

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Sigi Jöttkandt: sigij@openhumanitiespress.org
Open Humanities Press
Shana Kimball: kimballs@umich.edu
MPublishing, University of Michigan Library

OHP RELEASES SIX OPEN ACCESS BOOKS IN CRITICAL THEORY

(Ann Arbor, MI-December 15, 2011) — Open Humanities Press (OHP) and MPublishing are pleased to announce the publication of six open access books on critical theory, continental philosophy and cultural studies. Each title will be freely available as full-text HTML, as well as in paperback editions, and are being released on a rolling publication schedule beginning 15 December.

In a unique collaboration, the books are being jointly released by OHP, an international publishing collective run by scholars, and MPublishing, the library-based publishing enterprise at the University of Michigan.

“We are tremendously excited with these results,” says Sigi Jöttkandt, a co-founder of the collective and lecturer at the University of New South Wales in Australia. “When we first launched OHP as a high-profile open access journal publisher in 2008, we didn’t expect to be publishing open access books so quickly as well.”

The six books are *The Democracy of Objects* by Levi R. Bryant; *Immersion Into Noise* by Joseph Nechvatal; *Telemorphosis: Theory in the Era of Climate Change, Vol. 1*, edited by Tom Cohen; *Impasses of the Post-Global: Theory in the Era of Climate Change, Vol. 2*, edited by Henry Sussman; *Terror, Theory, and the Humanities*, edited by Jeffrey DiLeo and Uppinder Mehan; and *The Cultural Politics of the New American Studies* by John Carlos Rowe.

Shana Kimball, Interim Head of MPublishing at the University of Michigan Library, says that the release of these books is a remarkable achievement for OHP and “strong proof of concept that emerging scholar and library led publishing models can be part of the solution to the problem of access.”

The peer-reviewed books are part of OHP’s Critical Climate Change series (edited by Tom Cohen and Claire Colebrook) and the New Metaphysics series (edited by Graham Harman and Bruno Latour). MPublishing created the structured XML for electronic and print on demand publication, as well as the metadata and cataloging information, and archived the books in the University of Michigan Library for long-term preservation.

“I’ve been very happy with the publishing experience,” said John Carlos Rowe, USC Associates Chair in Humanities and Professor of English and American Studies and Ethnicity. “This is just what digital scholarly publishing needs: fully refereed work that can be compared favorably with the process of evaluation at any major university press.”

According to Paul Courant, University Librarian and Dean of Libraries, this publication event marks another milestone in the transformation of scholarly publishing. “It further establishes that scholars can extend the widely-held value of openness into the publishing realm when libraries give them access to the requisite expertise and mechanisms.”

###

Open Humanities Press is an international Open Access publishing collective specializing in critical and cultural theory. OHP was formed by academics to overcome the current crisis in scholarly publishing that threatens intellectual freedom and academic rigor worldwide. OHP journals are academically certified by OHP's independent board of international scholars. All OHP publications are peer-reviewed, published under open access licenses, and freely and immediately available online at <http://openhumanitiespress.org>

[MPublishing](#) is the primary academic publishing division of the University of Michigan. It creates, promotes, distributes and preserves scholarly, educational and regional materials in digital and print formats. MPublishing focuses on the best application of technology to the world of scholarly publishing. It is committed to improving the copyright climate for scholarship by developing services for areas of publishing growth otherwise under-served within the University community.