Dear ASA Executive Board Members,

We are sorry that we cannot join you in Vienna for this year’s ASA and wish you all a wonderful and productive conference. Here is a brief report on the Journal of Austrian Studies over the past year.

1. Our Project Muse engagement statistics indicate a sharp (59.4%) increase in the number of views and downloads in 2015 over 2014. The numbers since we began tracking them in 2013 are:

   Number of views/downloads 2015: 2,382
   Number of views/downloads 2014: 1,494
   Number of views/downloads 2013: 738

   Change 2014 to 2015: +59.4%
   Change 2013 to 2015: A 3.23x increase in views/downloads

   We are clearly extending our reach at a consistent and rapid pace.

2. At last year’s Executive Board Meeting, we agreed to work with JStor to house the pre-JAS issues of the Journal alongside the issues that have been published since 2012. This agreement has been signed and JStor is now working on making them available.

3. Due to a sudden departure at the University of Nebraska Press, the press found itself short-staffed at the end of 2015 and into 2016. The Winter 2015 issue was therefore delayed, a delay that was compounded by the copyeditor’s schedule in January and February. Issue 48:4 is thus still forthcoming and will be in page proofs by the end of the month. We apologize for the delay, but this was out of our hands. The Press has since promoted the person with whom we have worked most closely and hired a replacement for his old position, so we should be back on schedule going forward.

4. In order to get back on schedule, we are putting together a double-issue: JAS 49:1-2 (Spring/Summer 2016). This comes at a convenient time, as we have hit a lull in what had been a long pipeline of forthcoming publications. Submissions remain steady, but acceptances declined dramatically in the past 6-8 months. We have material for the Spring/Summer issue and are beginning to assemble the Fall issue. There are sufficient submissions in the pipeline pending evaluation, but this would be a good time to encourage people to submit to the JAS. This encouragement includes members of this board!

5. The Max Kade Foundation has pledged support in the amount of $1,500 for a prize to be awarded for the best essay of 2015. Because of the delay in the Winter issue we will send the list and the issue along as soon as it reaches page proofs for the Editorial Board to vote on. This means unfortunately that we cannot announce a winner at the convention this year.

   We wish you all the best for the conference and are envious that we cannot join you! Next year in Chicago, as they say...

   Hillary & Todd