishing sections from the current portfolio through standalone journals and *Anthropological Praxis*, and possibly more through Section Showcases.



The new portfolio will continue to have wide thematic coverage despite fewer total journals. The standalone journals have all proposed to widen their scopes, particularly cultivating more work from noncultural subfields and from practicing anthropologists. *Anthropological Praxis* will bring in work from across subfields and specialties, especially with the Archaeology Division and Biological Anthropology Section involved, and has strong support from the National Association for Practicing Anthropologists. Through Section Showcases, all publishing sections—and potentially nonpublishing sections—will have space to share work, reflecting the breadth and diversity of our field.

The reorganized portfolio positions AAA to thrive in a rapidly evolving publishing landscape. By consolidating resources and fostering collaboration, AAA can ensure financial stability, broaden scholarly reach, and support innovative editorial practices. It will also be able to more effectively support the journals in the portfolio through mentorship, professional development, and other resources provided through the association. By foregrounding perspectives underrepresented in the current portfolio—particularly from practicing anthropologists, archaeologists, and biological anthropologists—and breaking down existing silos, it enhances the diversity and reach of the work we publish. Moving forward, this portfolio will enable deeper engagement across subfields, amplify anthropological voices globally, and create more pathways for mentorship and inclusion.

Nonportfolio Journals

Eleven sections have chosen to pursue publishing options outside the AAA portfolio. While these journals will continue outside the core portfolio, they remain integral to AAA's publishing ecosystem and the association's intellectual community. Understanding the relationship between portfolio and nonportfolio journals is essential for the portfolio's long-term success. Several of these sections have already begun reaching out to potential publishers, and FoACC and AAA staff have worked with them to provide necessary guidance and support.

Nonportfolio Publishing Options

Nonportfolio sections have two primary pathways available:

Library Partnerships

Sections can work with library publishers—small, mission-driven publishers within academic libraries offering limited publishing services. These typically publish journals on a “diamond” open-access basis (free for both authors and readers). This ensures content



persistence and accessibility but requires sections to handle copyediting, typesetting, and marketing themselves or secure funding for these services. Library publishers generally charge small annual production and hosting fees.

AAA is open to facilitating a collective approach, where multiple sections might work with the same library publisher, taking advantage of cost savings and consistency. This collective model could provide sections with greater leverage in negotiations and opportunities to share best practices.

Section-Sponsored Partnerships

Sections can secure publishing relationships with university presses, independent publishers, or commercial presses. This provides sections with more control over their publishing model and potentially more services but requires them to assume all operational, technical, and financial responsibilities. This pathway offers the most autonomy but also carries the most risk and responsibility.

AAA Support for Nonportfolio Journals

AAA values the contributions that have been made to the association and to the discipline by journals now seeking publishing options outside the portfolio. It wants to support a successful transition and will continue to provide the following essential services to nonportfolio journals:

- Trademark registration.
- Preparation and review of journal budgeting and financial reporting.
- Hosting of and access to journal back catalogs for AAA members.
- Ethics oversight.
- Advising and contract negotiation support for sections seeking publishing partners.

AAA will provide these core services to sections at no cost consistent with the association's fiscal capacity and approved through the association's annual budget and governance processes by the Executive Board. Excluding the above, sections will be responsible for the full costs of publishing their journals, including any additional legal or administrative costs beyond the core services listed above.

Ownership and Access

Because AAA sections are not separate legal entities, the AAA must retain full legal ownership of all journal titles initiated under the current portfolio and all back catalog content. This arrangement also guarantees proper stewardship, preservation, and accessibility of these archives. The AAA will ensure that back catalogs of nonportfolio journals will remain hosted and accessible through AnthroSource or its successor platform to AAA members and subscribers.

Nonportfolio sections cannot independently republish, sell, or redistribute back catalog content, though it may be possible for their new publisher to negotiate a licensing arrangement for the back catalog. For sections continuing to use AAA-owned journal titles under new publishers, new content published going forward may have different ownership arrangements depending on publishing agreements (though AAA must approve these agreements). If sections publish under Creative Commons or similar open licenses, those terms would apply to new content only.

Oversight and Accountability

To safeguard the integrity of AAA's shared mission, and in alignment with AAA Bylaws Sections 4c and 4h, the ACC and Executive Board retain the right to review any nonportfolio publishing activities associated with AAA journal titles or branding.

All nonportfolio journals must submit detailed proposals addressing:

- Peer review models and editorial policies
- Compliance with AAA's Principles of Professional Responsibility
- Adherence to Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) guidelines and Core Practices
- Technical infrastructure (DOI registration, accessibility, digital archiving)
- Fiscal responsibility and sustainability
- Governance structures

Nonportfolio journals must submit annual editorial and financial reports to the ACC. If publishing activities are found misaligned with AAA's ethical standards, mission, or values, or if a journal is not financially sustainable, the Executive Board may request adjustments, removal of branding, or discontinuation of title use.

This oversight ensures that journals bearing the AAA name, even outside the portfolio, uphold the standards and values of the association. The goal is supportive oversight that protects AAA's reputation and members' interests while respecting section autonomy.

Potential for Portfolio Reentry

The relationship between portfolio and nonportfolio journals is not permanently fixed. Sections may find that their goals evolve over time or that their nonportfolio arrangements don't meet expectations.

The ACC will conduct regular reviews of the portfolio structure, with comprehensive reviews at least every five years. These reviews provide natural opportunities for sections to discuss rejoining the portfolio or for portfolio structure adjustments. Publishing contracts typically run for 5 to 10 years, providing additional decision points. This flexibility ensures that the portfolio can adapt to changing circumstances, section needs, and the evolving landscape of scholarly communication.

An important mechanism for maintaining connections between portfolio and nonportfolio journals is Section Showcases in *American Anthropologist*. Section Showcases allow all sections to maintain presence in AAA's flagship journal while pursuing publishing arrangements that better meet their specific goals. This bridges portfolio and nonportfolio publishing, ensuring that even sections with independent journals remain connected to the broader AAA publishing ecosystem.

Next Steps

Immediate Priorities (November 2025–March 2026)

- Finalize portfolio structure: FoACC's recommendation to the Executive Board, once approved, will establish the final portfolio composition. Participating sections will be notified and begin collaborative planning.
- Continue *Anthropological Praxis* planning: Additional meetings with participating sections will refine the journal's vision, scope, and governance structures.
- Support nonportfolio sections: Sections pursuing library or section-sponsored partnerships will receive guidance on developing proposals and connecting with potential publishers. The ACC and AAA staff will work closely with these sections to facilitate transitions.



Publisher Selection Process (February–November 2026)

- Engage publishing consultants (March 2026): AAA will hire experienced consultants to manage the RFP process, bringing expertise in scholarly publishing and association needs.
- Develop publishing proposal (March–April 2026): The AAA and participating sections will collaborate on a comprehensive publishing proposal detailing the portfolio's vision, requirements, and priorities. This document will guide publisher solicitation.
- Publisher RFP process (March–August 2026): Consultants will solicit proposals from interested publishers, including those who have already expressed preliminary interest. The process will emphasize finding partners aligned with AAA values regarding accessibility, diversity, quality, and innovation.
- Review publisher proposals (September–October 2026): ACC, Executive Board, and representatives from participating sections will review publisher proposals. This evaluation will consider financial terms, service offerings, platform capabilities, editorial support, accessibility features, and values alignment.
- Select publisher (November 2026): Based on comprehensive review, ACC and participating sections will make a recommendation to the Executive Board, which will make the final selection.

Transition Period (December 2026–December 2027)

- Contract negotiation and finalization (December 2026–March 2027): AAA leadership, legal counsel, and the selected publisher will negotiate final contract terms, ensuring clarity about all aspects of the relationship.
- Transition planning (Spring–Summer 2027): Detailed transition plans will be developed for each journal, covering manuscript workflows, back catalog migration, platform setup, editorial team onboarding, and author/reviewer database transfer.
- Platform and workflow setup (Summer–Fall 2027): The next publisher will establish hosting platforms, submission systems, and editorial workflows. Editorial teams will receive training on new systems.
- Content migration (Summer–Fall 2027): Back catalogs will be migrated to new platforms, with careful attention to metadata, links, and accessibility features.



- Communications (Throughout 2027): Regular updates will be provided to AAA members, section leaders, editors, authors, and reviewers about transition progress and any changes affecting them.
- Launch (January 2028): The reorganized portfolio will launch under the new publishing agreement.

Timeline for Nonportfolio Journals

Sections pursuing nonportfolio options follow a slightly different timeline (sections that are quicker to find publishing partners might move through deadlines sooner):

- Proposal development (November 2025 –August 2026): Sections develop detailed proposals addressing publishing arrangements, editorial standards, technical infrastructure, financial sustainability, and governance.
- Proposal submission (January–August 1, 2026): Sections submit proposals to the ACC for review.
- ACC and Executive Board review (January–October 2026): Proposals are reviewed as they come in and are either approved, approved with modifications, or returned for revision.
- Publisher negotiations (Summer 2026–Spring 2027): Sections work with selected publishers to finalize agreements, with AAA participation in negotiations and final approval.
- Transition (2027): Sections transition from Wiley to new publishers, completing publication of manuscripts in process under current arrangements.
- New publication begins (2028): Sections begin publishing under new arrangements, with ongoing AAA oversight through annual reports to ACC.

Conclusion

The reorganization of AAA's journal portfolio represents a critical turning point for anthropological publishing. The current 22-journal portfolio has become financially and administratively unsustainable under contemporary conditions in academic publishing and higher education. It has also become intellectually unsustainable given the most pressing demands of anthropology today.

FoACC's recommendation for a six-journal portfolio—*American Anthropologist*, *American Ethnologist*, *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*, *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*, *Feminist Anthropology*, and *Anthropological Praxis*—addresses the interconnected challenges of



size, labor, finances, and intellectual siloing while maintaining substantial scholarly output, reach, and revenue. It will revitalize the association's approach to publishing, which originated decades ago, in the print-only era, and hasn't adapted to the current needs of AAA members and the larger discipline. The new portfolio will provide more visibility and support for the work it publishes. At the same time, sections seeking options outside of the portfolio will be able to seek publishing partners that better address their needs.

This reorganization emerged through an extensive collaborative process honoring section input and agency. Sections chose their pathways rather than having arrangements imposed through top-down decisions. Eleven sections pursuing nonportfolio publishing will continue to receive AAA support while exploring arrangements better aligned with their specific goals.

The reorganization is not without loss. Some long-standing journals will cease publication as standalone titles. Some intellectual communities will need to adapt to new configurations. Some sections will need to navigate significant transitions and revenue outlooks. FoACC acknowledges these challenges and the genuine grief they may generate. However, the reorganization also creates significant opportunities: space for novel cross-field conversations through *Anthropological Praxis*; broader audiences for specialized work through Section Showcases; enhanced editorial support for portfolio journals and mentorship for emerging scholars; and investment in multimodal publishing and innovation. The result will be a more diverse and dynamic ecosystem of anthropological publishing under the AAA umbrella.

Most fundamentally, the reorganization positions the AAA to engage effectively with contemporary modes of scholarly communication. The structure reflects how anthropologists increasingly discover and read scholarship in the digital age. It breaks down intellectual silos that fragment important conversations. And it concentrates resources where they can best support our members, whether as authors, editors, or section leaders.

FoACC is confident that this reorganization, while challenging, represents the best pathway to ensuring AAA's journal portfolio thrives for decades to come.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

General

Why is the AAA reorganizing the journal portfolio?

AAA is reorganizing the portfolio to ensure the long-term sustainability, visibility, and intellectual vitality of its journals. Over the last decade, the portfolio has grown large and costly to maintain, with most journals requiring substantial subsidy from AAA. At the same time, the publishing landscape has shifted dramatically—library budgets have declined, business models have changed how revenue is generated, and publishers we spoke to were not interested in our current portfolio as-is. The reorganization positions AAA to have a wider array of options and better bargaining position with future publishers, reduce labor strain, and strengthen support for editors and authors.

How were decisions made about which journals remain within the portfolio?

FoACC conducted a two-year peer review that included journal self-studies, member surveys, and conversations with publishers. Decisions were based on a combination of factors, including financial sustainability, editorial capacity and labor demands, intellectual fit and cross-field relevance, and readiness of sections to collaborate or reorganize. The goal was not to reward or penalize particular sections, but to build a coherent, dynamic, and sustainable portfolio that reflects the discipline today.

What will happen to journals that remain in the portfolio?

The six recommended journals—*American Anthropologist*, *American Ethnologist*, *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*, *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*, *Feminist Anthropology*, and *Anthropological Praxis*—will be part of the portfolio that AAA brings to a new publishing partner for 2028 onward. These journals will receive full AAA publishing support, improved editorial resources, and increased opportunities for cross-subfield engagement and visibility.

What will happen to journals that do not remain in the portfolio?

Sections are able to explore independent publishing options outside of the portfolio. See FAQs for nonportfolio journals below for more information.

Will there be fewer places to publish?

The number of journal titles in the portfolio is changing, but there continues to be many publishing opportunities both inside the portfolio and beyond it. Remaining standalone journals in the portfolio will potentially increase their scope and volume. *Anthropological Praxis* will add a new space for work, especially shorter-form articles and essays, as well as opportunities for early-career scholars. Section Showcases in *American Anthropologist* will provide thematically curated spaces for section-sponsored scholarship. Finally, nonportfolio journals will continue publishing independently, and might also increase their volume in their new arrangements.

How will emerging and interdisciplinary work be supported?

The new portfolio ensures that the full discipline remains represented and breaks down intellectual silos to foster more cross-cutting work, also allowing this work to reach broader audiences. The portfolio includes core subfields (archaeology, biological, linguistic, cultural, practicing) through both standalone journals and *Anthropological Praxis*. Section Showcases will allow focused or emerging topics to continue thriving.

How will the new portfolio promote scholarship and support anthropology worldwide?

The current portfolio already has global reach, which will only be enhanced through the reorganization. Over the last few years, nearly half of the submissions and views for AA have come from outside the US. By focusing work in journals with the largest platforms, the new portfolio will likely increase the visibility and discoverability of work for a global audience. The AAA will also work with publishing sections to increase global representation among authors and journal editorial teams.

Will there continue to be opportunities for early-career scholars?

Early-career researchers will continue to have multiple pathways to publication, and several journals are planning to expand their scope or volume. Most of the work published in AA is already by untenured authors. AE similarly publishes many early-career authors, and the remaining journals have strong track records of support and mentoring new scholars. Finally, *Anthropological Praxis* is positioned to offer new and dynamic space for creative and more accessible forms of publishing. A more streamlined portfolio means more consistent support and better editorial experience—all of which benefit early-career authors.

AAA is also exploring new mentoring and developmental editing initiatives as part of the portfolio transition. The journals remaining in the portfolio already have strong mentorship practices, which will be shared across the portfolio.

Will the portfolio structure be revisited in the future?

AAA will regularly review the portfolio, especially as publisher models, AAA membership, and scholarly communication trends evolve. The goal is to remain adaptable rather than fixed in place.

How will AAA support new digital platforms and multimodal publishing?

A streamlined portfolio enables AAA to expand multimodal publishing, enhance online discoverability, and support new forms of digital scholarship. *Anthropological Praxis*, in particular, is designed to welcome experimental formats.

Will my ability to access journal content change?

No. AAA members will retain access to portfolio content through the AAA's publishing partner. Access to nonportfolio journals depends on their chosen publishing model, but AAA will maintain back catalog access for members and will seek to work with new publishers to maximize access for AAA members.

Why not keep all 22 journals and find a publisher willing to support them?

FoACC spoke to publishers over the last two years and the message from them was that a streamlined portfolio would put the AAA in the best position to move forward. Without reorganization, AAA risks being locked into unfavorable publishing arrangements.

Anthropological Praxis

What is Anthropological Praxis?

A new, peer-reviewed, cross-field journal focused on the methodological, ethical, political-economic, and public dimensions of anthropological work. It serves scholars, practitioners, and those working across disciplinary boundaries.



What topics will it cover?

Praxis welcomes research on:

- applied, community-engaged, activist, and public anthropology
- methodological and ethical dilemmas
- work in professional, applied, governmental, and organizational contexts
- experimental and multimodal scholarship
- intersections across archaeology, biological anthropology, sociocultural anthropology, and linguistics

The focus is on how we *do* anthropology in practice.

What kinds of pieces will it publish?

While it can publish standard research articles, the focus will be on shorter-form manuscripts, including essays, methodological reflections, theoretical interventions, policy-relevant pieces, and experimental formats, particularly work by practitioners and early-career scholars.

If my section expressed interest, are we committed to working on the journal?

Participation depends on FoACC, ACC, and Executive Board approval. Sections may later withdraw under agreed-upon conditions.

Section Showcases

What are Section Showcases?

They are proposed thematic collections of articles, curated by section-appointed Guest Editors and published in *American Anthropologist* to give sections a visible, high-impact venue without requiring a standalone journal. Proposals will be accepted year-round (as capacity allows), with Guest Editors managing contributions in coordination with an Associate Editor for Sections at AA, while the Editor-in-Chief retains final decision authority.

How often can a section submit a Showcase?

Showcases will be accepted on a rolling basis, depending on editorial capacity.

How many pieces can each Showcase include?

Collections may vary in size, typically 3–6 pieces, depending on topic and AA capacity.

How will Showcases be managed?

Section-appointed Guest Editors will work with AA's Associate Editor for Sections. The AA Editor-in-Chief retains final decision authority.

Will Showcases be peer reviewed?

Yes. They will undergo AA's standard peer review process.

Can sections participating in Praxis or nonportfolio publishing still submit Showcases?

Yes. Showcases are open to all publishing sections.

Can nonpublishing sections submit Showcases?

We plan to open Section Showcases to nonpublishing sections as well.



Nonportfolio Options

Why are some journals continuing to publish outside the portfolio?

All publishing sections were given the opportunity to form collaborative journals within the new portfolio. Some sections that their publishing goals would be better met through external partners, including keeping their standalone titles, and AAA supports their attempts to find a suitable and sustainable arrangement outside the portfolio.

What support does AAA provide to nonportfolio journals?

AAA continues to provide trademark and copyright registration, limited administrative and legal support, and back-catalog hosting via AnthroSource or future platforms. Sections will be responsible for the remaining costs of supporting and publishing their journals.

Why are sections being charged administrative fees, and what goes into them?

Administrative fees may be charged to recover AAA's actual costs for providing non-core support services. The amount is not fixed because the AAA will only bill sections for actual expenses incurred. These administrative fees are separate from the journal's direct publishing costs, such as copyediting, typesetting, or hosting.

Will AAA members have access to the back catalogs of nonportfolio journals?

Because sections are not legal entities and therefore cannot own their journal titles or back catalogs, the back catalogs must remain AAA property. The AAA will guarantee that the back catalogs remain hosted to ensure persistence and access to AAA members.

Do sections publishing outside the portfolio receive publishing revenue?

Sections publishing outside of the portfolio retain any revenue they generate through their publishing activities.