**Encyclopedia of American Studies Goes Open Access**

In an effort to provide researchers with an alternative source of information, the *Encyclopedia of American Studies* (EAS) has adopted an open access policy. Scholars and others studying American culture and society can now search the extensive database at [http://eas-ref.press.jhu.edu](http://eas-ref.press.jhu.edu) free of charge.

“The field of American Studies has changed a great deal since the print version of the encyclopedia was first released in 2001,” said EAS editor Simon Bronner. “We heard from scholars and institutions globally about access and realized we had the opportunity with a new format to keep up with the latest developments.”

The EAS is sponsored by the American Studies Association and hosted by the Johns Hopkins University Press, publisher of the ASA’s official journal *American Quarterly*. The online version first appeared in 2003. The encyclopedia home page received a new look to coincide with the switch to open access.

The Encyclopedia has more than 800 online, searchable articles and accompanying bibliographies, related websites, illustrations, and supplemental material covering the history, philosophy, arts, and cultures of the United States in relation to the world, from pre-colonial days to the present.

“We wanted to show the institutional value of American studies as an interdisciplinary perspective which may not exist in other online resources,” said Bronner, chair of the American Studies Program and distinguished professor of American studies and folklore at Pennsylvania State University, Harrisburg. “The Encyclopedia includes interpretive angles that show trends and ideas of research that may provoke a different line of thinking.”

Bronner said that the editorial board of the Encyclopedia, which includes scholars from the U.S., Hong Kong and Switzerland, will work to continually update the site. He also said plans exist to expand the amount of multimedia content available to users of the Encyclopedia.

**About The Johns Hopkins University Press**

Founded in 1878, The Johns Hopkins University Press is recognized as one of the world’s finest and most accomplished scholarly publishers. Today, in addition to a broad catalog of titles, The Press publishes more than 80 scholarly periodicals and around 200 new books each year in the arts and humanities, technology and medicine, higher education, history, political science, and library science.