The Executive Board of the Academy of International Business (AIB) is seeking proposals for the Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of International Business Studies (JIBS)*. The new Editor-in-Chief (2008-2010) will start processing manuscripts July 1, 2007, and be fully responsible for all editorial activities starting January 1, 2008. The selection of a new Editor-in-Chief will consist of a two-stage process. The Board requests that AIB members interested in taking on the editorial responsibility for *JIBS* submit a ten-page description of their editorial strategy and implementation plan for the journal by October 15, 2006. The AIB Board will select and inform the finalists by November 15 and request the submission of final proposals by February 1, 2007. The finalists will be invited to the March 2007 AIB Board meeting in Indianapolis to present their proposals.

Since 2002, the number of manuscripts submitted to *JIBS* has more than doubled, and the reputation of the journal has improved to become a premier journal (with a Social Sciences Impact Score around 1.30). To ensure a smooth transition of editorships, the AIB Executive Board is now searching for a new Editor well in advance of the end of Arie Lewin’s second term. The transition period between July and December 2007 will be arranged between the new and current editorial teams, the AIB Executive Secretariat, and the publisher. The AIB Executive Board will actively monitor the transition. Responsibility for all issues, projects, and ongoing manuscripts will be transferred to the new editorial team in its entirety on January 1, 2008.

The new editorial team will consist of an Editor-in-Chief and a number of associates (e.g., Deputy Editors-in-Chief and Departmental Editors) whose exact number and responsibilities should be outlined in the proposal. In line with other premier journals, the editorship will officially be for a *three-year term* (January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2010), with the responsibility of manuscript processing starting July 1, 2007. The editorial team would have complete editorial responsibility for the content and organization of *JIBS*, would manage the manuscript review and selection process, and would work with the publishing firm responsible for the timely publication of *JIBS*. In this role, the Editor-in-Chief reports directly to the AIB Executive Board and is required to attend both annual meetings of the Board. Policy decisions related to the journal are the responsibility of the AIB Executive Board while the management of the journal is the responsibility of the editorial team.

The Executive Board anticipates that the AIB Executive Secretariat, led by Professor Tomas Hult (Executive Director) and Dr. Tunga Kiyak (Managing Director), will take over much of the responsibility of the role of a typical “managing editor”. The AIB Executive Secretariat is in the process of hiring a Managing Editor for *JIBS*, to start around January 2007. An Editorial Assistant will also be hired to be housed in the AIB Executive Secretariat, with a starting date around July 1, 2007 to coincide with the start of the transition period for the new EIC. While an Editorial Assistant (full or half time) will be a necessity at the EIC’s school, the AIB office intends to have an administrative assistant dedicated to *JIBS* and to maintain the online submission system. The current Outdare system will change to Manuscript Central (Scholar One) starting around July 1, 2007. The Spring 2007 period will be used to make the new system fully...
operational before being publicly launched around July 1, 2007. Dr. Tunga Kiyak will be the person responsible for the customization and implementation of the online system.

The AIB Executive Board is open to a variety of proposed ways to handle the processing of manuscripts, but the Board’s preference is to centralize with the AIB Executive Secretariat a large component of the JIBS activities that have traditionally been performed at the Editor-in-Chief’s office (e.g., processing of manuscripts; communication between constituencies, e.g., authors, editors, and reviewers, and linkage to the publisher). The Editorial Assistant at the EIC’s school will serve as a link with the AIB Secretariat as well as provide typical assistance to the EIC and the Managing Editor. Complete division of labor and responsibilities are expected to be worked out between the new EIC and the AIB Secretariat with the final approval being taken by the AIB Executive Board. As is the AIB tradition, the EIC serves in largely a voluntary capacity, with the expectation of strong commitment from his/her university (e.g., office space, computers, and support for the local Editorial Assistant). Financially, AIB contributes to a modest amount of travel expenses related to attending meetings of the AIB Executive Board and provides some support for the EIC’s local Editorial Assistant (up to $10,000/year).

The preliminary proposal should include a complete resume of the leading scholar who would serve as Editor-in-Chief. The second round proposals need to include resumes for those who would occupy key positions as Deputy and Departmental Editors. Implementation plans should also include some mention of release time for the Editor-in-Chief and possibly for Deputy Editors from their respective universities. This proposal should also address the provision of the services of an administrative assistant and some physical facilities and equipment, as well as a budget for travel and communications. The financial arrangements necessary to meet these basic costs constitute a key element of the proposal and must be endorsed by the Dean of the lead institution. The Editor-in-Chief’s university will be acknowledged in the journal for the duration of the agreement.

Informal inquiries about this process, in advance of an application, can be made to Alan M. Rugman, Immediate Past-President, who chairs the AIB Board’s JIBS Editorial Team Selection Committee (Email: rugman@indiana.edu). Please submit your preliminary proposals to the AIB Secretariat by October 15, 2006 by electronic mail to the AIB Executive Secretariat at aib@msu.edu. The AIB Board will select and inform the finalists by November 15, 2006.