BOOKS OFFER INSIGHT INTO MINING DANGERS AND DISASTERS

AAUP’s “Books for Understanding” Provides Guide to Scholarship on the Mining Industry and Mining Communities

NEW YORK (April 20, 2010) – The world saw two terrifying mine disasters in the month of April, including the worst in U.S. history for at least a quarter century. The explosion at Upper Big Branch mine in West Virginia and flooding in China’s Wangjialing mine have raised questions about mining industry practice and regulation, as well as the lives of miners and their communities.

Mining and miners have been central to the history of industrialization and colonial expansion, playing a key role in economies and societies around the globe. The latest “Books for Understanding” bibliography compiles scholarship on mining history and how it has shaped nations, miners and their labor, and the forces that control policy and regulation in this dangerous area.

Find more information and links to more than 100 general and specialist books that provide knowledge about the history and regulation of mining:


From 25 prestigious scholarly publishers, these titles include:

• The Bancroft Prize-winning *Killing for Coal* by Thomas G. Andrews (Harvard University Press, 2008);
• *Goodbye Wifes and Daughters*, by Susan Kushner Resnick, the story of the 1943 Smith Mine #3 disaster in Bearcreek, Montana (University of Nebraska Press, 2010);
• *Bringing Down the Mountains: The Impact of Mountaintop Removal on Southern West Virginia*, by Shirley Stewart Burns, a focused look at one of today’s most controversial mining techniques (West Virginia University Press, 2007).

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