Editorial Note

Ebbs and Flows*

Jason Baird Jackson

This issue concludes *Museum Anthropology Review*’s eighth year of publication and its first full year as the peer-reviewed journal of the Mathers Museum of World Cultures and its partners. My thanks, as editor, go to everyone who has supported, encouraged, and contributed to the work of the journal over this remarkable span. Among these many supporters, I wish to particularly highlight the extraordinary and ongoing contributions to the effort made by the Indiana University Libraries, particularly the IUScholarWorks Program.

This issue—volume 8, number 2, is an abbreviated one. The report and book reviews that it presents are valuable contributions to conversations in our field and I thank these authors—and all of MAR’s authors—for their encouragement and their thoughtful work. One of the advantages of no-cost-to-readers, no-cost-to-libraries, no-cost-to-authors open access publishing is that it can more reasonably respond to the ebbs and flows characterizing the complicated lives that we—and our scholarly institutions—live. In the current case of the MAR editorial office, we have a wonderful body of recent content awaiting publication, but other duties—particularly my other duties, but also the other activities of the Mathers Museum of World Cultures, have precluded getting it all ready to go before the end of 2014. This means that MAR 8(2) appears now at years end a bit smaller than the issues that came before it. But, that fact also means that the issues to appear in 2015 will be larger in turn. In the world of subscription journals—especially print journals—such ebbs and flows wreak havoc on production schedules, drive up costs, and frustrate everyone involved, from accountants to printers to librarians. None of that has to be the case in the gift economy and DIY worlds of smaller, not-for-profit open access journals.

This issue contains the first contribution to a new section devoted to Project Reports. Daniel C. Swan and Paul Minnis’s interesting account of a recent community ethnobotany workshop at the Sam Noble Museum illustrates the goals of the new section. In it, Mathers Museum of World Cultures/Museum Anthropology Review institutional partners will offer timely reports on current activities of broader interest to the field.

MAR’s new editorial assistant Emily Buhrow and I hope that you like—and benefit from—MAR 8(2) and that you look forward—like we do—to the wonderful materials in the cue to appear in 2015.

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Jason Baird Jackson is Editor of Museum Anthropology Review and Director of the Mathers Museum of World Cultures at Indiana University.

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