

Dear *AMSJ* Readers,

A million years ago, way back in November 2016, the *AMSJ* Editorial Board members sat around a conference table at the surreal ASA meeting in Denver, Colorado, immediately following the presidential election.

“Select a timely theme for the photo shoot of the Summer Reading Issue,” said our Agenda, as it does every year. But what could that mean in November 2016?

It has been a tradition of the journal since 2014 to publish an issue solely devoted to review essays and book reviews designed for assisting our readers with selecting their summer reading and their fall courses. But the most popular feature of the Summer Reading issue is the photo shoot, in which our Editorial Board members submit photographs of themselves according to a theme chosen the previous November.

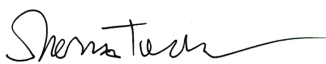
“Make America Read Again,” said Editorial Board member Rebecca Hill. The acceptance of this theme was unanimous, spurring a stream of companion themes: “Make America Fact-Check Again” and “Make America Cite Sources Again.” It was timely, true, and, at the time, very funny and very sad to those of us at the meeting.

By the time the issue was to go to press, however, the slogan had lost its capacity for levity. It was still timely, but too real. We couldn’t get ourselves to do it.

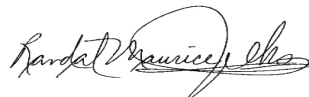
We skipped the photo shoot in Summer 2017, and again in Summer 2018. We hoped that the theme would lose its relevance.

But here we are in Summer 2018 and the message still rings true, urgently so. As we journeyed through the “Let America Read the Muller Report” period into the era of “Make America Read the Muller Report,” we gather our resolve and finally roll out our “Make American Read Again” photographs to accompany our annual Summer Reading Issue.

Let us continue to Read. Fact-Check. Cite.



Sherrie Tucker, Editor



Randal Maurice Jelks, Editor