

university press of the pacific

University Press of the Pacific: A Deep Dive into Its Legacy and Influence

university press of the pacific is a name that resonates with scholars, authors, and readers interested in the rich tapestry of academic publishing, especially relating to Asia and the Pacific region. Founded with a mission to disseminate scholarly knowledge and cultural insights, the University Press of the Pacific (UPP) carved a unique niche in the world of academic and regional publishing. If you've ever wondered about the role of university presses beyond the typical Western academic landscape, UPP offers a fascinating case study.

Origins and Mission of University Press of the Pacific

The University Press of the Pacific was established in the early 1990s, aiming to fill a significant void in academic publishing focused on Asia and the Pacific Rim. Unlike many traditional university presses affiliated with specific universities, UPP operated as an independent publisher, which allowed it greater flexibility and a broader scope in its publishing choices.

Its core mission was to publish scholarly works that highlighted the histories, cultures, politics, and social dynamics of the Pacific region. This mission was especially important considering the limited platforms available to scholars working on or within these geographical areas at that time. UPP sought to promote cross-cultural understanding and provide a voice for academic research that might otherwise remain niche or inaccessible.

Focus Areas and Academic Contribution

UPP specialized in several key subject areas, including:

- Asian and Pacific studies
- Anthropology and cultural studies
- History and political science
- Literature and linguistics
- Environmental and social issues relevant to the Pacific Rim

By concentrating on these topics, the university press became a vital resource for academics, students, and libraries worldwide. Its publications often bridged gaps between Western academia and Pacific perspectives, fostering a more inclusive approach to scholarship.

The Publishing Model and Distribution

One of the distinctive features of the University Press of the Pacific was its innovative approach to publishing and distribution. As the digital age dawned, UPP was among the earlier adopters of print-on-demand technology, which allowed it to manage inventory efficiently and reduce costs. This model was especially beneficial for academic titles that typically have smaller print runs but steady, long-term demand.

Print-on-Demand and Digital Accessibility

The print-on-demand system meant that books could be produced only when an order was placed, minimizing waste and storage needs. This approach was particularly suited to academic publishing, where niche titles might not justify large print runs but remain essential for specific scholarly communities.

Moreover, the University Press of the Pacific embraced emerging digital distribution channels, making many of its titles available as e-books. This broadened accessibility, especially for international readers and institutions that might struggle with shipping costs or customs delays.

Partnerships and Collaborations

UPP also partnered with various academic institutions, libraries, and distributors to amplify its reach. These collaborations helped the press place its books in university courses and research collections globally. Such partnerships were crucial in establishing UPP's reputation as a reliable source of quality academic work on Pacific and Asian studies.

The Impact of University Press of the Pacific on Academic Publishing

Publishing scholarly works with a regional focus is vital for preserving and promoting diverse cultural narratives. The University Press of the Pacific played a significant role in this regard, contributing to a better understanding of Asia-Pacific dynamics.

Supporting Emerging Scholars and Diverse Voices

By giving a platform to emerging scholars and researchers from the Pacific region, UPP helped elevate voices that might otherwise have been overshadowed in the global academic discourse. This support was particularly important for early-career academics and authors from less represented communities.

Enhancing Curriculum and Research Resources

The books and journals published by UPP have been integrated into university curricula and research libraries worldwide. Their availability enriched academic resources, enabling students and researchers to access materials that reflect the complexities and nuances of the Pacific region's cultures and issues.

Challenges and Evolution in the Changing Publishing Landscape

Like many independent academic publishers, University Press of the Pacific faced challenges in an evolving market characterized by digital disruption, shifting funding models, and changing reader habits. Despite its innovative strategies, maintaining financial sustainability in a niche market proved difficult.

The Transition and Legacy

In the late 2000s, University Press of the Pacific underwent significant changes, including acquisition and restructuring by other publishing entities. While it no longer operates independently under the same name, its catalog and mission continue to influence academic publishing through successor organizations.

The legacy of UPP lives on in the continued availability of its titles and the example it set for focused, regionally oriented scholarly publishing. It demonstrated how a university press could successfully blend academic rigor with cultural relevance and business innovation.

Why University Press of the Pacific Matters Today

In today's globalized academic environment, the importance of diverse perspectives and regional scholarship has never been greater. University Press of the Pacific's pioneering work in championing Asia-Pacific studies remains relevant for several reasons:

- **Preservation of Regional Knowledge:** UPP's publications serve as key repositories of knowledge about the Pacific's diverse histories and cultures.
- **Encouraging Cross-Cultural Dialogue:** By making Pacific scholarship accessible worldwide, UPP fostered greater understanding between East and West.
- **Inspiration for Independent Academic Publishing:** Its innovative models continue to inspire smaller presses facing the challenges of modern publishing.

For students, researchers, and anyone interested in the Pacific Rim, exploring titles from the University Press of the Pacific remains a valuable way to engage with authentic and well-researched scholarship.

Tips for Finding University Press of the Pacific Publications

If you're looking to access books published by UPP, here are some useful tips:

1. **Search University Libraries:** Many academic libraries hold UPP titles in their collections, especially those with strong Asian and Pacific studies programs.
2. **Check Online Academic Retailers:** Websites like Amazon or specialized academic bookshops often list UPP books, sometimes in print-on-demand or e-book formats.
3. **Use Digital Archives:** Some university presses that acquired UPP's catalog have made titles available digitally, either for purchase or through institutional access.
4. **Explore Secondhand Bookstores:** Given the niche market, some UPP titles may be found through used book dealers or online marketplaces.

Engaging with these resources can open doors to unique perspectives and research not widely available elsewhere.

University Press of the Pacific's story is a testament to the power of academic publishing to bridge cultures and advance knowledge. Though its independent chapter has evolved, the imprint's influence endures—reminding us of the importance of dedicated scholarly presses that focus on underrepresented regions and topics.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the University Press of the Pacific?

The University Press of the Pacific was an academic publishing company specializing in books related to Asia and the Pacific region, including subjects like history, culture, and social sciences.

Is the University Press of the Pacific still operational?

No, the University Press of the Pacific ceased operations around 2013 after its assets were acquired by other publishing entities.

What types of publications did the University Press of the Pacific produce?

They published scholarly books, textbooks, and research monographs focusing on Asia and the Pacific, covering disciplines such as anthropology, history, literature, and environmental studies.

Where was the University Press of the Pacific based?

The University Press of the Pacific was headquartered in Honolulu, Hawaii, United States.

How did the University Press of the Pacific contribute to academic research?

It provided a platform for academic works related to the Pacific and Asia, supporting regional scholarship and making specialized research more accessible globally.

Who were the primary audiences for publications from the University Press of the Pacific?

Their primary audiences included scholars, researchers, students, and libraries with interests in Asian and Pacific studies.

Did the University Press of the Pacific publish textbooks?

Yes, they published educational textbooks alongside scholarly monographs and reference works focused on topics related to the Asia-Pacific region.

What happened to the titles published by the University Press of the Pacific after it closed?

Many of their titles were acquired and continue to be distributed by other academic publishers, ensuring continued availability of these works.

Can I still purchase books originally published by the University Press of the Pacific?

Yes, books originally published by the University Press of the Pacific are still available through various online retailers, libraries, and second-hand bookshops.

Did the University Press of the Pacific have any digital or online publishing initiatives?

Before closing, the University Press of the Pacific had begun exploring digital publication formats, but their primary focus remained on traditional print academic books.

Additional Resources

University Press of the Pacific: An In-Depth Examination of Its Role in Academic Publishing

university press of the pacific has established itself as a distinctive entity within the realm of academic publishing, particularly known for its specialization in the humanities, social sciences, and Pacific-related studies. Founded in the late 20th century, this independent press carved a niche by focusing on scholarly works that often receive less attention from major commercial publishing houses. This article undertakes a comprehensive review of the University Press of the Pacific, assessing its history, publishing scope, challenges, and impact on academic discourse, while incorporating relevant search terms such as academic publishing, scholarly books, and regional focus.

Historical Background and Foundation

University Press of the Pacific emerged as a private academic publisher dedicated to disseminating scholarly research that highlights Pacific Rim cultures, histories, and social issues. Unlike university-affiliated presses, it operated independently, which allowed for greater flexibility in choosing niche topics. Its foundation was driven by the need to provide a platform for academic voices from and about the Pacific region—an area often underrepresented in global academic publishing.

This focus on Pacific studies positioned the press uniquely among university presses and independent publishers. Over the years, it expanded its catalog to include a variety of disciplines, ranging from anthropology and history to literature and environmental studies, all with a strong regional or cultural emphasis.

Publishing Scope and Academic Contributions

At the heart of the University Press of the Pacific's mission was its commitment to producing scholarly books and monographs that contribute to academic knowledge and cultural understanding. The press specialized in:

- Pacific Rim studies
- Asian and Oceanic history
- Indigenous cultures and languages
- Interdisciplinary social sciences
- Environmental and ecological research related to the Pacific region

Its catalog often included works by emerging scholars as well as established academics,

providing a platform for innovative research that might not find a home in more commercially driven presses. This inclusivity helped foster academic diversity and gave voice to marginalized perspectives.

Comparison with Other University Presses

When compared to larger university presses like Oxford University Press or Cambridge University Press, the University Press of the Pacific exhibited a more focused regional emphasis and smaller operational scale. This specialization allowed for greater editorial attention to detail and a tailored approach to regional scholarship but came with challenges in distribution and marketing reach.

Unlike some university presses that benefit from institutional funding and extensive distribution networks, University Press of the Pacific relied more heavily on niche academic markets and direct sales. This model affected its visibility but maintained a strong connection with its core academic audience.

Challenges and Operational Dynamics

Operating as an independent university press brought inherent challenges. Financial sustainability was a recurring concern, especially given the limited market size for specialized academic books. The press had to balance rigorous peer review standards with the economic realities of academic publishing.

Additionally, the rise of digital publishing and open-access models in recent decades posed both opportunities and threats. While digital formats allowed wider dissemination of Pacific-related research, competing with larger presses and open-access platforms required strategic adaptation.

Pros and Cons of University Press of the Pacific's Approach

- **Pros:**

- Strong regional and cultural focus creating a unique academic niche.
- Commitment to supporting emerging scholars and diverse viewpoints.
- High editorial standards fostering scholarly credibility.

- **Cons:**

- Limited distribution and marketing reach compared to major university presses.
- Financial constraints affecting publication volume and sustainability.
- Challenges adapting to rapidly evolving digital publishing trends.

Impact on Scholarly Communication and Pacific Studies

The influence of the University Press of the Pacific extends beyond mere book production. By championing niche areas of study, it has contributed significantly to the visibility of Pacific Rim scholarship. Many of its publications have become essential references in fields such as anthropology, history, and environmental studies related to the Pacific.

Furthermore, the press's role in preserving and promoting indigenous knowledge and languages has been notable. In an academic landscape often dominated by Western perspectives, its catalog offers alternative narratives and deeper cultural insights.

Digitization and Modernization Efforts

Recognizing the importance of digital access, the University Press of the Pacific explored partnerships with online academic platforms and repositories. These efforts aimed to make its titles more accessible to a global audience, particularly students and researchers without access to large institutional libraries.

While the transition was gradual, embracing digital formats has become essential in ensuring ongoing relevance and reach. This shift also aligns with broader trends in academic publishing, where open-access and digital dissemination are increasingly prioritized.

Conclusion: The Enduring Relevance of University Press of the Pacific

In an era where academic publishing is dominated by large conglomerates and shifting digital paradigms, the University Press of the Pacific stands as a testament to the value of specialized, regionally focused scholarly publishing. Its dedication to Pacific studies and humanities has filled a crucial gap, supporting academic diversity and regional representation.

Though facing challenges typical of independent university presses, its contributions

continue to resonate within scholarly communities. As academic publishing evolves, the press's legacy underscores the importance of maintaining diverse voices and perspectives, particularly those tied intimately to distinctive cultural and geographic contexts.

University Press Of The Pacific

university press of the pacific: The Exploration of the Pacific John Cawte Beaglehole, 1968

university press of the pacific: Peoples of the Pacific Paul D'Arcy, 2017-05-15 Presenting the history of the inhabitants of the Pacific Islands from first colonization until the spread of European colonial rule in the later 19th century, this volume focuses specifically on Pacific Islander-European interactions from the perspective of Pacific Islanders themselves. A number of recorded traditions are reproduced as well as articles by Pacific Island scholars working within the academy. The nature of Pacific History as a sub-discipline is presented through a sample of key articles from the 1890s until the present that represent the historical evolution of the field and its multidisciplinary nature. The volume reflects on how the indigenous inhabitants of the Pacific Islands have a history as dynamic and complex as that of literate societies, and one that is more retrievable through multidisciplinary approaches than often realized.

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the Proust of the Paphuans?', Saul Bellow infamously inquired, as if this vast expanse were too small, scattered and backward to deserve consideration. In response to this challenge, Pacific Gateways seeks to define a new (if provisional) canon. This diverse, insightful and compelling collection applies ethnographic perspectives (contact zone, participant-testimony, indigeneity) to a diverse range of genres (romance, travelogue, memoir) to demonstrate how the Pacific already prefigures and generates later networks of global exchange. It offers not retrospect into a distant past, but intimations of possible futures, as a portal into alternative forms of planetary consciousness." (Steve Clark) This book explores the entanglements of Anglophone literature with Pacific geographies, histories, and cultures during the long nineteenth century, giving a transpacific context to Victorian writers including Dickens, Kingston, Stevenson, and Trollope, and setting them alongside Pacific Rim writers such as Bret Harte, Lafcadio Hearn, Joseph Heco, and Yei Theodora Ozaki. The chapters focus upon the physical and imaginative "gateways" produced by Western technology, including the port city, the steamship, telegraph lines, and the networks of international trade and finance. These Pacific gateways shape the development of a "transpacific consciousness" in Anglophone literature, whose modes of exchange and patterns of thought can still be seen in modern-day attitudes to the region. The book aims to present a polyglot and cross-cultural history of Anglophone literature in the Pacific, in which Anglo-American imperialism coexists with established intra-Asian networks. Chapter 1 is available open access under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License via link.springer.com

university press of the pacific: Food Culture in the Pacific Islands Roger Haden, 2009-08-10 The food culture of the Pacific Islands has been determined by isolation from the rest of the world. Original immigrants from Asia brought their foods, animals, and culinary skills with them, then for several thousand years, they were largely uninfluenced by outsiders. The tropical climate of much of the region, unique island geology and environmental factors also played a role in the evolution of islander cuisine, which is based on unique ingredients. The staples of breadfruit, yams, taro, coconut, sweet potato, and cassava are incorporated into a cuisine that uses cooking and preservation techniques unique to Polynesia, Micronesia, and Melanesia. Today, food culture in the Pacific is largely one of extremes. Although traditional foods and cookery survive and are highly valued, Westernization has meant that the overall diet of islanders has been negatively transformed and that islands are net importers of unhealthful foods. Ironically, the tourism industry has re-engaged islander people in food production and boosted their sense of identity. Students, food mavens, and travellers will find this to be a stellar introduction to the current culture of the Pacific Islands, with discussion of Hawaii, Australia, and New Zealand included. Chapter 1, Historical Overview, offers a fascinating chronicle of the evolution of a food culture of extremes, of isolation, climate, environment, and Western influences. Chapter 2, Major Foods and Ingredients, introduces a host of traditional tropical manna as well as imported products. The Cooking chapter discusses the truly unique cooking styles of the islands, such as steam-baking in the ground in an umu (oven). Chapter 4, Typical Meals, largely explores the emphasis on the ubiquitous processed foods. A Regional Specialties chapter reveals both pan-regional dishes and the noted local dishes. Chapter 6's Eating Out discussion shows the new acceptance of the individualist, recreational ritual of eating away from the community. The typical life-cycle food rituals are covered in the Special Occasions chapter. A final chapter on Diet and Health highlights the increase in Western diseases arising from diet and lifestyle changes and discusses timely food security issues as well. Recipes are interspersed throughout, and a timeline, glossary, selected bibliography, and photos round out the coverage.

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fundamental ways, and helped to spark nationalist movements throughout Asia. This book examines the strategies, technologies, intelligence capabilities, home-front mobilization, industrial production, and resources that ultimately enabled the United States and its allies to emerge victorious. Major themes include the impact of war, conceptions of race, Japanese perspectives on the conflict, and America's relations with its allies. Using primary documents, maps, and concise writing, this book provides students with an accessible introduction to an important period in history. Incorporating recent scholarship and conflicting interpretations, the book provides an insightful overview of the topic for students of modern American history, World War II, and the Asia Pacific.

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university press of the pacific: *The Routledge Companion to Asian American and Pacific Islander Literature* Rachel Lee, 2014-06-05 The Routledge Companion to Asian American and Pacific Islander Literature offers a general introduction as well as a range of critical approaches to this important and expanding field. Divided into three sections, the volume: Introduces keywords connecting the theories, themes and methodologies distinctive to Asian American Literature Addresses historical periods, geographies and literary identities Looks at different genre, form and interdisciplinarity With 41 essays from scholars in the field this collection is a comprehensive guide to a significant area of literary study for students and teachers of Ethnic American, Asian diasporic and Pacific Islander Literature. Contributors: Christine Bacarezza Balance, Victor Bascara, Leslie Bow, Joshua Takano Chambers-Letson, Tina Chen, Anne Anlin Cheng, Mark Chiang, Patricia P. Chu, Robert Diaz, Pin-chia Feng, Tara Fickle, Donald Goellnicht, Helena Grice, Eric Hayot, Tamara C. Ho, Hsuan L. Hsu, Mark C. Jerng, Laura Hyun Yi Kang, Daniel Y. Kim, Jodi Kim, James Kyung-Jin Lee, Rachel C. Lee, Jinqi Ling, Colleen Lye, Sean Metzger, Susette Min, Susan Y. Najita, Viet Thanh Nguyen, erin Khuê Ninh, Eve Oishi, Josephine Nock-Hee Park, Steven Salaita, Shu-mei Shi, Rajini Srikanth, Brian Kim Stefans, Erin Suzuki, Theresa Tensuan, Cynthia Tolentino, Thuy Linh Nguyen Tu, Eleanor Ty, Traise Yamamoto, Timothy Yu.

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university press of the pacific: *Japan and the Pacific, 1540-1920* Matsuda Koichiro, 2017-05-15 This volume seeks to capture the rich array of images that define Japan's encounters with the Pacific Ocean. Contemporary Japanese most readily associate 'Pacific' with the devastating war that their country fought over a half century ago. The ensuing occupation realized a situation that this people had striven to avoid ever since the Portuguese first arrived in 1543 - their subjugation by a foreign power. But the Pacific Ocean also extended Japan's overseas contacts. From antiquity Japanese and their neighbours crossed it to trade ideas and products. From the mid-16th century it carried people from more distant lands, Europe and America, and thus expanded and diversified Japan's cultural and economic exchange networks. From the late 19th century it provided the highway to transport Japanese imperial expansion in Northeast Asia and later to encourage

overseas migration into the Pacific and the Americas. The studies selected for inclusion in this volume, along with the introduction, explain how the Pacific Ocean thus nurtured images of both threat and opportunity to the island nation that it surrounds.

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media representation, what history gets officially documented vs. what does not, and so much more. Those objects include: Name tag for Challenger astronaut Ellison Onizuka Photograph of Hollywood actress Anna May Wong Hello Kitty bento box Stella Abrera's ballet shoes, pancaked to match her skin color Caravan's Thailand: Songs for Life album Sewing kit of internment camp survivor May Ishimoto Nam June Paik's Electronic Superhighway: Continental U.S., Alaska, Hawaii The Devanagari typographical font patented by Hari Govind Govil Asian Americans are the fastest growing group in the United States and include approximately 50 distinct ethnic groups, but their stories and experiences have often been sidelined or stereotyped. This spirited and beautifully illustrated book offers a vital window into the triumphs and tragedies, strength and ingenuity, and traditions and cultural identities of these communities. Smithsonian Asian Pacific American History, Art, and Culture in 101 Objects is a crucial and celebratory read.

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of the Cold War, the Marshalls were a site for nuclear tests and later for the U.S. Army's ballistic missile testing as part of President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative. This book focuses on the islanders' tenacious negotiations for independence and control of their land, accomplished as the Republic of the Marshall Islands in a Compact of Free Association with the U.S. The creation of American policy in the Pacific was a struggle between the U.S. departments of the Interior and State, and the military's goals for strategic national defense, as illustrated by the case of the Army's base at Kwajalein Atoll.

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