

ASA News, Spring 2021

Pandemic Publishing Interview: Indiana University Press' David Hulsey

1. How has the pandemic and the broad suspension of in person events impacted publishing?

Sales remain strong or have increased as people quarantine at home and rediscover the joys of reading.

Publishing staff working remotely have come up with resourceful, digitally-based solutions to ensure that publishing workflows and marketing are not interrupted.

2. What have been the publishing trends that you've seen over the last year? What trends are you most excited about?

An acceleration of the decolonizing of lists, especially in African Studies. That movement toward decolonization is seismic and multifaceted, ranging from choices of reviewers to the use of proper diacritics when rendering African languages to the selection of series editors.

3. Since we still aren't able to get together, how have book pitches changed and what should our members know about the process?

Book pitches now are almost exclusively through the online proposal submission form on our website. That way of introducing our editors to your book is far more efficient than in person discussions at conferences.

4. What new projects are you working on that the African Studies community should be on the lookout for?

We have begun the process of completely reimagining and reinvigorating the African Studies list at IUP. It will look very different in three years. That's all I want to share at this point.