



PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT:

BRENNA MCLAUGHLIN
212.989.1010 x24
PRESS@AAUPNET.ORG

UNIVERSITY PRESSES OFFER INSIGHT INTO
THE SOCIAL SECURITY DEBATE

*"Books For Understanding" Lists Available Books and Studies
For Journalists, Librarians, Researchers, and General Public*

NEW YORK (Jan. 27, 2005) – Crisis? Phase-out? Privatization? Though the terms of the debate are themselves contested, that there is a debate being conducted on Social Security in the United States is incontrovertible. The Association of American University Presses's (AAUP) Books for Understanding program has launched a free electronic bibliography of books relevant to the current discussion. This public resource can be found at:

www.aaupnet.org/booksforunderstanding.html

When so much energy and ink is expended over the mere language used to present a policy debate, it is more essential than ever that the numbers and history behind such an important domestic policy be accessible to the public.

Books for Understanding: Social Security lists books and studies published by top nonprofit scholarly publishing in three relevant areas:

- *The Current Debate*—including such titles as *The Real Deal: The History and Future of Social Security* by Sylvester J. Schieber and John B. Shoven (Yale University Press); *The Coming Generational Storm: What You Need to Know about America's Economic Future* by Laurence J. Kotlikoff and Scott Burns (MIT Press); and *Saving Social Security: A Balanced Approach* by Peter A. Diamond and Peter R. Orszag (Brookings Institution Press).
- *The History of Social Security in the U.S.*—including books such as *Robert Ball and the Politics of Social Security* by Edward D. Berkowitz (University of Wisconsin Press) and *How Policies Make Citizens: Senior Political Activism and the American Welfare State* by Andrea Louise Campbell (Princeton University Press).
- *Comparative International Social Security Programs*—including titles such as *Pension Security in the 21st Century: Redrawing the Public-Private Debate* edited by Gordon Clark and Noel Whiteside (Oxford University Press); *Keeping the Promise of Social Security in Latin America* by Indermit Gill, Truman Packard, and Juan Yermo (Stanford University Press); and *Closing the Door to Destitution: The Shaping of the Social Security Acts of the United States and New Zealand* by Raymond Richards (Penn State University Press).

AAUP
71 W 23RD STREET
SUITE 901
NYC, NY 10010
WWW.AAUPNET.ORG

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The *Books for Understanding* program was created shortly after the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks to help teachers, scholars, journalists, librarians, and booksellers find necessary information. That original list eventually grew to include close to 1000 books from more than 65 university presses, and is still available as an archived list on the site. Today, AAUP continues this service for many topics of immediate public interest.

“We want *Books for Understanding* to be a constantly expanding, relevant guide to the information and resources available from the world of university presses,” said Peter Givler, AAUP Executive Director. “These authors are often in the position of having already published books on subjects central to new and difficult situations. Many of them are also the leading experts in their fields with books and ideas that can help in understanding of cultures, policies, and historical consequences throughout the world.”

Recent *Books for Understanding* lists include “Voting & Elections: The Mechanics (and Manipulations) of Democracy”; “Terrorism”; “The Sudan”; and “Same-Sex Marriage.” These and other book lists can be found at <http://aaupnet.org/booksforunderstanding.html>. The Social Security bibliography can also be found at this site or accessed directly at <http://aaupnet.org/news/bfu/socialsecurity/list.html>.

The Association of American University Presses is the world’s largest organization of not-for-profit scholarly publishers. Formally established in 1937, is dedicated to the support of creative and effective scholarly communication. 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.