

Program for 2011 Conference

June 22-25

University of Illinois-Chicago Student Center East

750 S. Halsted Street

3rd floor Conference Center

Chicago, Illinois



Welcome

**Conference Theme:
Working-Class Organization and Power**

Opening Wednesday afternoon with registration, followed by a reception and keynote event, the 2011 WCSA conference will feature more than 70 panels and workshops, more than 200 presenters, as well as after-lunch plenaries, a banquet, and special events.

Wednesday, June 22

Registration	3-8 pm
Reception	6:30 – 7:30 pm
Keynote event:	7:30 – 9:00

***It Started in Wisconsin:
Labor Unity and the Prospects
for a New Labor Upsurge***

The recently formed **Labor & Working-Class Studies Project** at the University of Wisconsin is organizing a plenary session for us that will reflect on what the ongoing struggle of public-sector workers in Wisconsin augurs for the possibility of a larger offensive upsurge in the American labor movement. Speakers include:

Jack Bernfeld, AFSCME Local 40 / **Will Jones**, historian, U. of Wisconsin-Madison / **Sarah Lloyd**, dairy farmer and President of Columbia County Farmers Union / **Adrienne Pagac**, U. of Wisconsin Teaching Assistants Association / **Jacque Pokorney**, SEIU Healthcare Wisconsin / **Tonieh Williams** of I Love My Public Schools (Milwaukee) / **J. Eric Cobb**, Building Trades Council of South Central Wisconsin

Thursday, June 23
8 - 8:45 Continental Breakfast
A Sessions 8:45 – 10:00 am

A1 Chicana/o Studies Counter Hegemonic and Working-Class Political Voices in the Academy **White Oak B**

Chair: Jose Moreno, Michigan State U.
Dylan Miner, Michigan State U.
Luis Moreno, Michigan State U.
Ernesto Morales, Michigan State U.

A2 Visualizing Work, Class and Place: A Roundtable Discussion of “631,” A Video by Derrick Jones **Cardinal**

Chair: John Russo, Labor Studies, Youngstown State U.
David Roediger, History, U. of Illinois
Carrie Breitbach, Geography, Chicago State U.
Kathy Newman, Cultural Studies, Carnegie Mellon U.
Derrick Jones, filmmaker, Bowling Green State U.

A3 Creating, Advising and Maintaining 1st Generation Student Groups **Ft. Dearborn B**

Chair: Bettina Spencer, Psychology, St. Mary’s College, Notre Dame
Dwight Lang, Sociology, U. of Michigan
Jason Kosnoski, Political Science, U. of Michigan-Flint

A4 The Professionalization of Social Change **Illinois C**

Chair: Angela MacWhinnie, Lead Organizer, SEIU Local 503, Oregon
Betsy Leonard-Wright, Class Action & Sociology, Boston College, “Diversity Ironies: How Middle-Class Cultural Styles of Diversity Work Can Marginalize the Marginalized”
Janine Giordano Drake, History, U. of Illinois, “Coding Welfare Capitalism & Christian Brotherhood: John D. Rockefeller & Workplace Control, 1919-29”

A5 What Can Theory Tell Us Today? Looking Back on Two Authors **White Oak A**

Chair: Liesl Orenic, Chicago Working-Class Studies
Clare Callahan, English, Duke U., “Hannah Arendt and Working-Class Studies, or Bringing Politics Back In”
Philip L. Picha, Independent Scholar, “Lean Capitalism and The Society of Spectacle: What Can Guy DeBord Teach Us in 2011?”

A6 Union Strength through Education and Diversity: The Case of IBEW Local 134 **Illinois A**

Chair: Frank Cunningham, Recording Secretary, IBEW 134
Joey Govea, IBEW 134 Examining Board, and co-founder of Organizing Hispanics Making Strides
Tony Griffin, business agent, IBEW 134, co-founder of Jump Start program
Geri Harston, principal of a Chicago charter school sponsored by Chicago Building Trades
Maurice King, assistant director, IBEW 134 Electrical Joint Apprenticeship Training Trust, co-founder of Jump Start
Denise Sabo, former apprentice training instructor, IBEW 134
All participants are graduates of or current students at the National Labor College of the AFL-CIO

Thursday, June 23 B Sessions 10:30 – 11:45 am

B1 What Do You Mean the Working Class Is Over? A Roundtable on Jefferson Cowie's *Stayin' Alive: The 1970s and the Last Days of the Working Class* Ft. Dearborn B

Chair: Liesl Orenic, American Studies, Dominican University
Will Jones, History, U. of Wisconsin-Madison
Tim Strangleman, Sociology, U. of Kent, UK
Kathy Newman, Cultural Studies, Carnegie Mellon University
Jefferson Cowie, History, Cornell U.

B2 Public Sector Unions: Experiences of Struggle & Crisis

Chair: David Greene, Psychology, Ramapo College **White Oak A**
Charles Cunningham, English, Eastern Michigan U., "Campus Organizing In and Beyond the Faculty Union"
Peter S. McInnis, History, St. Francis Xavier U., Canada, "Delivering Solidarity: North American Postal Workers and the Wildcat Strike"
Chris Hurl, Sociology, Carleton U., Canada, "From Scavengers to Sanitation Workers: A Social History of Garbage Strikes in Toronto"

B3 Craven Images: Anti-Working Class Depictions in American Film, Television and Crime Stories White Oak B

Chair: Nick Coles, English, U. of Pittsburgh
Timothy Sheard, author, Lenny Moss Mysteries, "Crime Novels and Class Inequality"
Leo Parascondola, William Paterson U., "Reflection/Change: How Film Noir Turns Bertold Brecht Upside Down"
James Phillips, English, Kingsborough Community College, "Consumerism and Inversions of the Working-Class Family on Early Television Sitcoms"

B4 Politics, Schooling and Reform Illinois A

Chair: James Thindwa, Chicago ACTS, AFT/IFT
Clifford Donn, Anthropology, and Brenda Kirby, Psychology, LeMoyne College, "Attitudes about Teacher Labor Unions and Collective Bargaining: Education, Age, Family Union Experience & Region Effects in a National Sample"
William Watkins, Education, U. of Illinois-Chicago, "Protesting Corporate School Reform"

B5 The Working Class in the Food Chain Cardinal

Chair: Christie Launius, Women's Studies, U. of Wisconsin-Oshkosh
Joseph B. Atkins, Journalism, U. of Mississippi, "An Under-the-Radar Labor Movement Taking Root in the Nation's Poorest Region"
Sarah Lowry, American Studies, Youngstown State U., "Green is 'Good': An Exploration in Class and Coffee"
Glenda Drew, Visual Communication, U. of California Davis, "Turning the Tables: Video profiles of Food Servers"

B6 Urban Issues and Working-Class Life Illinois C

Chair: Winifred Curran, Geography, DePaul U.
Stephanie Farmer, Sociology, Roosevelt University, and Sean Noonan, Sociology, Harper College, "Crisis Politics and the Closing of the Transportation Commons"
Matthew Nelson, Geography, Carleton U., Canada, "Labour Geography and Unionized Responses to the 2010 Vancouver Olympics"
Jeffrey Helgeson, History, Texas State U.-San Marcos, "The State of Blame in American Cities: Class, Race, and the History of Urban Development"

LUNCH BREAK: 11:45 – 1:15pm

Meet-and-Greet meeting of graduate students in 2nd floor Inner Circle food court. Partially free lunch!

1:15 – 2:15pm PLENARY: Intersections of Food, Justice and Class Illinois A

Jose Oliva, Policy Coordinator of Restaurant Opportunities Centers United, and board of directors, Food Chain Workers Alliance
Daniel Tucker, author of *Farm Together Now - A portrait of people, places and ideas for a new food movement*
Sheelah Muhammad, co-founder of Fresh Moves Mobile Produce Market
Moderator: **Terri Johnson**, VP of Public Policy & Advocacy, Jane Addams Hull House Association

Thursday, June 23
C Sessions 2:30 – 3:45 pm

C1 Publishing Work/Working Class **White Oak A**

Chair: John Beck, Labor Education, Michigan State U.
John Crawford, West End Press
Tim Sheard, Hard Ball Books
Laurie Matheson, U. of Illinois Press

C2 Working-Class Students: Challenge, Reflection & Transformation **Ft. Dearborn B**

Chair: Paul Mishler, Labor Studies, Indiana U. South Bend, "From 'Students Who Have to Work' to 'Workers Who Go to College': The Explosive Power Contained in a Simple Change of Words"
Anthony Lamb, Student, Indiana U. South Bend, "Can University Education and Working-Class Consciousness and Identity Co-Exist?"
Maureen Pickar, Student, Indiana U. South Bend, "Crafting a Political Identity as a Worker Student/Student Worker"
Gerrie Casey, Labor Studies, Indiana U. Northwest, "From Frantz Fanon to Bill Cosby: Rupturing Shame & Challenging the Cult of 'Personal Accountability' among African American and Latino Working-Class Students"
William Mello, Labor Studies, Indiana U. Kokomo, "Lessons from Brazil for Indiana Worker-Students: Infusing New Models and Ideas into Midwest Consciousness and Action"

C3 Crumbling Cultures: Deindustrialization, Class and the Absence of Work **Cardinal**

Chair: Christie Launius, Women's Studies, U. of Wisconsin-Oshkosh
Tim Strangleman, Sociology, U. of Kent, UK, "History, Heritage or Coffee Table Nostalgia?: The Role and Meaning of Deindustrial Photography"
James Rhodes, Sociology, U. of Manchester, UK, "Youngstown 'Ghost': Kelly Pavlik, Nostalgia, and Uses of the Industrial Past"
Sherry Linkon, American Studies, Youngstown State U., "Navigating Past and Present in the Deindustrial Landscape: Contemporary Writers on Detroit and Youngstown"

C4 Unions in Food **Illinois A**

Chair: Carrie Breitbach, Geography, Chicago State U.
Harry Targ, Political Science, Purdue U., "Herb March and Vicky Starr: Chicago Organizers of the United Packinghouse Workers of America (UPWA-CIO)"
Caroline Luce, History, UCLA, "The Jewish Bakers Union and Food Culture in 1920s Los Angeles"
J.J. Morris, History, U. of California Irvine, "United Cannery Workers Union and CPUSA"

C5 Class in the Classroom: Labor Education **White Oak B**

Chair: Emily LaBarbera Twarog, Labor Education, U. of Illinois
Sharon Szymanski, Political Economy, and Richard Wells, Labor Studies, Van Arsdale Ctr. For Labor Studies, "Labor Education: The Trade Union's Public Sphere"
Ben Tagg, History, Michigan State University, "Union Semester: A Practical Education for Today's Labor Movement"

C6 Working-Class Culture, Music and Performance **Illinois C**

Chair: William Scott, English, U. of Pittsburgh
Michele Fazio, English & Theatre, U. of North Carolina at Pembroke, "Beyond the Dust Bowl: Considering Woody Guthrie's Other Ballads"
William Evans, Independent Scholar, "The Minstrel Show Heritage and Working-Class Solidarity"
Lew Caccia Jr., English, Youngstown State U., "Rethinking Representations of Work and Workers"

Thursday, June 23

SPECIAL EVENT:

Reception and program at *The Working-Class Eye of Milton Rogovin* photography exhibit,
Roosevelt University's Gage Gallery, 18 S. Michigan Avenue

Buses will leave the UIC Conference Center at 4:00 and 4:45 to take people to the Gage Gallery.
You can also take the CTA Blue Line from the UIC-Halsted stop to Monroe (3 blocks west of Michigan).

Reception with food and drink: 4:30 – 5:30 pm

Program: 5:30 – 7:00 pm

Introduction: "Rogovin in American History" by Erik Gellman,
History, Roosevelt U., and co-curator of the exhibit

"What Is a Working-Class Eye?" a talk by Janet Zandy,
Professor of English at Rochester Institute of Technology and
author of *Hands: Physical Labor, Class, and Cultural Work*

Added feature:

"**WI Rise Up**," an exhibition of posters and photographs from the ongoing battles in neighboring Wisconsin, is opening this night with a party from 7 to 10 pm. It's in the building that houses the bi-weekly magazine *In These Times*, and is just a short ride on the CTA Blue Line from downtown or the conference center. The Blue Line has a stop at Monroe and Dearborn (just 3 blocks west of the Gage Gallery). Get off at the "**Western**" stop, go north on Western to Milwaukee Avenue, turn left and find the *Art at In These Times* gallery at **2040 N. Milwaukee**. It's a lively area, with many good restaurants and bars. For more, see the "Visiting Chicago" pages on the conference web site.

Friday, June 24
8 — 8:45 Continental Breakfast
A Sessions 8:45 – 10 am

A1 Roundtable on Robert Bruno's *Justified by Work: Identity and the Meaning of Faith in Chicago's Working-Class Churches* **White Oak A**

Rev. C.J. Hawking, Executive Director, Arise Chicago, and Minister of Social Justice, Euclid Avenue Methodist Church
Father Larry Dowling, Pastor, St. Agatha Parish
Rabbi Brant Rosen, Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation
A Muslim Imam to be announced
Robert Bruno, Labor and Employment Relations, U. of Illinois

A2 Higher Education & the Digital Divide: Helping Working-Class Students Navigate New Media & Online Learning **Illinois C**

Chair: Steven Ashby, Labor Education, U. of Illinois
Sherry Linkon, American Studies, Youngstown State U.
Jane Van Galen, Education, U. of Washington Bothell
Larry Hanley, English, San Francisco State U.

A3 Working-Class Heritage and Place **Cardinal**

Chair: John Beck, Labor Studies, Michigan State U.
Davina DesRoches, Sociology, Queen's University, "Changing Cityscapes, Museums, and the Representation of Working-Class Heritage"
Joel Woller, History, Carlow University, "Contested Ground or Junkyard of History: The Homestead Pumphouse as a Place of Memory"
Christine J. Walley, Anthropology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, "Through Working-Class Eyes: The History of Southeast Chicago"

A4 Critical Approaches to American Working-Class Literature **Ft. Dearborn B**

Chair: Michelle M. Tokarczyk, English, Goucher College
Sylvia Cook, English, U. of Missouri Columbia, "Respectability, Refinement, and the Underclass: Uncle Tom's Cabin and Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl"
Michele Fazio, English, U. of North Carolina at Pembroke, "Homeless in Seattle: Class Violence in Sherman Alexie's Indian Killer"
Nick Coles, English, U. of Pittsburgh, "[Un]teaching the Anthology: Pedagogy vs. Canon in Working-Class Literature"
Tim Libretti, English, Northeastern Illinois U., "Henry Roth's Re-Imagination of Class Consciousness through the National Subject from Call It Sleep to the Mercy of a Rude Stream Novels."

A5 New Workplaces, New Workers **Illinois A**

Chair: Betsy Leondar-Wright, Class Action
Gregory Young, U. of Buffalo, "'Turking', Working and the KGB: Get Rich Quick Online Work and the Challenges of Agency"
Jeffrey Kidder, Sociology, Northern Illinois U., "Exploitation and Alienation: Using the Bike Messenger Subculture to Rethink Oppression"
Jesse Drew, Technocultural Studies, U. of California Davis, "Creative Resistance in the Brave New Workplace"

A6 Workers and Literature **White Oak B**

Chair: William Scott, English, U. of Pittsburgh
Lew Rosenbaum, Independent Scholar, "Viewing the Working Class Through the Lens of Tragedy and Heroism"
K. Veitch, Literature, U. of Sussex, UK, "'Builders of a New Culture': The Poetry of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union"
Alicia D. Williamson, English, U. of Pittsburgh, "Sexual Logics of Industrial Organization in Progressive-Era Socialist Novels"

B1 Autobiography and Identity

White Oak B

Chair: Cherie Rankin, English, Heartland Community College
David Greene, Psychology, Ramapo College, "Maintaining a Working-Class Identity through 34 Years in Academe: And Where Did It Get Me?"
Margaret Costello, Master Electrician, "Working-Class Spiritual Life: A Reading"

B2 Roundtable on Black Power at Work: Community Control, Affirmative Action, and the Construction Industry, edited by David Goldberg and Trevor Griffey

Ft. Dearborn B

Chair: Clarence Lang, History and African-American Studies, U. of Illinois
Erik Gellman, History, Roosevelt U.
Paul King, Chicago businessman and original member of the Coalition for United Community Action
David Goldberg, History, Wayne State U.

B3 Community Organizing and the Metropolis: Power Building for Regional Equity

Cardinal

Chairs: David Walls, Sociology, Sonoma State U., and Martin Bennett, History, Santa Rosa Junior College
Ana Garcia Ashley, Executive Director, Gamaliel Foundation
Amy Dean, co-author, *The New New Deal: How Regional Activism Will Reshape the American Labor Movement*
Judy Hertz, Executive Director, Midwest Academy

B4 Using Arts & Culture as a Tool in Working Class Education

White Oak A

Facilitated by Darryl Moch, Executive Director, Labor Heritage Foundation
With Joan Sekler, filmmaker, *Locked Out*

B5 Global Workers, Unions, & Culture: Three National Experiences

Monarch

Chair: Peter Rachleff, History, Macalester College
Funmi Adewumi, Industrial Relations, Osun State U., Nigeria, "Beyond Opportunism: Rethinking Organized Labour's Engagement with the Political Process in Nigeria"
Jonathan Sale, U. of Philippines, and Arlene Bool, Informatics International College, "Philippine Labor Market Governance: Shifting Methods from Command to Collaboration Unraveled"
Peter Love, Politics, Swinburne U. of Technology, Australia, "Trade Union and Working-Class Culture in Australia"

B6 Industrial Communities: Decline and Post-Decline

Illinois C

Chair: Winifred Curran, Geography, DePaul U.
Geoffrey Skoll, Buffalo State U., "Riverwest: A Neighborhood Ethnography (Milwaukee)"
Tom Juravich, Labor Studies, U. of Massachusetts-Amherst, "Skill and Memory in the Closing of Nichols and Stone"
Reuben Roth, Sociology, Laurentian U., Canada, "Ten Hard Truths: Canada's Auto Industry in Crisis"

B7 Class in the Classroom: Teaching Working Class

Illinois A

Chair: Michele Fazio, English, North Carolina at Pembroke
Pamela Richardson, English, U. of North Carolina at Charlotte, "Exploring Self, Class, and 'the Other' in Working-Class Students' Writing"
Jessica Livingston, Film, Literature, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, "The Problem of Evenhandedness: Teaching a Working-Class Text to a Middle-Class Audience"
Lisa Oppenheim, Chicago Metro History Education Center, "Discovering Class History Through Student Inquiry Projects"

LUNCH BREAK: 11:45 – 1:15

Business meeting of the Working-Class Studies Association Membership in Cardinal.

1:15 – 2:15pm PLENARY: HARD TIMES POETRY SLAM

Illinois A

Marc Smith, poet and founder of the granddaddy of poetry slams, the Green Mill
Kimberley Dixon, poet and executive director of the Guild Complex
Toni Asante Lightfoot, poet and educator with Young Chicago Authors and its teen slams
Moderator: **Low Rosenbaum**, Chicago Labor & Arts Festival

Friday, June 24

C Sessions 2:30 – 3:45 pm Friday

C1 Buckling Down versus Blossoming: Counseling Poverty and Working-Class Children **Illinois A**

Chair: Cherie Rankin, English, Heartland Community College
A conversation between Barbara Jensen, a community and counseling psychologist in Minneapolis with 22 years' experience working in schools with students aged 14 to 21, and Fisher Lavell, a school counselor in Canada for 15 years, with a specialty in aboriginal students and their communities.

C2 The Impacts of the 2010 Election and Economic Crisis on the Working Class **White Oak A**

Chair: Carl Davidson, National Field Organizer, Committees of Correspondence for Democracy and Socialism (CCDS)
Beryl Fitzpatrick, social work professional, political activist
Carolyn McCrady, IVY Tech Community College
Mel Rothenberg, U. of Chicago, Chicago Political Economy Group

C3 Learning from History to Build Working-Class Organization and Power **White Oak B**

Chair: Angela MacWhinnie, Lead Organizer, SEIU Local 503, Oregon
Joe Burns, Labor Attorney and Activist, Twin Cities, "What History Can Teach Us about the Role of Strikes"
Peter Rachleff, History, Macalester College, "What History Can Teach Us about the Union's Presence in the Workplace"
Dana Cloud, Communications, U. of Texas, "We Are the Union': Dispatches from the Loyal Opposition in the Machinists at Boeing."

C4 Class in the Classroom: The Experience of Working-Class Graduate Students **Cardinal**

Chair: Betsy Leondar-Wright, Sociology, Boston College
Sara Appel, Literature, Duke U., and Debbie Warnock, Sociology, Skidmore College, "Learning the Unwritten Rules: Working Class Students in Graduate School"
Kim Palmore, Professional Development, U. of California Riverside, "Nurturing the SEED: Mentoring Working-Class Graduate Students"

C5 Working-Class Organization & Power: A View from the 1950s **Illinois C**

Chair: Jefferson Cowie, History, Cornell U.
Stephen Patnode, History, Farmingdale State College, "He Could Shift for Himself — At Least So He Said': Masculinity & Union Organizing in the 1950s"
Kathy Newman, English, Carnegie Mellon U., "Striking Images: A New Look at Labor Power in the 1950s"

C6 Belonging and Solidarity **Monarch**

Chair: Tim Strangleman, Sociology, U. of Kent, UK
Joseph Entin, English, Brooklyn College, "We Are the Planet': Migration, Solidarity, and Contemporary Working-Class Fiction"
Lisa Mckenzie, Sociology, U. of Nottingham, UK, "Belonging and Exclusion: Council Estate Life in the United Kingdom"
Kette Thomas, Diverse Studies, Michigan Technological U., "John Henry and the Noble Peasant: On the conflict of virtuous identity for immigrant peasants and their American working-class sons and daughters."

C7 WCSA Award Winners Talk about Their Work Ft. Dearborn

Chair: Fred Gardaphe, President, WCSA
Jarod Roll, *Spirit of Rebellion: Labor and Religion in the New Cotton South*
Heath W. Carter, "Scab Ministers, Striking Saints: Christianity and Class Conflict in 1894 Chicago"
Jeanne Bryner, *No Matter How Many Windows: Poems*

Friday, June 24
D Sessions 4:15 – 5:30 pm

D1 Is the working-class majority still “America’s Best Kept Secret”?
A Roundtable on the new edition of Michael Zweig’s The Working-Class Majority **Ft. Dearborn B**

Chair: Jack Metzgar, Chicago Center for Working-Class Studies
Michael Zweig, Economics, State U. of New York at Stony Brook
Janet Zandy, English, Rochester Institute of Technology
John Russo, Center for Working-Class Studies, Youngstown State U.
Betsy Leondar-Wright, Sociology, Boston College, and Class Action
Christie Launius, Women’s Studies, U. of Wisconsin-Oshkosh
Sara Appel, English, Duke U.

D2 Union/Community Coalitions **White Oak A**

Chair: Paul Mishler, Labor Studies, Indiana U. South Bend
Ryan S. Pettengill, History, Mountain View College, “Coalition of Conscience: Unionism, Community Protest, and Civil Rights in Working-Class Detroit, 1960-1967”
Brian Leech, History, U. of Wisconsin-Madison, “Power, Protest, and the Pit: How Unions and Residents Fought Expansion of the Berkeley Pit Copper Mine in Butte, Montana, 1955-1970”
Liesl Orenic, History, Dominican U., “Teamsters 743: The ‘Left Wing of the Mafia’?”

D3 Working-Class Writers Reading **White Oak B**

Chair: Michelle Tokarczyk, English, Goucher College
Lita A. Kurth, Independent Writer, “Fiction about Workers, Fiction by Workers: A Creative Reading”
Joan Clingan, Humanities & Sustainability Education, Prescott College, “Sunnyslope—A Working-Class Novel: Otherwise Known As You Can’t Get Here from There”
Barbara Presnell, English, U. of North Carolina at Charlotte, “Readings from Piece Work & related play”
E.R. Carlin, Independent Scholar, “Readings from Union Down”

D4 Striking in Early 20th Century U.S. **Cardinal**

Chair: John Beck, Labor Studies, Michigan State U.
Micalée Sullivan, History, Michigan State U., “3,000 Men, Mostly Foreigners’: The 1903 Clifton-Morenci Strike and the Struggle for Citizenship Rights”
Gary Jones, American International College, “‘No Fear, No Favor’: The Pennsylvania Department of State Police and Labor in the McKees Rocks and Bethlehem Steel Strikes, 1909-10”
Anthony DeStefanis, History, Otterbein College, “The Road to Ludlow: Breaking the 1913-14 Southern Colorado Coal Strike”

D5 Working-Class Communities, the Environment & Politics **Illinois C**

Chair: Gerrie Casey, Labor Studies, Indiana U. Northwest
Amanda Gray, American Studies, U. of Texas, “Creative Dispossession: Youth Expressive Culture in Opposition to Environmental and Social Injustice Afflicting Working-Class Communities of Color in East Austin”
James V. Catano, English & Film, Louisiana State U., “Media vs. Self-Representation: Louisiana Fishermen’s Associations and the BP Oil Spill”
Gary Hicks, Independent scholar, poet, “In the 3rd year of the Obama presidency: Where have we been? What do we know? What have we learned?”

D6 Pedagogical Potentials and Pitfalls at a Working-Class University **Illinois A**

Chair: Sherry Linkon, English, Youngstown State U.
Terri Pantuso, English & English Education, Governors State U.
Chelsea Haring, Political Science, Governors State U.
Jason Zingsheim, Communication Studies, Governors State U.

Friday, June 24

Reception 5:30 – 6:30 pm (Cash Bar)

Conference Banquet 6:30 – 8:00 pm

The Illinois Rooms

Speaker: Roberta Lynch, co-author of classic *Rusted Dreams: Hard Times in a Steel Community*, now Deputy Director of Illinois AFSCME

*Dinner

*WCSA 2011 awards

WCSA Award Winners

Jarod Roll, *Spirit of Rebellion: Labor and Religion in the New Cotton South*
Heath W. Carter, "Scab Ministers, Striking Saints: Christianity and Class Conflict in 1894 Chicago"
Jeanne Bryner, *No Matter How Many Windows: Poems*
Chris Hedges and Joe Sacco, "City of Ruins"

Saturday June 25

8 - 8:45 am Continental Breakfast

9am – noon Labor Trail history tour

Bus will depart from & return to 750 S. Halsted
(Pre-registration required, \$20 fee)

A Sessions 8:45 – 10 am

A1 Intersections, boundaries, crossings: Marxist perspectives on local, national, and international politics Ft. Dearborn B

Chair: Joel Wendland, Editor, *Political Affairs Magazine*
Joe Sims, Publisher, *Political Affairs.net*, “International Perspectives on the Global Economic Crisis”
Owen Williamson, U. of Texas at El Paso, “Working Classes Along the U.S. Mexico Border”
Anna Bates, Empire State College, “Privatization and Higher Education”

A2 Exploring How Access to Education and Safe, Affordable Energy Contribute to Creating a More Just Workplace

Illinois C

Chair: Anne Marie Lofaso, West Virginia U. College of Law
Michael C. Duff, U. of Wyoming College of Law
Kendra Huard Fershee, U. of North Dakota School of Law
Joshua Fershee, U. of North Dakota School of Law

A3 The Working Class and Building for a 21st Century Socialism

Cardinal

Chair: Harry Targ, Political Science, Purdue U.
Carl Davidson, National Organizer, Committees of Correspondence for Democracy and Socialism (CCDS)
Paul Krehbiel, President, United Union Representatives of Los Angeles
Jerry Harris, History, DeVry University, Chicago

A4 19th Century Working-Class History Illinois A

Chair: Erik Gellman, Chicago Working-Class Studies
Robert Zecker, History, St. Francis Xavier U., Canada, “They Roamed All Over Fixing Things’: The Tinkers of Slovakia Discover Class consciousness”
Jean-Philip Mathieu, History, U. of Quebec at Montreal, “We Must Have Bread or Blood’: The Quebec City Public Works Strike of 1878”
Amparo Sanchez Cobos, U. of Windsor, Canada, “Cuban Transnational Anarchism after Independence: The Spanish Networks”

A5 The Working Class in the Shadow of War White Oak A

Chair: Michael Zweig, Economics, State U. of New York at Stony Brook
Irene Garza, American Studies, U. of Texas, “No Soy El Army’: Project YANO, Guerrero Azteca and the Future of Counter Recruitment for Latina/o Youth”
Emma Hilborn, History, and Fredrik Egefur, History, Lund U., Sweden, “The anti-militaristic ‘hero’: Visions of war and resistance in the Swedish young socialist movement at the beginning of the 20th century”
Theodore Rose, Anthropology, U. of Chicago, “Uses of the Working Class in the New War Economies”

A6 Immigration Issues: Politics and Policy White Oak B

Chair: John Russo, Center for Working-Class Studies, Youngstown State U.
Michael Hale, American Cultural Studies, Bowling Green State U., “The Long March toward Immigration Reform in the United States”
Charles E. Ganley, Attorney, Pennsylvania Bar Institute, “Worker Justice: Workplace Rights and the Undocumented Worker”

Saturday June 25 B Sessions 10:30 – 11:45 am

B1 Class and Culture in the Language Classroom: Adult Learners, Diverse Cultures and the Global Economy

Chair: Barbara Jensen, counseling psychologist, Minneapolis **White Oak B**
Brett Griffiths, English and Education, U. of Michigan, "Comp Teachers at Community Colleges in the Industrial Midwest"
Christie Toth, English and Education, U. of Michigan, "Institutional Models from North America's Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities"
Will Hutchinson, English and Education, U. of Michigan, "On For-Profit Language Schools Serving Immigrants in Dublin, Ireland"

B2 The Fight for Democratic Unions – 1970s/2010s

Ft. Dearborn

Co-Chairs: Cal Winslow, ed, of *Rebel Rank and File: Labor Militancy & Revolt from Below in the Long 1970s* and Steve Early, author of *Civil Wars in U. S. Labor*
Peggy Coyne, President, Madison Teachers Inc.
Ed Sadlowski, former director, United Steelworkers District 31
Mike Hamlin, founder, Dodge Revolutionary Union Movement (DRUM)
Gina Alvarez, former Secretary, Teamsters Local 743
Ed Sadlowski Jr., staff representative, Wisconsin Council 40, AFSCME
Sal Rosselli, Interim President, National Union of Healthcare Workers

B3 Architecture and Class: Building Working Class in Chicago

Chair: David Greene, Psychology, Ramapo College **Illinois C**
John D. Cramer, Architecture, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, "Health Factories & Palaces of Pleasure: Bowling, Billiards, and the Chicago 'Rec', 1898-1929"
Joseph C. Bigott, History, Purdue U. Calumet, "Class and the Comprehensive High School in Metropolitan Chicago: How Architectural Design and School Politics Transformed Working-Class Adolescent Life, 1920 to 1945"
Commentator: Ann Keating, History, North Central College

B4 Working-Class Literature: The 1930s in the U.S.

Chair: Nick Coles, English, U. of Pittsburgh **White Oak A**
Cinzia Biagiotti, American Literature, U. of Pisa, Italy, "'Who's to care about 'em if we don't? Who?': A Contemporary Reading of 'Not You I Weep For' and *Yonnondio* by Tillie Olsen"
Timothy Robbins, English, U. of Iowa, "Apostrophe and the Subject of Revolution in *Jews without Money*: Has New Formalism 'Nothing to Do with Life and Work'?"
William Scott, English, U. of Pittsburgh, "Power at the Point of Production: Robert Cantwell's *The Land of Plenty* (1934)"

B5 20th Century Working-Class History **Illinois A**

Chair: Emily Rosenberg, Labor Education, DePaul U.
Brigid O'Farrell, Independent Scholar, "Book Talk: *She Was One of Us: Eleanor Roosevelt & the American Worker*"
Rachel A. Batch, History, Widener U., "Organizing for Justice at Home and Abroad: Croatian-Americans, Transnationalism, and Political Action in Depression and War"

B6 The Working Class in Film **Cardinal**

Chair: Sherry Linkon, Working-Class Studies, Youngstown State U.
Sarah Atfield, Cultural Studies, University of Technology-Sydney, Australia, "After Loach: The Working-Class Aesthetic in the Films of Andrea Arnold and Shane Meadows"
Cherie Rankin, English, Heartland Community College, "Repulsion and Recognition: Reading and Reacting to the Working-Class Family in *The Fighter*"
Elizabeth Thompson, Folklore Studies, U. of North Carolina, "Salt of the Earth: A Film in the Battle of Ideas"

LUNCH BREAK: 11:45am – 1:15pm

1:15 – 2:15pm PLENARY **Illinois A**

Corporatizing Schools: How Dollar-Driven Reform Threatens Public Education & What the Chicago Teachers Union is Doing to Fight Back

David Welker, assistant director of strategic campaigns, American Federation of Teachers **Jackson Potter**, Chief of Staff, Chicago Teachers Union

Kate Osler, teacher, Chicago Math & Science Academy, a public charter school

Moderator: **James Thindwa**, Civic Engagement Coordinator, Chicago Alliance of Charter Teachers and Staff, AFT/IFT

Saturday June 25

C Sessions 2:30 – 3:45 pm

C1 Negotiating Class and Politics in 20th Century Britain

Chair: Tim Strangleman, Sociology, U. of Kent, UK **Ft. Dearborn B**
Dan Ritschel, Politics, Durham U., UK, "Socialist Realism: The Short Life of Left-wing Economic Revisionism in the 1920s"
Gidon Cohen, Politics, Durham U., UK, "Organizing the Victory of Ideals: Grassroots Politics and Working-Class Life in Britain, 1945-74"
Keith Gildart, Labor & Social History, U. of Wolverhampton, UK, "'Socialists preach of a promised land. But Uncle Son was an Ordinary Man': Ray Davies, The Kinks, and Working-Class Culture, 1965-71"
Matthew Worley, History, U. of Reading, UK, "Shot by Both Sides: Punk, Politics, and the End of Consensus in Britain, 1976-84"

C2 Get Your Move On! The Relationship between Social Movement and the Effectiveness of Organizing **White Oak A**

Chair: Lauren Cumbia, Leadership Development Coordinator, SEIU Local 1
Daniel Horowitz Garcia, Georgia State U., "In and Out: Evaluating the Strategy of the National Domestic Workers Union During and After Social Movements"
Chris Sloan, Public History, Georgia State U., "The Immigrant Struggles from Mobilization to Movement"
Kenneth Boas, English, U. of Pittsburgh, "Rage, Irrationality, and Working-Class Potential"

C3 Breaking the Heartland: Class Fragmentations and Re-Formations in the Midwest **White Oak B**

Chair: James Rhodes, Sociology, U. of Manchester, UK
Marquita Walker, Labor Studies, Indiana U. Indianapolis, "Training for My Life: Lived Experiences of Dislocated Workers in an Advanced Manufacturing Training Program"
Thandabantu Iverson, Labor Studies, Indiana U. Northwest, "Can Anything Good Come from Gary? Conflicts and Resistance in Gary, Indiana, Healthcare, 1980-2000"
Joseph Varga, Labor Studies, Indiana U.-Bloomington, "Why Did the Rust Belt Rust? Do We Really Understand Class Formation?"

C4 Class in the Classroom: Contingency in Higher Education **Illinois A**

Chair: Debbie Warnock, Sociology, Skidmore College **Illinois A**
Raymond A. Mazurek, English, Pennsylvania State U.-Berks, "Teaching and Class Conflict in the Corporate University"
Vanessa L. Marr, Communication, Wayne State U., "Will Teach for Food (Stamps): Adjuncts, Academic Hustling, and Pedagogies of Survival"
Monica Bielski Boris, Labor & Employment Relations, U. of Illinois, "Organizing and Mobilizing Young Workers"

C5 Working-Class Organization and Power **Illinois C**

Chair: John Russo, Labor Studies, Youngstown State U.
Michael Boyle, Cultural Anthropology, City U. of New York, "Power through 'Producerism': Building Popular Support for Working-Class Politics in America"
Samuel A. Butler, Philosophy, Elon U., "Solidarity: Political Power or Moral Force"
Myra Leyden, Sociology, U. of Guelph, "There's No Place Like Home: Perceived Powerlessness and the Home Construction Worker"

C6 Gendered Experiences of the Economy **Cardinal**

Chair: Jamie Daniel, Chicago Center for Working-Class Studies
Emily LaBarbera-Twarog, Labor Studies, U. of Illinois, "'...but I bet there's meat on the table': The Crisis of the Working Class and the Rise of Women's Political Citizenship, 1968-1973"
Christie Launius, Women's Studies, U. of Wisconsin Oshkosh, "'The End of Men'? A Classed Analysis of Recent Discussion of the 'ManceSSION'"
Elaine McCrate, Economics, U. of Vermont, "Flexibility for Whom? Control over the Variability of Work Schedules"

Saturday June 25

D Sessions 4:15 – 5:30 pm

D1 The Beat and the Street: Representing Police and Working-Class Protest in the 1960s and '70s Ft. Dearborn B

Chair: Jack Metzgar, Humanities, Roosevelt U.
Penelope Lewis, Labor Studies, Joseph Murphy Institute for Worker Education, "Hard Hawks and Liberal Elites: Representations of Class Polarization in the Vietnam Antiwar Movement"
Steve Macek, Urban and Suburban Studies, North Central College, "The Media, the Police and the Protestors: Covering the 1968 Democratic National Convention"
Rebecca Hill, American Studies, Kennesaw State U., "From Blue Power to Blue Collar: Representations of Police as Workers in the 1970s and '80s"

D2 Teaching Kids the Value of Collective Action White Oak B

Chair: Lisa Oppenheim, Chicago Metro History Education Center
Marlene Brill, author of *Annie Shapiro and the Clothing Worker Strike*, "Using Supplemental Books to Teach Social Justice and Labor Education"
Bob Breving and Emily Rosenberg, Labor Education, DePaul University, "Collective Bargaining Role Plays for High School Students"
Kenzo Shibata, Editor, Chicago Union Teacher, the publication of the Chicago Teachers Union, "Helping Students Organize Social Justice Clubs in the Schools: One Teacher's Experience"

D3 Contemporary Working-Class Culture Illinois C

Chair: Sara Appel, Literature, Duke U.
Diana Berek, Independent Artist, "The Fabric of Our Journey: Blue Jeans"
Shannon O'Sullivan, American Studies, SUNY Buffalo, "Working-Class Reality?: How the Blue-Collar Reality Shows (Mis)Represent the U.S. Working Class"

D4 South American Perspectives on Working-Class Life White Oak A

Chair: Liesl Orenic, Chicago Working-Class Studies
Karina Elizabeth Vazquez, English, Missouri Western State U., "From Automated Work to Undefined Labor: The Meaning of Work from the Perspective of Recent Latin American Cinema"
Juanita Bautista-Guerra, Educational Policy, Michigan State U., "From 'Campesina' to 'Campesina Gomela': The Journey of Manuela and the Lure of Education"
Carlos Donoso Rojas, History, Andres Bello U., "Revolutionaries without revolution: the workers of the nitrate in Chile"

D5 Community, Memory, and Legacy in the Scottish Coalfields Cardinal

Chair: Tim Strangleman, Sociology, U. of Kent, UK
Andrew Perchard, Scottish Oral History Centre, U. of Strathclyde, UK, "'Broken Men' and 'Thatcher's Children': Memory and Legacy in Scotland's Coalfields"
Jim Phillips, Economic and Social History, U. of Glasgow, UK, "The Moral Economy of the Scottish Coalfields and the 1984-85 Miners' Strike"
Rab Wilson, Scots poet and filmmaker, will show an extract from his new film, *Finding the Seam*, and read from his poetry

D6 Institutional Policies and the Working Class Illinois A

Chair: Jamie Daniel, Field Service Director, Illinois Federation of Teachers
Michelle-Marie Gilkeson, Women's and Gender Studies, Roosevelt U., "Interrogating the 'Cycle of Dependence': Racism and Heterosexism in the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996"
Heather A. Howley, Communications, U. of Akron, "ADHD: The Concerted Cultivation of Children's Communication"
Richard Robeson, School of Medicine, U. of North Carolina, "Achilles or Oliver Twist? The Athlete as Commodity in Intercollegiate Sports"

Saturday June 25
5:45 – 7:00 pm
WCSA General Assembly:
“The Future of Working-Class Studies”
Cardinal Room

**Join the WCSA Steering Committee for an open forum on
future directions for working-class studies as a field and the Association as an organization.
Moderated by Fred Gardaphe and Barbara Jensen**

At the 1995 Youngstown conference, the question was: “If there was a center for working-class studies, what would it do?”
Now, with several such centers -- and with growing interest in and need for our work -- we are in a position to take stock
of what has been accomplished and to ask: “Where do we go from here -- and how do we get there?”
How do we nurture new scholarship and creative work? How do we build academic and community collaborations?
As the conference closes, let’s share our visions for the WCSA’s future development and set priorities for the work ahead.

**Followed by an evening of unsupervised dinner and carousing.
Information on dining, music, bocce ball, and other local venues
is available on the conference web site – See the “Visiting Chicago” link.**