



PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT:

Brenna McLaughlin
212.989.1010 x24
press@aaupnet.org

**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:

<http://aaupnet.org/news/bfu/mining/list.html>

From 25 prestigious scholarly publishers, these titles include:

- The Bancroft Prize-winning *Killing for Coal* by Thomas G. Andrews (Harvard University Press, 2008);
- *Goodbye Wives 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).

Books for Understanding is a free public service of AAUP to help librarians, journalists, educators, and interested readers find the best books on current events. The program highlights one of the highest values of university presses: to publish top research and scholarship in all fields regardless of immediate commercial potential. Often the most complete and illuminating background research and knowledge for a breaking news story is only available in scholarly books from presses committed to the public interest.

The Association of American University Presses is one of the world's largest organizations of nonprofit scholarly publishers. AAUP is dedicated to the support of creative and effective scholarly communications. Through its programs and information resources, AAUP helps its members fulfill their common commitments to scholarship, the academy, and society. Visit the AAUP Web site, www.aaupnet.org, to learn more about the association and its members.

AAUP
28 West 36th Street
Suite 602
NYC, NY 10018
www.aaupnet.org

<http://www.booksforunderstanding.org>