



PRESS RELEASE

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LIBRARIANS RECOGNIZE EXCELLENCE  
IN UNIVERSITY PRESS PUBLISHING

New Edition of Valuable Collection Development Tool Released;  
“Best of the Best” to be showcased at 2008 ALA

New York – Some of the most significant and thought-provoking books you may not have heard about originate from scholarly publishers. It is from these titles that a library’s collection can benefit most, and now there is an easy way to preview the best.

A popular and trusted acquisitions resource, University Press Books Selected for Public and Secondary School Libraries is the product of a longstanding and successful collaboration between the Association of American University Presses (AAUP), the American Association of School Librarians (AASL), and the Public Library Association (PLA).

The 18th edition of Selected Books is available now at:

[www.aaupnet.org/librarybooks](http://www.aaupnet.org/librarybooks)

Librarians who work daily with high school students and the general public have selected, reviewed, and rated 500 books published in the last year by nonprofit scholarly publishers. Covering such diverse subjects as environmentalism, biotechnology, human rights, America’s Red/Blue divide, the history of Hezbollah, Irish American poetry, and African democracy, these books present lively scholarship to match any interest.

To launch this new edition of the bibliography, a special program entitled “The Best of the Best of the University Presses: Books You Should Know About” will be presented at the summer meeting of the American Library Association’s 2008 Annual Conference, June 29 in Anaheim, CA.

At the session, five librarians from the AASL and PLA selection committees will present 24 of their favorite titles from the bibliography. By providing a public forum, this annual session increases awareness and use of the bibliography in collection planning. “Since first coordinating the program in 1999, I’ve seen its attendance grow from 13 librarians to over 65 in 2007,” AAUP Marketing Manager Rachel Weiss-Feldman remarked. “There is always great feedback from the attendees; several librarians have joined the selection committee after attending the program.”

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A list of the titles to be presented can be found at <http://www.aaupnet.org/programs/marketing/library/bestofbest08.html>. Publishers will contribute copies of the books to be raffled off to the librarians in attendance.

The presenting librarians come from schools and library systems across the country: Hilary Albert, Mahopac Public Library, Mahopac, NY; Christina Maria Beaird, Plainfield Public Libraries, Plainfield, IL; Sabrina Carnesi, Crittenden Middle School Library, Newport News, VA; Paul J. Gregorio (AASL) Portland Community College, Portland, OR; and Janet Hilbun (AASL) School of Library and Information Studies, Texas Woman's University, Denton, TX

ABOUT AAUP:

The Association of American University Presses (<http://www.aaupnet.org>) is the world's largest organization of not-for-profit scholarly publishers.

Formally established in 1937, AAUP promotes the work and influence of its 129 scholarly press members. AAUP's mission is to serve member presses through cooperative programs, professional development opportunities, and by promoting the valuable work that presses do.

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