

Call for Editorship Proposals for the *Journal of World-Systems Research*
Applications are invited for the next editor(s) of the Journal of World-Systems Research

The *Journal of World-Systems Research (JWSR)* is the official journal of the Political Economy of World-Systems (PEWS) Section of the American Sociological Association (ASA). The journal publishes cutting-edge interdisciplinary research on global social change and world-systems analysis. It offers a transdisciplinary and global approach to the study of the changing nature of world society.¹ It has been offered free online to readers since its founding in 1995. An overview of world-system perspective is provided in the PEWS Mission Statement, found [here](#). Learn more about *JWSR* [here](#).

The current Editor of *JWSR* is Andrej Grubačić at the California Institute of Integral Studies (CIIS) in San Francisco, and the Managing Editor is Rallie Murray at CIIS. The Book Review Editor is Alexandre White at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore. This team's term expires December 31, 2025, and the new Editorial Team's term would formally begin on January 1, 2026. To facilitate a smooth transition, the new Editorial Team will be invited to work with the current Team over the summer of 2025 to produce the journal's Fall 2025 issue. Editor(s) terms are three years, with a possible extension of two years upon mutual agreement of the Editor, the PEWS section, and the ASA Publications Committee.

Eligibility

Editors must hold a tenured position or equivalent in an academic or non-academic setting, per ASA policy. Applications from members of historically underrepresented groups are encouraged. In accordance with ASA's goal of publishing high quality scholarship, the following criteria are considered in selecting editors:

- Established record of scholarship;
- Evidence of understanding the mission of the journal or series and its operation, as indicated by experience with the journal or series through publication, reviewing, editorial board experience, or other activities;
- Assessment of the present state of the journal, its strengths and challenges, and a vision for the journal's future; openness to different methods, theories, and approaches to scholarship record of responsible service to scholarly publishing and evidence of organizational skill and intellectual leadership; and
- Evidence of commitment to issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Financial Support

PEWS Section membership dues (roughly \$3000 per year) funds the part of *JWSR's* operating budget used for production and outreach costs and may also be used to provide a stipend for the Managing Editor during the summer months. We expect that the Editor(s) will seek support from their institutions for additional funding to cover the costs of a Managing Editor, and the Editor(s) course release(s). Typically, a Managing Editor earns a \$1,500 summer stipend, but inflation demands that this amount should increase. Editor(s) get a \$2,000 annual honorarium (to share), provided by from ASA operating funds. Candidates are strongly encouraged to seek institutional commitments in advance of applying. To help with this, potential Editor(s) may find the ASA document, "[Talking Points: Benefits to Hosting an ASA Journal for a Department and University](#)" helpful. Karen Gray Edwards, ASA Director of Publications (edwards@asanet.org)

can discuss the level and type of ASA support that could be available to prospective editors, but detailed financial arrangements are developed only after ASA Council appoints the editor.

Editorial Team Responsibilities

The **Editor's** effort is about 4-5 hours per 5-day work week, on average, throughout the year, presuming a Managing Editor is on the team, to assist. *JWSR* is published bi-annually, with most of the work concentrated in the winter/spring semester and summers.

Editorial Board members typically review several manuscripts for the journal each year and sometimes assist the editor in selecting other reviewers. Deputy Editors (should there be any) may assist Editors in decision-making and problem solving and may assume the role of Editor in cases where Editors have a conflict of interest. The ASA requires that Board membership is staggered, where one-third rotates off each year.

The **Book Review editor** is responsible for planning content for the book review section, including special features, finding fair reviewers of books that are relevant to the subjects and interests of *JWSR* readers, getting the reviews, and copyediting them.

Typically, the Editor employs a graduate student from his/her department to serve as **Managing Editor**. They handle communication between authors and reviewers and (with editor(s)) assign and supervise the copyediting of accepted manuscripts. The copy-editing work is typically done by some combination of the Managing Editor and volunteers from the PEWS section or from the home institution.

The **Editor(s)** is expected to:

- Ensure timely bi-annual publication, maintaining high quality scholarship of interest to the journal's readership.
- Appoint and oversee the Managing Editor and the Book Review Editor.
- Work with the publisher and librarians to get *JWSR* included in major indexes and to obtain an impact factor for the journal.
- Read submitted articles, decide which should be formally reviewed, and identify appropriate external reviewers. (Manuscripts may be desk-rejected should they fail to meet minimum scholarly standards or are deemed inappropriate to the purposes and readership of *JWSR*.)
- Once manuscripts are reviewed, use external reviewers' and editorial team's assessments to guide authors through the revise and resubmit process, advise authors on final preparation of their manuscripts for publication, or offer rejections.
- Identify appropriate topics for special issues and coordinate with Guest Editors regarding peer review and production processes. Special Issue topics and Guest Editors should be approved by the ASA Publication Committee.
- Coordinate with the Book Review Editor on books to be reviewed and possible special themes/symposia.
- Oversee the production process, including copyediting and formatting work with support from the Editorial Team and paid or volunteer copyeditors.
- Coordinate management of the journal, including work to build the journal's resource base, manage the budget, expand the number of submissions, and plan/shape future content in areas of interest to the PEWS Section membership.
- Expand journal visibility, readership, and citations.
- Communicate with the PEWS Publications Committee, the American Sociological Association Publications Committee, and the *JWSR* Editorial Board
- Prepare and submit annual reports due to the PEWS Section and the ASA Publications Committee in May of each year.

Submitting a Proposal

As you prepare your application, it might be helpful to review [examples of successful editor proposals](#). Proposals should be no more than five pages (approximately 2,500-3,000 words), plus CV attachments. Include the following:

Editor(s): Provide the name and affiliation of the prospective Editor(s), describe their qualifications, and attach their CVs.

Editorial Team: **Editors** will appoint a **Book Review Editor**, and an **Editorial Board**, and proposals should provide their names and attach their CVs. ASA asks that prospective Editors not contact potential Editorial Board members or Deputy Editors until their proposal has been approved. All Editors must be members of ASA and the PEWS section throughout their terms of service.

Vision Statement: Set forth your goals and plans for the content of the journal or series. This may include an assessment of the current strengths, weaknesses, or gaps that you plan to address and how you will implement your plan.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Write a statement that (1) critically reflects on how your race/ethnicity, gender, and class background shapes your understanding of scholarship and your commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) at the individual, organizational, or institutional level, (2) describes your involvement in DEI initiatives and efforts to promote equitable and inclusive leadership citing specific accomplishments and the roles you have played, and (3) outlines specific ways you plan to include marginalized scholars as editorial board members, manuscript reviewers, and authors, particularly scholars from racially marginalized backgrounds and those who are the first in their family to finish college. Please note in your application if legislation in your state restricts you from answering these questions.

Professional Ethics and Scientific Integrity Self-Disclosure: All nominees for editorships are required to answer a self-disclosure question regarding professional ethics and scientific integrity. Click [here](#) to complete the disclosure online.

Institutional Support: Submission of letters of support from deans or other institutional officials are encouraged but are not required.

Submit proposals by email to publications@asanet.org and to PEWS Publications Committee Chair David Smith at dasmith@uci.edu no later than November 1, 2025.

Late applications are considered at the discretion of the PEWS Publications Committee. The PEWS Publications Committee (David Smith, Chair; Chris Chase-Dunn, Melanie L. Bush, Marcel Paret, Andrej Grubačić, Nayla Huq, and Jason Mueller) reviews the proposals and makes their recommendations to the ASA Publications no later than December 15, 2024. In turn, the ASA Publications Committee sends their recommendations to the ASA Council in time for its March 2025 meeting. In March or April 2025, the ASA Council announces their selection to the Editor(s) submitting the winning proposal and to the PEWS Publications Committee.

Questions? Contact the ASA Director of Publications, Karen Gray Edwards, at edwards@asanet.org; the current Editor, Andrej Grubačić, at agrubic@ciis.edu; or the Chair of the PEWS Publications Committee, David Smith at dasmith@uci.edu, with any questions about the journal, your application, or your ideas about future directions for *JWSR*.