
LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Once again, the Lambda Alpha Journal staff has completed another edition of the Lambda Alpha Journal. I am pleased to announce the arrival of Volume 41 and can inform you that Volume 42 is well on its way to publication.

The current volume opens with an article by Esteban Ferrero Botero in which he critiques and explores kinship analysis in a broader context. Botero uses the Columbian concept of “familia” as an example to identify and explain the greater boundaries of relatedness. David Hecht follows with a paper on spiritual agency based on studies of the Dai Theravada Buddhism. Kathryn Cross addresses questions concerning hunter-gatherer mobility and social patterns based on Middle Archaic and Early Woodland settlement patterns in the Central Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. Eileen Slesman engages in a study of a Turkish community in Munich to address, in part, dynamics of identity and social/cultural change. Next, Claire Brown presents a paper on the role of communication in the social bonding between humans and animals. Finally, an article by Megan Keaveney about HIV/AIDS in South Africa, addresses the role of political policy and subsequent change has played in the spread disease and in the accessibility to treatment.

The 13th annual Lambda Alpha Student symposium represents yet another day-long event of undergraduate and graduate student research presentations including sixteen podium paper presentations in archaeological, biological and cultural anthropology.

On a different note, the publication of volume 41 concurs with completion of our efforts to make available all volumes, past and present, in an electronic format. Volumes 1 through the most recent are now available on-line. The coming year, subscription rates and accessibility to the online version will be decided upon and all chapters will be informed about how all members will be able to peruse past and present journal issues. Submission guidelines will also be available on line and on-line manuscript releases required for all journal submissions are already available on-line. I also encourage all chapters to contact the Editor about the upcoming new subscription model and about access to the journal.

In closing I would like to thank the student editor of the Lambda Alpha Journal, James Simmerman for his herculean efforts to draft this manuscript. I also want to thank Julie Wasinger, Ivy Davis, Janeal Godfrey and Breanne Wasinger, graduate students and officers of Lambda Alpha, and Theresa Click, graduate student, for their commitment and contributions to realization of the Student Symposium. I also thank all of the authors and contributors to the journal. Finally, I offer a very special thanks to Dr. Ben Swartz for his contributions to the Lambda Alpha Society and for his support during our many years of collaboration.

Sincerely,

Peer H. Moore-Jansen
Editor-in-Chief