Committee on the Future of Print and Electronic Publishing 2011 Annual Report

Submitted by:
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1) Please list your Committee, Commission or Task Force Objectives and Responsibilities as stated in your group’s charge:

**Objectives**
CFPEP’s objectives are: 1. to recommend policies to AAA’s Anthropological Communication Committee and Finance Committee, 2. mutually advise and consult with the AAA staff, and 3. to advise and represent the AAA sections and AAA members with regard to broadening the dissemination of anthropological knowledge, the future development of AAA’s electronic portal to anthropological materials and 3. AAA’s current/future print & electronic publishing program and related information service programs and initiatives.

**Responsibilities**
CFPEP’s responsibilities are to serve as an Information gathering organ for the Executive Board (EB) and ACC and as a communication arm on forthcoming decisions and timelines for section leaders, editors and membership and to recommend policies to EB and ACC related to broadening dissemination of anthropological knowledge, future development of AAA’s electronic portal, and current/future print and electronic publishing program.

2) Please list your Group’s goals, activities and accomplishments/products for the designated Period in relation to the AAA’s long range plan:

**Goal 1:**
1. To develop a process for long-range planning for the future of electronic and print publications in concordance with the association’s ethos, involving the Section Assembly. 2. Monitoring of the AAA/publisher agreement.

**Activity:**

**Accomplishment/Product:**
1. Section Assembly Outreach A. CFPEP in consultation with the Section Assembly, invited the Section Assembly Convener, Mary Butler, and Co-Convener, Alex Barker to represent the SA as CFPEP develops the process recommendation. B. Chair Deborah Nichols, Section Assembly representative Alec Barker, and Oona Schmid held a conference call in December to discuss the best way to help sections understand why the current publishing program is not indefinitely sustainable as costs rise. Oona Schmid is preparing financial information to be presented to Sections in 2012 to engage them in further discussion and consider opportunities that electronic publishing offers. Barker indicated not all journals are submitting annual reports and he will take up with the Section Assembly how to address this. 2. Membership Outreach A. AN article: CFPEP Chair: Deborah Nichols and Publications Director Oona Schmid prepared an article for AN, “The Future of AAA Publishing,” to inform the membership of the Board motions recommended by CFPEP to seek renewal of the

**Explain any Gaps or Lack of Accomplishment Product:**

N/A

**Relevant Objective in Long-Range Plan:**

1. The AAA will have a publications program that disseminates the most current anthropological research, expertise, and interpretation to its members, the discipline, and the broader society. The American Anthropologist will continue to publish broadly across the fields, subfields, and emerging scholarly communities that constitute anthropology today.

3) Provide any additions or proposed changes to goals, activities, products or outcomes for the designated period:
Goals:
None

Proposed Changes:
None

Activities:
None

Proposed Changes:
None

Products/Outcomes:
None

Proposed Changes:
None

4) Provide plans for 2012 in relation to existing or new goals/activities and relationship to the Objective in the Committee's or Commission's Charge and Long-Range Plan Objective (if not self-evident). Identify if they represent significant changes or elaborations on existing goals, objective activities, charge etc:

Committee/Commission Objective 1:
Going Forward The major effort of CFPEP in 2012 will be to develop a process recommendation on the future of AAA publishing for consideration by the ACC and Executive Board at the Annual meeting along with monitoring the publishing agreement. We will undertake a membership survey concerning publications and continue to work the Section Assembly in developing this recommendation.

LRP Objective 1:
1. The AAA will have a publications program that disseminates the most current anthropological research, expertise, and interpretation to its members, the discipline, and the broader society. The American Anthropologist will continue to publish broadly across the
fields, subfields, and emerging scholarly communities that constitute anthropology today.

**New Goal and or Activity 1:**
not applicable

5) List financial and other resources in hand to complete the proposed work of the Committee, Commission or Task force for the coming year and explain any additional resources. Please list separately:

a. **Resources in hand or being sought independent of the AAA:**
   CFPEP has requested and received in the 2012 budget $1,800 for editing costs to webinars, in order to maximize outreach to members about its recommendations for the long-term future of publishing.

   CFPEP has requested and received in the 2012 budget $20,000 for publishing consultant expertise, either in shaping recommendations about the publishing program and/or in scenario validation for any proposals being made to the AAA Executive Board.

b. **Requests for additional resources from the AAA. Specify clearly which specific goals/activities etc. require additional resources from each source:**
   N/A

6) Have there been or do you propose any changes to the Objective or the Responsibilities of your Committee, Commission or Task Force If so, what are they and what is the rationale for them:

   **Current Objective 1:**
   not applicable

   **Responsibility:**
   N/A

   **Proposed Change:**
   none

   **Rational for Change:**
   not applicable

7) Are there issues you would like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the AAA Executive Board related to the work of your committee commission or task force?
   This annual report format is time consuming and difficult to read (thus hard to edit comments.) It makes the work of the chair extremely trying.