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University of California Announces Electronic Publications Program for International and Area Studies

Using technology to make peer-reviewed research in international studies available more widely through more cost-effective means, the University of California is launching the University of California International and Area Studies Digital Collection (<http://repositories.cdlib.org/uciaspubs/>).

UC International and Area Studies (UCIAS), which is the result of collaboration between University of California Press, the eScholarship program at the California Digital Library (CDL) and internationally oriented research units on eight University of California campuses, makes this scholarship freely available on the Internet.

UCIAS (<http://repositories.cdlib.org/uciaspubs/about.html>) publishes peer-reviewed articles, books and edited collections of papers. The materials are generated by research projects, workshops, seminars, and conferences at internationally oriented institutes, centers, and programs sponsored by the University of California. Upon its opening, the UCIAS Digital Collection features *Dynamics of Regulatory Change: How Globalization Affects National Regulatory Policies*, edited by David Vogel and Robert Kagan.

All publications are peer reviewed according to standards set by an interdisciplinary UCIAS editorial board. The digital versions will be available free of charge and cared for over the long term by the CDL. UC Press will also publish and sell hard-copy versions of selected UCIAS volumes.

The digital publications program in effect replaces and consolidates the expensive and labor-intensive print publishing operations that were separately managed by most internationally oriented research units at UC. It allows research units to concentrate on issues of quality while the shared technical foundation decreases first-copy costs and enables open access to the material from around the world.

David Leonard, dean of international and area studies at UC Berkeley comments, "The UCIAS Digital Collection represents an important development in scholarly publishing. By enabling the rapid publication and dissemination of individual peer-reviewed articles - - accessible to any scholar in the world with a web connection -- UCIAS has dramatically increased the access of scholars around the world to the international research being done at UC.

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“It also links the publication of working papers from UC research units, peer review of articles at the standard of the best professional journals and the development of edited collections whose contents have been individually peer-reviewed -- thereby setting high standards for all three types of publications. This development will be welcomed by scholars, students and promotion committees.”

The peer-reviewed articles, books, and edited collections draw from working papers in the eScholarship Repository (<http://repositories.cdlib.org/escholarship/>), a new service providing access to pre-publication scholarship. The repository is hosted by the California Digital Library and uses the same underlying technology as the UCIAS Digital Collection. If a working paper submitted to UCIAS for peer review successfully passes, it is published in the UCIAS Digital Collection. The original working paper remains in the eScholarship Repository, along with a link to the peer-reviewed version in the Digital Collection.

The eScholarship Repository and UCIAS Digital Collection are projects of the California Digital Library’s eScholarship program (<http://www.escholarship.cdlib.org/>), which was launched to facilitate scholar-led innovations and supports experiments in the production and dissemination of scholarly communications.

The California Digital Library (<http://www.cdlib.org/>), which partners with the 10 UC campuses in a continuing commitment to apply innovative technology to managing scholarly information, opened to the public in January 1999. Organizationally housed at the UC Office of the President in Oakland, CA, the CDL provides a centralized framework to efficiently share materials held by UC, to provide greater and easier access to digital content, and to join with researchers in developing new tools and innovations for scholarly communication.

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Editors: For additional information about the CDL please contact John Ober, CDL director for education & strategic innovation, (510) 987-0425; or John.Ober@ucop.edu. Additional information about the California Digital Library may be found at the CDL web site, <http://www.cdlib.org> .