

PRESS RELEASE
EMBARGOED UNTIL AUGUST 13, 2009

MEDIA CONTACTS

JSTOR:

Heidi McGregor
VP, Marketing & Communications
ITHAKA
heidi.mcgregor@ithaka.org
212-358-6406

University of California Press:

Rebekah Darksmith
Sales & Marketing Director
rebekah.darksmith@ucpress.edu
510-643-0952

A new collaboration emerges to improve access to scholarship for faculty, students, and librarians. University of California Press and JSTOR today announced a new effort to invest in a shared online platform and outreach services that promise to create a more seamless, rich online work environment for faculty and students, ease the burden on librarians of negotiating separate license agreements with a multitude of publishers and independent titles, and promote a more cost-effective publishing environment.

August 12, 2009 – Berkeley, CA and New York, NY – University of California Press, the not-for-profit publishing arm of the University of California and JSTOR, the preservation archive and research platform that is part of the not-for-profit ITHAKA, will work in partnership – and encourage others to join them – to make current and historical scholarly content available on a single, integrated platform, to provide a single point of purchase and access for librarians and end users around the world, and to ensure its long-term preservation.

Beginning in 2011, current content from all University of California Press published journals, including those from scholarly societies, will be hosted on a re-designed JSTOR platform. Faculty and students around the world will be able to access all licensed content on JSTOR – current issues, back issues, and a growing set of primary source materials from libraries – easily and seamlessly. JSTOR’s nearly 6,000 library participants worldwide will be able to license the Press’s current journals, either individually or as part of current issue collections, together with JSTOR back issue collections in a single transaction.

“We hear from many publishers about the challenges they face in managing technology and achieving the scale needed to build visibility and a widespread subscription base for their journals.” said Michael Spinella, JSTOR Managing Director, “At the same time libraries and users often find it difficult to license and use high-quality publications scattered among hundreds of different publishers and sites. This new effort is aimed at providing users seamless access to a wide range of current and historical content, while enabling libraries to support their access in more cost-effective ways.”

“This should really help publishers, libraries, and the community,” added Rebecca Simon, Associate Director of University of California Press and Director of the Journals + Digital Publishing Division. “UC Press and our society clients will host our publications on a platform

where we benefit from rich functionality and wider exposure to libraries than we have today, where JSTOR's millions of users will be able to access the full breadth of our content in a place they visit regularly, and where libraries will be able to add our publications to their holdings with the ease of a single license agreement and invoice from JSTOR, while also being assured of their preservation over time."

The Current Scholarship Program – as the effort will be known – grew out of a long-standing relationship and dialogue between UC Press and JSTOR who share an understanding of the problems facing scholarly communications and a deep desire to work together to craft a sustainable publishing model that embodies academic values. The effort was also informed by research conducted by Ithaka S+R, the strategy and research arm of ITHAKA, over the past several years and the group's ongoing work to understand and develop sustainable business models and support innovation in the development and dissemination of digital scholarship.

Driving the partnership is an articulated set of principles, among them: supporting the broad dissemination of quality scholarship through affordable and sustainable means, promoting fair and transparent pricing, facilitating seamless access to authoritative content of all kinds, and ensuring reliable, long-term preservation and access to scholarship. Organizations interested in joining the Program in the future – whether commercial or non-commercial – will be encouraged to embrace these fundamentals as well.

"Now is the time for new approaches that will enable the academic community to thrive in the future and to do so in ways and with organizations that understand and support scholarly values," said Lynne Withey, Director of University of California Press. "The Press's purposes and interests are well aligned with our colleagues at ITHAKA and with those of other scholarly organizations and universities and colleges around the world. We know what we are after, and we are eager to have a greater, lasting impact by working together in ways that neither organization, nor our colleagues in other organizations and institutions, could alone."

In addition to easing access to scholarly content, the redesigned JSTOR platform will also offer enhanced functionality to support the publication of new digital scholarship. Working with Atypon Systems, whose Literatum technology is underlying both JSTOR and UC Press's current platforms, the new platform will provide for the delivery of multimedia content, increased personalization features, and new navigation and visualization features. This development will help authors and their publishers take better advantage of technology in the creation, explication, and impact of their work.

For more information about the Current Scholarship Program, see <http://www.jstor.org/page/info/about/programs/currentScholarship.jsp>

--END--

JSTOR

JSTOR is a preservation archive and research platform for the academic community. Through JSTOR, faculty, researchers, and students are able to discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content in a trusted digital archive of over 1,000 academic journals, as well as conference proceedings, monographs, and other scholarly content. Nearly 6,000 libraries and cultural heritage institutions and hundreds of the world's leading publishers of scholarly literature participate in and support JSTOR. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization helping the academic community use digital technologies to advance scholarship and teaching in sustainable ways. ITHAKA also includes two additional services – Ithaka S+R and Portico.

www.jstor.org
www.ithaka.org

University of California Press

Founded in 1893, University of California Press is one of the largest and most distinguished of American university presses, publishing books and journals in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences. The Press publishes nearly 200 new books and 40 journals each year, representing a broad spectrum of acclaimed works from innovative first works by young academics to in-depth articles presenting the results of the research and creative thinking of many of the world's foremost scholars. A major publisher of scholarly journals, the Journals + Digital Publishing Division has extensive experience providing traditional and digital publishing services for more than 20 client scholarly societies and associations.

www.ucpressjournals.com
www.ucpress.edu