



PRESS RELEASE

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**SCHOLARSHIP ILLUMINATES THE
MECHANICS—AND MANIPULATION—OF DEMOCRACY**

*Fully Revised “Books for Understanding Voting & Elections”
Bibliography from University Presses*

NEW YORK (January 2, 2008)— The front-loaded primary schedule for the 2008 U.S. presidential election is bringing more and earlier questions about the effects of the media, voter turnout, and election technology. To help navigate the myriad news reports and opinions, the Association of American University Presses (AAUP) has published a fully revised and updated list of essential scholarship through its *Books for Understanding* public web site.

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

The list includes categorized books and experts illuminating voting theory and voter behavior, redistricting and the gerrymander, comparative electoral systems, the role of money and the media in elections, and many more.

Among the new scholarship, you'll find works dealing with the very basics of how votes are cast, such as Marcia Lausen's *Design for Democracy: Ballot and Election Design* and *Voting Technology: The Not-So-Simple Act of Casting a Ballot* by Paul Herrnson, et al., to studies on campaign finance such as Rodney Smith's *Money, Power, and Elections*.

Books for Understanding is the permanent, easy-to-use, free online resource for anyone looking for in-depth information, research, and expertise on the news of the day. Sponsored and managed by the Association of American University Presses, *Books for Understanding* features subject-specific bibliographies on the critically important topics in the headlines. It is a dynamic resource, with new bibliographies compiled when a major news story breaks or heated public debate takes place.

While the site is designed for general use, there is also a section expressly for journalists with detailed contact information for authors available to talk with members of the press.

The Association of American University Presses is an organization of more than 120 non-profit scholarly publishers. The Association supports and promotes the work of its member presses through professional development programs, cooperative marketing and publicity resources, and by advocating to the public the important work of this field.

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