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Call for Books: Left Coast Press

By Mitch Allen

November 14, 2005. Press contact:
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New academic publisher Left Coast Press, Inc. has an interest in developing projects that demonstrate the representation of ethnicity in the archaeological record, with a particular interest in topics dealing with Africa and the African diaspora.

Left Coast Press released its first two archaeology titles in September. Thomas King's Doing Archaeology: A Cultural Resource Management Perspective and David Whitley's Introduction to Rock Art Research -- the first two books published by Left Coast -- are both supplemental textbooks for undergraduate courses. Launched in March 2005 by Mitch Allen, founder of AltaMira Press, Left Coast will publish two additional archaeology books this fall, including one by Brian Fagan. New book series on American material culture, CRM methods, and indigenous issues are also being launched, along with a series sponsored by the World Archaeological Congress. Left Coast Press, Inc. books are distributed by University of Arizona Press. Further information on the Left Coast, based in Walnut Creek, California, is available at www.LCoastPress.com.

A specialty press, Left Coast will produce scholarly works, professional books, advanced textbooks, journals, and products in other media for the global archaeological community at modest prices. Other lists will be developed for museum professionals, archivists, anthropologists, public historians, and environmental professionals.

Brian Fagan's Writing Archaeology: Telling Stories About the Past, a guide to writing for the general public, will be available in November, followed in December by Ancient Starch Research, a collaborative work edited by Robin Torrence and Huw Barton, outlining the uses of starch in archaeological analysis. In future years, books are expected by such well-known archaeologists as Claire Smith, William Rathje, Barbara Little, and Sarah Milledge Nelson.

The World Archaeological Congress Research Handbook Series, edited by George Nicholas and Julie Hollowell, will produce extensive summaries of major subfields and issues. Larry Zimmerman, Sonia Atalay and T.J. Ferguson will be

Publisher Mitch Allen created Left Coast after leaving his position as Publisher of AltaMira Press. Books he sponsored have won the SAA book award in each of the last three years. The Left Coast name is not a political banner, but reflects the geographical and cultural position of the press in the San Francisco Bay Area, a locus of innovative ideas and organizations.