The American Philosophical Society and University of Pennsylvania Press Become Publishing Partners

As of July 1, 2023, The American Philosophical Society (APS) and University of Pennsylvania Press will partner to distribute and market the books and journals published by the APS. Both the APS and Penn Press’s home university are products of Benjamin Franklin’s fertile imagination, and this new partnership brings together the distinctive strengths of two pillars of Philadelphia’s intellectual landscape.

The APS is the oldest learned society in the United States, founded in 1743 by Benjamin Franklin for the purpose of “promoting useful knowledge.” In keeping with Franklin’s vision, APS is currently relaunching its publishing program, producing a new portfolio of publications that will promote and explore the dynamics of “useful knowledge” in today’s multidisciplinary context. APS has a rich backlist of hundreds of books, including many landmark works. The society also publishes two distinguished journals, Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society and Transactions of the American Philosophical Society that will be published as a part of Penn Press’s robust journals program.

Based at the University of Pennsylvania, which Franklin launched in the 1750s, Penn Press was originally incorporated with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 1890—among the earliest such imprints in America. One of the Press’s first books, published in 1899, was a landmark, as well as an example of the Press’s close ties to its home city: The Philadelphia Negro: A Social Study by renowned reformer, scholar, and social critic W.E.B. DuBois. Today, Penn Press publishes more than 100 new books a year and 22 journals, as well as maintaining an active backlist of more than 3,000 titles.

Of the new relationship, Penn Press director Mary Francis comments, “We are proud to collaborate with America’s oldest and most distinguished learned society, providing a combination of intellectual and practical support for the APS aligned with the imaginative and pragmatic spirit of Franklin himself. APS and Penn Press have sterling histories of intellectually strong, socially productive publications; the mission alignment of the two institutions is the foundation of what we believe will be an exceptional partnership.”

The inaugural APS/Penn Press list will commence in 2024. Published under the imprint APS Books, titles will include a combination of new books and classic reprints from the APS backlist. The APS Press is also contemplating a series of short, essayistic books by leading scholars on the dynamic developments that have shaped today’s disciplines and their evolving research agendas; newly edited critical editions of past APS books and works by past APS members; and new books by a wide range of authors on the history and scholarly dimensions of useful knowledge today.

The relaunched APS journals programs will update the society’s two journals, Proceedings and Transactions. Proceedings is a quarterly journal that includes papers read at the APS’s twice-yearly meetings, independent essays by outside scholars, and biographical memoirs of APS Members. The journal also captures talks by today’s prominent professionals, scholars, and scientists that will not be published elsewhere. Recent topics include language and identity in America’s native nations, landscape architecture, the U.S. education system, and the anthropocene. The revised version of Proceedings will include a new feature, field reports from APS grantees.

Transactions is the oldest scholarly publication in the country, covering various fields of study, ranging from 18th-century American history to the history of science, from meteorology to evolution. Recent topics include the future of libraries, education in the early republic, decolonizing special collections, and the power and meaning of maps. In 2024, the journal will focus on thematic edited issues based on APS conferences, as well as an annual issue selected from the APS blog. Transactions will be moving to an all-edited issue format beginning in 2024.

APS Press Director Peter Dougherty notes that, “This new partnership enables us to renew our legacy of ‘promoting useful knowledge’ today by better connecting our authors and their works with the multiplicity of readers reached by Penn Press all over the world.”
Announcing the 2023 Winners of the Undergraduate Prize in Global Medieval and Renaissance Studies

The Undergraduate Prize is awarded by the interdisciplinary Program in Global Medieval and Renaissance Studies (GMRS), which fosters the study of Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and Africa, and the New World, from Late Antiquity to 1700. Penn Press Faculty Editorial Board member Eva Del Soldato serves as the liaison between the GMRS program and the Press and served on the jury of faculty and graduate students that selected the winning papers. The prize carries an award of $200 worth of free books from Penn Press, appears on the student’s academic transcript, and is published in the commencement booklet.

Announcing the 2023 Winners of the Undergraduate Prize in Global Medieval and Renaissance Studies

Penn Press congratulates Fabio Tessiore, a member of the Class of 2023 studying International Studies and Business with an advanced focus in Italian Studies in the Huntsman Program. For his prize-winning paper, titled Censura soppressiva durante la Controriforma, he handled primary source manuscripts and books at the Kislak Center Library to take a closer look at censorship during the Counter-Reformation in Europe, finding evidence of censorship in the works of Galileo and Petrarca from the Catholic Church during the Medieval and Renaissance periods.

Penn Press congratulates Cagney Kelshaw, a member of the Class of 2024 majoring in English and minoring in Global Medieval Renaissance Studies and Classical Studies. Her prize-winning essay, Rethinking Berserkir Through the Lens of Disability, explored the ways in which the berserkir were marginalized by medieval Icelandic society because of inherent behavioral traits that were deemed socially unacceptable. What she found was that the berserkir were treated extremely similarly to disabled characters in the sagas.

Contemporary Publishing Fellow Cosette Bruhns Alonso Joins Penn Press

As the inaugural Contemporary Publishing Fellow, new Penn Press staff member Cosette Bruhns Alonso works between the Press and the Penn Libraries’ Center for Research Data and Digital Scholarship, leading the development of a multimodal digital publishing program at Penn. As part of this role, Bruhns Alonso is currently working to establish mechanisms for the creation, review, and publication of digital monographs and journals in partnership with library resources in technology and preservation.

Bruhns Alonso is also currently the Editorial Assistant for Dante Studies, and most recently she held the position of Diversity in Digital Publishing Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Brown University where she worked with the university digital publications team to develop interactive and innovative born-digital scholarly publications in open-access platforms. She has also taught workshops introducing digital humanities tools and research methods to undergraduate students in The Leadership Alliance’s Summer Research Early Identification Program.

As there is much interest in multimodal and digital publishing across Penn, Bruhns Alonso is thrilled to be in a position that collaborates with colleagues at the Press and libraries to facilitate the creation of digital publications. She is particularly excited about the ways in which multimodal and digital publishing can facilitate both new forms of scholarship as well as readership.

Bruhns Alonso received her Ph.D. in Italian Studies from the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures at the University of Chicago, and while it may sound counterintuitive, her research background in medieval studies, and specifically in manuscript studies, deeply influenced her current path working in multimodal and digital academic publishing as she considers the ways in which medieval book making is an inherently multimodal endeavor relevant to how digital publications animate different practices and visual and textual modes.

Bruhns Alonso has been fortunate to call many great cities home throughout her childhood and education: Chicago, New York City, Mexico City, Paris, Lausanne, Madrid, and Rome. Now residing in Philadelphia for the first time, she enjoys exploring the city, visiting art museums, and hunting for a good taco. She also spends time shopping at vintage stores and record shops, reading, and relaxing at home with her cat, Elle.
This March, Penn Press and The Penn Institute for Urban Research (Penn IUR) marked a notable milestone: the publication of the 50th book in the co-published series, *The City in the 21st Century (C21)*. Inaugurated in 2006, the collaboration has grown to become “the cornerstone of the Press’s urban studies list,” and the Press’s “highest profile venue for books on contemporary urban policy,” according to Penn Press Senior Editor Robert Lockhart.

The 50 volumes cover a wide array of topics and cities, from informal politics in Accra to the role of immigration in revitalizing American cities to several edited volumes on urban issues of global importance, such as affordable housing, informality, downtown development, and climate adaptation.

“Penn Press couldn’t be prouder to publish the C21 series. Penn IUR is a global leader in understanding the complex, evolving dynamics of cities, and by publishing the scholarly results of Penn IUR research, Penn Press brings Penn IUR’s signature intellectual vitality to readers around the world,” says Penn Press Director Mary Francis.

The series began when Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans and prompted a university-wide conversation with Penn experts about responding to Katrina and preventing future disasters. At the request of Penn’s Provost at the time, Ronald Daniels, Penn IUR Co-Directors, Eugenie L. Birch and Susan M. Wachter, convened a symposium on the topic and then published *Rebuilding Urban Places After Disaster: Lessons from Hurricane Katrina*, which gathered insights and research by more than two dozen contributors.

Says Birch, “We have had the pleasure of seeing the series grow under the guidance of Penn Press editors and the editorial board who have supported our suggestions for publishing work by a range of authors across disciplines, from the freshly minted PhD to senior scholars to distinguished practitioners, all contributing new knowledge to our field.”

In more recent years, the series has added more international authors and topics. *China Urbanizing: Impacts and Transitions, Shareholder Cities: Land Transformations Along Urban Corridors in India, Urban Planning in a World of Informal Politics*, and the forthcoming *Master Plans and Encroachments: The Architecture of Informality in Islamabad* give readers a perspective on urban challenges in Asia and Africa.

“The City in the 21st Century Series,” says Beth A. Winkelstein, Interim Provost of the University of Pennsylvania, “exemplifies our core university mission: bringing together innovative research, across a wide range of interdisciplinary areas, to make a tangible impact on global challenges. We are very proud that, for more than fifteen years, the series has been shaping urban policy and planning around the world.”

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**Celebrating 50 Volumes in Penn IUR—Penn Press Book Series**

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Penn Press congratulates *Revista Hispanica Moderna*’s Managing Editor Hernan Diaz for winning the **2023 Pulitzer Prize in Fiction** for his novel *Trust*.

To learn more about Diaz and his award-winning novel, visit his site at [https://www.hernandiaz.net/](https://www.hernandiaz.net/)
Penn Press Books Rake In Awards

Urban Planning in a World of Informal Politics by Chandan Deuskar won the Best Book in Urban Affairs Award, granted by the Urban Affairs Association.

Scripts of Blackness by Noémie Ndiaye won the Bevington Award for Best New Book in Early Drama Studies, granted by the Medieval & Renaissance Drama Society.

The Apache Diaspora by Paul Conrad won the Ray Allen Billington Prize, granted by the Organization of American Historians.

Fictions of Consent by Urvashi Chakravarty won the SAA First Book Award, granted by the Shakespeare Association of America.

Restitching Identities in Rural Sri Lanka by Sandya Hewamanne has won the Cecil B. Currey Book Award, granted by the Association of Global South Studies.

Captives of Liberty by T. Cole Jones received the prestigious NDSAR Excellence in American History Book Award.

University City by Laura Wolf-Powers won the Art & Architecture Book Award, granted by the Athenaeum of Philadelphia.

This is My Jail by Melanie D. Newport won the Sharon Harris Book Award, granted by the University of Connecticut Humanities Institute.

Illusions of Empire by William S. Kiser won the Gaspar Pérez de Villagrá Award, granted by the Historical Society of New Mexico, which recognizes an outstanding publication in New Mexico or Southwest borderlands history.

The Many Resurrections of Henry Box Brown by Martha Cutter received Honorable Mention for the Sharon Harris Book Award, granted by the University of Connecticut Humanities Institute.

The Great Power of Small Nations by Elizabeth N. Ellis received Honorable Mention for the Frederick Jackson Turner Award, granted by the Organization of American Historians.

Penn Press Bestsellers: March, April

PENN PRESS ORIGINALS

1 Philadelphia Trees (PB 2023) by Paul W. Meyer, Catriona Bull Briger, and Edward Sibley Barnard

2 Reversing the Rivers (HC 2003) by William F. Schulz

3 Maurice's Strategikon (PB 2001) translated by George T. Dennis

4 Frontiers of Gender Equality (PB 2023) edited by Rebecca J. Cook

5 Jewish Life in Medieval Spain (HC 2023) by Jonathan Ray

6 Boundaries of Belonging (HC 2023) by April Lee Hatfield

7 A Constitutional Culture (HC 2023) by Adrian Chastain Weimer

8 A Right to Lie? (HC 2021) by Catherine J. Ross

9 Hospital City, Health Care Nation (HC 2023) by Guian A. McKee

10 Bad Blood (HC 2023) by Emily Weissbourd

WHARTON SCHOOL PRESS BESTSELLERS

1 The Prepared Leader (PB 2022) by Erika H. James and Lynn Perry Wooten

2 The Innovation Tournament Handbook (PB 2023) by Christian Terwiesch and Karl Ulrich

3 Customer Centricity (PB 2020) by Peter Fader

4 The Customer-Base Audit (PB 2022) by Peter Fader, Bruce Hardie, and Michael Ross

5 The Innovation Tournament Handbook (Ebook)

6 The Prepared Leader (HC)

7 The Prepared Leader (Ebook)

8 Beating Burnout at Work (PB 2021) by Paula Davis

9 The Leader's Checklist, 10th Anniversary Edition (PB 2021) by Michael Useem

10 For the Win, Revised and Updated Edition (PB 2020) by Kevin Werbach and Dan Hunter
Missives from the Field: Bob Lockhart Reports from AAIHS, OAH, and UAA

Spring is a busy season for academic conferences! In March and April, Senior Editor Bob Lockhart represented Penn Press at the annual meetings of the African American Intellectual Society (AAIHS), the Organization of American Historians (OAH), and the Urban Affairs Association (UAA) and shared the following about his experiences.

African American Intellectual History Society
March 9–11, Charlotte, NC

This was the first in-person meeting of the AAIHS since the start of the pandemic and it was very good to be back in person at this conference. AAIHS is a dynamic scene with lots of interesting, passionate scholars at a variety of professional stages. I participated in a roundtable session on “The Nuts and Bolts of Publishing a Book.” Other panelists included Ken Wissoker from Duke University Press, Dominique Moore from Illinois University Press, and Andrew Winters from University of North Carolina University Press. Lawshawn Harris, a history professor at Michigan State, chaired the session, and there were approximately 40 people in attendance. The conference organizers placed the coffee and food in the middle of the exhibit area, drawing many conference attendees between the sessions. Penn Press books received a lot of interest, with the most picked-up title being *The Many Resurrections of Henry Box Brown*.

Organization of American Historians
March 29–April 1, 2023, Los Angeles, CA

The OAH focuses squarely on US history, which makes it the most relevant, and one of the busiest, conferences I attend. Held in the postmodern Bonaventure Hotel downtown, the conference featured a large exhibit hall containing 30 exhibitors, including commercial publishers (Norton, Macmillan), many University Presses (Harvard, Oxford, Cambridge, etc.), and archive resource companies (Readex, Gale, etc.). Penn’s booth experienced regular and robust booth traffic throughout the conference. We had several new books hot off the press that we were exhibiting for the first time, including Brent Cebul’s *Illusions of Progress* and Guian McKee’s *Hospital City, Healthcare Nation*. There were also several authors of recently published books in attendance, including Joan Flores-Villalobos and Elizabeth Ellis. Both participated in panels that focused on their books, which generated much interest in them at the booth. Though the OAH is billed as covering the entire gamut of U.S. history, the conference tends to focus on the period 1850–2000, with the majority of presenters talking about the twentieth century. In this context, I talked to many folks about the Politics and Culture in Modern America series and the Power, Politics, and the World series.

Urban Affairs Association
April 26–28, 2023, Nashville, TN

The Urban Affairs Association is one of the largest and most prominent conferences in the field of urban studies and attracts scholars from programs in urban studies as well as from departments of anthropology, public policy, sociology, economics, and (to a significantly lesser degree) history. This was my first time attending the UAA, and I believe it was the first time the Press had a dedicated booth there. It was clear to me that the conference attracted a wide range of scholars from a variety of levels in the profession, including junior and senior faculty, graduate students, and some practitioners (who were mainly coming from the public policy world). We partnered with the Institute of Urban Research (IUR), who co-publish *The City in the Twentieth Century* series with Penn, and our exhibit included both Press books and Penn IUR literature. One of our recent books in the C21 series won the UAA best book award: Chandan Deuskar’s *Urban Planning in a World of Informal Politics*. There were also several Penn Press authors in attendance, including Laura Wolf-Powers, Jovanna Rosen, Timothy Weaver, and Heywood Sanders.

Summer Reading Sale

Announcing Penn Press’s 2023 Summer Reading Sale! From Thursday, May 18 through Friday, June 9, all books on pennpress.org will be 40% off, plus free U.S. shipping, with discount code SUMMER23-FM. We will promote the sale via our email marketing and social media channels, and we encourage our authors and partners to join us in spreading news of the sale to anyone who may be interested. Once again, we are thrilled to share this discount with scholars, students, and summer readers of all stripes as the academic year comes to a close.
Penn Press in the Media

The announcement of the APS/Penn Press publishing partnership was featured in Publishers Weekly/PW Daily email.


Philadelphia Trees (2023), by Paul Meyer, Edward Barnard, and Catriona Bull Briger, was featured in Penn Today, and Paul Meyer was interviewed on 6ABC-TV.

Hospital City, Health Care Nation (2023), by Guian McKee, was reviewed in Washington Monthly and New York Journal of Books.

Joan Flores-Villalobos, author of The Silver Women (2023), was interviewed on the New Books Network, Who Makes Cents?, and Latino Media Collective podcasts.

Debbie Sharnak, author of Of Light and Struggle (2023), published an article on the Foreign Policy Research Institute website.

The Innovation Tournament Handbook (WSP 2023), by Christian Terwiesch and Karl Ulrich, was featured in Business Leader.

Howard Gillette, author of The Paradox of Urban Revitalization (2022), was interviewed on the New Books Network.

Jessica Rosenberg, author of Botanical Poetics (2022), was interviewed on the New Books Network.

Jacques Dalarun, Valerio Cappozzo, and Sean L. Field, authors of A Female Apostle in Medieval Italy (2022), were interviewed on the New Books Network.

Julia Kowalski, author of Counseling Women (2022), was interviewed on the New Books Network.

The Invention of Shakespeare, and Other Essays (2022), by Stephen Orgel, was reviewed in the Times Literary Supplement.

Jennifer Mittelstadt and Mark R. Wilson, co-editors of The Military and the Market (2022), were interviewed on the Who Makes Cents? podcast.

Weiping Wu, co-editor (with Qin Gao) of China Urbanizing (2022), was interviewed on the China-Britain Business Council website.

Catherine J. Ross, author of A Right To Lie? (2021), was interviewed in Salon, on MSNBC’s Deadline Whitehouse and Medhi Hasan Show, and on CNN’s Amanpour.

Robin Fleming, author of The Material Fall of Roman Britain, 300–525 AD (2021), was interviewed on the Medievalists.net podcast.

Benjamin Breen, author of The Age of Intoxication (PB 2021, HC 2019), was interviewed on The World (PRX Public Radio).

Black Walden (PB 2019, HC 2009), by Elise Lemire was included in an article in The Scotsman.

Gabriel Rosenberg, author of The 4-H Harvest (2015), was interviewed on KPCC’s “Air Talk” (Southern California public radio).

Lisa Rosner, author of The Anatomy Murders (PB 2011, HC 2009), was interviewed for the BBC podcast “An Eye for Killing” (available on BBC and Spotify).