

# Expanding the publishing niche for bioanthropologists

Progression is fundamental to the scientific method as each datum, no matter how insignificant, builds upon its predecessors and likewise forms a foundation for further investigation. The sustainability of this trend is maintained through a process of proper documentation of research works. When this trend is lost in the research-publication process, then there could develop a cacophony of research efforts.

This situation is worrisome to editors who constantly search for incisive articles to boost journal quality since the health of a journal is predicated on the uninterrupted publication of quality articles. When numerous sent in articles gets to the editor's table, inevitably priority are given to the core subject areas of the journal focus. With few journals worldwide addressing the core areas of bioanthropology, a gap is created in the research-publication chain of this important subject area.

The subject of bioanthropology has hardly received a status of autonomy both in research and publishing. This is often because of its multidisciplinary nature. Although this does not diminish its importance in advancing scientific research, it however places the subject in a sandwiched position of often having its identity subsumed in related disciplines.

It is in realisation of these facts that the *Annals of Bioanthropology* offer a niche for scientists in the related disciplines of bioanthropology to advance the course of

the subject through publication of incisive articles in the journal.

A publication of the Nigerian Association for Bioanthropology (NABA), *Annals of Bioanthropology* is an international forum for communication among academics and industrialists interested in current research in scientific, technology and applied aspects the human being and his environment. The journal offers rapid exchange of novel and significant information gained from experimental investigations on all aspects that are pertinent to the existence of man and his environment. This maiden issue contain articles in the areas of life science, human anthropology and issues related to forensic anthropology. Other areas such as neuroanthropology, molecular anthropology and paleoanthropology are also major subjects of focus for the journal.

The journal promises to maintain the highest standards of academic publication. With the initial consent report of the NABA newsletter, the journal has already been listed to benefit from the Nigerian Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TET Fund) support for academic society's journal. The journal is targeting a strong print subscriber base in excess of 100,000 and an on-line access to serve a larger audience in excess of one million people. With initial planning and layout of the journal being done in conjunction with MEDKNOW and our Editorial Board, it promises to be served with the standard of international best practices in journal publication.

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