FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Encyclopedia Editor Orvell Wins Prestigious Award

Miles Orvell, the Editor-in-Chief of the Encyclopedia of American Studies (EAS), will receive the Bode-Pearson Prize for Outstanding Contributions to American Studies on Nov. 6 at the American Studies Association (ASA) annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

The Bode-Pearson Price, established in 1975 and awarded annually, is considered the most prestigious award given by the ASA and goes to an individual for a lifetime of achievement and service within the field of American Studies.

Orvell is a Professor of English and American studies at Temple University. He served as Senior Editor of the print edition of the Encyclopedia, and became Editor in Chief of the EAS when it first went online in 2002. Since 2004, The Johns Hopkins University Press has served as the online home for EAS, which brings together a wide range of disciplines related to the history and cultures of the United States, from pre-colonial days to the present. The resource includes more than 700 online, searchable articles and biographies and accompanying bibliographies to support research and study in a wide range of courses and assignments at all levels.

Orvell has presented papers and lectured widely at conferences and universities in the U.S. and Europe and was a Fulbright Professor of American Studies in Denmark in 1988. He serves on the Editorial Advisory Board of the University of North Carolina Press series Cultural Studies of the United States, on the Advisory Board of Revue Française d'Études Américaines, and on the Editorial Board of the book series, Architecture/Technology/Culture (Rodopi).

One of Orvell's main areas of interest is visual culture and material culture and their relationship to literature. He also works with the intersection of literature and ethnicity. His current projects include a study of the symbols of community in 20th century urban design and a study of the contradictions of documentary photography.

This is not the first time the ASA has honored Orvell. The Real Thing: Imitation and Authenticity in American Culture, 1880-1940 was co-winner of the American Studies Association's John Hope Franklin Publication Prize in 1990.