

**Annual Report to the
UNC Press Board of Governors
21 May 2014**

As we hit the stretch run of a challenging but very productive fiscal year, we're beginning to reflect back on the accomplishments while looking forward and planning for fiscal 2015. Despite the significant decline in topline sales, the Press staff under the leadership of the senior managers has delivered a bottom line favorable to last year's while producing nearly 100 award-winning and beautiful books. The coming year promises to be even more interesting with a host of new challenges and opportunities. Our goal is to confront these myriad challenges head-on, but we will not waver from our commitment to producing the best in scholarly books.

As part of our ongoing dialog about the Board's manuscript review process, we have included two new tools for this meeting. We submitted a comment sheet with the dockets in hopes that Board members will consider submitting some of their feedback to us in writing either prior to or at the meeting. This tool is not meant to capture issues and debate associated with manuscript approval. But we do hope it may streamline the meeting time discussion by providing an alternative method for submitting feedback to the Press staff. Additionally, and as a result of requests made at the previous meeting, I am submitting a confidential comparative grid of governance policies from a select group of presses.

I want to thank all the board members who attended the reception for Chancellor Folt at the home of Jim and Florence Peacock. It was a wonderful moment and I know both the Chancellor and President Ross were very impressed with the caliber of the "friends of the Press" who attended. Special thanks are due to outgoing Board member Jim Peacock and his wife for their generosity and graciousness in hosting this event. Also from our Development office, we are entering the second year of our Author's Fund, and we continue to be impressed and flattered by the widespread support from our community of former authors.

I continue to participate in the effort of the Open Access Task Force at UNC Chapel Hill. Working with Harry Watson and a host of representatives of humanities departments, we are working hard to explain the singular nature and necessity of publications like ours. I encourage each of you to be aware of the OA policy on your campus and to ensure that the university press's role is not being jeopardized by broad-based efforts to reshape publication practices in STEM fields.

OA has been animating some recent engagements we've had with the Mellon Foundation. Mark Simpson-Vos was invited to participate in a group discussion among University press editorial directors about new models of funding monographs. And I had a positive meeting with the same offices at Mellon about potential foundation funding to expand the Longleaf Services platform.

I am very pleased to report to the Board that we have finalized one, and are in the last stages of finalizing another, distribution arrangements with two new partnerships, not only expanding our business footprint, but also diversifying new modes of scholarly dissemination. The first is a short monograph series entitled “Studies in Latin America” published by the Institute for the Study of the Americas at UNC Chapel Hill. And the second is with Reacting Consortium Press at Barnard College to produce and distribute a line of books in their [“Reacting to the Past”](#) series.

Finally, I would like to inform the Board that after 25 years at the helm of the Omonhundro Institute’s book publishing division, Fredrika Teute has announced her retirement, effective the Fall of 2015. She has been a remarkable partner, and for many of us, the face of the Institute. I was recently invited to join the Institute’s Council, and at its annual meeting earlier this month, I was able to spend some time with their new director Karin Wulf. While Fredrika will be sorely missed, Karin has indicated she would like to draw on the expertise of the Press to help her frame the search for Fredrika’s successor.

John Sherer
Spangler Family Director
–16 May 2014

Awards: Award highlights since the Board last met:

- John L. Brooke, COLUMBIA RISING : CIVIL LIFE ON THE UPPER HUDSON FROM THE REVOLUTION TO THE AGE OF JACKSON, Herbert H. Lehman Prize, NY Academy of History
- Thomas W. Devine, HENRY WALLACE'S 1948 PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN AND THE FUTURE OF POSTWAR LIBERALISM, Harry S. Truman Book Award, Truman Library Institute
- Lillian Guerra, Guerra, VISIONS OF POWER IN CUBA: REVOLUTION, REDEMPTION, AND RESISTANCE, 1959-1971, 2014 Bryce Wood Book Award, Latin American Studies Association
- Caroline Janney, REMEMBERING THE CIVIL WAR: RENINON AND THE LIMITS OF RECONCILIATION, Jefferson Davis Award, American Civil War Museum; Honorable Mention, Avery O. Craven Award, Organization of American Historians
- Adrian Miller, SOUL FOOD: THE SURPRISING STORY OF AN AMERICAN CUISINE, ONE PLATE AT A TIME, 2014 James Beard Foundation Book Award, Reference and Scholarship
- Stacey L. Smith, FREEDOM'S FRONTIER: CALIFORNIA AND THE STRUGGLE OVER UNFREE LABOR, EMANCIPATION, AND RECONSTRUCTION, David Montgomery Award, Organization of American Historians
- Sarah Thuesen, GREATER THAN EQUAL: AFRICAN AMERICAN STRUGGLES FOR SCHOOLS AND CITIZENSHIP IN NORTH CAROLINA, 1919-1965 North Caroliniana Book Award, North Caroliniana Society

Exhibits:

- American Society for Environmental History, March 12-16, San Francisco, attended by Brandon Proia
- Society for Military History, April 3-6, Kansas City, attended by Brandon Proia
- Organization of American Historians, April 10-13, Atlanta, attended by Mark Simpson-Vos, Brandon Proia, Chuck Grench, Ivis Bohlen

Subsidiary Rights: Recent rights deals include:

- Digital licensing with Alexander Street Press for a new database, *Human Rights Cases Online: Genocides, Human Rights Violations, and Conflict Resolution* (Advance: **\$3100**)
- Rod Phillips: ALCOHOL (2014), French rights to Presses de l'Université Laval in Québec, co-published in France by Editions Hermann. (Advance: **1300 Euro / ~\$1793**)
- Thomas A. Tweed: THE AMERICAN ENCOUNTER WITH BUDDHISM (2000), Korean edition from Modern Buddhism of America (New York). (Advance: **\$1500**)
- Mario T. García : THE LATINO GENERATION (2014), audio rights to Audible.com. (Advance: **\$2000**)
- Philip F. Gura: KING PHILIP'S HEIR (2015), audio rights to Blackstone Audio (Advance: **\$1500**)
- Nortin M. Hadler: RETHINKING AGING (2011), audio rights to Audible.com (Advance: **\$1000**)
- Nortin M. Hadler: STABBED IN THE BACK (2009), audio rights to Audible.com (Advance: **\$1000**)
- Joseph Orser: THE LIVES OF CHANG AND ENG (2014), audio rights to Audible.com. (Advance: **\$2000**)

Media Attention: Media highlights since the last Board meeting include:

- Susan Abernathy, SAVING COMMUNITY JOURNALIS, "The State of Things," late May appearance
- Kelly Alexander, PEACHES, *Redbook* feature, expected in the July issue
- Anne Balay, STEEL CLOSETS, *Huffington Post*, April 15, 2014
- Pete Daniel, DISPOSSESSION, *Huffington Post*, April 3, 2014
- Sally Dwyer-McNulty, COMMON THREADS, *Boston Globe*, Sunday, May 11, 2014
- Fuhrer, A CRISIS OF COMMUNITY, *Boston Globe*, March 28, 2014
- Jonathan Holloway, JIM CROW WISDOM, Foreign Affairs essay February 2, 2014; "The State of Things" March 27, "Tavis Smiley," interview, April 17, 2014
- Several UNCP authors, as well as John Sherer, appeared at the NC Literary Festival, April 4-6