

The 33rd Annual
North American Labor History Conference

Labor Movement, Movement of Labor



October 20 – 22, 2011
McGregor Memorial Conference Center

WAYNE STATE
UNIVERSITY

Conference Notes

Research Hours at the Reuther Library

Monday, October 17, 2011, 11:00-4:45
Tuesday, October 18, 2011, 11:00-4:45
Wednesday, October 19, 2011, 9:00-4:45
Thursday, October 20, 2011, 9:00-4:45
Friday, October 21, 2011, 9:00-4:45
Saturday, October 22, 2011, 10:00-2:00

Book Display

Books on labor history and related topics will be open throughout the conference in Room J of the McGregor Center, located on the second floor.

Parking

Parking for the conference is available in the structure on the corner of Cass Avenue and Palmer Street, just north of the conference center. Participants who have difficulty walking may park in the surface lot just north of the WSU Law Library, which is one building north of the McGregor Center.

Cover Art

"Holding On to a Dream," by Paul Erickson.

North American Labor History Conference Committee

Janine Lanza, NALHC Coordinator and Chair, Marc Kruman, Chair of the Department of History, Elizabeth Faue, Jennifer Hart, Tracy Neumann, Aaron Retish, Fran Shor, and Elizabeth Ryan.

Conference Sponsorship

The Conference is sponsored by the Department of History and the Walter P. Reuther Library of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University. Additional support is provided by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and Labor@Wayne, Wayne State University. Support for the Bernath lecture is provided by the WSU Library System.

Which Session is BERNATH?

33rd Annual North American Labor History Conference

PROGRAM

Thursday, October 20, 2011

Registration

1:30-2:30 p.m., McGregor Lobby

Guest Workers - A Roundtable

2:30-4:30 p.m., McGregor B/C

Participants: Ron Aronson, Wayne State University
Jo Nakajima, Chiba University of Commerce

Respondent: Immanuel Ness, City University of New York

Life and Work in the Shadow of the Verlinden Plant: The UAW Local 602 Oral History/Lansing Auto Town Web Gallery Project"

2:30-4:30 p.m., McGregor F/G

Chair: John Beck, Our Daily Work/Our Daily Lives, Michigan State University

Participants: Doug Rademacher, Former President, UAW Local 602
Marilyn Coulter, Retired member, UAW Local 602
John Shaw, Vincent Voice Library, Michigan State University
Kevin Beard, Vincent Voice Library, Michigan State University
Nancy Darga, Executive Director, Motorcities-Automobile National Heritage Area

**The Gerald J., Myrna F., and Stuart L. Bernath Lecture Series
for the Support of the Discussion of American History, Diplomacy and Foreign Affairs**

**The Right to Stay Home: Ending Migration Forced by Poverty,
While Respecting the Rights of Migrants**

4:45-6:15, McGregor B/C

David Bacon, Documentary Photographer and Author

Reception to follow in the McGregor Lobby

Friday, October 21, 2011

Registration

8:00-9:00 a.m., McGregor Lobby

Reckoning With Empire, a discussion of Organized Agriculture and the Labor Movement Before the UFW: Puerto Rico, Hawai'i and California

9:00-11:00 a.m., McGregor B/C

Participants: Jose Moreno, Heritage University
Jorge Chinae, Wayne State University
Antonio Vasquez, Michigan State University

Respondent: Dionicio Valdes, Michigan State University

Global Movement of Labor: Theory and Practice

9:00-11:00 a.m., McGregor F/G

Chair and Comment: Fran Shor, Wayne State University

The Transformation of the Japanese Employment System and Problems of Poverty: Cases of New Union Movement in the Mid-2000s

Jo Nakajima, Chiba University of Commerce

Neoliberal Migration Control as "Bloody Legislation"

Brian Zbriger, Binghamton University

Japanese Laborers and Transpacific Mobility in the early-Twentieth Century

Yukari Takai, York University

Unions and Left Politics

9:00-11:00 a.m., McGregor E

Chair and Comment: David Bacon

Radical Groups and Communists in US Labor Movements

Joshua Morris, Pomona College

Between the Ford Man and the New Soviet Man: Connections and Collisions in Detroit and Soviet Russia

David Greenstein, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Antifascism and Labor Radicalism in the Politics of John Steinbeck: Liberal Individualism and the Ambiguities of Mass Politics in the New Deal era

Charles Williams, University of Washington, Tacoma

Luncheon

11:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m., McGregor L/M

Fighting the Assault on Public Unions
David Hecker, President, AFT Michigan

Steve Early's The Civil Wars in U.S. Labor: Birth of a New Workers' Movement or Death Throes of the Old?

1:00-3:00 p.m., McGregor B/C

Chair: Chad Pearson, Collin College

Participants: Elizabeth Faue, Wayne State University
Amy Bromsen, Wayne State University
Rosemary Feurer, Northern Illinois University

Respondent: Steve Early, journalist and labor activist

Labor as a Mechanism of Urban Change: The Case of Chicago

1:00-3:00 p.m., McGregor E

Chair and Comment: Louis Jones, Wayne State University

Immigrants Mobilizing as Workers: a Case Study of Latinos in Chicago (2005-2008)
Mathieu Bonzom, Université Paris-Est Créteil (Paris 12)

'To Defend Public Education: Chicago's Caucus of Rank and File Educators (CORE), 2008-2010
Mary Linehan, University of Texas, Tyler

Unions and Communities: Working Together for Change

1:00-3:00 p.m., McGregor F/G

Chair and Comment: Kenneth Fones-Wolf, West Virginia University

On God's Authority: Origins of Community Unionism in Early Thirties Toledo
Nathan Delaney, Case Western Reserve University

The Limits of Change: Canadian Labor, Human Rights Activism and Immigration
David Goutour, McMaster University

Steeltown Radicals": Labor and the Politics of Urban Development in Pittsburgh
Tracy Neumann, Wayne State University

From Workers to Scapegoats: Migrants and Rights in New Communities

1:00-3:00 p.m., McGregor I

Chair and Comment: Lisa Phillips, Indiana State University

A Devastating Fate: German Pork Butchers in Nineteenth-Century Great Britain

Karl-Heinz Wüstner, Realschule Schenkensee Schwaebisch Hall, Germany

The Drive is to Continue: The Chicago Deportation Drive of 1926 and Local Policing of Global Migration

Emily Pope-Obeda, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Rethinking US Labor History: A Discussion of the Field

3:00-5:00 p.m., McGregor B/C

Participants: Donna Haverty-Stack, Hunter College, City University of New York
Elizabeth Faue, Wayne State University
Lisa Fine, Michigan State University
Janine Lanza, Wayne State University

Unions and the Struggle for Definition

3:00-5:00 p.m., McGregor F/G

Comment: Mike Smith, Wayne State University

Celebratory Politics: Politicizing Labor Day in the early-Twentieth Century

Jeffrey Johnson, Providence College

Critical Views of the United Farm Workers of America Union

Jose Moreno, Heritage University

Filling in the Gaps: the WTUL, the IWW, and the Struggle for Influence in the Labor Movement

Shannon R. Brown, Central Michigan University

Colonial and Post Colonial Labor Regimes in Latin America

3:00-5:00 p.m., McGregor E

Chair: Leisa Kauffmann, Wayne State University

Any Way We Can Get the Work Out of Them: Comparative Forms of Forced Native Labor in Colonial Spanish America

Jose Cuello, Wayne State University

Peasants, Slaves and Free White Immigrants: Modernizing Labor in the Puerto Rican Plantation Economy during the Second Half of the Nineteenth Century

Jorge Chinaa, Wayne State University

Discourse and Practice: A Gramscian Account of the 'Awakening' of Indigenous Hacienda Laborers in Central Ecuador

Barry Lyons, Wayne State University

Michigan Labor Law: the Exception or the Rule?

3:00-5:00 p.m., McGregor I

Chair and Comment: Amy Holtman French, Delta College

Labor Markets and the Law in Open-Shop Detroit

Tom Klug, Marygrove College

Workers' Compensation and the Milford Mine Disaster

John Byczynski, Western Michigan University

Outside the Law: Michigan Workers and Extra-legal Direct Action

Gary Kaunonen, Michigan Technical University

Where Do We Go From Here? Public Employees, Unionism and Politics

5:15-6:45 p.m., McGregor B/C

Participants: Steve Meyer, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
Steve Early, journalist and labor activist
Rosemary Feurer, Northern Illinois University
John Russo, Youngstown State University

Reception

7:00-8:00 p.m., Reuther Library Lobby

**The Labor and Social Conscience:
A Memorial Tribute to Bernard J. Firestone**

**Labor Arts 2011
Celebrating 21 Years @ WSU
A Salute to Detroit Working Class Writers**

**Friday, October 21, 2011
7:30 p.m.
McGregor Conference Center**

Hosted by:

M.L. Liebler, WSU Faculty Member and Founder of the Labor Arts Event @ Wayne

Featuring:

Melba Joyce Boyd, Author, *Wrestling with the Muse: Dudley Randall and the Broadside Press*. Boyd is also a Distinguished Professor and Chair of Africana Studies at Wayne State University

John Jeffire, Author, *Motown Burning* and *River Rouge*

Ami Mattison, Poet, *Strange and Potent Mixture*

Caroline Maun, Poet, *The Sleeping*

Mary Minock, Poet, published in *Abandon Automobile: Detroit City Poetry 2001*

Anca Vlasopolos, Poet, *Penguins in a Warming World*

With Music by Special Guest:

Frank F. Koscielski of the WSU Labor Studies Center

This event is sponsored by the Wayne State University Center of Labor Studies,
Poets and Writers, Inc. of New York, NY, and the Wayne State Chapter of the AAUP/AFT Union.

Saturday, October 22, 2011

Registration

8:30- 9:00 a.m., McGregor Lobby

Mexican Labor, Immigrant Labor

9:00-11:00 a.m., McGregor B/C

Chair: Janine Lanza, Wayne State University

Revolution within the Revolution: Cotton Textile Workers and the Mexican Labor Regime, 1910–1923

Jeffrey Bortz, Appalachian State University

Meat of the Factory to Meat of Pleasure": Gendering Labor in Postrevolutionary Orizaba Mexico, 1915-1940

Gregory Swedberg, Manhattanville College

Informal Workers and State Violence in a Mexican City

Sandra Mendiola, University of Alabama, Huntsville

Women in Charge: Shaping Unions and their leaderships

9:00-11:00 a.m., McGregor F/G

Chair and Comment: Nancy Gabin, Purdue University

Women and Union Leadership in the 20th Century

John Hinshaw, Lebanon Valley College

Whores, Bitches, and Shop Floor Mamas: Women and Men at Work at Lordstown, 1972-1992

Gregory Miller, University of Toledo

Postwar Labor Negotiations: Foreign Female Labor Activism, Collective Bargaining, and the Limits of Social Citizenship in Postwar West Germany

Jennifer Miller, Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville

Work in Many Guises

9:00-11:00 a.m., McGregor E

Acting Against the "Other": The New York Draft Riots of 1863 in Labor, Justice, and Immigrant Context.

Timothy Moran, Wayne State University

The Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee (AWOC) Campaign to Terminate the Bracero Program, 1959 -1964

David McGrann, Wayne State University

Who's in Charge? Worker Struggles for Rights in the Workplace and Beyond

11:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m., McGregor B/C

Chair and Comment: Daniel Clark, Oakland University

Postal Workers and the Great Depression: Fighting for the Right to Bargain
Martha Ecker, Ramapo College

*From Pasco, Washington, to Washington, DC: Arthur A. Fletcher and the Quest
for Equal Employment Opportunity, 1965-1969*

David Hamilton Golland, Governors State University

Paternalism and Control: Working at a Hardware Distributor in the Mid-1970s
Jason Russell, Empire State College

Immigrant Workers and the Law: A Panel Discussion

11:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m., McGregor F/G

Participants: Rachel Settlege, Wayne State University
Debra Auerbach Clephane, Vercruyse, Murray & Calzone, PC
Stephanie Little, Farmworkers Legal Services
Eli Maroko, Jaffe, Raitte, Heuer and Weiss, PC

Labor and the Shaping of Space

11:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m., McGregor E

Chair and Comment: Richard Fry, Wayne State University

'We are Utterly Weary of this Project: DART, UAW, and Vest-Pocket Parks in Detroit
Scott Martin, Wayne State University

*Left Behind: White Flight, Deindustrialization and the Origins of Environmental Justice
in 1970s Detroit*

Brandon Ward, Purdue University

*"We're All Going to be Suffering from the Same Thing": Labor, Environmental Politics and the Detroit
Incinerator, 1986-1991*

Joe Rector, Wayne State University

CALL FOR PAPERS

INSURGENCY AND RESISTANCE

The 34th Annual North American Labor History Conference
October 18-20, 2012
Wayne State University
Detroit, Michigan

The Program Committee of the North American Labor History Conference invites proposals for sessions, papers, and roundtables on “Insurgency and Resistance” for our thirty-fourth annual meeting.

Throughout history, workers have engaged in insurgency and resistance from factories to fields, from plantations to plants, from mines to mills, and in cities and in the countryside. Power and authority have been contested on a variety of terrains, both inside and outside of traditional labor structures. More recently, conflicts have erupted in Latin America, the Arab world, southern Europe, China, and across North America.

The program committee encourages submissions from international, comparative, and interdisciplinary perspectives. We welcome the integration of public historians with community and labor activists, using a variety of formats (workshops, roundtable discussions, book talks, and multimedia presentations). We encourage thematic sessions that cross borders, both disciplinary and geographical, especially those dealing with race, gender, class, and empire.

Please submit papers and panel proposals (including a 1 paragraph abstract and a brief vita or biographical statement for all participants) by **March 23, 2012**, to:

Professor Francis Shor, Coordinator
North American Labor History Conference
Department of History
Wayne State University
3094 Faculty Administration Building
Detroit, MI 48202
Phone: 313-577-2525; Fax: 313-577-6987
Email: nalhc@wayne.edu

