



**Media contact:**

Susie Bodman  
703-528-1902, ext. 3039  
sbodman@aaanet.org

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 7, 2006

## **AAA signs deal to ensure access to scholarly journals**

The American Anthropological Association has signed an agreement with Portico — a Princeton, N.J.-based not-for-profit, electronic-archiving service — to preserve the association's journal titles in perpetuity.

Currently, AAA offers access to its journals and other scholarly materials through AnthroSource, a searchable online database and archive of anthropological resources holding more than 45,000 articles.

The key outcome of the partnership is that scholarly materials now available on AnthroSource will be deposited in the Portico permanent archive for long-term preservation and future accessibility.

The benefit to AnthroSource subscribers — anthropologists, students and libraries — is that perpetual access to these materials is now guaranteed. Additionally, the scholarship contained in the AnthroSource library will be protected from loss due to unforeseen events, such as a sustained interruption in service from the association's server. AAA also has agreed to have Portico provide post-cancellation access to AAA journals to those libraries that participate in Portico.

In addition, the agreement ensures that AnthroSource materials will remain accessible as technology changes — as Portico will be responsible for converting files to new electronic formats as they emerge.

"The American Anthropological Association is excited about our collaboration with Portico. This partnership provides secure, guaranteed preservation of our anthropological publications for future generations of students, scholars and professionals — no matter how technology changes. Moreover, it provides perpetual access to our content, a benefit to our members and institutional library subscribers that is crucial to the continued success of AnthroSource," said Bill Davis, executive director of AAA.

Portico is a new, not-for-profit, electronic-archiving service established in response to the library community's need for a robust, reliable means to preserve electronic, scholarly journals. Portico was initiated by JSTOR and was developed with the initial support of Ithaka, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the Library of Congress. Portico's mission is to preserve scholarly literature published in electronic form and to ensure that these materials remain accessible to future scholars, researchers and students.

AnthroSource, meanwhile, was launched in 2005 after three years of development, made possible by a Mellon Foundation grant. The mission of this online service is to make AAA's library of journals, newsletters, bulletins and monographs accessible to members in a searchable, centralized, interactive format that fosters communities of interest and practice throughout anthropology.

The University of California Press, AAA's publishing partner, has also played a key role in the archiving partnership, acting as a liaison to Portico and providing the nonprofit organization with needed electronic files.

Founded in 1902, the American Anthropological Association is the world's largest professional organization of anthropologists and others interested in anthropology, with an average annual membership of more than 10,000. The Arlington, Va.-based association represents all specialties within anthropology — cultural anthropology, biological (or physical) anthropology, archaeology, linguistics and applied anthropology.

---

2200 Wilson Blvd., Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22201-3357  
Tel 703-528-1902  
Fax 703-528-3546  
www.aaanet.org