Gary Hall: Towards a New Political Economy:
Open Humanities Press and the Open Access Monograph

This talk will focus on the experience to date of publishing open access monographs in the humanities by Open Humanities Press (OHP). A publishing collective explicitly dedicated to contemporary critical and cultural theory, OHP (www.openhumanitiespress.org) was launched in 2008 by an international group of scholars in response to the perceived crisis in academic publishing whereby presses in the humanities have cut back on the number of research-led titles they bring out, and libraries are finding it difficult to afford the research that is published - both books and journals. An OHP monograph project, run in collaboration with the University of Michigan Library’s Scholarly Publishing Office, UC-Irvine, UCLA Library, and the Public Knowledge Project headed by John Willinsky of Stanford University, was then launched in 2009. One of the aims of OHP is to develop a new, sustainable, economic model for the open publication, dissemination and sharing of academic knowledge, research and scholarship in the humanities.