

MARCH/APRIL 2008  
VOL. XXV, NO. 2



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MONTHLY  
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A NEWS BULLETIN FOR MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN PUBLISHERS  
ISSNO7488-8173

## AAP ANNUAL MEETING

Some 200 publishing industry leaders and their guests gathered at the Yale Club in New York on March 5 for an interesting dialogue on “The Future of Publishing.”

Borders Group CEO George Jones (interviewed by Hachette Book Group USA’s David Young), Amazon.com’s Steve Kessel (interviewed by AAP Chairman Richard Sarnoff) and the recently-retired head of house of Simon & Schuster Jack Romanos (interviewed by bestselling author and Aspen Institute President Walter Isaacson), shared what was, in the aggregate, an upbeat vision of the industry and its ability to reinvent itself.

### AAP Honors to National Book Critics Circle

For invaluable contributions to America’s literary life and heroic efforts to stem the tide of cutbacks in book coverage at the nation’s newspapers, the National Book Critics Circle was chosen to receive this year’s AAP Honors. In presenting the award to NBCC President John Freeman, Bob Miller (Hyperion), chairman of the AAP Trade Executive Committee, noted wryly that “Publishers used to worry about getting a bad review. Now publishers worry about not getting any review at all.”

In a graceful acceptance speech, NBCC President John Freeman summed up both the downside of the new media as a competitor for reader’s time, and the potential the new media offers in creating opportunities for publishers and critics. “This award from the AAP means a lot to the NBCC. It will make it that much easier for this big, sometimes amorphous organization to keep our one ear to the ground, the other to our own hearts, so we can tell the people we all care about (the reader)—to borrow a title from one of our

recent book finalists—what is the what.”

### First Lady Laura Bush Speaks

Just days before the meeting AAP was able to announce that Laura Bush, who has made books and reading the central theme of her tenure as First Lady, had accepted a long-standing invitation to speak. Mrs. Bush told the gathering that “A nation that does not read for itself cannot think for itself. And a nation that cannot think for itself risks losing both its identity and its freedom.”

### FY 2008/2009 Budget Approved

The membership approved an operating budget of \$9.5 million for fiscal year 2008/2009, with \$6.0 million allocated to Core. \$1.1 million was allocated to Higher Education, and \$2.4 million to the two divisions (\$1.5 million for School Division and \$900,000 for PSP). A shortfall of \$1.1 million will be drawn from cash reserves.

## COPYRIGHT

### Publishers Sue Georgia State University for Copyright Infringement

A group of AAP member publishers filed suit April 15 in federal court in Atlanta to stop widespread copyright infringement at Georgia State University (GSU). The complaint, filed by Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press and SAGE Publications and supported by AAP, charges that GSU officials are violating the law by systematically enabling professors to provide students with digital copies of copyrighted course readings published by the plaintiffs and numerous other publishers without those publishers’ authorization. The lawsuit seeks injunctive relief to bring an end to such practices, but does not seek monetary damages.

The lawsuit asserts “pervasive, flagrant, and ongoing” unauthorized distribution of copyrighted materials, despite attempts to reach an amicable and mutually acceptable solution without the need for litigation. GSU distributes the unauthorized materials through its electronic course reserves service, its Blackboard/WebCT Vista electronic course management system, and its departmental web pages and hyperlinked online syllabi available on websites and computer servers controlled by GSU. U.S. copyright law applies to digital course offerings as it does to paper offerings, and does not distinguish between different methods of distribution.

While many U.S. colleges and universities work with university presses and other publishers to ensure their uses of published materials are in accordance with U.S. copyright law, the lawsuit states that GSU has flatly rebuffed efforts to reach similar agreements.

The press release and the full text of the complaint can be found on the AAP website at <http://www.publishers.org/main/Press-Center/GeorgiaStateLawsuitRelease.htm>

### AAP Urges Passage of “Orphan Works” Legislation

At a House hearing on March 13, AAP urged Congress to take long overdue legislative action to address the problem of “orphan works” – works under copyright whose owners cannot be identified or located by third parties seeking permission to use the works. Allan Adler, AAP Vice President for Legal & Government Affairs, told the House Judiciary Committee’s Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet and Intellectual Property that book publishers, as both users and producers of copyrighted works, have an important stake in achieving an equitable and workable statutory solution, and have been deeply involved in the process leading up to the introduction and approval of remedial legislation by the Subcommittee in the spring of 2006. Mr. Adler urged

that the earlier bill, the “Orphan Works Act of 2006,” provide the starting point “for a push to enact orphan works legislation before the end of the current Congress later this year.”

Mr. Adler endorsed the “minimalist” approach taken in the 2006 legislation, which stipulated that if the user of a copyrighted work has performed a “reasonably diligent but ultimately unsuccessful” search to locate the copyright owner and that owner later turns up and sues for infringement, the user would be entitled to the benefits of limits on the compensation and injunctive remedies available to the owner. However, he noted the need for clarification of the criteria for a “reasonably diligent” search, including instances where the search is carried out by third parties or instances involving multiple, unrelated uses of a copyrighted work. He also urged that State entities not be permitted to claim the proposed limitation on remedies protection. He pointed out that under the 11th Amendment’s sovereign immunity provision, State entities cannot be liable for monetary damages, but can be enjoined from further infringing uses. Were State entities allowed to avail themselves of the orphan works limitations, then copyright owners who came forward with an infringement claim against a State entity which balked at providing “reasonable compensation,” would be left with no recourse.

The complete text of Mr. Adler’s testimony can be found online at: <http://www.publishers.org/main/PressCenter/documents/Orphan-Workstestimony3-13-08.pdf>

## SMALLER & INDEPENDENT PUBLISHERS

### SIP Annual Meeting to be Held May 29 in Los Angeles

AAP’s Smaller and Independent Publishers Committee will be held to coincide with BookExpo America and will take place on Thursday, May 29, at the Los Angeles Convention Center.

The opening keynote session on “How To Successfully Navigate the Life-Cycles of an Independent Publishing House,” will feature three dynamic and successful independent publishers--Morgan Entrekin (President & Publisher, Grove Atlantic); George Gibson (Publisher, Walker & Co., A Division of Bloomsbury USA), and Charlie Winton (Chief Executive Officer and Publisher, Counterpoint Press) sharing insight and anecdotes on a range of topics, from handling a bestseller to finding capital and labor, dealing with mergers and acquisitions, distribution and more. The morning will close with the keynote session “Meet the Distributors.” Other sessions will cover *Successful Startups; Successful Growth* (organically and through acquisition); *Marketing When You Don’t have a Large Budget; Going Green; Print On Demand, Copyright, and Repurposing Content.*

Organizers of the SIP meeting have also made an effort to take advantage of economies of scale to offer a high quality educational experience. A BEA convention and exhibits badge will be included with registration for the SIP program. Registration is offered at a discounted rate for AAP members of \$195 per person, with one complimentary exhibitor badge for BEA exhibitors and access to all BEA conferences. Non-members of AAP can register and receive a complimentary

conference and exhibits badge for \$250.

The full program can be found at [www.publishers.org](http://www.publishers.org) or the BEA web site at [www.bookexpoamerica.com](http://www.bookexpoamerica.com)

### Archipelago Books Named 2008 Miriam Bass Award Winner

AAP announced on March 20 that Archipelago Books, a Brooklyn-based not-for-profit literary press which specializes in world literature, is the recipient of this year’s Miriam Bass Award for Creativity in Independent Publishing. The award will be presented at BookExpo America in Los Angeles on May 29 during the AAP Smaller and Independent Publishers Annual Meeting.

Given annually, the award, was created in memory of Miriam Bass to honor her many contributions to the independent book publishing community, and is co-sponsored by AAP, Rowman & Littlefield Publishing Group, and National Book Network (NBN). It carries a \$5,000 cash prize, which is fully funded by Rowman & Littlefield and NBN.

A judging committee representing a cross-section of the book industry selected Archipelago Books in recognition of their commitment to enriching and broadening the American literary landscape through the publication of classic and contemporary literature by a host of distinguished international authors. Among the press’s most successful titles have been *Gate of the Sun* by Elias Khoury (named a *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year in 2006), *A Dream of Polar Fog* by Yuri Rytkheu, and *Sarajevo Marlboro* by Miljenko Jergovic. Two Archipelago books were finalists for the 2006 and 2007 NBCC awards in the poetry category (Miltos Sachtouris’ *Poems 1945-1971* and Tadeusz Rozewicz’s *New Poems*) and the press will be bringing out Nobel Prize-winner Halldor Laxness’ *The Great Weaver* from Kasmir and Alan Paton Prize-winner Breyton Breytenbach’s *All One Horse* in the fall.

## INTERNATIONAL FREEDOM TO PUBLISH

### Cambodian Literary Project and its Founder Named to Receive 6th Annual Jeri Laber Award

AAP announced on April 11 that Kho Tararith and the Nou Hach Literary Project which he directs have been named to receive this year's Jeri Laber International Freedom to Publish Award. The Project, which has undertaken nothing less than the task of restoring the printed word as part of Cambodian culture, will be honored by the AAP International Freedom to Publish Committee at the PEN American Center gala in New York on April 28.

The Nou Hach Literary Project, which began in 2002, supports the development of modern Cambodian literature in a country whose cultural and educational institutions, civil society, and tradition of reading were all but obliterated during the Khmer Rouge period. While some of the works published by the Literary Project are critical of the government and have prompted threats against Kho Tararith, he has not wavered in his commitment to publish and to expand the Project, actively encouraging young people to write, and fostering an understanding of the importance of freedom of expression.

AAP International Freedom to Publish Committee Chairman Hal Fessenden (Viking Penguin), who visited Cambodia several months ago, noted that: "While the situation is very bad, with illiteracy standing at 63 percent and a desperate lack of schools and books, efforts are underway to rebuild the educational system and cultural infrastructure and the Nou Hach Literary Project is one of the very bright spots. We're delighted to be able to acknowledge Kho Tararith's

courage and dedication and the important work of the Nou Hach Literary Project."

Created in 2002, the International Freedom to Publish Award recognizes a book publisher outside the United States who has demonstrated courage and fortitude in the face of political persecution and restrictions on freedom of expression.

## FREEDOM TO READ

### Second Circuit Dismisses Ehrenfeld Suit; Libel Tourism Bill Passed by NY Legislature

On March 3 a panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit affirmed the ruling of the federal district court and dismissed author Rachel Ehrenfeld's motion to have a U.K. libel judgment against her declared unenforceable in the U.S. In the wake of a ruling by the New York State Court of Appeals, the federal appeals court found that it lacked jurisdiction over Saudi billionaire Kahlid bin Mahfouz, who successfully sued Ehrenfeld in England. Ehrenfeld had asked the Second Circuit to delay ruling until the New York State legislature had time to act on a bill that would confer jurisdiction over bin Mahfouz and other "libel tourists," but the appellate court declined to do so.

The libel tourism bill prompted by the Ehrenfeld case was passed unanimously by the New York State Legislature on March 31. On April 2 AAP wrote to New York Governor David Paterson urging him to sign the bill quickly. The letter points out that while several of the most recent high-profile examples of libel tourism, such as the Ehrenfeld case, involve judgments obtained in England by Saudis implicated in the funding of terrorism, the threat is even wider and more insidious. The sale of books over the Internet exposes U.S. authors and

publishers to the danger of being sued almost anywhere in the world.

### AAP Joins in Seeking Emergency Stay of Reporter's Contempt Penalties

On March 11 AAP joined in seeking an emergency ruling from the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia to temporarily suspend payment of fines of up to \$5,000 per day imposed on former *USA Today* reporter Toni Locy for refusing to disclose sources for stories about the 2001 anthrax attacks. The fines were imposed by U.S. District Court Judge Reggie B. Walton in connection with a Privacy Act lawsuit brought against the government by former Army biological weapons expert Stephen Hatfill. In issuing the contempt citation against Locy, who now teaches journalism at West Virginia University, Judge Walton refused to stay payment of the fines pending appeal and ordered Locy to "personally bear the responsibility" of paying the fines without assistance from *USA Today*, a ruling seen as unusually harsh and punitive. The *amicus* brief, which AAP joined along with 29 media and journalism groups, called the district court order "unwarranted, unprecedented, and overbroad."

On March 12 the federal appeals court suspended payment of the fines pending Locy's appeal of the contempt citation.

The issues will now be presented to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, including the fact that Locy has already revealed some sources (with their permission) and has stated that while she spoke with ten other sources regarding a range of terrorism matters, she does not recall which of them may have spoken about Hatfill. Oral argument is set for May 9.

AAP again joined a broad coalition of media organizations in filing an *amicus* brief supporting the appeal on March 28. Among other issues raised in the brief is the proper scope of the Privacy Act and

its application to information provided to the press about ongoing criminal investigations. Enacted during the Watergate era to prevent the government from misusing medical and financial records, the Privacy Act is posing an increasing threat to investigative journalism and is being used in ways that Congress never intended. The brief also argues that the district court's contempt order was "unprecedented and impermissible," creating a "nightmarish" scenario for Locy in its refusal to allow her "to receive any financial assistance from *anyone* in paying the court's onerous fines," a requirement the brief called "utterly without precedent."

The Locy case prompted a letter from the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Senate Judiciary Committee to the Senate leadership urging them to bring the proposed federal shield law to a vote on the Senate floor.

### **AAP Joins in *Amicus* Brief on NSL Challenge**

AAP, along with ALA, ABFFE, the Freedom to Read Foundation, PEN American Center, and the American Association of University Professors, filed a friend-of-the-court brief on March 17 urging the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit to uphold a lower court ruling that the National Security Letter (NSL) gag order is unconstitutional.

The brief was filed in support of a legal challenge brought by the ACLU and an unnamed "John Doe" Internet service provider, asserting that changes in the re-authorized Patriot Act did not correct constitutional flaws in the NSL provision. During the course of the litigation, the FBI withdrew the request for information under the NSL but left in place the accompanying permanent gag order.

In September 2007 U.S. District Court Judge Victor Marrero held the gag order to be a prior restraint of speech in violation of the First Amendment. Judge Marrero

also found with respect to challenges to the gag order that the revised statute "impermissibly ties the judiciary's hands," depriving the courts of the ability to conduct a proper judicial review, in violation of the constitutional separation of powers.

The *amicus* brief argues that under the amended NSL statute "the threat to bookstores and libraries remains." Although the revised statute purports to create an exemption for libraries, "it does nothing of the sort for the vast majority of libraries....To the extent that a library offers users the ability to send electronic communications—and virtually all libraries do—then the government may still 'seek records from libraries that many...fear will chill speech and use of these invaluable public institutions'."

### **AAP Protests Efforts to Ban *The Kite Runner***

AAP was among the organizations protesting the removal of Khaled Hosseini's acclaimed novel *The Kite Runner* from a 10th grade honors English class in Morganton, North Carolina. In violation of the district's policy for handling book challenges, use of the book was suspended by the school superintendent pending review by a media advisory committee after a school board member objected to a sexually violent scene that is integral to the plot.

AAP joined the National Coalition Against Censorship, ABFFE, ALA, PEN American Center and the National Council of Teachers of English in sending a letter on February 26 to the Superintendent and members of the Burke County (NC) Board of Education, stating that while the novel is "indeed concerned with mature, complex themes and historical events that are playing out in the world today," it is precisely these elements that "recommend the book, rather than disqualify it as a teaching tool. The letter states that "Those who object to *The Kite Runner* are entitled to their view, but they may not

impose it on others. They have no constitutional right to restrict students' access to a book because it conflicts with their personal values." The letter also strongly protests a proposed amendment to the county's media policy to ban materials "containing sexually inappropriate content, profanity, and vulgar and obscene language or the insinuation thereof."

## SCHOOL DIVISION

### **School Division Announces 2008 Fall Summit**

"School Publishing in the Open Source World" is the theme of this year's Summit which will take place on October 2 at the Ritz Carlton Pentagon City, just outside Washington, DC. The Summit will feature an in-depth analysis of the open source movement from the school publishing perspective. This first-ever discussion by K-12 publishers will examine the issues and opportunities in the context of existing state budgets and processes, as well as identify business models and collaborations between states, publishers and suppliers to improve the quality of education in an economically feasible manner. Additional information and online registration will be available soon on the School Division web site at: [www.aapschool.org](http://www.aapschool.org).

## BOOK SALES ROSE TO \$25 BILLION IN 2007

Net sales for U.S. publishers rose to \$25 billion in 2007, a 3.2 percent increase from 2006 with a compound growth rate of 2.5 percent per year since 2002,

according to AAP's annual estimate of total U.S. book sales released on March 31. The report used data from the Bureau of the Census as well as sales data from eighty-one publishers inclusive of all major book publishing media market holders.

Trade sales of adult and juvenile books grew 3.0 percent from 2006 to \$8.5 billion, at a compound growth rate of 3.6 percent. The strongest growth in this category came from adult hardbound books, sales of which rose 7.8 percent over last year to a total of \$2.8 billion with a compound growth rate of 3.4 percent. Adult paperbound books rose by 0.2 percent from 2006 to \$2.3 billion with compound growth of 4.0 percent.

Sales of titles for children and young adults (juvenile) hardbound fell slightly by 0.5 percent to 2.0 billion compared to last year; however paperbound saw an increase of 4.1 percent to 1.4 billion from 2006. Over the longer term, juvenile books are performing well, with compound annual growth rates of 4.6 percent for hardbound and 2.1 percent for paperbound since 2002.

Audio books had a good year with an increase of 19.8 percent from 2006 to a total of \$218 million, at a compound growth rate of 8.8 percent per year. Religious book sales were strong in 2007, increasing 5.2 percent over last year, with \$783 million in sales. Compound growth is strong at 7.1 percent per year. E-books saw a 23.6 percent increase from last year with \$67 million in sales and a compound growth rate of 55.7 percent since 2002.

After an increase in 2006, Mass market paperbacks experienced a small decline of 2.0 percent in 2007, reaching \$1.1 billion; compound annual growth fell to 1.7 percent. Sales through book clubs fell by 2.8 percent from 2006 to \$622 million in 2007.

Educational titles had a solid year; sales of K-12 products rose by 2.7 percent to \$6.4 billion compared to 2006, with a

compound growth rate of 1.9 percent. Higher Education titles saw sales of \$3.7 billion, up 6.5 percent over 2006, with a compound growth rate of 4.0 percent.

A complete list of the preliminary estimated book publishing industry net sales for 2007 prepared by Management Practice Inc. can be found at: [http://www.publishers.org/main/IndustryStats/indStats\\_02.htm](http://www.publishers.org/main/IndustryStats/indStats_02.htm)

## INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT PROTECTION

### Chinese Copyright Bureau Raids Chinese University

After inspecting university campuses in several cities in China and identifying the textbook center at Zhejiang University (Zijinggang Campus) in Hangzhou as a producer of illegal textbooks, AAP and the UK Publishers Association (PA) filed an immediate complaint with the Zhejiang Provincial Copyright Bureau. The premises were raided on March 14, resulting in the seizure of some 300-400 books. Investigations are ongoing.

### AAP Submits Comments on Philippines' Copyright Guidelines

On March 24 AAP submitted comments to the Philippines National Book Development Board on proposed guidelines for the use of copyright-protected works. While similar guidelines in the U.S. cover only classroom uses by teachers, the proposal in the Philippines would extend to student, library, and digital/distance learning uses as well. In its filing, AAP highlighted these and other ways in which the Philippines' terms exceed the scope of the U.S.

guidelines. For additional information: Patricia Judd ([pjudd@publishers.org](mailto:pjudd@publishers.org)).

### AAP Supports Efforts in Taiwan to Stop Illegal Photocopying

The AAP-supported Taiwan Book Publishers Association, a coalition of AAP member companies and local Taiwanese publishers, collaborated this spring with the Taiwan Intellectual Property Organization, an agency of the Taiwan government, on a campaign to stop the illegal photocopying of academic materials. The campaign, timed to coincide with the new spring term, targeted several campuses in central Taiwan, urging college photocopy stores to avoid illegal photocopying.

The campaign complements enforcement efforts being carried out in the region by AAP and the TBPA. Under the terms of an earlier settlement, photocopy shop owners and workers were required to participate in an government-sponsored anti-piracy event on March 18 near Feng Chia University in Taichung and have been ordered to display anti-piracy flyers and banners in their stores during the spring semester.

### Korean Copyshops Raided

In ongoing efforts to combat textbook piracy in the Republic of Korea, AAP authorized investigations into the illegal manufacture and distribution of unauthorized copies of books by seven copyshops located around five major university campuses. The targeted operations were raided by local law enforcement officials on three separate dates during the period of March 6-14, resulting in the seizure of some 300 infringing copies of books, including titles published by AAP members McGraw-Hill, John Wiley & Sons, Elsevier, Harvard Business School Publishing, Pearson, Cengage Learning, Cambridge University Press, and Oxford University Press.

## TRADE PUBLISHING

### Trade Libraries Committee Hosts More than 600 Librarians At Mystery Author Event

More than 600 public librarians attended the inaugural *Mystery Authors Panel* at the Public Library Association conference in Minneapolis on March 28. Featured authors included Linwood Barclay, CJ Box, T. Jefferson Parker, Karen Rose, and Laura Lippman. In the words of one enthusiastic attendee: "To mystery books fans, being here is like being in church." The program—designed to reach librarians nationwide—is one of many hosted by the AAP Trade Libraries Committee over the past year. For more information on the AAP's Trade Libraries Committee, contact Tina Jordan at [tjordan@publishers.org](mailto:tjordan@publishers.org).

### PLVA Task Force Issues Reading List, Resources for 5th Annual Latino Books Month

In ongoing efforts to promote books by and for Latinos and to encourage communities to read books in both English and Spanish, AAP's Publishing Latino Voices for America Task Force has designated May 2008 as the fifth annual "Latino Books Month."

As part of the initiative, AAP member publishers will hold special author events at BookExpo America. In addition, the PLVA Task Force has created a Latino Books Month Resource Kit, which includes a summer reading list, a 2008-2009 Latino Voices brochure with a sampling of titles by and for Latinos, Get Caught Reading/¡Ajá, leyendo! posters, a "how-to" sheet on starting a Spanish-language reading group within a community, and contact information for booking Latino authors for author appearances.

The resource kits are currently available to booksellers, librarians, educators, and others who want to encourage a love of reading among Latinos in their communities. To request a kit or learn more at the PLVA Task Force, contact Katie Ly at [kly@publishers.org](mailto:kly@publishers.org).

## PROFESSIONAL & SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING DIVISION

### John Tagler to Head PSP

AAP announced on March 25 that John Tagler has been named Vice President and Executive Director of PSP. Tagler comes on board April 21 and will be headquartered in the AAP New York office. He succeeds Barbara Meredith who retired last year.

Tagler comes to his AAP post after a 30-year career at Elsevier. Starting as a library sales representative, he moved up the corporate ladder through journals marketing, sales, and marketing services, serving a 10-year stint as Director of Corporate Communications before becoming Vice President, Customer Marketing, Academic and Government Libraries.

The complete press release on Tagler's appointment can be found at: <http://www.publishers.org/main/Press-Center/JohnTaglerPSPRelease.htm>

### PSP Publishers Urge More Consultation on Implementation of NIH Public Access Policy

In comments submitted for a public hearing on March 20, professional and scholarly publisher members of AAP raised concerns that implementation of the National Institutes of Health mandate on private-sector journal articles will undermine copyright protection for scien-

tific works, urging more effective consultations before the policy is implemented. NIH held a public hearing soliciting comments from interested parties, but planned to implement the mandate as written on April 7, *before* considering the comments it will receive.

"Publishers have a lot of experience in creating sustainable models of free, delayed, and open access to journal articles, so we hope the NIH will be willing to consult with us substantively so we can avoid undermining copyright and help them implement an effective public access policy" said Allan Adler, AAP's Vice President for Legal and Government Affairs.

The full press release and letter can be found on AAP's web site at: <http://www.publishers.org/main/Press-Center/NIHPublicHearingRelease.htm>

### PSP American Medical Publishers Committee to hold Webinar

The PSP American Medical Publishers Committee will sponsor a webinar titled *Publishing for the EHR 101* online on Tuesday, May 20, 2008 from 3:00pm-4:30pm. The webinar will offer an insightful and multi-faceted introduction to the world of EHRs (Electronic Health Records) and the implications for medical publishers. Speakers will address the EHR from the perspectives of a platform vendor, a content provider, and a medical professional/ bioinformatics expert. For more information please visit: <http://www.publishers.org/main/Conferences/EHRWebinarInformation.htm>.

To register please visit: <http://www.publishers.org/main/Conferences/documents/EHRWebinarFees.pdf>

## HIGHER EDUCATION

### Higher Ed Director Testifies on Textbook Bill in Kansas

On March 24, AAP higher education director Stacy Skelly testified before the Kansas Senate Education Committee on Senate Bill 678. The legislation would require all Kansas higher education institutions to implement policies and procedures mandating that publishers provide information on course materials prices and revision histories. The AAP testimony stressed potential negative and unintended consequences, noting that the bill would actually raise prices for students.

### AAP, Publishers Participate in MD Accessibility Meeting

Ed McCoy and Stacy Skelly of AAP and member publishers Liz Delfs (Pearson), Bonnie Beacher (McGraw-Hill), and Carline Haga and Edie Williams (Cengage Learning) participated in a meeting of the Maryland Instructional Materials Access Guidelines Committee on April 4. The Guidelines Committee was formed in 2007 pursuant to Maryland's Senate Bill 268 and at the meeting, publishers worked with disabled student services professionals, the National Federation of the Blind, the Maryland State Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, students, and universities to develop detailed guidelines to improve access to course materials for students with disabilities.

### AAP Responds to Obama Speech on College Textbooks

AAP President and CEO Pat Schroeder sent a letter to Senator Barack Obama in response to a speech he delivered to students regarding what he sees as the un-

necessarily high cost of college textbooks. The April 9 letter, which was also forwarded to Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL) and Rep. George Miller (D-CA), put forward many of the points that AAP's higher education publishers have been stressing to counter misinformation and misperceptions about the cost of college instructional materials and their value in helping students succeed in higher education. Mrs. Schroeder expressed the hope that she would be able to meet with members of the Senator's staff who are involved in educational issues.

## CALENDAR

### APRIL

April 23rd, Wednesday  
DRRC, 12:30 p.m., Rooms 1 and 2 (TINA JORDAN)

April 24th, Thursday  
IFTP, 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m., Room 1 (MARLENE SCHEUERMANN)  
Libraries Committee, 3:00 p.m., Rooms 1 and 2 (TINA JORDAN)

April 30th, Wednesday  
Children's Day/Book Day 2008

### MAY

May 1st, Thursday  
IFTP, 12:30 p.m., Rooms 1 and 2 (MARLENE SCHEUERMANN)

May 2nd, Friday  
PSP Books Committee, 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m., Rooms 1 and 2 (SARA FIRESTONE)

May 9th, Friday  
PSP Basic Books Boot Camp, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Rooms 1 and 2 (SARA FIRESTONE)

May 12th, Monday  
PSP Executive Council, 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., Rooms 1 and 2 \*Please note both rooms are reserved all day (SARA FIRESTONE)  
International Sales, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (TINA JORDAN)

May 14th, Wednesday  
Freedom to Read, 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., Rooms 1 and 2 (JUDY PLATT)

May 19th, Monday  
Copyright Committee, 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m., Rooms 1 and 2 (ALLAN ADLER)

May 22nd, Thursday  
PSP Journals Roundtable, 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., Rooms 1 and 2 (Note: Both rooms are reserved all day) (SARA FIRESTONE)

May 26th, Monday  
Memorial Day – AAP offices are closed

May 27th, Friday  
PSP Journals Committee, 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m., Rooms 1 and 2 (SARA FIRESTONE)

May 29th, Thursday  
IFTP, 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m., Room 1 (MARLENE SCHEUERMANN)  
AAP Smaller and Independent Publishers Annual Meeting Co-Locates with Book Expo America (program is held prior to the opening of the Los Angeles Convention Hall exhibits) Los Angeles Convention Center, Los Angeles, CA (TINA JORDAN)

May 29th – June 1st, Thursday – Sunday  
BookExpo @ the Los Angeles Convention Center