

Labour Movements Research Committee (RC 44)

<http://www.socsci.mcmaster.ca/globallabour/>

ISA Sweden Updates

Edited by: Robyn Magalit Rodriguez,
Rutgers University

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Editorial

The Barcelona Conference July 2010

By Rob Lambert,
RC44 President

The purpose of this newsletter is to put you fully in the picture regarding RC44's program at the July Congress of ISA. Dan Clawson has worked intensely over the past six months to organize the fourteen sessions which are reproduced in the newsletter. Dan's remarkable commitment to this venture reflects the spirit which has made RC44 such a vibrant network for over the years we have succeeded in involving labour scholars from across the globe (see Dan's summary of the range of participants) who are engaged in research on labour movements and the changing nature of work. Whilst RC44 reflects a healthy diversity of views, approaches and issues, I think it is fair to say we share common values in response to the predicament of working people under free market globalization.

Apart from the program, the newsletter highlights three other important issues. First, we hope participants will be able to stay in the same hotel to promote as sense of community as in the past. Second, we are currently formulating a one day workshop on Sunday 11th July which will create a forum for debate on critical issues facing the labour movement: free trade and investment and work restructuring; the global financial crisis and climate change. We will keep you fully briefed on this event in the coming months, so please make sure you arrive in Sweden before Sunday 11th. Third, we urge you to

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Spain

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E-mail: isa@cps.ucm.es; <http://www.ucm.es/info/isa>

check your membership status to ensure that participants are paid up members of both ISA and RC44. Our program in its present form is only possible if we have a paid up membership base. **This needs to be done before January 31st.**

Between now and the Congress we will use the newsletter as a vehicle of communication. Look forward to seeing you in July.

Rob Lambert

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Dan Clawson,
RC44 Vice-president

We have over 100 authors from 23 different countries, including China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, South Africa, Nigeria, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Germany, France, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Czech Republic, and of course Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States.

The sessions look terrific, and we have an embarrassment of riches. We've made it a priority to guarantee plenty of time for discussion: By rule, panel presentations may not take more than one hour, leaving 50 minutes for audience participation. The officers decided that, important as papers and presentations are, interchange and discussion are equally important; although we can trade papers through email and the web, only rarely do we bring together such a wide range for group discussion.

The unfortunate consequence of that is that for some panels not all the papers listed will actually be presented. **All** papers and abstracts will be listed equally in all official International Sociology Association materials, and all papers and abstracts will appear on our own conference website (<http://people.umass.edu/clawson/>). People who don't have the opportunity to present their own papers - I'm one of those people - will be the first people called on during the discussion period. Each non-presenting author will be offered up to three minutes to comment on one or more of the presented

papers, explaining how their own paper relates to and informs the presented papers.

The RC-44 conference website is my own semi-primitive construction, but it does try to list all the relevant info, including the minimal session listings (session date-time, author, title, email) contained in this newsletter, and a full set of abstracts. That web site is <http://people.umass.edu/clawson/>. In general, session time slots are 10.45-12.45, 15.30-17.30, 17.45-19.45 each day; you get a two-and-a-half hour lunch break. Session 1 is on Monday at 15.30, and then we count up our session numbers to session 14 on Friday at 17.45-19.45. But also plan to arrive for our off-program labor-action event on Sunday 11 July.

Are there going to be glitches and errors in the listed program? You bet. If you see an error, or have any other issue to raise, please be in touch with me, Dan Clawson, clawson@sadri.umass.edu, since I am the over-all conference organizer. (For some but not all issues you may also want to copy your session organizer.) We'll try to get things straightened out before July in Gothenburg if we can. **The more people join RC-44, the more people we can include in the program.**

Dan Clawson,

University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA

MEMBERSHIP

Register for ISA and RC44 membership online at: http://www.isa-sociology.org/memb_i/index.htm

FUNDING

In the United States, the American Sociological Association reports that the National Science Foundation is providing grants (to some, not all) to cover the cost of plane fare to Sweden, providing the person flies on a US airline. For more information, go to <http://www.asanet.org/funding/isa.cfm>

HOTEL

Our recommended hotel for RC44 member is the Scandic Rubinen:

<http://www.scandichotels.com/Hotels/Countries/Sweden/Gothenburg/Hotels/Scandic-Rubinen/>

Another slightly more inexpensive option (yet still close to the conference venue) is the Scandic Crown:

<http://www.scandichotels.com/en/Hotels/Countries/Sweden/Gothenburg/Hotels/Scandic-Crown/>

Other options: The ISA lists hostels and B&Bs that are a bit far from the conference venue and are more inexpensive but it does not list their contact information. We have provided them for you here. Note prices are in SEK. 1.00 SEK=0.141255 USD; 1 USD = 7.07941 SEK.

Annes Hus: approx. Sgl 950 Dbl 1390;

<http://www.annes-hus.o.se>

Aprikosen B & B: approx. Sgl 500 Dbl 750;

<http://www.aprikosenbab.se/>

City Lägenhetshotel: approx. Sgl 350 Dbl 450 NB! No breakfast included; Call: +46 (0)8 600 5111, fax: +46 (0)8 39 3852

Dalagårde Vandrarhem: approx. Sgl 335 Dbl 495; <http://www.st-jorgen.nu/en/>

Göteborgs Vandrarhem: approx. Sgl/Dbl 550 NB! No breakfast included;

<http://www.goteborgsvandrarhem.se/en>

Göteborgs Mini-hotel: approx. Sgl 450 Dbl 600 NB! No breakfast included;

<http://www.minihotel.se/engelska/sidor/index/index1.html> (Note: this hotel had a special page on handicapped accessibility)

Kvibergs Vandrarhem: approx. Sgl/Dbl 475-690 NB! No breakfast included;

<http://www.vandrarhem.com/content>

Hotell Kusten: approx. Sgl 530 Dbl 750;

<http://www10.goteborg.se/hotellkusten/Hotell%20Kusten%20engelsk/engelsk.html>

(Note: this hotel's website says that it can accommodate the handicapped)

Hotell Ljungbacken: approx. Sgl 882 Dbl 995;

<http://www.hotelljungbacken.se/english/home-index-english.html>

Vandrarhemmet Linné: approx. Sgl 380 Dbl 440 NB! No breakfast included;

<http://www.linnehostel.com/>

Masthuggsterrassens Vandrarhem : approx.

Sgl/Dbl 480 NB! No breakfast included;

<http://www.mastenvandrarhem.com/home.html?lang=2> (Note: this hotel's website says that it can accommodate the handicapped)

Nice B & B: approx. Sgl 425 Dbl 525 SEE:

http://www.hotelnice.se/en_index.htm

(Note: this hotel's website says that it can accommodate the handicapped)

Slottsskogens Vandrarhem: approx. Sgl 345

Dbl 480 NB! No breakfast included;

<http://www.slottsskogenvh.se/english/index.htm>

Stigbergslidens Vandrarhem: approx.

Sgl/Dbl 500 NB! No breakfast included;

<http://www.hostel-gothenburg.com/>

St Jörgens Pensionat: approx. Sgl 690 Dbl 790;

<http://www.st-jorgen.nu/en/>

RC-44: SESSIONS FOR ISA MEETINGS IN GOTHENBURG, SWEDEN, 11-17 JULY, 2010.

*** These are the dates and times we have requested from the ISA; they are not yet guaranteed to be the actual dates-times. ***

For a complete listing, including abstracts for all papers, please go to

<http://people.umass.edu/clawson/>

Session 1: PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY OF LABOR, Monday 12 July, 15.30-17.30

Organizer: Michael Burawoy, University of California, Berkeley, USA.

burawoy@berkeley.edu

Fractured Relationships - New Beginnings?: Social Science and the British Working Class

Huy Beynon, Cardiff University

beynonh@Cardiff.ac.uk

New Subjects of Labor: Philippine Labor Sociology and the Migrant Worker

Robyn Magalit Rodriguez, Rutgers

University robynmr@rci.rutgers.edu

Experiences of the Labor Movement and the Origin of the Sociology of the Work in Mexico -- A Biographical Approach
Enrique de la Garza Toledo, Metropolitan Autonomous University, Mexico City
egt@xanum.uam.mx

An Anatomy of 'Collective Anti-Collectivism': Labour Sociology in Ukraine and Romania
Mihai Varga, University of Amsterdam
M.Varga@uva.nl

Session 2: PRECARIOUS LABOR, Monday 12 July 17.45-19.45

Organizer and Chair: Ching Kwan Lee (UCLA, USA) ckle@soc.ucla.edu

1. Angela Maria Carneiro Araujo, (State University of Campinas, Brazil)
angelamcaraujo@hotmail.com
"New configurations of Labour: informality, cooperative work and gender"

2. Emmanuel Abiodun Fayankinnu, Adekunle Ajasin (University Akungba Akoko Nigeria), yahdammy@yahoo.com
"Organized Labor's Response to Causalization in the Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry"

3. Anders Neergaard (Linköping University, Sweden) Anders.Neergaard@isv.liu.se
"Trade Union Strategies, migration and informal labour in Turkey, South Africa and Sweden"

4. Kevan Harris (Johns Hopkins University, USA) kevan@jhu.edu
"The End of Iran's Revolutionary Social Compact? Informal Labor and the Politics of State Subsidies in the Islamic Republic"

5. Pun Ngai (Hong Kong Polytechnic University, China) punngai@gmail.com
"Legal Activism or Class Action? The political economy of 'no boss' and 'no labor relationship' in China's construction industry and the nature of collective struggles"

6. Gretchen Purser (UC Davis, USA) gpurser@berkeley.edu
"Broke and Brokered in the Day Labor Business"

7. Anna Romina Guevarra (University of Illinois, Chicago) guevarra@uic.edu
"You have to beat them in their own game": Filipino Immigrant Caregivers and the Informalization of the Home Care Work Industry in Southern California"

8. Khayaat Fakier (University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa) khayaat.fakier@wits.ac.za
"Class and Social Reproduction in Migrant Households in a South African community"

9. Franco Barchiesi (Ohio State University USA) barchiesi.1@osu.edu
"South Africa in the Age of Jacob Zuma: Precarious Employment, Contested Citizenship, and the Politics of Workers' Melancholia"

Session 3: EUROPEAN LABOUR: STRATEGIC RESPONSES TO GLOBALISATION AND EUROPEAN INTEGRATION, Tuesday 13 July 10.45-12.45

Organizers: Rebecca Gumbrell-McCormick, Birkbeck, University of London/UK (r.gumbrell-mccormick@bbk.ac.uk)
Richard Hyman, London School of Economics/UK (r.hyman@lse.ac.uk)/United Kingdom

Marcos Ancelovici, Department of Sociology, McGill University
marcos.ancelovici@mcgill.ca
The Formation of Labour Responses to Globalization in France: A Comparative Study of the CFDT and the CGT

Abby Peterson, Mattias Wahlström and Magnus Wennerhag, Dept of Sociology, University of Gothenburg
Abby.Peterson@sociology.gu.se
Swedish Trade Unionism: A Renewed Social Movement?

Jane Hardy, Business School, University of Hertfordshire
j.a.hardy@herts.ac.uk
Challenges for Cross Border Collaboration in Recession: The Case of Polish and UK Trade Unions

Dimitris Stevis, Department of Political Science, Colorado State University
dimitris.stevis@colostate.edu

International Framework Agreements:
Diffusing or Globalizing European Industrial
Relations?

Kristina Lovén, Department of Sociology,
Gothenburg University.
Kristina.Loven@sociology.gu.se
Can the Unions within the EU Cooperate?

Rob Lambert and Mike Gillan, University of
Western Australia
rlambert@biz.uwa.edu.au
Mobilising Space: The Politics of Corporate
Restructuring in Europe

Stefania Marino, Department of Welfare and
Labour Studies, University of Milan
stefania.marino@unimi.it
Trade Union Representation of Migrant
Workers. A Comparison between the Dutch
and Italian Cases

Marcus Engler, Institut für
Sozialwissenschaften Humboldt-Universität
zu Berlin
marcus.engler@cmb.hu-berlin.de
How does Transnational Solidarity emerge?
A case study of the trade union narratives,
actions and networks at the European
planemaker Airbus in times of restructuring

Andranik Tangian, WSI, Hans-Böckler-
Stiftung
andranik-tangian@boeckler.de
Towards Computer-Aided Collective
Bargaining

Elise Roullaud, Laboratoire d'Etudes Rurales,
University of Lyon 2.
eliseroullaud@gmail.com
Agricultural policy Europeanization and
union strategies changes: the Confédération
Paysanne's coalitions network

Rebecca Gumbrell-McCormick (Birkbeck
College) and Richard Hyman (LSE)
r.gumbrell-mccormick@bbk.ac.uk
The Crisis of Capitalism: A Missed
Opportunity for European Trade Unions?

Session 4: LABOR MOVEMENTS IN ASIA, Tuesday 13 July 15.30-17.30

Session organizer: Byoung-Hoon Lee,
Chung-Ang University, Korea
(bhlee@cau.ac.kr)

Getting Through the Hard Times Together?
Worker Insurgency and Chinese Unions'
Response to the Economic Crisis
Eli Friedman, Dept of Sociology, University
of California, Berkeley, USA
elidf@berkeley.edu

The Silence of Chinese Labour
Dr. Chun-Yi Lee, The Modern East Asia
Research Centre (MEARC), University of
Leiden, the Netherlands, P.O. Box 9515, 2300
RA Leiden, The Netherlands
c.lee@hum.leidenuniv.nl

Challenging Gender and Non-regular Work
in Korea:
Case Study of Women's Long-term Struggle
in Supermarket Companies.
Young, Kim. Pusan National University,
Department of Sociology,
borninsurge@pusan.ac.kr

Terrorism, trade and trade unions: Worker
struggles in the global South
Janaka Biyanwila, University of Western
Australia, janaka@biz.uwa.edu.au

Strengthened Social Partnership under
Economic Crisis? Limits of the 'Social Pact for
Job-Sharing' in South Korea
Myung Joon Park, Institute of Korea Studies/
Free University Berlin mj.park@fu-berlin.de

Session 5. STRUCTURES AND STRATEGIES IN THE EMERGING GLOBAL LABOR MOVEMENT, Tuesday 13 July 17.45-19.45

Session organizer and moderator: Peter
Evans, University of California Berkeley,
USA (pevans@berkeley.edu)

1. TRANSNATIONAL SOLIDARITY, LABOUR MOVEMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL "FREE TRADE."

Andreas Bieler, University of
Nottingham/UK

Andreas.Bieler@nottingham.ac.uk

Bruno Ciccaglione, Global Labour
Strategies bruno.ciccaglione@alice.it

John Hilary, War on Want

2. UNPACKING TRANSNATIONAL ACTIVIST NETWORKS: ANTI-SWEATSHOP CAMPAIGNS IN THE US-CARIBBEAN BASIN APPAREL INDUSTRY (1990-2008) César Rodrigue-Garavito

University of the Andes
cerogara@gmail.com

3. HARDER SOFT LAW: THE SOCIALLY
REGULATED MODEL OF
TRANSNATIONAL LABOR STANDARDS
Anna Wetterberg
RTI International, Research Triangle Park
a_wetterberg@hotmail.com

4. BUSINESS UNIONISM AND SOCIAL
MOVEMENT UNIONISM IN SÃO PAULO,
BRAZIL: THE BATTLE FOR WORKER
SOLIDARITY IN THE TELEMARKETING
INDUSTRY
Ruy Braga (University of São Paulo)
ruy.braga@uol.com.br
David Flores (University of Michigan).
Fábio P. M. Silva (University
of São Paulo). Vitor C. Vaneti
(University of São Paulo).

5. THE STATE AND TRANSNATIONAL
LABOR MOVEMENTS: THE CASE OF
SEWA IN INDIA
Rina Agarwala
Johns Hopkins University
agarwala@jhu.edu

**Session 6: NEO-LIBERALISM AND ITS
VULNERABILITIES, Wednesday 14 July
10.45-12.45**

Session organizer: Rick Fantasia, Smith
College/USA (rfantasi@smith.edu)

1) Lu Zhang, Post-doctoral Fellow, Research
Center for Chinese Politics and Business,
Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405.
Email: zhanglu@indiana.ed

Paper title: "Flexibilization of Labor,
Countermovement, and Changing State-
Labor-Capital Relations: Evidence from
China's Automobile Industry"

2) Belinda Leach, Professor of Anthropology,
University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario,
Canada.
bleach@uoguelph.ca
and
Charlotte A.B. Yates, Professor of Labour
Studies and Political Science, McMaster
University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.
yatesch@mcmaster.ca

"Solidarity Revisited: situating working class
solidarity in the interstices of work, home
and community"

3) Emmanuel Abiodun Fayankinnu,
Department of Sociology, Adejunle Ajasin
University, Akungba-Akoko, Ondo State,
Nigeria.
yahdammy@yahoo.com

"Neo-Liberal Reforms and Organised
Labour's Responses in Ghana and Nigeria"

4) Jeffrey J. Sallaz, Department of Sociology,
University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ
jsallaz@email.arizona.edu

"New Social Movements and Neoliberalism:
The Two-Faces of Employment Equity"

5) Marcos Ancelovici, Department of
Sociology, McGill University, Montreal,
Canada
marcos.ancelovici@mcgill.ca
"Field Overlap and the Dynamic of
Antisweatshop Campaigns: The Case of the
Clean Clothes Campaign in France"

6) Rob Lambert, Winthrop Professor,
Business School, University of Western
Australia
rlambert@biz.uwa.edu.au
"The Impacts of the Global Financial Crisis &
Trade Union Response"

**Session 7: WOMEN AND UNION
REVITALIZATION, Wednesday 14 July
15.30-17.30**

Organized by Charlotte Yates, Dean of Social
Sciences, McMaster University
(yatesch@mcmaster.ca)

"Understanding the variations of the "glass
ceiling" within and across unions: the
heuristic interest of a "union career"
methodology"

Guillaume Cécile, Université de Lille 1,
France, cecile.guillaume@univ-lille1.fr, and
Pochic Sophie, CMH-CNRS, France,
Sophie.Pochic@ens.fr

"Outsourced Hospital Cleaners and Dietary
Aids: Fighting the Deleterious Consequences
of Privatization and Contracting Out for
Visible Minority Immigrant Women in British
Columbia"

Dan Zuberi, University of British Columbia,
Vancouver B.C. CANADA
daniyal.zuberi@ubc.ca

“Women’s activism and trade union renewal
in a new capitalist economy: the case of
Poland”

Adam Mrozowicki mrozowicki@gmail.com
and Marta Trawinska,
trawinska.marta@gmail.com Institute of
Sociology, University of Wroclaw, Poland

“The Critical Importance of Gender
Conscientization in Union Revitalization:
Lessons from Mexico”

Rachel Brickner, Acadia University, Canada,
rachel.brickner@acadiu.ca

Labour organizing, globalization and women
workers in maquiladoras: the cases of
Matamoros, Mexico and San Marcos in El
Salvador”

Edme Dominguez, University of Goteborg,
SWEDEN, edme.dominguez@gu.se

“Gendering Labour Militancy and the
Lessons for Union Renewal”

Linda Briskin, York University, Canada,
lbriskin@yorku.ca

“Women driving struggles over the working
day”

Dan Clawson, Naomi Gerstel, and Jillian
Crocker, University of Massachusetts
Amherst, USA, clawson@sadri.umass.edu,
gerstel@sadri.umass.edu,
jillian.crocker@gmail.com

“Women and Union Revitalization in Brazil”
Walter Pichler, Fundação de Economia e
Estatística Siegfried Emanuel Heuser (FEE),
Brazil

walter@fee.tche.br

**Session 8: RETHINKING SOCIAL
MOVEMENT UNIONISM FROM THE
PERIPHERY: COMPARATIVE DILEMMAS
AND PROSPECTS, Wednesday 14 July
17.45-19.45**

Co-organizers:

Jennifer Chun, University of British
Columbia, Canada,
jjchun@interchange.ubc.ca
Karl Von Holdt, University of
Witswatersand, South Africa,
karl@yeoville.org.za

1. Social movement unionism in the context
of democratization

Gay Seidman, University of Wisconsin,
Madison, US, seidman@ssc.wisc.edu

2. New ways of “social movement unionism”
in Brazil?

José Ricardo Ramalho, Federal University of
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil,
jricardoramalho@uol.com.br

3. Rethinking Contentious Labour Politics in
Post-Authoritarian South Africa and South
Korea

Jennifer Chun, University of British
Columbia, Canada,
jjchun@interchange.ubc.ca

Karl Von Holdt, University of
Witswatersand, South Africa,
karl@yeoville.org.za

4. Whither Social Movement Unionism?

Kim Voss, University of California, Berkeley ,
kimvoss@berkeley.edu

5. Theoretical Confusion in the Labor
Movement: Disentangling “Social Movement
Unionism” from “Social Justice Unionism”
Kim Scipes, Purdue University North
Central, US, kscipes@pnc.edu*

6. Social Movement Unionism in Japan from
a Comparative Perspective

Akira Suzuki, Ohara Institute for Social
Research, Hosei University, Japan,
insmove@hosei.ac.jp

7. Beyond state and citizenship: workers’
politics in the neo-liberal era

Manjusha Nair, Rutgers University,
nairmanjusha@gmail.com

8. Integrating ‘the Movement of the
Marginalised Labour Force’ into ‘Social
Movement Unionism’ Approach

Ercüment Celik, University of Freiburg,
Germany, ercumentcelik@gmail.com*

* Not presenting paper.

**Session 9. THE GLOBALIZATION OF
GUEST WORKER PROGRAMS:
UNDERSTANDING THEIR
RESURGENCE AND CRITIQUING THEIR
CONSEQUENCES FOR LABOR, Thursday
15 July 10.45-12.45**

Session Co-organizers:

Robyn Rodriguez, Rutgers University/USA
(robynmrodriguez@optonline.net)
Hsia Hsiao-Chuan, Shih Hsin
University/Taiwan

ASIA:

Wayne Palmer
wayne.palmer@usyd.edu.au
Bilateral Labour Agreements and Migrant
Worker Rights: A Critical Assessment of the
Agreements that Govern Indonesian Labour
Migration to Malaysia

E. EUROPE (CZECH REPUB)

Marek Čaněk
PhD candidate at the Department of Political
Science, Charles University, Czech Republic
marek_canek@yahoo.com
The competition state and the expansion of
the guest-worker programs: the case of the
Czech Republic

Short- and long-range labor migrations in
state-socialist Central Europe
Alena Alamgir, Rutgers University,
akalamgir@gmail.com

CANADA

Mark Thomas is Associate Professor of
Sociology at York University.
Email: mpthomas@yorku.ca
Minimum Standards and "Reliable Workers":
Labor Rights in Canada's Temporary Foreign
Worker Programs

Globalizing guestworker programs in an era
of neoliberal immigration
Aziz Choudry, Department of Integrated
Studies in Education, McGill University
aziz.choudry@mcgill.ca

**Session 10 (RC44): ORGANIZING ACROSS
THE FORMAL-INFORMAL DIVIDE,
Thursday 15 July 15.30-17.30**

Convener: Ilda Lindell, The Nordic Africa
Institute and Stockholm University, Sweden.
Emails: ilda.lindell@nai.uu.se;
ilda.lindell@humangeo.su.se

Organizing labour in the informal economy:
forms of organization and relationships
Chris Bonner and Dave Spooner

Trade Unions and the political representation
of unorganised sector workers in India
Michael Gillan

Organising the Informal Sector: the case of
Mozambique. Pauline Dibben

(Note: papers by Dibben and Gillan will be
merged into one presentation)

Class trouble - On organizing informal
workers in Nicaragua. Julia Loge

Reconstructing the Political: Mall committees
and South African precarious retail workers.
Bridget Kenny

Decent work: Organising across the formal-
informal divide in Nigeria and Ghana.
Gunilla Andrae and Björn Beckman

Making communities work? The politics of
casualisation in Delft, Cape Town.* Marianne
Millstein and David Jordhus-Lier

Working across formal/informal sector
divide. Women in agricultural production:
two case studies.* Susie Jacobs

Beyond organizing, toward collective
identity: trade union representation of
precarious workers in Korean auto
companies.* Aelim Yun

**Session 11: BUSINESS SESSION, Thursday
15 July 17.45-19.45**

We will discuss all RC-44 issues, elect new
officers and a new council, consider the
direction of RC-44 for the future, assess the
program to that point, think about ways to
remain connected going forward, and make
announcements or offer thoughts about
publications, journals, conferences, events,
teaching strategies, defending ourselves
against administrators and the outside world,
the relation of theory to practice, and
whatever else it might be.

**Session 12: LABOUR AND THE
ENVIRONMENT, Friday 16 July 10.45-12.45**

Session organizer: Jacklyn Cock, University of Witwatersrand, South Africa
(jacklyn.cock@wits.ac.za)

1. Labour-environment coalition building
Presenters: (a) Joanna Robinson (University of British Columbia, Canada) 'Mobilizing Against Water Privatization: a comparative analysis of labour-environment coalitions in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada and Stockton, California, USA'

(b) Daisy Rooks (University of Montana) 'Negotiating the Rural Landscape: Community Benefits, Agreements and Labor/Environment Coalitions in Small Town America'

2. Transnational issues

Presenters: (a) Gay Seidman (University of Wisconsin, USA) 'Transnational challenges: what can labor activists learn from environmental campaigns and vice versa?'

(b) Nora Rathzel (Umea University, Sweden) and David Uzzell (University of Surrey, UK) 'Trade Unions facing the dual challenge of globalising work division and globalising environmental degradation'

3. Green jobs

Presenters: Caleb Goods (PhD student at Curtin University of Technology, Western Australia) 'Fusing Labour and the Environment: the 'Green Jobs' solution'
(b) Andrew Bennie (PhD student University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa) 'The ecological and social impacts of mining and implications for the labour movement: a case study of Xolobeni, South Africa'.

4. Abstract accepted but not presenting:

(a) Hwa-Jen Lieu (PhD student, National Taiwan University) 'Mirrored Trajectories of Labour and Environmental Movements: The cases of Taiwan and South Korea'
(b) David Peetz (Griffith University, Australia) 'Union Activism and Climate Change Action'

(c) Dimitris Stevis (Colorado State University, USA) 'Greening nationalism? US Labour Unions and the Environment'

(d) Rob Lambert (University of Western Australia) and Jacklyn Cock (University of the Witwatersrand, S.A) 'Globalising local resistance: case studies of Arcelor and SIGTUR'

Session 13: LABOR GEOGRAPHIES, Friday 16 July 15.30-17.30

Session organizer: Jamie Peck, University of British Columbia, Canada
(Jamie.peck@ubc.ca)

1 Jane Wills, Queen Mary, University of London (j.wills@qmul.ac.uk)
Citizenship, low waged workers and alternative geographies of organisation

2 Christian Berndt, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt (c.berndt@em.uni-frankfurt.de)
The mobilization and displacement of labor in the network economy

3 Tod Rutherford, Syracuse University (trutherf@maxwell.syr.edu)
Towards a Comparative Labour Geography

4 Bradon Ellem, University of Sydney (b.ellem@econ.usyd.edu.au)
Labour, Geography and Labour Geography: Where Next?

5 Jamie Peck, University of British Columbia (jamie.peck@ubc.ca)
Elliot Siemiatycki, University of British Columbia (esiemiat@interchange.ubc.ca)
Nik Theodore, University of Illinois at Chicago (theodore@uic.edu)
Labor geographies at work: retrospect and prospect

6 Mark Thomas, York University (mpthomas@yorku.ca)
Global Unions and Local Labor: A Case Study of the ITF Labor Rights Strategy in the International Shipping Industry

7 Sonia M K Guimaraes, UFRGS (00004627@ufrgs.br)
Globalization, Transnational Enterprises and Global Unionism

Session 14: INNOVATIVE ORGANISING RESPONSES TO TEMPORARY MIGRANT WORKERS, Friday 16 July 17.45-19.45

Session organizer: Donella Caspersz, UWA Business School, University of Western Australia, 35 Crawley Rd, Nedlands, WA, 6009 (dcasperm@biz.uwa.edu.au)

1. Immigration in Portugal – New Challenges for the Trade Unions. Is there a link between

flexible work and needs for immigrant labour?

Marina Kolarova, School of Economics and Management, Tecnical University of Lisbon
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2. Guglielmo Meardi, University of Warwick, United Kingdom,
Guglielmo.Meardi@wbs.ac.uk
Worker(s) movement and crisis: unions, migrants and posted workers in the construction sectors' turmoil in UK and Spain, 2008-10

3. Trade Union Organizing Determination – What are the drivers?
Nana Wesley Hansen & Jens Arnholtz Hansen, University of Copenhagen, Denmark, NHa@faos.dk and jh@faos.dk

4. Organising migrant workers: competing strategies and divergent outcomes.
Steve French, Keele University, United Kingdom, s.r.french@hrm.keele.ac.uk

5. GUF Strategies on Temporary Labour Migration at the Regional Level in Southeast Asia
Michele Ford, Email:
Michele.Ford@usyd.edu.au

6. Engaging transnationality: the internationalisation of the building and construction industry's workforce and challenging of organising
Stuart Rosewarne, Department of Political Economy, The University of Sydney, Australia, stuart.rosewarne@arts.usyd.edu.au

7. Temporary Labour Migration in Australia and Union Response: The case study of Long Stay Visa (subclass 457) in Australia
Donella Caspersz, University of Western Australia, dcasperz@biz.uwa.edu.au

8. Temporary Migration, Transnational Politics? The politics of temporary migration in Australia
Nicole Oke, Deakin University, Australia, nicole.oke@deakin.edu.au

LABOR IN CHINA

By Chun-Yi Lee

In the thirty years since Deng Xiaoping's 'Open Door Policy' of 1978, China has become the largest recipient of foreign capital, and a large part of China's trading activity is with the rest of the world. The implication of this open door policy on Chinese workers can be seen in the 1988 Coastal Development Strategy, which was laid out by Zhao Ziyang. The Coastal Development Strategy not only expanded those existing liberalizing policies of welcoming Foreign Direct Investment to the entire coast, but also introduced a new developmental strategy: China would begin to use its comparative advantage to attract labour-intensive manufacturing. In this way, China would begin to compete in the global market place as a new location for the inexpensive manufacturing of exports. Since 2008 January 1, China has implemented the new labour contract law, this implementation triggered a rather complicated employer-labour relationship. The new labour contract law has been regarded to protect labour rather than employers. Scholars and researchers have recommended that this is the most complete regulation to protect labours' right in the world. Therefore it should be a merit for Chinese government to promulgate this law. It can be seen that the implementation of new labour contract caused many investors' to increase human capital. Furthermore, in the second half of 2008, whole global economy experienced the worst recession. These developments did not help Chinese labours, due to the higher wage and poorer economy, most investors disregarded the new labour contract and hired illegal labours to work. Therefore, Chinese labours although have already had a protective law, their had even worse situation than before.

Under this circumstance, a question probably could be raised: where is the Chinese trade union which can represent the rights of Chinese labours? In the developed world, in facing mass lay-offs, strong, active trade unions should be the best negotiators to represent workers in front of government. Nevertheless, the All China Federation of

Trade Unions (ACFTU) has no means to respond, nor had it the ideological underpinning to do so.

The ACFTU was inaugurated in 1953 and is the largest federation of trade unions in China, but it is a semi-official organisation. The criticism of the ACFTU is that it is affiliated to the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). Many studies have shown the impotence of the ACFTU in representing Chinese workers. According to Judy Howell, the problem for the ACFTU is twofold: first, it is not clear whom the ACFTU should represent, the workers or the party; second, it is not clear how the ACFTU should represent such a differentiated and diffuse workforce as that in China.¹ Not only did the semi-official structure of the ACFTU weaken its voice in front of the state; the 1989 Tiananmen crackdown further undermined its potential for acting as an independent trade union. According to Anita Chan, the consequence of the 1989 Tiananmen massacre was that the state tightened its control on any organized union, including the ACFTU, thus undercutting the union's traditional base in the state enterprises.² She argued that the national political leadership increasingly accepted privatisation, for instance the SOEs reform in the mid-1990s, flexibility of labour and integration with the global market, the pursuit of economic development instead of equality. The ACFTU under strong pressure from the government gradually accepted this reality, while lower-level trade union cadres had no concept of activist trade unionism. Securing their own survival instead of protecting workers' interests therefore prevailed in the understanding of the ACFTU officials.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GLOBAL LABOUR JOURNAL

¹ Jude Howell, 'Trade Union in China: Sinking or Swimming?' *Communist Studies and Transition Politics*, (March 2003), 19(1), pp.103~122.

² Anita Chan, 'Realities and Possibilities for Chinese Trade Unions', in Craig Phelan ed., *The Future of Organised Labour*, Peter Lang, Germany, p. 288.



Global Labour Journal, is an open access, fully peer reviewed online journal launched in January 2010. It serves as a forum to capture the plentiful and diverse scholarly work emerging on labour activities worldwide and highlight the ways that labour activities are increasingly shaped by global forces. We accept submissions from a wide variety of disciplines.

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Current Issue: Volume 1, Issue 1 (2010)

Special Issue on Globalization(s) and Labour in China and India, guest edited by Paul Bowles and John Harriss

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Migrants for Export: How the Philippine State Brokers Labor to the World

By Robyn Magalit Rodriguez

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In a visit to the United States in 2003, Philippine president Gloria Macapagal Arroyo even referred to herself as not only the head of state but also “the CEO of a global Philippine enterprise of eight million Filipinos who live and work abroad.”

Robyn Magalit Rodriguez investigates how and why the Philippine government transformed itself into what she calls a labor brokerage state, which actively prepares, mobilizes, and regulates its citizens for migrant work abroad. Filipino men and women fill a range of jobs around the globe, including domestic work, construction, and engineering, and they have even worked in the Middle East to support U.S. military operations. At the same time, the state redefines nationalism to normalize its citizens to migration while fostering their ties to the Philippines. Those who leave the country to work and send their wages to their families at home are treated as new national heroes.

Drawing on ethnographic research of the Philippine government's migration bureaucracy, interviews, and archival work, Rodriguez presents a new analysis of

neoliberal globalization and its consequences for nation-state formation.

REQUEST FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please send announcements for conferences, calls for papers, job postings, information on newly published books and articles and etc. to rrodriguez@sociology.rutgers.edu.

Conferences

**LaborComm 2010
International Labor and Communication
Conference
May 3rd-4th 2010,
Ankara, TURKEY**

**As a part of
The Fifth International Labor Film &
Video Festival***

Labor communication academics and activists will come together during the International Labor and Communication Conference as a part of the Fifth International Labor Film Festival on the 3rd and 4th of May 2010, in Ankara, Turkey.



Call for Papers

The global crisis of capitalism is taking a grim toll on working people and the labor movement. Is labor condemned to misery and poverty or can it organize an effective response and go on the offensive?

Organized or not, when labor takes on the role of an expression of dissent or social resistance to a global crisis, it demands attention.

LaborComm 2010 aims to assess the impact of the global economic crisis on working people and the labor movement, and also to investigate the way in which acts of

resistance use new media. It will strive to interrogate emerging models of communication and to provoke innovative debates about the mechanisms for empowering resistance in the labor movement. LaborComm hopes to expose both the roots and deadlocks of the resistance with creative thinking and debate.

Possible topics include (but are not limited to):

- The political economy of communication
- Labor/worker issues in the media
- Theories of intellectual labor
- Labor processes in the media/telecommunication/information industries
- New communication technology at workplaces
- The impact of the global crisis on the working conditions of the ICT workers
- Comparing the cross-cultural experiences of ICT use
- The alternative uses of ICTs in labor communication
- Organizing labor in communication industries
- Strengthening the resistance and the use of ICTs
- Labor activism in the world
- Profiling the initiatives and organizations using media technology and responding to the crisis in radical and innovative ways

Time Schedule:

January 31 2010: Deadline to submit abstracts. Abstracts (max. 500 words) should be sent to info@laborcomm.org

February 15 2010: Results of the selection process.

April 15 2010: Presenters submit their completed papers. Complete papers should be sent to info@laborcomm.org

The event will be streamed live and all sessions will be available for viewing over the internet

Conference Secretary:

Funda Başaran, Faculty of Communication, Ankara University

Gamze Yücesan-Özdemir, Faculty of Communication, Ankara University

The main Call For Papers and information about other conference arrangements are on the Conference Website at www.laborcomm.org

(*)The **Istanbul International Labor Film Festival** has been held between May 1st and May 9th since 2006. The festival is organized by the Turkish Medical Association, Halkevleri and 7 labor unions from the largest 3 labor confederations. It

screens labor films in the largest 15 cities in Turkey. This year the festival will be held between May 1st and May 9th, 2010, where 50 films from 25 countries will be screened. Many producers from several countries will participate in the event. For more information please visit: <http://festival.sendika.org/>



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