

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON PRESS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nicole Mitchell Named New Director at the University of Washington Press

Nicole Mitchell, director of the **University of Georgia Press**, has been named the new director of the **University of Washington Press**, succeeding Pat Soden, who has served as its director since 1996. Mitchell assumes her new position in January 2012.

“Nicole is an incredibly talented leader and manager, and I am delighted that she is joining us,” says **Gerald Baldasty**, dean of the Graduate School at the University of Washington, which houses the Press within the University system. “We are deeply impressed by her success throughout her career, and particularly at Georgia, and in her very analytical and creative approach to the challenges that university presses face today.”

Mitchell launched her career in scholarly publishing at Cambridge University Press in 1983, where she gained experience in acquisitions, copyediting, production, and marketing. Starting as an assistant editor at the University of Alabama Press in 1988, she soon became the press’s first full-time acquiring editor and was named director in 1996. In her twelve years at Alabama, she focused the press’s lists and increased sales by 50 percent and title output by 25 percent.

During her decade-long tenure as director of the University of Georgia Press, Mitchell and her staff developed ten new book series, recruited the press’s first fundraising board, hired the press’s first director of development, and initiated the first digital publishing and e-marketing programs in Georgia’s history. Additionally Mitchell developed numerous partnerships with state, regional, and national organizations and worked with two other university presses and press staff to secure a \$648,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for a collaborative series entitled Early American Places.

“I am honored and delighted to be joining the University of Washington Press,” Mitchell says. “I have long admired the quality and diversity of Washington’s publications and was greatly impressed with the strong support for the Press both at UW and within the community. I look forward to working with the Press’s dedicated, caring, and talented staff as we build upon Pat Soden’s impressive legacy and take the Press in new directions.”

The University of Washington Press is very pleased to welcome Nicole Mitchell.

ABOUT THE PRESS

The University of Washington Press was founded in 1915 and publishes approximately 60 new titles a year, with 1,400 books currently in print. From its beginning, the Press has reflected the University’s major academic strengths. Building on those strengths, while developing partnerships with other nonprofit cultural institutions, the University of Washington Press has achieved recognition as the leading publisher of scholarly books and distinguished works of regional nonfiction in the Pacific Northwest.

QUESTIONS

Please contact **Rachael Levay** at 617.871.0295 or **remann@u.washington.edu** if you have any questions.

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