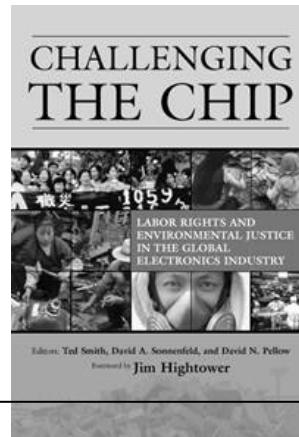


For Immediate Release

Contact: Beth Trimarco: 510-760-4202

Challenging the Chip

Labor Rights and Environmental Justice in the Global Electronics Industry



SILICON VALLEY – August 9, 2006 – The release of Al Gore’s documentary this summer has sparked a revitalized interest in environmental problems facing our country and the world. Among the most critical is electronics manufacturing pollution and “e-waste” which *The Wall Street Journal* has called “the world’s fastest growing and potentially most dangerous waste problem.”

A new book exposes the growing environmental, health, and economic problems associated with the high tech industry, as well as the impacts of electronics manufacturing on workers and communities around the globe. *Challenging the Chip*, edited by Ted Smith, David A. Sonnenfeld, and David Naguib Pellow (with a forward by Jim Hightower), gives a revealing overview of technology’s toxic underside and guides electronics users on how they can help solve these problems.

Challenging the Chip: Labor Rights and Environmental Justice in the Global Electronics Industry (http://www.temple.edu/tempres/titles/1788_reg.html) is a diverse collection of 26 stories about the toxic impacts of electronics manufacturing on workers and communities around the world. Whether it’s in Silicon Valley, California, or Silicon Glen, Scotland, or Silicon Paddy, China, *Challenging the Chip* reveals that the people who suffer the highest consequences are largely poor, female, immigrant, and minority. Contributors include visionaries, advocates, and scholars who not only document the devastating practices of electronics manufacturing, but also share how they have come together in their workplaces, communities, and across borders to successfully shift how the high tech industry does business. However, *Challenging the Chip* goes beyond just challenging the dark side of electronics, it challenges the industry to use its incredible brain power and ingenuity to dazzle the world again with green technologies that are toxic-free and easy to recycle.

"Challenging the Chip is essential reading for anyone who owns a cell phone or computer. As its vividly written chapters reveal, our digital possessions connect us not only to global information but also to global contamination and injustice. Happily, this book shows us that we can have technology and clean water, too: Electronics sustainability is organic agriculture for iPods."—**Sandra Steingraber**, Ph.D., author of *Living Downstream: An Ecologist Looks at Cancer and the Environment*

Ted Smith is founder and Senior Strategist, Silicon Valley Toxics Coalition. A **Q&A with Ted Smith** http://www.temple.edu/tempres/authors/1788_qa.html is available in which he answers questions about the state of the global electronics industry.

David A. Sonnenfeld is Associate Professor in the Department of Community and Rural Sociology at Washington State University. He is co-editor of *Ecological Modernisation Around the World: Perspectives and Critical Debates*.

David Naguib Pellow is Associate Professor of Ethnic Studies at the University of California, San Diego. He is the author of *Garbage Wars: The Struggle for Environmental Justice in Chicago*.

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For more information on the book go to:

http://www.temple.edu/tempresstitles/1788_reg.html

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