

General Remarks

This has been a challenging year for everyone. The *AJPA* continues to be a vital resource for our community. Everyone associated with the journal remains committed to providing the biological anthropology community and the AAPA with the best possible science in as timely a manner as possible.

This year we have added guidelines for Letters to the Editor and instituted a data availability statement and contribution roles taxonomy (CRediT) for all articles. A data availability statement is now mandatory for all articles and articles will not be published without one. We are now able to transfer articles that are better suited to the following journals through the Scholar One portal: *Yearbook of Physical Anthropology*, *American Journal of Human Biology*, *American Journal of Primatology* and the *International Journal of Osteoarchaeology*. This can aid the author's experience since reviews can be automatically transferred.

Over the past year, Wiley engaged in an article harmonization initiative. As a result, we have removed News and Views and Perspectives as types of articles. These can now be published as Commentary articles. Theory and Synthesis will be published under Synthesis. We have added a new section titled Resources which allows authors to alert our community to resources available for research and teaching. The Book Reviews section has become Media Reviews. Graciela Cabana and Lauren Schroeder are the editors of the Media Review section of the journal and they are revitalizing the section with the inclusion of reviews from the multiple modalities that engage the biological anthropology community.

Wiley currently has nine country level transitional agreements. Transitional agreements allow researchers at participating institutions unlimited read access to a publisher's portfolio of journals, as well as funding to cover Article Publication Charges (APCs) when choosing to publish open access. As a result, the *AJPA* has seen a doubling of publication of open access articles from countries that are participating in these agreements this year.

In the upcoming months we will complete a new statement on the ethics of the use of human remains associated with descendent communities, a review of the aims and scope of the journal and the publication of a special issue edited by Connie Mulligan and Jennifer Raff entitled: *Race reconciled II: Interpreting and Communicating Biological Variation and Race in 2021*. In conjunction with Paul-Andre Genest of Wiley and Sheela Athreya of Texas A & M University we will be presenting a workshop on the review process and equity in reviewing at the 2021 annual meetings.

Metrics

During 2020, the journal published three volumes (171-173), each of which had four issues with a total page count of 2,730. This represents an increase of 3.7% over 2020. This does not include the two supplements: the annual meetings issue and the *Yearbook of Physical*

Anthropology. For 2020, the published content included: research articles (74.6% of the total published pages), brief communication (12.8%), theory and synthesis (3.3%), perspectives (2.5%) technical notes (1.9%) letters to the editor (1.6 %), and other (including commentary, reviews, obituary and editorial – together 3.3%).

A total of 444 articles were submitted in 2020. This is an increase of 5.5% over 2019. The acceptance rate for all material was 47.3%, down slightly from 2019. Articles where the first author is from the United States constitute 84% of all articles. The countries with the next greatest number of submissions are the United Kingdom, Spain, Canada, Japan, Australia, China, France, Poland, New Zealand and Germany. The average number of days to first decision was 51. While this represents a slight increase over 2019, we believe the extraordinary effects of the global pandemic may have played a role in this. We have reduced the number of days from receipt of a final manuscript to Early View, which is to the credit of the Wiley production staff.

Last year there were 876,043 downloads of articles, up about 30% from the year before. The impact factor calculated by the ISI/Web of Science for 2019 was 2.414, which is down somewhat from the previous year. The *AJPA* ranks 14/91 in Anthropology journals and 27/51 in Evolutionary Biology journals.

Research publications can be broken down into six general subject areas: Bioarchaeology/Paleopathology (39%), Paleoanthropology/Skeletal Biology (29%), Genetics/Genomics (13%) Human Biology (13%), Primatology (9%), and Other (1%). This is roughly equivalent to 2019; however, we have seen an increase in Paleoanthropology and Skeletal Biology manuscripts. One of my goals is to have every issue of the journal include articles of interest to all the membership. In order to achieve this, I encourage all members of the association to send their best work to the *AJPA*.

Acknowledgments

I am extremely grateful to the Associate Editors and the Editorial Board Members of the journal. I remain in awe of your dedication, insight, care and diligence as you shepherd manuscripts through the process. Your work through this crisis has been remarkable. For those retiring from the editorial board this year— editorial board members Christina Torres-Rouff and Jean Luc Voisin, early career editorial board members- Elizabeth Berger, Emily Middleton, Meredith Reiches and Christopher Schmitt—thank you for your dedication and your time. I am also extremely grateful to all the reviewers. The peer review process depends on reviewers who take their time to ensure the best possible science. Even during this difficult year, reviewers stepped up- giving us their time when they were undoubtedly pulled in many, many different directions. I am also very grateful to Paul-Andre Genest at Wiley for his counsel and support. He and his staff at Wiley have been crucial to the continued success of the journal. Thank you also to Reeni Sunder and the production staff for their attention to so many details and their excellent work. I am deeply grateful to the AAPA for the opportunity to edit the journal. Thank you all.

