Question 1

Please list your Committee, Commission, or Task Force Objective and Responsibilities as stated in your Group's charge:

Committee Charge

Objectives: The AAA Committee on the Future of Print and Electronic Publishing is established:

1. To recommend policies to AAA’s Anthropological Communication Committee and Finance Committee,
2. To mutually advise and consult with the AAA staff, and
3. To advise and represent the AAA sections and AAA members

With regard to:

1. Broadening the dissemination of anthropological knowledge,
2. 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.

Question 2

Please identify one or more of the AAA Long Range Plan (LRP) 12 main objectives, that your Group is organized to support.

Describe your Group's activities and accomplishments/products for the designated period, and how they support the achievement of LRP objectives. Account for any ways in which your Group has fallen short of supporting the achievement of these objectives. Activities of your Group that do not relate to the LRP objectives should also be mentioned and indicated as such.

The Association promotes the professional interests of anthropologists, including the dissemination of anthropological knowledge among scholars and the broader public and supports the application of scientific and humanistic anthropological knowledge to improve the world in which we live.

To advance anthropology, and through it the understanding of humankind, the Association shall: publish and promote the publication of anthropological journals and monographs; encourage anthropological teaching, research, and practice; maintain effective liaisons with related knowledge disciplines and their organizations; and assist anthropologists to disseminate their research findings to a wider public audience.
CFPEP has focused considerable time and energy to developing a process recommendation on future planning for the publishing program.

1. The committee analyzed the financial situation and considered various alternatives to address issues of sustainability, explored new developments in the very rapidly changing publishing environment and preliminarily outlined possible future scenarios. Committee members have read various reports and studies about the future of scholarly publishing.

2. We have also devoted considerable time to working with Alec Barker the SA representative to CFPEP to figure out how to most effectively engage the SA who are absolutely critical to the publishing program's future.

3. Membership outreach and survey.
   1. Michael Brown, Hugh Jarvis, and Ed Liebow, along with Oona, Schmid and Deborah Nichols have written and responded to blogs about the publishing program.
   2. CFPEP developed a membership survey to help lay out to members some of the challenges and opportunities and allow us to better understand members values and priorities for the publishing program. Nichols also spoken individually with members regarding their suggestions and ideas.
   3. CFPEP met with the Section Assembly at the annual meeting in San Francisco to discuss the Crow report and member survey and consider next steps.

4. CFPEP had conference call with Sam Gubbins, president of *Annual Reviews in Anthropology*, not for profit and learned of their planned move to digital only publishing and on-line supplemental enhancements.

5. At the invitation of President Mullings, Deborah Nichols flew to Washington DC and joined AAA Ex Bd for its “study session” on Friday May 18th.

6. Raym Crow of Chain Bridge Publishing Consultants was hired to provide an independent assessment of the publishing program. The report was delivered in September and CFPEP held a conference call with him.
   1. Modeled the financial and organizational implications of alternative publishing scenarios and sub-scenarios, as identified through the stakeholder interviews.
   2. Modeled Online-only distribution, under the current subscription model, for the entire portfolio and by individual publication. For individual publications, the
report will model the
3. Considered effects on section membership and dues revenue of: a) online-only
distribution, and b) online with print-on-demand availability.
4. The report identified criteria by which AAA may identify: which publications
are best suited (e.g., based on current financial performance, content type,
member demand, etc.) to open-access distribution; and which supply-side
income models might be best suited for supporting open-access distribution
for each publication.
5. The report describes the timeframe within which AAA’s current publication
model is projected to remain economically sustainable and will recommend the
specific scenarios that will provide the best balance of financial performance
and member benefit.
6. CFPEP drafted a cover memo for membership and arranged for distribution of
Crow’s report, the survey findings, and this cover memo on the AAA site.

7. At the request of President Mullins and ACC Chair Alisse Waterston, CFPEP passed a
motion to recommend that the ACC explore and develop a pilot project, on-line open
access overlay journal that would be published 3 times/year and include links to
articles selected by an editor from the AAA’s publications.

8. CFPEP completed a review of the AAA ungating policy (passed by Ex Bd in 2008) at
its November 2012 meeting.

9. Survey Results
   1. CFPEP members, Ben Orlove and Hugh Jarvis prepared summaries of the
quantitative and qualitative results of the membership survey regarding
publications. Members expressed the high value that they place on AAA journals. They also indicated limited support for replacing the subscription
model with author fees for publishing. These were submitted to the Executive Board in October who released them on the members-only section of the AAA website
   2. Deborah Nichols, Ben Orlove, and Hugh Jarvis authored an article on the results
of that survey (scheduled for publication in Spring 2013 Anthropology News).

10. A subgroup of CFPEP held a conference call with Wiley-Blackwell staff and they
submitted an outline of proposed steps to reduce costs. W-B felt that the financial
situation may be better than Crow’s projections.

11. In response to a recommendation from Crow, CFPEP has established a working group
including two additional members of the Section Assembly to prepare a statement of
values for the publishing program and appropriate metrics.
12. In response to the Executive Board’s request for future scenario’s CFPEP has established a working group on scenarios led by Michael Brown.

13. In response to requests from the Section Assembly and suggestions by Crow for greater financial accountability, Crow will prepare a financial statement on income and expenses for each AAA journal that will be distributed to sections. He anticipates delivery in mid-March.

14. As requested by CFPEP sections have responded with comments about the Crow report. These comments will be compiled into a report to share with the Executive Board.

15. CFPEP recommended to the ACC that one journal be allowed to pursue an open access model and Oona Schmid developed guidelines.

**Question 3**

*Provide plans for the coming year in relation to existing or recommended new goals/activities and relationship to the Objective in the committee, commission, or task force Charge and Long-Range Plan (if not self-evident). Identify if they represent significant changes or elaborations on existing goals, objective activities, charge etc.*

CFPEP has focused considerable time and energy to developing a process recommendation on future planning for the publishing program.

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**Question 4**
Identify and upcoming requirements for additional resources and explain how these funds would be used if approved. (Please note that formal requests for funding must be included in the annual budget proposal, to be considered with all other requests.)

Next Steps

The focus of the Committee’s work will be finalizing a values statement and metrics for the publishing program after consultation with SA and modeling scenarios for the future publication program. The Executive Board has laid out an ambitious time frame for CFPEP. Our goal remains to make a process recommendation by fall 2013. CFPEP appreciates the assistance of Oona Schmid, Director of Publications and her staff. Funds have been allocated for the consultant and once CFPEP makes a process recommendation, the Executive Board likely will need a detailed financial projection, which may entail additional consulting fees.

Question 5

Do you propose any changes to the Charge (Objective, Responsibilities, or Products/Outcomes) of your Committee, Commission or Task Force? If so, list the proposed changes, the rationale for the change, and additional funding that may be needed.

No

Question 6

Are there issues you would like raised or recommendations you would like to make to the AAA Executive Board related to the work of your Committee, Commission, or Task Force?

---Based on both my own experience as Chair of the AOC and also having written two five-year reports for committees, I think they are not a productive use of time for either the AOC or the committee chairs and should be eliminated. If the Executive Board has concerns about any particular committee based on its annual reports, it should initiate a review of the committee, which would be much more productive than writing a five year report. The annual reports should have three basic parts, the activity of the committee, its future plans, and action items for the executive board that spell out any funding needs. It could be distributed to returned as a work document. Simple, clean, and efficient.