LIBRARIANS RECOGNIZE EXCELLENCE
IN UNIVERSITY PRESS PUBLISHING

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

(June 7, 2006) New York – Many books from university presses are meant for a wider audience than academic specialists. Try cookbooks of Jewish Southern cooking, healthy New American cuisine, and the fare of the Alaska Gold rush; or a book of lawyer jokes; or an illustrated history of comics; or essential reference works on New England, the American Census, or snakes and insects.

Librarians who work daily with high school students and the general public have selected, reviewed, and rated approximately 450 books published this year by nonprofit scholarly publishers—on subjects ranging from those mentioned above to the Civil War, world religions, cartography, and health guides.

The sixteenth edition of University Press Books Selected for Public & Secondary School Libraries is now available in print and online at: www.aaupnet.org/librarybooks/

This popular and trusted acquisitions resource is the product of a longstanding collaboration between AAUP, the Association of School Librarians (ASL), and the Public Library Association (PLA).

More than 13,000 copies will be distributed free to librarians across the country, and the online version expand the availability of the bibliography to librarians around the world.

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 25 in New Orleans.

At this session, 5 librarians from the selection committees will present 25 of their favorite titles from the bibliography. AAUP Marketing Manager Rachel Weiss says, “The program helps to make librarians aware of the many great university and scholarly press publications that may interest their patrons.” By providing a public forum, the annual session has increased awareness and use of the bibliography in collection planning.

A list of the titles to be presented is at www.aaupnet.org/programs/marketing/library/bestofbest06.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: Mary Casper-LeBoeuf, Terrenbone Parish Library, Houma, LA; Terri Lent, Patrick Henry High School, Ashland, VA; Clark Heath, Southfield Lathrup High school, Lathrup Village, MI; Christina Maria Beaird, Plainfield Public Libraries, Plainfield, IL; and Judith E. McGowan, NYC Department of Education, New York, NY.

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.