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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Association of American Publishers Joins in Supporting Authors' Use of
Published Works**

Washington, DC, March 12, 2008: The Association of American Publishers, acting through its Professional and Scholarly Publishing Division (AAP/PSP), has joined with international scholarly publishing associations in seeking to correct misperceptions that have arisen, most recently with some research and teaching faculty, in connection with university policies regarding the use and distribution of research papers. A "*Statement on Journal Publishing Agreements and Copyright Agreement Addenda*" has been issued jointly with both the International Association of Scientific, Technical & Medical Publishers (International STM Association) and the Association of Learned Professional and Scholarly Publishers (ALPSP).

The Statement highlights the efforts of professional and scholarly publishers, who have worked proactively with authors to enable a wide range of uses of their published papers, typically including: use in their own teaching; sharing with their research colleagues; re-use of portions in future works; and posting of versions of the paper on authors' own websites and institutional repositories.

Copyright protection plays a vital role in ensuring the sustainability of the system of professional, scholarly and scientific journal publishing that brings a number of benefits to the scholarly community. That system provides dedicated forums in a wide range of disciplines for reporting original research and content to a community of peers. An author's research is filtered for currency and integrity, vetted by experts, refined by editors, and enhanced for publication in print and online. This system is dependent on publishers' substantial investments in technology and infrastructure which also enable wide electronic access to the literature, and provide society with a permanent archival public record of the progress of science.

AAP/PSP continues to believe that any changes to this critically important system of scholarly communication must be undertaken based on sound and informed decision-making.

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The AAP, the national trade association of the U.S. book publishing industry, through its PSP Division, represents more than 100 member publishers that include most of the major non-profit, society, and commercial publishers in the United States, as well as smaller and non-profit publishers, university presses and scholarly societies. AAP members publish hardcover and paperback books in every field, educational materials for the elementary, secondary, post-secondary, and professional markets, scholarly journals, computer software, and electronic products and services. The protection of intellectual property rights in all media is among the Association's highest priorities.

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