



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Temple University Press Director Elected President of AAUP

New York, NY, July 31, 2008— Announced at the Association of American University Press's Annual Meeting in Montréal, Temple University Press Director Alex Holzman will assume leadership of the AAUP for the 2008-09 year. He succeeds Sanford Thatcher, Director of Penn State University Press, who remains on the association's board. A twenty-two-year veteran of the university press community, Holzman has been a member of the AAUP Board of Directors since 2004 and chaired the Annual Meeting Program Committee in 1999-2000.

Formally established in 1937, AAUP promotes the work and influence of university presses, provides cooperative marketing opportunities, and helps its 128 member presses fulfill their common commitments to scholarship, the academy, and society. The president of AAUP serves as a spokesperson for and an advocate of university presses and works with the executive director and board of directors to set the direction and immediate goals of the organization.

Embarking on his career in scholarly publishing at Ohio State University in 1986, Holzman helped to expand the press's list from thirteen titles annually to about thirty per year by 1990. As an editor at Cambridge University Press, he developed lists in political science, criminology, and the history of science and medicine, and later helped with journals acquisitions. He also originated the consortia sales department and was responsible for developing new media partnerships. Holzman came to Temple University Press in 2003, and as Director has increased the press's title output and development efforts, worked to establish a production workflow incorporating electronic files, and become an active participant in the larger university community, advising faculty and library staff on scholarly publishing topics.

In his inaugural speech to AAUP members in Montréal, Holzman addressed one of the major concerns facing academic scholarly publishers, the debate over open-access publishing. "What we need here—and what I'm happy to say is beginning to show some signs of happening in various quarters—is for the moderates to take back the discussion," he said. "The Ithaka report was right—university presses are first and foremost units of the university and we must work with others in the university to solve our problems. When I see the various experiments presses are trying with open access, often jointly with their libraries, when I see more administrators grasping the fact that abandoning all restrictions on intellectual property can be a double-edged sword for the university, well, then I truly believe at least some optimism is justified."

For more information about the AAUP and AAUP members, please visit us on the Web at <http://www.aaupnet.org>.

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ABOUT AAUP:

The Association of American University Presses (<http://www.aaupnet.org>) is the world's largest organization of not-for-profit scholarly publishers. AAUP's mission is to serve member presses through cooperative programs, professional development opportunities, and by promoting the valuable work that presses do.