



THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITY PRESSES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACTS: Brenna McLaughlin

212-989-1010 x24

bmclaughlin@aaupnet.org

***LIBRARIANS RECOGNIZE EXCELLENCE
IN UNIVERSITY PRESS PUBLISHING***

“Best of the Best” to be showcased at ALA meeting in Orlando

June 22, 2004, New York – If you think books published by university presses are only for professors, academics, and specialists in arcane subjects – think again.

Librarians who work daily with high school students and the general public have selected, reviewed, and rated nearly 500 books published this year by nonprofit scholarly publishers—on subjects ranging from Eskimo architecture to the American presidency, from Latin American and Spanish science fiction to the Greek gods and goddesses.

The 14th annual edition of University Press Books Selected for Public and Secondary School Libraries is now available. A joint project of the Association of American University Presses, the American Association of School Libraries, and the Public Library Association, this bibliography is a popular and trusted acquisitions resource. More than 14,000 copies will be distributed free to librarians across the country.

New this year, the bibliography will also be published online and freely available. The online edition will be launched in August 2004 at www.aaupnet.org/librarybooks.

In addition, 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 on June 26 in Orlando, FL.

At this session, seven librarians from the committees will present 29 of the selected titles. The “Best of the Best” program, now in its sixth year, offers librarians the opportunity to share advice and recommendations with their colleagues, and recognizes the valuable contribution that university press books can make to both public libraries and libraries in secondary schools. By providing a public forum, the program has increased awareness and use of the bibliography to use in collection planning.

continued

71 WEST 23RD STREET SUITE 901 NEW YORK NEW YORK 10010 WWW.AAUPNET.ORG

A list of the titles to be presented is at www.aaupnet.org/programs/bestofbest04.html. Publishers will contribute copies of the books to be raffled off to the librarians in attendance.

The presenting librarians hail from around the country: **Jane Chesney**, John Cooper School in The Woodlands, TX; **Mary D. Lankford**, Library Specialist in Austin TX; **Donna T. Brumby**, Gwinnett County Public Library in Lawrenceville, GA; **Judith McGowan**, NY Department of Education in New York, NY; **Karen Perry**, Central Davidson School in High Point, NC; **Jamie Hansen**, University of South Florida Library in Tampa, FL; and **Ken Stewart**, Blue Valley High School in Stillwell, KS.

The Association of American University Presses (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 125 scholarly press members. AAUP's mission is to serve member presses through cooperative programs, professional development opportunities, and by promoting the valuable work that these presses do.