

**Examination and specification
in order to publish the annual AIW contributions**

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- I. Starting Situation**
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AIW how to publish contributions – check the options

I. Starting situation

- I. Normally there is no publishing of the annual AIW contributions (exception: this years' "Transmotion" publishing)
- II. Since 2007, when ERNAS stopped, there is no medium for the AIW community to share the annual presentations with a broader audience
- III. Speakers can take care themselves for any publishing and socialize this in the AIW database (Thomas Jacobs)
- IV. 2021 we started a little examination to check various options for publishing

AIW online publishing – checking the options

II. Motivation

- I. The AIW is a well-established platform in American studies for more than 40 years meanwhile.
- II. It consists of a viral and interdisciplinary community of scholars not only in Europe but also internationally.
- III. It offers a very open approach for anyone who seeks to involve and is a mirror of relevant contemporary questions and academic discussions.

III. Crucial limitations

- I. First: the money needed
- II. Second: the voluntary effort needed
- III. Third: the AIW is community curated, means it is no legal entity (like an institute or an association)

Plans and possible Timeframe (working hypothesis)

I. Plans

Suggestion is to implement a two step approach, e.g.

- I. Step one:
File storage for **draft / preliminary / comment pieces** (“as-is”) with columns to comment - closed area for the AIW
- II. Step two: Open Access (online) publishing – plan for the future

II. Timeframe

- I. (Preparations for step two after clarification of prerequisites)
- II. Publishing activities for the AIW 2021 (42nd) are already covered by the Team Cyprus, James Mackay, David Stirrup et.al. (Transmotion) – learn from experiences
- III. the activities for step one (“repository”) could be retrospectively done as a pilot with contributions of the AIW 2020 (41st)

Recommendation and estimated costs for step one

Step one: “as-is” repository with comment areas, closed for the AIW

- I. Required core functionality
 - I. Protected for the community, encryption functionality, applicable system of roles and legitimations
 - II. Core users and associated readers/commentators
 - III. Comment fields not within the file but separately assigned to the respective document (e.g. columns)
 - IV. Download prevention to be set via permissions (which I’d recommend)
- II. Standard package “Dropbox Business Standard”
 - I. Flexible license model
 - I. with core users who require a license and associated teams (“readers/commentors”), which will be invited to join the application by link and email
 - II. Possibility to switch from business standard version (to be paid) to cost free basic version during inactive months
- III. License costs to be paid for core users € 12,--/month/user
- IV. Suggested model:

Buy annually business standard licenses for core users (managing editors, organizers, authors) valid for a limited period of two (?) months and invite all others by sending out the link to discuss the files.

After the active period has ended switch to the cost free basic mode (attention: not for archiving purposes, because backup/recovery is not guaranteed with the basic version).

Assumption: 40 core users plus multiple invitees for two months/year
€ 960,-- + VAT

timeframe example

two weeks for uploads, 4 weeks for comments, two weeks for updates/ closure and switch to basic
=> timeframe requires discipline and deadline accuracy

„Step Two“ – options to establish a publication media using the Open Access approach

- I. AIWs' collaboration with an AIW hosting University, participation in existing procedures...
*to be discussed e.g. "Transmotion" (<https://journals.kent.ac.uk/index.php/transmotion>),
clarification with James et. al.,
or LMU offering regarding Open Access Journals (https://www.ub.uni-muenchen.de/schreiben/open-access-publizieren/kompakt/open_journals_lmumuenchen.de/index.html),
clarification with Henry et. al. !!! // or any other ideas?*
- II. Find a publishing company as a cooperation partner,
(e.g. one of the Open Access "enablement" partners of the BMBF, Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung, Germany)

>> Future talk

Funding proposals

Funding step one “repository closed for the AIW with comment area”

(estimated costs based on proposal p.6, € 960 + VAT)

- I. increase of the conference fee
- II. annually community-wide funding call
- III. ... test funding options like “Crowd funding”,
see more information under www.crowdfunding.de (e.g. “GoFundMe”, “Crowdify”)

Feasibility and Prerequisites

I. Step one: “repository closed for the AIW with comment area”

REMINDER – the limiting factors

- the money needed
- the voluntary effort needed
- the AIW is **no** legal entity
(like an institute or an association)

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in order to handle a possible funding correctly from a tax point of view it is necessary to establish an association

I. Step two: publishing option with Open Access for the AIW

Detailing questions or discussion points after clarification of step 1

interested in the files (long and short version including discussion points, Open Access options, costs and feasibility) ? –

please contact
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Feasibility**

Decision table, survey

Item	Yes	No	Abs.
go ahead to check the foundation of an association and establish it if reasonable (funding purpose)			
go ahead with step1 „repository with comment area“ for core teams and invitees			
go ahead with long-term discussions of AIW open access online publishing with universities/ publishers			

participants: