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SCHOLARLY PUBLISHERS MEET IN ST. LOUIS

Improving Scholarly Communications, Changes in Book Industry
Focuses of Annual AAUP Gathering

New York, NY (June 16, 2003)—The Association of American University Presses will hold its 2003 Annual Meeting in St. Louis, MO, for the first time in its history. The world’s largest organization of nonprofit scholarly publishers will gather June 21-25 to discuss the state of scholarly communications and the business of books.

The theme of this year’s meeting is “We’re All in This Together.” That spirit shows through the wide range of practical sessions intended to share strategies and experience in all departments of a publishing house, as well as numerous sessions designed for communicating across departments. As the 2003 Program Committee put it: “How do we work with colleagues across the hall or around the country to maintain traditional publishing standards while striving for new goals?” The program presented in St. Louis is packed with working sessions to answer just that question.

The theme of “We’re All in This Together” was also interpreted in another sense—to bring in more panelists and speakers than ever from other communities involved in scholarly communications: university administrations, libraries, and bookstores. The eponymous plenary session, moderated by Harvard University Press Director William Sisler, brings together speakers Jack Cella, Manager, Seminary Coop Bookstore in Chicago; Paula Kaufman, Past President, Association for Research Libraries, and University Librarian, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; David Shulenberger, Provost, University of Kansas; and Joseph Weixlmann, Provost, Saint Louis University to share their distinct perspectives on changes in publishing, in academe, and in today’s economy and culture at large.

Other highlights of the meeting will include: the annual Production Managers Meeting from June 20-22, an exhibit hall with representatives from 40 book printing and manufacture companies, the inaugural exhibit of the 2003 Book, Jacket, and Journal Design Show, and the awarding of the 2003 Constituency Award for outstanding service to the Association and to the community of nonprofit scholarly publishing.

Formally established in 1937, AAUP promotes the work and influence of university presses, provides cooperative marketing opportunities, and helps its 124 members respond to the changing economy and environment. AAUP member presses are active across many scholarly disciplines, including social science, the humanities, the arts, and science; and are innovators in the world of electronic publishing.