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Carol Schneider

V.P., Executive Director, Publicity and Public Relations
The Random House Publishing Group
212/572-2245

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RANDOM HOUSE PUBLISHING GROUP SETS LECTURE AFFILIATION WITH THE AMERICAN PROGRAM BUREAU

Authors Rushdie, Sheehy, Harr & Pearl Among Participants

New York, October 10, 2005--The Random House Publishing Group, a division of Random House, Inc., has joined forces with the Boston-based American Program Bureau, one of the largest U.S. lecture agencies, to offer ongoing lecture engagements nationwide to its broad spectrum of fiction and nonfiction authors, it was announced today by Gina Centrello, President and Publisher of the Group.

Among the Random House and Ballantine imprint authors who are on or joining the American Program Bureau roster are Salman Rushdie, Gail Sheehy, Jonathan Harr, leading ADD expert Edward M. Hallowell M.D., Matthew Pearl, Lisa See, and Valerie Hemingway.

The American Program Bureau, which celebrated its fortieth anniversary last year, will select potential speakers from the Random House Publishing Group's catalogues and will work closely with Random House to coordinate speaking engagements with Random's publicity and marketing efforts. They will secure lecture dates for participating authors not only during the initial new-book publishing launch, but also upon reprint publication and in between books, when there are fewer media opportunities. The agency will be responsible for organizing and implementing the lecture dates on behalf of the author and the publisher.

The agreement was developed by Robert P. Walker, American Program Bureau founder, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, and Carol Schneider, Random House Vice President and Executive Director of Publicity and Public Relations, who will coordinate the program within Random House.

"We welcome this affiliation with American Program Bureau at a time when all publishers are seeking ways to extend the life of a book," said Gina Centrello. "We see this as a wonderful opportunity to provide ongoing exposure for our authors, drawing upon the expertise of one of the preeminent lecture agencies in the business, whose extensive customer base encompasses virtually every subject area in which we publish."

Commented Robert Walker, "We are delighted to have embarked on this 'strategic alliance' with Random House, one of the world's most recognized names in book publishing. We look forward to integrating their remarkably diverse list of eminent and rising authors into our own roster of distinguished speakers."

The Random House Publishing Group is a division of Random House, Inc., the U.S. company of Random House, which is the trade book publishing division of Bertelsmann, AG, one of the world's foremost media companies. The Random House Publishing Group is comprised of Ballantine Books, Del Rey, Modern Library, One World, Presidio Press, Random House, Random House Trade Paperbacks, and Villard imprints.