The Aylesford Skull (Titan Books)
James Blaylock, professor of English
One of the founding fathers of the steampunk movement releases a new novel featuring the famous Professor Langdon St. Ives, brilliant but eccentric scientist and explorer. In the story, a steam launch is taken by pirates and the professor encounters an old nemesis, the infamous Dr. Ignacio Narbondo.

The Gospels of the Marginalized (Cascade Books)
Marvin Meyer, Ph.D., Griset Chair in Bible and Christian Studies
This work by Meyer, who passed away Aug. 16, provides an exciting new study of three of the most maligned figures in the New Testament story of Jesus: Thomas, Mary Magdalene and Judas Iscariot. The book uses the Gospels of Thomas, Mary, and Judas to reexamine their place in the Jesus movement.

Presidents and the American Presidency (Oxford University Press)
Lori Cox Han, Ph.D., professor of political science
Here the focus is on the study of the presidency through an exploration of both the political institution and the men who have held the office. The book moves beyond purely theoretical analysis to examine the real-life, day-to-day responsibilities and challenges that go with the job.

Contexts & Choices: A Guide to Practical Writing (Kendall Hunt Publishing)
Doug Sweet, director of undergraduate writing, Department of English
Especially in this challenging economy, students need to find an edge on the competition. Effective business writing is crucial to success. This textbook offers practical advice on how to effectively write for business.

The Big Drop: Homecoming (Black Hill Press)
Ryan Gattis, adjunct professor of English
After killing a yakuza in self-defense, an ex-military translator owes a debt that is payable only one way: by taking the dead man's place searching for a missing woman in Little Tokyo. Fusing gritty yakuza action with elements of classic noir, the novel smashes Johnny Ban into a rarely explored corner of L.A., sending him in search of his long-buried Americanness and his first love — a Japanese woman up to her neck in trouble.

Health Communication in the 21st Century (Wiley-Blackwell)
Lisa Sparks, Ph.D., professor and director, Health and Strategic Communications Program
This text is revised and updated in a second edition that incorporates recent research and boasts new material on topics such as crisis communication, social disparities in health and systemic reform.

The Communication of Jealousy (Peter Lang Publishing Group)
Jennifer Bevan, Ph.D., associate professor of communication studies
Much of the focus here is on jealousy research, taking an academic approach to consider jealousy from an interpersonal communication perspective. The book develops a theory that advances the state of jealousy expression research.

Voces Shiwilu: 400 Años de Resistencia Lingüística en Jeberos (PCUP – Fondo Editorial)
Pilar Valenzuela, Ph.D., associate professor of languages
Exploring the history of the Shiwilu people from Western Amazonia, from their first encounter with the Spaniards to the present, Valenzuela seeks to understand the causes that led to the almost complete displacement of their native language in favor of Spanish. The book contains the first published texts in the Shiwilu language.

Communication for Families in Crisis (Peter Lang Publishing Group)
Fran C. Dickson, Ph.D., chair of the Department of Communication Studies
In this first book-length work to address effective family communication during times of crisis, leading researchers provide in-depth discussions of communication theory, exploring specific scientific analysis of families in crisis.

From Moscow to Beirut: The Adventures of a Foreign Correspondent (Chapman University Press)
David C. Henley, Chapman University trustee
After serving as a journalist and foreign correspondent for more than 60 years, Henley shares some of his favorite experiences. Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalist David Hume Kennerly calls the book a “Raiders of the Lost Ark class of adventure story.” Among Henley’s exploits: being roughed up by bodyguards of a military coup leader in Fiji, getting tossed out of a Moscow reception after knocking over a tray of drinks near Soviet leader Nikolai Bulganin, and narrowly escaping injury or death while walking in a minefield on the Israeli-Egyptian border.