

Labor, Law and Justice
30th Annual North American Labor History Conference

NALHC Conference 2008

Thursday October 16, 11:00-1:00

Registration

1. Working Class History, Migration, Immigration Laws, Activist Labor Scholarship: A Chicano/Latino Studies Perspective

Chair, José G. Moreno, Michigan State University

Diónicio Valdés, Michigan State University

Jerry Garcia, Michigan State University

Dylan Miner, Michigan State University

2. Labor and Class Movements

Chair

Tom Klug, Marygrove College

The Working Class vs. the Leisure Class: How Class Influenced the Movement to Defeat the ERA in Post-WWII America

Emily E. LaBarbera Twarog, University of Illinois, Chicago

Looking for a Working Class in the 1950s: Testing the Embourgeoisement Thesis

Robert W. Wallace, McMurry University

George Edwards: The UAW's True Labor Man? The 1949 Detroit Mayoral Election and Working-Class Voters

Elizabeth K. Chamberlain, Central Michigan University

3. The Political Consequences of Wartime Labor

Chair and Comment

Daniel J. Clark, Oakland University

The US Experience

Karen A.J. Miller, Oakland University

Labor Mobilization in the UK

John Martin, DeMontfort University

4. Twentieth-Century Shop Floor Culture

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Chair and Comment

Stephen Meyer, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

Disputes at the Potter's Bench: West Virginia Pottery Workers' Grievance Procedure in the 1950s

Lou Martin, Chatham University

Tobacco Use and Shopfloor Culture at Hammermill Paper Company

Gregory Wood, Frostburg State University

Life on the Lehr: Gender Segregation and Women's Shop Floor Culture in the Glass Industry

Ginny Young, West Virginia University

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LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

MOVIE SHOWING

Made in L.A.

Thursday 2:00-4:00

1. Labor Rights are Civil Rights: Lessons from the Mexican-American Experience

Presenter

Zaragoza Vargas, University of California, Santa Barbara

Moderator and Respondent

Nicole Trujillo-Pagan, Wayne State University

Respondents:

Jorge L. China, Wayne State University

José Cuello, Wayne State University

Francis Shor, Wayne State University

2. Documentary Film Screening

Liverpool Love Lane Refinery Lives

Comment

Ron Noon, John Moores University, Liverpool

Sam Davies, John Moores University, Liverpool

3. Labor, Occupational Health and the Environment

Chair and Comment

Nancy Gabin, Purdue University

Law and Transnational Working Class Activism in the Gilded Age: the Case of Bakery Reform, 1870-1910

Matthew Bewig, University of Florida

Labor Under Threat in America's Coalfields: Miners and the Energy Crisis, 1970 to 1983

Richard Fry, Wayne State University

'The Fight is Not Yet Over: ' USWA Participation in Indiana Dune Preservation in the 1960s

Brittany Bayless, Purdue University

4. Repression and Containment: Workplace Management in the United States and Mexico, 1897-1943

Chair and Comment

Howard R. Stanger, Canisius College

Size Didn't Matter: Activists, Employers and the Open Shop Question, 1897-1917

Chad Pearson, University of Albany, SUNY

Divide and Rule: Mexican Railway Executives Exploit Divisions Among the Rank and File of the Strongest National Union

Robert F. Alegre, Bloomfield College

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5. Calling All Graduate Students!

Research session at Walter P. Reuther Library, Lisa Phillips, Indiana State University

Plenary 4:15-5:45

U.S. Labor, The Anti-Imperialist Moment of 1919, and American Isolationism, Elizabeth McKillen, University of Maine

Conference Reception at the Reuther Library, 6:00-7:00

Friday 9:00-11:00

1. Legal Structures and Labor's Campaigns for Justice

Chair and Comment

Wythe Holt, University of Alabama Law School

Global Social Justice and the International Legal Order: Lessons from American Labor's Experience of Constitutional Laissez Faire

Robin Archer, London School of Economics

Between a Rock and a Hard Place: How Much Work can Charter Do?

Eric Tucker, York University

Spaces of Normativity Between the I.L.O. Legislation and Practice and National Regulations on Employment Contracts

Elena Crumpana, European Commission and Spiru Haret University Law School, Romania

2. Can't Sing, Can't Dance, Can't Write: Laboring in Entertainment during the Blacklist Era

Chair

Gail Malmgreen, Tamiment Library/Wagner Archives, New York University

Millard Lampell from the Almanacs to The Inheritance: A Wordsmith and the Blacklist

Ronald D. Cohen, Indiana University Northwest

Time is Money: Labor, New Dance Group, and Dance as a Weapon

Victoria Phillips Geduld, Columbia University

I Won't Negotiate with the Communist: the Birth, Short Life and Death of the Television Writers of America

K. Kevyne Baar, Tamiment Library/Wagner Archives, New York University

Comment

Daniel J. Leab, Seton Hall University

3. Immigrant Workers: Policies and Practices

Chair and Comment

Elena Herrada, Michigan State University

American Education and Immigration Policy

Blanche Kabengele, University of Cincinnati

The Gospel of Joe

Andres F. Hijar, Northern Illinois University

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4. Workers Represented and Representing Themselves

Chair

Jeffrey Powell, Wayne State University

Twisted Justice, Distorted History: How Big Business Rewrote History in 1913 Michigan

Steve Lehto, University of Detroit, Mercy

Ghostworkers in the Machine

Adam Tompkins, Arizona State University

Employer strategy and industrial relations conflict in meatpacking: How important is multi-plant capacity?

Comparing Hormel, USA (1985-86) and Portland, Australia (1988-89)

Patrick O'Leary, University of New South Wales, Australia

Conference Lunch 11:00-1:00

Introduction: Michael Smith, Walther P. Reuther Library and Archives

The Auto Industry and the UAW, Ron Gettlefinger, President of the UAW

Friday, 1:00-3:00

1. Contract Labor Systems in Europe and the United States

Chair

Janine M. Lanza, Wayne State University

The Statare System: Family Based Contracted Work in Commercial Agriculture in Sweden, 1800-1945

Lars Olsson, Växjö University, Sweden

Contracted Workers into Permanent Settlers - Hungarian Farm Workers in Sweden in the Beginning of the Cold War

Attila Lajos, Växjö University, Sweden

The Labor Movement, the Bracero Program and the Organizational Struggle in Agriculture, 1942-1960

Dionicio Valdés, Michigan State University

2. Coal Communities in Crisis

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Chair and Comment

Kenneth Fones-Wolf, West Virginia University

Defending 'Necessary Evils': Company Towns, Miners' Rights, and Federal Investigation in the 1920s

Rachel Blatch, Widener University

The Conservative Crusade against Organized Labor in the Turnpike Strike, Somerset County, Pennsylvania, 1939-40

Jennifer Egolf, West Virginia University

'Knock the EPA Out!': Environmental Politics and Community Identity in Appalachian Ohio

Allen Dieterich-Ward, Shippensburg University

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3. Politics and Practices in the Auto Industry

Chair and Comment

Lisa Fine, Michigan State University

Reconsidering CIO Political Culture: Briggs Local 212 and the Politics of Local Dissent in the Wartime UAW
Charles Williams, University of Washington

Shop Floor Justice: The Maintenance of Class Solidarity in the Postwar Automobile Factory
Gregory M. Miller, University of Toledo

An Historical Analysis of Iacocca: Lee Iacocca with William Novack
Stephanie A. Martin, University of California, San Diego

4. Workers Fighting for Rights: A Comparative Approach

Chair and Comment

Gregory Swedberg, Manhattanville College

Chicago's Little Steel Strike: The Moral Equivalent of a General Strike
Michael Dennis, Acadia University

The Necessity to Integrate the Disabled in the Productive Sector
Willy Tadjudje, University of Yaounde II – Soa Faculty of Law, Cameroon

The Promise of Protocolism: New York Garment Workers, the Lawrence Textile Strike, and the Coalition between Progressives and Radicals from 1908 to 1914
Jacob Kramer, Borough of Manhattan Community College

Defending their Right to Work: Street Vendors and the Struggle to Make a Living in a Mexican City, 1969-1977
Sandra C. Mendiola, University of Alabama, Huntsville

Friday 3:00-5:00

1. Land Tenure and Marginalization in Latin America and Louisiana

Chair

Michael Mizell-Nelson, University of New Orleans

The Evolution of Land Tenure & Ownership Law in Louisiana, Chile and Ecuador
Margaret M. Mahoney, University of Chile/American University

The Real and Imagined: Land Tenure Among Chile and Louisiana's Disenfranchised in Times of Crisis
Janie Simms Hipp, United States Department of Agriculture

River Rats: Working Class Squatter Communities in 19th and 20th Century New Orleans
Michael Mizell-Nelson, University of New Orleans

Immigrant Labor Strife and Solidarity in Post-Katrina New Orleans
Leo B. Gorman, University of New Orleans

Comment

William Quigley, Loyola University

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2. Race and Civil Rights: Evolution over Time

Chair

Aaron Retish, Wayne State University

"All Men Are Entitled to Justice by the Government": Race, Rights, and the State during World War I

Paul Michel Taillon, University of Auckland, New Zealand

'The Latest Comers into Industry: 'Theorizing the 'Negro Woman Worker' during the Great Depression

Keona Katrice Ervin, Washington University in Saint Louis

From the Fight to Overcome to the Fight for Freedom

Thomas S. Darragh, Central Michigan University

Michael Novak, White Ethnicity, and Changing Concepts of Justice in 1970s America

Richard Moss, Purdue University

3. Teachers' Unions: A Reading from Richard Kahlenberg's *Tough Liberal: Albert Shanker and the Battles Over Schools, Unions, Race, and Democracy*

Chair

Daniel Golodner, Wayne State University

Richard Kahlenberg, Century Foundation Senior Fellow

4. Roundtable on Jane LaTour's *Sisters in the Brotherhoods: Working Women Organizing for Equality in New York City*

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Discussants

Lisa Phillips, Indiana State University

Elaine Crawford, IBEW Local 58

Michelle Fecteau, AAUP Wayne State University Chapter

Nancy Gabin, Purdue University

Comment

Jane Latour, District Council 37

Plenary 5:15-6:30

Josie's Story: Looking for History in Some Very Small Places, Kevin Boyle, The Ohio State University

Conference dinner 6:45-7:45

Labor Poets Featuring Marge Pierce 7:45...

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Saturday 9:00-11:00

1. Labor's Struggle for Political and Civil Rights

Chair and Comment

David Goldberg, Wayne State University

Legal Challenges to Labor Rule: Gateshead Council between the Wars

Sam Davies, Liverpool John Moores University

Civil Liberties and Labor Disputes: the Case of the CAW

Brandi L. Lucier, University of Windsor

A Call for 'Justice' rather than 'Protection: The UAW's Legal Strategy Against Multinational Corporations

Michael J. Murphy, Stony Brook University

2. The Turning Point for U.S. Labor: Class, Culture, and Corruption in Post-WWII America

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Chair and Comment

Joe McCartin, Georgetown University

The Racketeer Menace and Anti-Unionism in the Mid-Twentieth Century U.S

David Witwer, Pennsylvania State University, Harrisburg

Bringing God to the Shopfloor: The Industrial Chaplain Movement in Postwar America

Elizabeth and Kenneth Fones-Wolf, West Virginia University

Ordinary (GI) Joes: Veterans and the Fate of Working-Class Americanism

James T. Sparrow, University of Chicago

3. Work, Freedom, and the Justice System

Chair and Comment

Lisa Phillips, Indiana State University

Was the Haymarket Trial Fair? A Reexamination in the Context of Contemporary Legal Standards and Practices

Timothy Messer-Kruse, Bowling Green State University

'A Most Notorious Thief': Theft and Worker Pilferage from Charleston's Antebellum Wharves

Michael D. Thompson, Emory University

LUNCH 11:30-1:00

Labor and Presidential Politics, David Bonior, former member of Congress, professor Wayne State University

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Saturday 1:00-3:00

PLENARY SESSION

Thirty Years and Counting: Labor, Scholarship, Activism, and the Future

Christopher Johnson, Wayne State University

Geoff Eley, University of Michigan

Elizabeth Faue, Wayne State University

Janine Lanza, Wayne State University