

The 36th Annual  
North American Labor History Conference

# THE NATURE OF WORK



October 16-18, 2014

McGregor Conference Center/Manoogian Hall

Wayne State  
University

## **Conference Notes**

### **Research Hours at the Reuther Library**

The Reuther Library will be open the week of the conference, Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Additionally, the Reuther will provide extended hours on Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

### **Book Display and Sale**

Books on labor history and related topics will be available throughout the conference. On Thursday, October 16 and Friday, October 17, books and other materials will be in Room A of the McGregor Center, located on the first floor. On Saturday, October 18, books will be available in the lobby of the General Lectures building.

### **Parking**

Parking for the conference days of October 16 and 17 can be found around the campus for a charge. Credit cards are accepted. The closest parking structure to McGregor is Parking Structure #1, located 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. For Saturday, October 18, the only parking structure available nearby Manoojian and General Lectures is Parking Structure #2

### **Conference Sponsorship**

The North American Labor History 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.

## THURSDAY, October 16, 2014

### Registration

9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m., McGregor Lobby

### Book Display

9.00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. McGregor Room A

### Guided Tour of Diego Rivera Murals at DIA

10:00 a.m.- 11:30 a.m.

(meet at NALHC registration table in McGregor at 9:30)

### Detroit Stories: Working in the Shadows of the “New” Economy – Room B/C

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Chair/Commentator: Ron Brown, Wayne State University

#### Panelists:

Bruce Pietrykowski, UM-Dearborn,

Paul Draus and Julie Roddy, UM-Dearborn

Carolyn Kraus and James Gilmore, UM-Dearborn

Lara Rusch and Angela Kaiser, UM-Dearborn and Oakland University

**11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. - LUNCH (*on your own*)**

### 1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m. *SESSION 1* - McGregor

#### **1.1 The Southwest Detroit Auto Heritage Guide: An Online Community Experiment Highlighting Detroit’s Auto and Labor Legacy - Room B/C**

Chair: David Elsil, Michigan Labor History Society

#### Panelists:

Ron Alpern, Project Coordinator

Brian Yopp, MotorCities National Heritage

Mitchell Fleischer, Retired Auto Analyst

Roberto Munoz, Community Activist

Dianne Feeley, Community and Labor Activist

#### **1.2 Detroit Labor and Radical Politics – Room F/G**

Chair: David Goldberg, Wayne State University

*Beating the DRUM in the Motor City: The Dodge Revolutionary Union Movement*

Andy Clark, University of Strathclyde

*Transnational Organizing in Detroit: The Arab Workers Caucus*

Pam Pennock, University of Michigan-Dearborn

*The Detroit Alliance for a Rational Economy's Response to the 1979 Chrysler Bailout*  
Austin C. McCoy, University of Michigan

Commentator: Mike Hamlin, Community Activist

### **1.3 Work and Workers in Film – Room J**

Chair/Commentator: Elena Past, Wayne State University

*From Unionized Workers to Immigrant Workers in Contemporary European Cinema*  
Federica Colleoni, University of South Florida

*With a Stroke of the Chaveta: Documenting Workers in Cuba's Cigar Factories*  
Pam Sporn, Filmmaker

### **1.4 Marcuse's *One Dimensional Man* at 50 – Room E**

Chair: Krista Brumley, Wayne State University

Commentators: Ron Aronson, Wayne State University  
Jason Dawsey, University of Southern Mississippi

Respondent: Howard Brick, University of Michigan

**2:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. Break**

### **2:45 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. SESSION 2 – McGregor**

#### **2.1 Book Talk: *Arsenal of Democracy: The Automobile Industry in WWII* – Room B/C**

Chair: Tracy Neumann, Wayne State University

Author: Charles Hyde, Wayne State University

Commentators: Tom Klug, Marygrove College  
Karen Miller, Oakland University

#### **2.2 Inside the Belly of the Beast: Outlawed Immigrant Workers in Detroit - Room F/G**

Chair/Commentator: Nicole Trujillo-Pagan, Wayne State University

Panelists: Marisela López Ronquío, Labor Organizer  
Brenda Jacinto, Immigrant Community Member  
Sagrario Valencia, Immigrant Community Member

### **2.3 Cultural Politics and Political Culture in the UAW - Room E**

Chair: Daniel Clark, Oakland University

*The UAW and "The Brotherhood of Man" Film*

William B. Hart, Norfolk State University

Fran Hassencahl, Old Dominion University

*Fair Play in Bowling: Sport, Civil Rights, and the UAW Culture of Inclusion, 1936-1947*

Ryan Pettengill, Mountain View College

*The Reuther Brothers and the UAW*

Sasha Reuther, Producer – Film and TV

### **2.4 Detroit Music and Labor – Room J**

Chair: Carleton S. Gholz, Detroit Sound Conservancy

Panelists: Marsha Battle Philpott, Detroit

Paul Schauert, Oakland University / Detroit Institute of Music Education

Lester Spence, John Hopkins University

Respondent: M. L. Liebler, Wayne State University

#### **Keynote Address**

4:30 p.m.- 5:30 p.m., McGregor B/C

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

Welcome: Dean Sandra Yee, WSU Libraries

***Incorporating the Native World into U.S. Historiography***

**Walter Hixson, Akron University**

**5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. – Dinner (on your own)**

**Screening of Film, *The Working Class Goes to Heaven* – 150 General Lectures**

7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

## FRIDAY, October 17, 2014

### Registration

8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m., McGregor Lobby

### Book Display

8:00 a.m.-6:30 p.m. McGregor Room A

### 8:30 a.m. – 10 a.m. *SESSION 3 - McGregor*

#### **3.1 Book Talk, *A Disability History of the United States* – Room B/C**

Co-Sponsored by the Department of Sociology, Wayne State University

Chair: Janis Fialka, Writer/Activist

Author: Kim E. Nielsen, University of Toledo

Commentators: Janet Hankin, Wayne State University  
Audra Jennings, Western Kentucky University

#### **3.2 Race/Ethnicity/Gender – Room F/G**

Chair/Commentator: Mike Goldfield, Wayne State University

*The Character of Whiteness and Its Historical Patterns*  
Sebahattin Ziyanak, University of Houston

*Race, Work, Nature, and the Profession of Guiding*  
Tara Kathleen Kelly, Duke University

*Ethnic Steelworkers and Their Local Union Culture at Wheeling Steel, 1936-1960*  
William Hal Gorby, West Virginia University

*Gender, Households, and Reproductive Labor Among Durban's African Migrant Dockworkers*  
Ralph Callebert, Saint Mary's University

#### **3.3 Congressional Investigations and Corruption in Mid-Twentieth Century US Labor – Room J**

Chair/Commentator: Marick Masters, Wayne State University

*Teamster Boss: Dave Beck*  
Robert C. Donnelly, Gonzaga University

*Anthony Doria and the "Notorious" UAW-AFL*  
David M. Anderson, Louisiana Tech University

*The McClellan Committee and the Paper Locals*  
David Witwer, Penn State University – Harrisburg

### **3.4 Migration, Tea Production, and Poverty in China – Room E**

Chair/Commentator: Sarah Swider, Wayne State University

*Tea Production and the Rural-Urban Split in Sichuan, China*  
Alexander F. Day, Occidental College

*The Face of Poverty in China*  
Claudia Marcela Hernandez Palacio, Southern University

**10:00 am – 10:15 am – BREAK**

**10:15 am – 11:45 am SESSION 4 – McGregor**

#### **4.1 Book Talk, *Out in the Union: A Labor History of Queer America* – Room B/C**

Co-Sponsored by Labor@Wayne

Chair: Clark Heath, Henry Ford College

Author: Miriam Frank, New York University

Commentators: Martha Grevatt, UAW Activist  
Tim Retzloff, Michigan State University

#### **4.2 New Directions in the History of Atlantic Rice – Room F/G**

Co-Sponsored by WSU Department of Africana Studies

Chair: Jennifer Hart, Wayne State University

Presenter: Edda Fields-Black, Carnegie Mellon University

Respondent: Joshua Grace, University of South Carolina  
Daniel Littlefield, University of South Carolina

#### **4.3 Making Workers/Remaking Environments in the US and US-Held Philippines – Room E**

Chair/Commentator: Don Mitchell, Syracuse University

*The Brooklyn Labor Lyceum, 1882-1907*  
Stephen McFarland, CUNY Graduate Center

*Remaking Landscapes and Workers in American-Held Southern Philippines, 1916-1928*  
Karen Miller, LaGuardia Community College

*Work and the Natural Environment in Transit*  
Kafui Attoh, Murphy Institute for Worker Education and Labor Studies, CUNY

#### **4.4 Women's Work/Workers' Wives – Room J**

Chair: Nancy Gabin, Purdue University

*Coal Miner Wives and the "Molly Pitcher Spirit," 1890-1900*

Dana Caldemeyer, University of Kentucky

*The Glasgow Rent Strikes, Female Working Class Consciousness, and Historical Memory*

Shannon R. Kirkwood, Central Michigan University

*Clerical Workers and Labor Struggles for Race and Gender Equity, 1968-1980*

Jennifer Pierce, University of Minnesota

*Women's Work and Identity in the Fish Canneries of Ensenada, Mexico, 1950-1990*

Andrea Spears-Kirkland, Autonomous University of Baja California

Hilarie Heath-Constable, Autonomous University of Baja California

#### **12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m., Luncheon Address (Pre-Registration Required) - McGregor L/M**

Co-Sponsored by the Wayne State University Honors College

Welcome and Introduction: Fran Shor, NALHC Coordinator

#### **Fighting to End Sweatshops in the Global Economy**

**Speaker: Charles Kernaghan, Institute for Global Labour and Human Rights**

#### **1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. McGregor SESSION 5**

##### **5.1 Book Talk, *The Problem with Work* – Room B/C**

Co-Sponsored by WSU Humanities Center and Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Program

Chair: Heidi Gottfried, Wayne State University

Author: Kathi Weeks, Duke University

Commentators: Frank Joyce, Writer/Activist  
Jennifer Pierce, University of Minnesota



## **5.2 Broadcasting Pro- and Anti-Unionism in the New Deal Era – Room F/G**

Chair/Commentator: Elizabeth Faue, Wayne State University

*Broadcasting Anti-Liberalism and Anti-Unionism in the New Deal South*

Elizabeth Fones-Wolf, West Virginia University

Ken Fones-Wolf, West Virginia University

*Sidney Roger, San Francisco's Labor-Left, and Postwar Radio*

Nathan Godfried, University of Maine

Commentator: David Roediger, University of Kansas

## **5.3 Labor Songs and Appalachian Culture – Room J**

Chair/Commentator: Michael Honey, University of Washington

*Front Lines to Picket Lines: How a Doughboy Song Became a Labor-Organizing Anthem*

Rebecca Griffin, University of Massachusetts

*"A Song Workers Everywhere Sing:" Zilphia Horton and Uniting Workers Through Song*

Chelsea Hodge, University of Arkansas

*The Environmental History of Appalachia in Folk Songs*

Kyle Koeppe, George Mason University

*Depictions of Appalachia in Highlander Folk School's Labor Organizing*

Emily Senefeld, University of Virginia

## **5.4 Reinventing Industrial People and Places – Room E**

Co-sponsored by LAWCHA

Chair/Commentator: Steve Barleen, Clinton Community College

*Erie's Italian Working Mothers and Daughters*

Stacey Turner, Edinboro University

*Exploring the Importance of Skilled Labor in Maltese Migrants*

Marc Sanko, West Virginia University

*How Pittsburgh Changed from "Hell with the Lid Off" to Model for the Future*

Katelynd Gibbons, Edinboro University

**3:00 pm – 3:15 pm Break**

**3:15 pm – 4:45 pm SESSION 6 – McGregor**

**6.1 Book Talk, *The Production of Difference: Race and the Management of Labor in US History* – Room B/C**

Co-sponsored by Labor@Wayne

Chair: Amy Bromsen, Wayne State University

Author: David Roediger, University of Kansas

Commentators: Immanuel Ness, Brooklyn College, CUNY  
William Santiago-Valles, Western Michigan University

**6.2 Laboring in Academia – Room F/G**

Chair: Tom Anderson, Wayne State University

*Faculty Development Support for the Non-Tenured in Higher Education*  
Sonya Alvarado, Eastern Michigan University, Pres. EMU MFT 9102

*Gender Differences in Faculty Perceptions of Tenure*  
Rodica Lisnic, University of Arkansas  
Anna Zajicek, University of Arkansas

*Are Non-Tenure Track Faculty Worse Teachers?*  
Ian Robinson, University of Michigan

*The Business Model Misapplied to Higher Education*  
Margaret Vaughan, Madison Area Technical College

**6.3 Rethinking Labor's Role in the Environmental Justice Movement – Room J**

Co-sponsored by LAWCHA

Chair: Marsha Richmond, Wayne State University

*Occupational Health, Neighborhood Toxicity, and Environmental Justice: The Case of Love Canal*  
Jennifer Thomson, Bucknell University

*Mine Disasters, Nuclear Power, Environmental Destruction and the Rise of the Miners for Democracy*  
Trish Kahle, University of Chicago

*Labor, Civil Rights and the Contested Early History of Environmental Justice, 1970-1991*  
Josiah Rector, Wayne State University

*The UAW, Urban Environmentalism, and the Origins of Environmental Justice in Detroit*  
Brandon Ward, Purdue University

Commentator: Lisa Fine, Michigan State University

#### **6.4 Migrant, Contingent, and Affective Labor – Room E**

Chair: Luther Adams, University of Washington (Tacoma)

*Hoboes and Temps: Fiction Representations of Contingent Labor*

Wylie Lenz, Florida Polytechnic University

*Work and Residential Life at the Robstown Migrant Labor Camp, 1940-1968*

Mark Robbins, Del Mar College

Christine Reiser Robbins, Texas A&M University – Kingsville

*Labor, Immigration and Meatpacking in Green Bay, Wisconsin*

Carolina Ortega, University of Illinois

*Affective Labor Beyond the Cultural Turn*

Polina Kroik, Lane Community College

#### **6.5 Gender at Work: Political and Labor Activism of Midwestern Women Workers – Room I (in memory of Jacob Hall)**

Chair: Shelton Stromquist, University of Iowa

*Betty Talkington and the Role of Women's Activities in Labor during the 1960s*

Coreen Derifield, East Central College

*Cultivating a Feminist Sensibility: Community and Labor Organizing among Iowa Latinas, 1920s to 1970s*

Janet Weaver, University of Iowa

*Gender Politics and Class Consciousness in an Emerging Metropolis: The Political Career of Josephine Gomon and Municipal Welfare Politics, 1919-1933*

Jacob Hall, University of Iowa (presented by Jacob Altman)

Commentator: Elizabeth Faue, Wayne State University

#### **5:00 pm – 6:00 pm Keynote Address – McGregor B/C**

Co-Sponsored by the Department of History, Wayne State University

Welcome and Introduction: Marc Kruman, Chair, History, Wayne State University

**What is Labor History Now?  
Alice Kessler-Harris, Columbia University**

#### **6:00 pm – 7:00 pm RECEPTION – McGregor**

Co-Sponsored by Reuther Library and Archives

## **SATURDAY, October 18, 2014**

### **Registration**

**8:30 – 10:30 – Manoogian Polish Room**

### **Book Display**

**11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. General Lectures Lobby**

**9:00 am – 10:30 am *SESSION 7* Manoogian**

#### **7.1 Book Talk, *Caring for America: Home Health Workers in the Shadow of the Welfare State* – Room 91**

Co-Sponsored by Labor@Wayne

Chair: Janine Lanza, Wayne State University

Author: Jennifer Klein, Yale University

Commentators: Nancy MacLean, Duke University  
Kim E. Nielsen, University of Toledo

#### **7.2 Transnational and Global Labor – Room 124**

Chair/Commentator: Shelton Stromquist, University of Iowa

*Transnational Labor Disputes: Fort Wayne, Indiana and Chemnitz, Germany*  
Nancy Brown, Purdue University

*The American Octopus and the Workers of the Sea*  
Paula de Angelis, University of Adelaide

*Post-Apartheid Labor Insurgency in South Africa*  
Immanuel Ness, Brooklyn College, CUNY

#### **7.3 Planetary Work Machine: Prospects and Perils – Room 128**

Chair: Julie Herrada, University of Michigan

David Watson, Writer/Activist

Commentator: Graham Cassano, Oakland University

#### **7.4 Stonecutters and Coal Miners – Room 150**

Co-sponsored by LAWCHA

Chair/Commentator: Rosemary Feurer, Northern Illinois University

*Stonecutters Work in Early Washington, D. C.*  
Dana Stefanelli, Fellow-in-Residence, Fred W. Smith National Library

*Controlling Male Labor through the Exploitation of Female Sexuality in Coal Camps*  
Ashley Sorrell, University of Kentucky

*Coal Mining Technology, Workplace Safety and Partisan Politics*  
Mark Sleboda, Eastern Michigan University

**10:30 am – 10:45 am BREAK**

**10:45 am – 12:15 am SESSION 8 Manoogian**

**8.1 Book Talk, *Democracy at Work: A Cure for Capitalism* – Room 91**

Chair: Vincent Lyon-Callo, Western Michigan University

Author: Richard D. Wolff, New School University

Commentators: David Fasenfest, Wayne State University  
Theodore Pride, Wayne State University

**8.2 Class Politics and the Development of the US State – Room 120**

Chair/Commentator: Chad Pearson, Collin College

*Workmen's Compensation in the Early Twentieth United States*  
Nate Holdren, Indiana University

*The National Recovery Administration in Chicago*  
Thomas Dorrance, University of Illinois, Chicago

*Policing the Police: Chicago 1873 and Boston 1919*  
Sam Mitrani, College of DuPage

**8.3 Mining and Miners – Room 124**

Chair/Commentator: Anthony DeStefanis, Otterbein University

*Retelling the Story of the Carterville Illinois Mine War of 1898-1900*  
Rosemary Feurer, Northern Illinois University

*Rural Radicalism: Labor Repression in Southern Illinois Coal Country*  
Benjamin David Schmack, Northern Illinois University

*Copper Strikes in the Keweenaw Peninsula, 1968-1969*  
Brendan Pelto, Michigan Technological University

#### **8.4 Labor Conflicts Under State and Federal Regulations – Room 128**

Chair: Gayle Hamilton, Wayne State University

*Mayor Albert Cobo and the Hutchinson Act v. Detroit Street Railway Workers, 1951*  
Louis E. Jones, Wayne State University

*No-Smoking, Anti-Union Bullying, and the NLRB in the Late Twentieth Century*  
Greg Wood, Frostburg State University

*Excluding Tenured Faculty Members Under the NLRB*  
Dan Underwood, Ferris State University

Commentator: Robert D. Fetter, Miller Cohen PLC

#### **8.5 Political Conflicts in Public and Charter K-12 Schools – Room 150**

Chair/Commentator: Jose Cuello, Wayne State University

*Gender, Race, and Class Conflicts within the New York Public Schools*  
Johanna Quinn, University of Wisconsin

*Strategies for Unionizing César Chávez Academy Charter School*  
Rose Cloudy, CCA Teacher, Union Activist  
Nate Walker, AFT Organizer

#### **12:20 pm – 1:00 pm Plenary – Room 91**

Chair: Fran Shor, Wayne State University

LAWCHA Presentation

Nancy MacLean, Duke University, Pres. LAWCHA  
Tom Klug, Marygrove College, Treas., LAWCHA

*Sharecropper's Troubadour: Labor's Freedom Music*  
Michael Honey, University of Washington (Tacoma)

"New Work, New Culture" Announcement

**1:00 pm – 1:45 LUNCH General Lectures Italian Room**  
provided by the Wobbly Kitchen – cash donation

## Acknowledgments

### 2014 NALHC Co-Sponsors:

Special thanks to the following individuals and institutions for providing helpful resources which facilitated programming for the 2013 NALHC:

Eileen Boris, Dennis Deslippe, Ken Fones-Wolf, Tom Klug, and Nancy MacLean from Labor and Working Class History Association (LAWCHA)

Melba Joyce Boyd, Chair, Department of Africana Studies, Wayne State University

LaNesha DeBardelaben, Director of Archives and Libraries, Charles H. Wright Museum of African-American History

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Robert D. Fetter, Miller Cohen PLC

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Janine Lanza, Director, Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Program, Wayne State University

Marick Masters, Director, Labor@Wayne, Wayne State University

Wayne Raskind, Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Wayne State University

Virginia Thomas, Interim Director, Reuther Library, WSU

Rebecca Tubbs, Detroit Institute of Arts

### 2013 NALHC Committee

Francis Shor, NALHC Coordinator and Marc Kruman, Chair, Department of History

Amy Bromsen, Jose Cuello, Liz Faue, Mike Goldfield, Heidi Gottfried, Jennifer Hart, Janine Lanza, M.L. Liebler, Marick Masters, Tracy Neumann, and Aaron Retish

### 2013 NALHC Webpage and Facebook

Tracy Neumann, Trevor Richards, and Francis Shor

### Book Display and Sales

Jamie Jones, Wayne State University Press

### Logistics

Danielle Ismirle, Gayle McCreedy, Joshua Morris, Marilyn Vaughn, and grad student volunteers from the History Graduate Student Association

