

Society for Socialist Studies
Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences
May 31-June 3, 2016
<http://www.socialiststudies.ca>
Final Program

Final changes will be made by May 1, 2016

Energizing Class Struggles: Race, Gender, and Colonialism

We wish to **energize class struggles**, understanding that the class relationship in contemporary capitalism is mediated by forms of oppression related to gender, race, able-bodiedness and orientation, and is articulated with the ongoing colonization of Indigenous peoples across lands and waters claimed by Canada. At the same time, energetic class struggles are a variable historical reality across the whole of society, in areas ranging from the arts to literary studies to everyday economics in the home, the workplace and the community. The University, too, is a site of sometimes-energetic, sometimes-waning class struggle. On the one hand it reflects the relative dominance of the capitalist class in radically unequal times, including the power of resource extraction industries to shape university institutions and aims. On the other hand, the working classes, women (and women-identified) and subaltern groups have sought to challenge the expression of capitalist power in academia and society more broadly. At least since the 1970s, diverse Indigenous peoples have likewise sought simultaneously to 'decolonize' and 'indigenize' university spaces as part of broader struggles of Indigenous self-determination and liberation. In short, the working classes have never merely accepted their domination but have always fought battles against the power of capital in very unequal conditions. We consider **energizing class struggles** as a possibility – the potential for revitalized struggles by and for equity-seeking groups, subaltern classes and among diverse Indigenous peoples against an unjust colonial-capitalist world system.

The theme of the 2016 CFHSS Congress is 'Energizing Communities'. In our attempt to **Energize Class Struggles**, the Society invites participants to critically reflect upon the histories of vital class opposition. We call upon contributors to think through the possibilities for re-energizing class and Indigenous struggles in an historical moment of unprecedented capitalist class power.

Conference Highlights

Tuesday, May 31, 17:30-19:00

Red Calgary: A Labour and the Left Historical Walking Tour

Meeting point: Memorial Park Library, 1221 2 St SW, T2R 1N8

(map: <https://goo.gl/maps/qCtU8g6DSty>)

Tuesday, May 31, 19:30-22:00

Society for Socialist Studies Pub Night & Book Prize Announcement

Venue: Postino Café and Lounge, 2520 Capitol Hill Crescent NW, T2M 4X5

(<http://www.postino.ca/index.html>)

Wednesday, June 1, 15:15-17:00

Keynote panel: Intersectionality and Socialist Feminism

Speakers: Abigail Bakan, Enakshi Dua, Meg Luxton

Venue: Science B 103

Wednesday, June 1, 17:00-19:30

Annual General Meeting: Society for Socialist Studies

Venue: Scurfield 257

Registration

Tuesday, May 31, 8:30-10:45

Venue: Second floor of Scurfield Hall - Hallway 200Z

Tuesday, May 31, 10:45-12:15

Venue: Scurfield 257

Ukraine and Crimea: National Class, and Economic Dynamics

Organizers: Alan Freeman, Geopolitical Economy Research Group,

afreeman@iwgvt.org; Radhika Desai, University of Manitoba,

Radhika.Desai@ad.umanitoba.ca

Chair: TBA

This session will focus on economic and political causes and consequences of the war that erupted in eastern Ukraine in April 2014, the subsequent stalemate enshrined in the uneasy Minsk peace accords, and the structural changes in Ukraine's economy and society that have resulted. It will consider the following questions: what are the class and national dynamics at play in Ukraine and Crimea since independence in 1991, and in Russia since the Ukrainian crisis erupted? Why has the NATO military alliance been so insistent on backing the Kyiv government in its war effort while sanctioning Russia? Is Russia simply a new imperialist power, or a challenger to an old imperial order no longer capable of sustaining itself? It will build on the successful sessions on Ukraine and Russia at the last Congress of the Humanities, and on the wealth of material that has been assembled on the 'New Cold War' website (www.newcoldwar.org).

Speakers:

Roger Annis, independent writer and researcher, rogerannis@hotmail.com

"Crimea in history and the 2014 secession vote from Ukraine"

Halyna Mokrushyna, lecturer at the University of Ottawa, halouwins@gmail.com

"Revising history: The Decommunization Laws in Post-Maidan Ukraine"

Olena Lyubchenko, York University, olenalyubchenko@gmail.com

"The Ukraine Crisis: A Case of 'New Orientalism'"

Tuesday, May 31, 10:45-12:15

Venue: Scurfield 157

Disability and Class Struggle

Chairs and Organizers: Mary Jean Hande, maryjeanelizabeth@gmail.com

Elisabeth Harrison, elisabeth.ae.harrison@gmail.com.

In a time of intensifying austerity, imperialism, financialization, militarism and incarceration, the ideological and material conditions of disability and disablement have never been more formidable, both in Canada and globally. This panel intends to reveal the ways in which addiction, disability, disablement, illness, mental health, and psychiatry are formed both ideologically and materially in this present moment, situating disability as an important site of class struggle. Presentations include analyses of Canadian mental health policy, addictions and harm reduction work, austerity and financial restructuring in the areas of prisons, war, education and healthcare institutions, as well as community organizing in these areas.

Speakers:

Mary Jean Hande, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto,
maryjeanelizabeth@gmail.com

“Politicizing Disability Care Struggles in Toronto”

Elisabeth Harrison, elisabeth.ae.harrison@gmail.com

“‘Resilience’ and Resistance: Trans, Genderqueer and Non-Binary People’s
Experiences with Mental Health Care in Ontario”

Amber Reid, York University, apreid@yorku.ca

“Disability, Gender, and Poverty within the Prison Industrial Complex”

Danielle Landry, York University, dlandry@yorku.ca

“Pennies a Day: Building Alternatives to Sheltered Workshops”

Tuesday, May 31, 10:45-12:15

Venue: Trailer A 101

Roundtable: Green, Red, and Black: Theses on Energy Transitions

Convener: Imre Szeman, University of Alberta, imre@ualberta.ca

Chair: Brent Ryan Bellamy, Memorial University of Newfoundland,
bbellamy@ualberta.ca

We are in the midst of a great energy transition. The movement to a world after oil also challenges us to imagine a better world. We are faced with many questions. What will power the future? Can we ensure that the movement beyond fossil fuels is also a movement beyond capital? How do we leave the hulking infrastructures of oil extraction, refinement, production, and distribution behind and what to do with the vast constructed networks of our petroculture? This roundtable will present a series of theses that collectively address energy transition as a key moment for social change.

Speakers:

Brent Ryan Bellamy, Memorial University of Newfoundland, bbellamy@ualberta.ca

Adam Carlson, University of Alberta, abcarlso@ualberta.ca

Jeff Diamanti, University of Alberta, diamanti@ualberta.ca

David Janzen, University of Alberta, djanzen@ualberta.ca

Jordan Kinder, University of Alberta, jkinder@ualberta.ca

Imre Szeman, University of Alberta, imre@ualberta.ca

Sheena Wilson, University of Alberta, shwilson@ualberta.ca

Saulesh Yessanova, University of Calgary, sbyessen@ucalgary.ca

Tuesday, May 31, 10:45-12:15

Venue: Trailer A 102

Feminist Intersectionality in Theory, Research and Praxis: An Interdisciplinary Conversation

Organizers: **Marleny M. Bonnycastle**, University of Manitoba, Marleny.Bonnycastle@ad.umanitoba.ca; **Louise Carbert**, Dalhousie, louise.carbert@dal.ca; **Linda Christiansen-Ruffman**, St. Mary's University; **Ann Denis**, University of Ottawa, adenis@uottawa.ca; **Marie Lovrod**, University of Saskatchewan, marie.lovrod@usask.ca; **Susan Spronk**, University of Ottawa, susan.spronk@uottawa.ca; **Lisa Starr**, McGill, lisa.starr2@mcgill.ca, **Stacey Zembrzycki**, Concordia

Chair: Susan Spronk, University of Ottawa, susan.spronk@uottawa.ca

Intersectionality has become an important approach for examining the interconnectedness of systems of oppression in women's lives, including by feminist scholars. It has varied manifestations - theoretical, methodological, historical and contextual. This panel examines how scholars have used feminist intersectionality methodologically, in theory and/or in praxis, and *also* reflects on the strengths, limitations, implications and/or challenges of their experiences with it. Questions include: how is an approach *both* intersectional and feminist? How is such analysis stronger than analysis that is not intersectional? Or feminist? What are the contradictions, limitations of how women's multiple dimensions are considered?

Speakers:

Angela Miles, Adult Ed & Community Development, OISE, University of Toronto
"Feminist Intersectionality Through the Lens of Theory and Practice"

Karen Ruddy, York University, Rethinking Intersectionality: Gender Variance,
"International Feminism, and the Politics of Post-War Reconstruction"

Harshita Yalamarty, York University, Intersecting Oppressions and Particular
"Patriarchies: Considering Transnational Marriage Abandonment in India"

Sabina Chatterjee, York University, "Colliding at the Intersections: Complacency,
Accountability, and Change"

Tuesday, May 31, 13:45-15:15

Venue: Science A-107

Cross-listed with the Canadian Sociology Association

What Is to Be Done? A Roundtable On Strategies to Challenge the Corporatization of Canada's Universities

Chairs and Organizers: Janice Newson, York University, janewson@eagle.ca,

Claire Polster, University of Regina, claire.polster@uregina.ca

A substantial body of scholarship has mapped out the nature and harmful implications of the corporatization process. The casualization of academic labour, over-regulation of academics and their work, commercialization of publicly funded knowledge, and downsides of the programme prioritization process, among other aspects of corporatization, have received critical attention in previous Congress sessions. What has not received as much attention is what to do in response to such issues. This roundtable session will focus on strategies for confronting

corporatization in ways that restore and strengthen the public serving focus of higher education. Contributions are invited that do any of the following: (a) describe how you and your colleagues have dealt with, or are trying to deal with, a corporatizing policy or initiative in your own institution, with a view to undermining or diverting its negative effects; (b) propose a strategically focused response to a corporatizing trend currently unfolding in higher education; (c) develop a strategy that links responses to corporatization undertaken within a given university or college with social movements based outside. Contributors will have up to 10 minutes to present their work for discussion, with a view toward developing strategic suggestions that can be circulated to concerned colleagues.

Speakers:

Claire Polster, University of Regina, claire.polster@uregina.ca

“Good Ideas Gone Wrong: Protecting Anti-Corporatization projects”

Michael Bueckert, Carleton University, michael.bueckert@gmail.ca

“Democratizing Carleton: Students and Workers Campaign for a Better Board of Governors”

Peter S. McInnis, St. Francis Xavier University, pmcinnis@stfx.ca

“Resistance and Redirection in the Managed University”

Karen Stanbridge, Memorial University of Newfoundland, kstanbri@mun.ca

“How to Revive the Academic Profession and Save Canada's Universities”

Martin Schoots-McAlpine, Trent University, martin.schoots.mcalpine@gmail.com

“Students Against Capital: The Experience of the Revolutionary Student Movement”

Tuesday, May 31, 13:45-15:15

Venue: Scurfield 157

Middle East and North Africa: Many Faces of Struggles for Social Justice

Chair and Organizer: Mojtaba Mahdavi, University of Alberta,

mahdavia@ualberta.ca

This panel explores the many faces of struggles for social justice in contemporary Middle East and North Africa (MENA). It reflects on social/civil rights movements as diverse as the urban poor movements, activism of labour union/workers, women's and student movements, and environmental activists. Moreover, the panel investigates the quest for grassroots democratic socialism in political discourses of socialist Muslims and the new left in the MENA region.

This panel examines the extent to which the manifestations of these social phenomena nullify/challenge the old and naïve discourse of “Middle East Exceptionalism”, i.e. Middle East exceptionally resists progressive ideals and democratic institutions. Furthermore, it suggests the neo-liberal discourse/policies have exacerbated the crisis in the region.

Speakers:

Sabah Alnasseri, York University, alnasseri@yorku.ca

“Tahrir and working class political hegemony: The case of Egypt”

Niloofar Miazzami, l'Université de Montréal, niloofar.miazzami@gmail.ca

“Prospects of Reform as a Social Change in the Middle East”

Mojtaba Mahdavi, University of Alberta, mahdavia@ualberta.ca

“Social Justice and Spirituality: The Case of Progressive Muslims (New) Left in Iran”

Ingy El-Mostafa Higazy, The American University in Cairo, ihigazy@aucegypt.edu

“Egypt’s Peripheral Colony: Violence, Disciplinary Power, and State Making in the Sinai Peninsula, 1979-Present”

Abraham Weizfeld, saalaha@fokus.name,

“Nation, Society and the State: The reconciliation of Palestinian and Jewish Nationhood

Tuesday, May 31, 13:45-15:15

Venue: Scurfield 257

Russia, China, and Eurasia in the Multipolar World

Organizers: Alan Freeman, Geopolitical Economy Research Group,

afreeman@iwgvt.org; **Radhika Desai**, University of Manitoba,

Radhika.Desai@ad.umanitoba.ca

This session will focus on the Russia’s new world role and its consequences for the international world order, seeking to combine an understanding of the interrelation between the escalating military conflicts in which Russia is involved, the economic and political rapprochement between Russia and China, and the consequent conflicts and realignments within the ‘Eurasian space’. Behind these questions lies the broader issue of the nature of the emerging new multipolar world, and the risks and possibilities that this is unleashing. Do Russia – and possibly other BRICS countries - constitute new ‘imperialist’ powers pursuing imperial ambitions in Ukraine, Crimea and Syria? Or are they challengers to an existing imperial order that is no longer able to sustain itself? This session will examine both the specifics of events in Ukraine and Syria, and these wider analytical issues.

Speakers:

Radhika Desai, University of Manitoba, radhika.desai@umanitoba.ca,

“Russia in the multi-polar world order”

Alan Freeman, Geopolitical Economy Research Group, afreeman@iwgvt.org,

“Imperialist powers, World powers, Regional Powers and Nations: Theorising China and Russia’s modern role”

Tuesday, May 31, 13:45-15:15

Venue: Trailer A 101

Roundtable: Canadian Social Democracy at the Crossroads: Modernization versus Renewal

Convener: Dennis Pilon, Political Science, York University, dpilon@yorku.ca
How should critical social analysts understand the return of the federal NDP to third party status in the 2015 election? Does it represent the exhaustion of the modernization project initiated by Jack Layton, which married elements of the 'third way' strategy with a populist leader-oriented appeal? Was it more a strategic failure of relying on a 'front runner' strategy that appeared to fail in BC in 2013? Or does it reflect a broader crisis in social democracy itself? This panel will draw from Canadian experts on social democracy to assess where things went wrong and what might need to be put right to renew Canada's traditional national left party.

Chair: Rianne Mahon, Wilfred Laurier University, prmahon@rogers.ca

Speakers:

Dennis Pilon, York University, dpilon@yorku.ca

Murray Cooke, York University, murraycooke@gmail.com

Paul Saurette, University of Ottawa, paul.saurette@uottawa.ca

Rebecca Schein, Carleton University, RebeccaSchein@CUNET.CARLETON.ca

Alexandra Dobrowolsky, St. Mary's University, adobrowolsky@smu.ca

Charles Smith, University of Saskatchewan, csmith@stmcollege.ca

Trevor Harrison, Parkland Institute and University of Lethbridge, trevor.harrison@uleth.ca

Tuesday, May 31, 13:45-15:15

Venue: Trailer A 102

Small States in a Multipolar World – Part I

Chair: Paul Kellogg, Athabasca University, pkellogg@athabascau.ca

Organizers: Petar Kurecic, University North, Croatia, pkurecic@unin.hr and

Radhika Desai, University of Manitoba, Radhika.Desai@ad.umanitoba.ca

The panel is devoted to the small economies, of which the most are also small states.

The main topics will be: smallness of the economy as an advantage or a disadvantage (vulnerability) studied through the various macroeconomic data, the influence of quantitative easing on the economies of the Global North and especially on the smaller economies in this part of the world, and specificities of human (social and economic) development on the specific group of small states: small island states, which are particularly vulnerable group of small states.

Paul Kellogg

“Monetary Stimulus in the Global North – Keynesianism redux?”

Petar Kurecic, Goran Luburic, Goran Kozina

“Smallness of the Economy as a (Dis)advantage: The Evidence from the Selected Interdependent Macroeconomic Data”

Debbie Dergousoff

“Kyrgyzstan's Accession to the EEU: Why do apples matter anyway?”

Tuesday, May 31, 15:30-17:00

Venue: Scurfield 257

Crisis? What Crisis?—Part I

Chair and Organizer: Ingo Schmidt, Athabasca University ingos@athabascau.ca

This session discusses the following questions:

Which kinds of crises is capitalism facing these days? Crises of the economy, ecology, legitimation, representation and/or hegemony? Do these crises affect only subsystems of capitalism or do they add up to an organic or general crisis of capitalism? Are these crises structural or conjunctural? What role can the left play in overcoming capitalist crises? Is the left in crisis, too? If so, what kind of crisis is that and how might it be overcome?

Speakers:

Kim Pollock, kbpollock64@gmail.com

“WHAT THE CRISIS IS – AND ISN'T A report on work in progress”

Robert Chernomas, University of Manitoba, Robert.Chernomas@umanitoba.ca; **Ian**

Hudson, University of Manitoba, Ian.Hudson@umanitoba.ca

“A Shock to the System: Analysis of Economic Fluctuations in the Work of John Bates Clark Award Winning Economists”

Tuesday, May 31, 15:30-17:00

Venue: Scurfield 157

Re-Energizing the Dialectic

Chair and Organizer: Sean F. McMahon, American University in Cairo, smcmahon@aucegypt.edu

Marx said the dialectic was “critical and revolutionary.” However, as a mode of inquiry and presentation it has been neglected, if recognized at all, in much Marxian and socialist thought. This session contributes a “re-energizing” of the dialectic by taking it seriously as an epistemology and a method. A broad range of papers including a reflection on the dialectic as a philosophy of knowledge and as a means of conceptualizing and representing the dynamism of capital accumulation expands our understanding of the current moment and its reactionary and revolutionary opportunities.

Speakers:

Sean F. McMahon, American University in Cairo, smcmahon@aucegypt.edu

“Dialectic of Egypt’s Crisis Movement”

Sandra Rein, University of Alberta, srein@ualberta.ca

“Marx’s Dialectics: reclaiming “the human” and “Hegel” for the New Society”

Adam Belton, University of Alberta, belton1@ualberta.ca

“Dialectic Dynamics: Essential Explorations”

Lama A. Tawakkol, American University in Cairo, ltawakkol@aucegypt.edu

“The Middle Class as a Capitalist Fetishism and Anti-Worker Tool”

Tuesday, May 31, 15:30-17:00

Venue: Trailer A 101

The Left-Overs. Post-Carbon Prospects for Calgary

Chair and Organizer: Tom Langford, University of Calgary,

Looking at Calgary, how can we craft a sustainable post-carbon future from the left-overs of a bankrupting neo-liberalism? This panel will examine the historically evolving state-civil society relations and their implications for how we think about possible developmental trajectories and political futures in Calgary; the impact on housing policy and provision of decades of boom-bust cycles in Calgary; the social implications of pedestrian-scaled development; prospects for state or civic-society led economic and social transitions; and the options and potentials for economic diversification toward an economic foundation that is not dependent on fossil fuel resource extraction.

Speakers:

Thomas Howard, University of British Columbia thoward@geog.ubc.ca

Noel Keough, University of Calgary nkeough@ucalgary.ca

Alan Smart, University of Calgary asmart@ucalgary.ca

Eliot Tretter, University of Calgary etretter@ucalgary.ca

Tuesday, May 31, 15:30-17:00

Venue: Trailer A 102

Small States in a Multipolar World: Regional Economic/Political Integrations and Small States

Chair: Petar Kurecic, University North, Croatia, pkurecic@unin.hr

Organizers: Petar Kurecic, Assistant Professor, Department of Business Economics, University North, Croatia, pkurecic@unin.hr and **Radhika Desai**, University of Manitoba, Radhika.Desai@ad.umanitoba.ca

This panel tends to study the role of small states in regional political and economic organizations and integrations, as well as the role of the integrations for small states, especially how organizations and integrations change the position and priorities of small states.

Speakers:

Marcelo Mondelli, mondellix@gmail.com

“Challenges for South America’s Small States and their regional integration in the XXI Century”

Raul Salgado Espinoza, rsalgado@flacso.edu.ec

“Region-engaging, Region-constraining and Region-adapting Small States: Ecuador and Uruguay’s Engagement in the Construction of the UNASUR”

Sergio Ordonez, serorgu@gmail.com, **Carlos Sanchez**, carlirius@gmail.com
“Latin American 'Neo-Developmentalism,' State Action and Supranational
Realignment: Might It Endure?”

Tuesday, May 31, 17:30-19:00

Meeting point: Memorial Park Library, 1221 2 St SW, T2R 1N8 (map:
<https://goo.gl/maps/qCtU8g6DSty>)

Red Calgary: A Labour and the Left Historical Walking Tour

Join Kirk Niergarth of Mount Royal University on a 90-minute walking tour featuring sites relevant to the history of labour and the left in Calgary's History. Visit Calgary's one-time "Red Square," the Legion Hall where the CCF became a party, and other sites of resistance and rebellion in Cowtown.

Wednesday, June 1, 9:00-10:30

Venue: Scurfield 257

Crisis? What Crisis? – Part 2

Organizer: Ingo Schmidt

This session discusses the following questions:

Which kinds of crises is capitalism facing these days? Crises of the economy, ecology, legitimation, representation and/or hegemony? Do these crises affect only subsystems of capitalism or do they add up to an organic or general crisis of capitalism? Are these crises structural or conjunctural? What role can the left play in overcoming capitalist crises? Is the left in crisis, too? If so, what kind of crisis is that and how might it be overcome?

Eric Strikwerda, Athabasca University, erics@athabascau.ca

“Unemployment and the ‘Crisis of Masculinity’”

Ignacio José Miñambres García, National Cheng-Kung University,
ignacio.minambres@gmail.com

“The European Left and the Challenges of the Great Recession: is Democratic Transformation Possible within the EU?”

Joshua Moufawad-Paul, York University, moufawadpaul@gmail.com

“The Austerity Apparatus: some preliminary notes”

Wednesday, June 1, 9:00-10:30

Venue: Trailer A 101

Corporate Power and Carboniferous Capitalism—Part 1

Chair and Organizer: William Carroll, University of Victoria, wcarroll@uvic.ca

This session welcomes papers that explore the social organization of corporate power in and around the carbon-extractive sector, broadly defined (including

petroleum and bitumen, natural gas, coal, and transport via pipelines etc.), whether extracted using conventional or unconventional methods. Papers may focus on any of a variety of modalities through which corporate power is expressed, including the strategic control of firms, elite networks, the allocative power of finance, operational power exercised within corporate chains of command, the power inscribed within transnational commodity chains, cultural power via media relations and corporate social responsibility initiatives, and political power vis-à-vis state bodies. While the social organization of corporate power is the main focus, papers that address how that power is contested in the struggle for a just transition to a better world are also welcome.

Speakers:

William Carroll, University of Victoria, wcarroll@uvic.ca

“Modalities of Corporate Power in Carboniferous Capitalism: An Overview”

Ian Hussey, Parkland Institute, ihussey@ualberta.ca; **Robert Hlatky**, University of Victoria, hlatky@uvic.ca

“Strategies of the Big 5 Oil Sands Producers During the Latest Price Downturn”

Bill Burgess, Kwantlen Polytechnic University, billburgess2@gmail.ca

“Inter-corporate ownership, finance capital and the Canadian Tar Sands”

Jamie Lawson, University of Victoria, lawsonj@uvic.ca

“Studying Production Chains and Networks of Fossil-Fuel Extraction in Western Canada”

Michael Bueckert, Carleton University, michael.bueckert@gmail.com

“Corporate Power and the Contradictions of Fossil Fuel Divestment”

Wednesday, June 1, 9:00-10:30

Venue: Trailer A 102

Roundtable: On the State of the Economics Discipline: Canadian and International Perspectives

Chair and Organizer: Radhika Desai, Geopolitical Economy Research Group, Radhika.Desai@umanitoba.ca

The criticism of neoclassical economics is almost as old as the discipline itself and the widespread questioning of its value after the 2008 financial crisis, complete with proposals for curriculum reform, was only the latest chapter of this long tradition. This panel places the current state of the post-crash discipline in this longer historical context going back to the powerful critiques of Keynes, Kalecki and Polanyi, tracing the dialectic between powerful intellectual critique confronted by the institutional power of 'paradigm maintenance'. The panel assesses the post-crash state of the struggle between neoclassical economics and its critics while placing key flashpoints in this struggle, whether what occurred a few years ago at the University of Notre Dame and what is occurring at the University of Manitoba today.

Speakers:

Robert Chernomas, University of Manitoba, Robert.Chernomas@umanitoba.ca

Alan Freeman, Geopolitical Economy Research Group, afreeman@iwgvt.org

Ian Hudson, University of Manitoba, Ian.Hudson@umanitoba.ca

Len Findlay, University of Saskatchewan, len.findlay@usask.ca

Wednesday, June 1, 9:00-10:30

Venue: Scurfield 157

Alternative Media, The Left, and Social Movement Struggles

Despite the bankruptcy of neoliberalism, at least since the onset of the global financial crisis in 2008, the left and social movements continue to struggle to reach out beyond the 'radical ghetto' to new audiences to bring about progressive social change. If the growth in accessibility of new digital technologies and social media platforms has 'solved' many obstacles that impeded alternative media in the 1990s, why do dominant media continue to set the political agenda and negatively frame social movements and left parties? What future is there if we are unable to build our movements through our own independent media – to communicate with each other without censorship or omission, and to represent ourselves, ideas and visions to others? This session calls for contributions, whether practical, theoretical and/or analytical, to consider how, why and where might alternative media contribute to building an alternative (party, movement, coalition) to austerity and crises affecting our communities. Papers might wish to draw upon examples from history or propose ways to advance alternative media or identify problems with the existing or previous thinking around the left and alternative media.

Chair and Organizer: Herbert Pimlott, Wilfred Laurier University, hpimlott@wlu.ca

Speakers:

Herbert Pimlott, Wilfred Laurier University, hmpimlott@wlu.ca

"Vanguard Media: Connecting Social Movements, Struggles and Strategy"

Rick Allan Hesch

"Protest Music and the Energizing of Counter-Hegemonic Resistance"

Derek Hrynyshyn, York University

"Mass, Alternative, and Social: What kind of Media for Oppositional Politics?"

Lewis Kaye, University of Toronto Scarborough, p.lewis.kaye@gmail.com

"Slow Media as Media Activism and Critical Praxis"

Wednesday, June 1, 9:00-10:30

Venue: TBA

Cross listed with Canadian Association for Studies in International Development

Confronting Capital: Community and Shopfloor struggles in Latin America and Africa

Chair and organizer: Susan Spronk, University of Ottawa,
susan.spronk@uottawa.ca

This panel explores the diverse struggles of shack-dwellers, small farmers and workers who are confronting capital at the point of production and beyond. United by a common theoretical perspective inspired by Marx, the contributors highlight the way that working peoples in Africa and Latin America are creatively fighting to rectify inequalities and build more democratic societies by fostering strategic alliances (both local and international), challenging stagist conceptions of 'development,' and organizing to raise popular consciousness of social inequalities related to oppression and exploitation. The panel invites a cross-regional comparison with theoretically informed papers that present fieldwork-based case studies from various countries in the two regions.

Speakers:

Adrian Murray, University of Ottawa, amurr061@uottawa.ca

"Capitalism, Class and Collective Identity: Social Movements and Public Services in South Africa"

Susan Spronk, University of Ottawa, susan.spronk@uottawa.ca and **Meera**

Karunanathan, Council of Canadians, mkarunanathan@canadians.org

"Struggling for Public Water and Saying 'No to Mining': A Comparative Analysis of the Movement for Water Justice in El Salvador"

Manuel Larrabure, York University, manuellarabure@hotmail.com

"Post-capitalist struggles in Argentina: the case of the worker recuperated enterprises"

Julia Hartviksen, London School of Economics, J.I.Hartviksen@lse.ac.uk

"Gendering Agro-Extractivism: Politicizing Violences Against Women in Guatemala's *Franja Transversal del Norte*"

Wednesday, June 1, 10:30-12:00

Venue: TBA (scheduled by CPSA)

Cross-listed with Canadian Political Science Association: Roundtable

Feminist Intersectional Ways Foreword in Response to Changing Public Services

This roundtable (1) presents findings from research undertaken as part of the feminist intersectional *Changing Public Services Research Network* (CPSRN), and (2) hosts an open dialogue about the next phase of the network's work to advance knowledge and practice related to diverse women's experiences with, and responses to, changing public services. Since 2013, CPSRN – a collaboration of academic, union, and community organization partners – has studied diverse

women's experiences with changing public services. CPSRN adopts a feminist intersectional and community engaged approach, and attends to how social relations are shaped within power-laden structures. Roundtable participants will discuss options for future foci, including ways to optimize the integration of feminist intersectional considerations into broader debates about public service changes and their consequences.

Organizers and Presenters:

Leah Levac, llevac@uoguelph.ca

Susan Braedley, susan.braedley@carlton.ca

Teresa Healy, Teresa.healy@sit.edu

Irene Jansen, ijansen@cupe.ca

Sarah Baker, sbaker@criaw-icref.ca

Wednesday, June 1, 10:30-12:00

Venue: MS-205

Cross-listed with the Canadian Association for Work and Labour Studies
Moving Beyond the Low Wage Economy: Strategies, Policies and Politics for a Living Wage

Organizer: Bryan Evans, Ryerson University, b1evans@politics.ryerson.ca

A central and enduring characteristic of capitalist labour markets for 25 or more years has been the stagnation in earned wages and income. This is a consequence of a restructuring of work organization and employment relations, more part-time, temporary, contract employment but also of a marked decline in the capacity of workers to bargain for better wages. The expansion of low waged work has, as a result, become increasingly normalized with dire consequences for social and economic equality, political contestation, and economic development. While primarily located in the private service sector, low waged work and strategies to pursue such, have entered into the public sector as states restrain compensation through austerity policies.

Speakers:

David Bush, York University

“The Fight for \$15: Debating Strategy in Canada and the United States”

Janet Dassinger, CUPE

“Fashion as workplace regulation: The Air Canada Rouge “Look Book” and the Devaluation of Flight Attendant Labour”

Bryan Evans, Ryerson University

“Alternatives to the Low Waged Economy: Insights from Living Wage Movements in Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United States”

Charity-Ann Hannan, Ryerson University, **Harald Bauder**, Ryerson University, & **John Shields**, Ryerson University

“The Living Wage and the Extremely Precarious: The Case of ‘Illegalized’ Migrant Workers”

Wednesday, June 1, 10:45-12:15

Venue: Scurfield 257

Crisis? What Crisis? – Part 3

Chair and Organizer: Ingo Schmidt, Athabasca University ingos@athabascau.ca

This session discusses the following questions:

Which kinds of crises is capitalism facing these days? Crises of the economy, ecology, legitimation, representation and/or hegemony? Do these crises affect only subsystems of capitalism or do they add up to an organic or general crisis of capitalism? Are these crises structural or conjunctural? What role can the left play in overcoming capitalist crises? Is the left in crisis, too? If so, what kind of crisis is that and how might it be overcome?

Benjamin Anderson, Simon Fraser University, bj19@sfu.ca

“Shattering the Illusion: Capitalist Legitimation and the Radical Imagination”

Ingo Schmidt, Athabasca University ingos@athabascau.ca

“It’s our own crisis, stupid!”

Errol L. Sharpe, Publisher and co-owner Fernwood Publishing Co. Ltd.,

errol@fernpub.ca

“Who’s Setting the Agenda?”

Wednesday, June 1, 10:45-12:15

Venue: Scurfield 157

Video Screening and Discussion: Sociology at the End of the World

Presenter: Garry Potter, Professor of Sociology at Wilfred Laurier University, Independent Documentary Film Maker, garrypotter34@aol.com

In this session, two half-hour long documentary films will be screened, followed by a short Q & A with the film-maker.

Film 1: "Sociology at the End of the World" examines the real dangers facing humanity and the (mis)representation of such through mainstream media and film.

Film 2: "Ideology: Marx, Althusser and Gramsci" briefly examines the key ideas of these three thinkers in a contemporary context.

Wednesday, June 1, 10:45-12:15

Venue: Trailer A 101

Corporate Power and Carboniferous Capitalism—Part 2

Chair and Organizer: William Carroll, University of Victoria, wcarroll@uvic.ca

Speakers:

Patrick McCurdy, University of Ottawa, pmccurdy@uottawa.ca

“Communicative Dilbit or Effluent? A Critical Examination of CAPP’s “Energy Citizens” Campaign”

Shannon Daub, Director of Communication & Researcher, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives - British Columbia, shannon@policyalternatives.ca

“Extractivism, austerity and dissent at the climate crossroads”

Carol Linnitt, University of Victoria, carollinnitt@gmail.com

“Co-opting the Grassroots: Industry and the Battle for Social License”

M. Derya Tarhan, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto, md.tarhan@mail.utoronto.ca

“Energy Democracy: A Critical Approach”

Wednesday, June 1, 10:45-12:15

Venue: Trailer A 102

Small States in a Multipolar World: Multipolarity and Different Strategies/Responses of Small States

Chair: Radhika Desai, University of Manitoba, Radhika.Desai@ad.umanitoba.ca

Organizers: Petar Kurecic, University North, Croatia, pkurecic@unin.hr and

Radhika Desai, University of Manitoba - Radhika.Desai@ad.umanitoba.ca

The third panel devoted to small states emphasizes the strategies of small states in the multipolar world, in general and in particular

organizations/alliances/integrations, such as NATO, the EU etc. The present multipolar world offers more possibilities to small states than unipolar or bipolar.

Nevertheless, it is important to study whether the traditional strategies, such as balancing, bandwagoning, cooperation, and integration are still viable or have the conditions changed, and the need for new strategies and/or combinations of the old ones has arisen.

Petar Kurecic, pkurecic@unin.hr

“Bandwagoning, Balancing, Neutrality, and Integration: Regional Differences Among the Small States’ Adaptation to Multi-Polarity”

Abdullah Al-Mamun, mamun5555@yahoo.com

“Small States in a Multi-Polar world: Strategies for Survival, Gaining Influence and Achieving Development in Balancing, Bandwagoning, and Mutual Cooperation”

Alberto Martinez Delgado, albertdelg@hotmail.com

“Fragmentation and Weakening of States, Instruments of Global Domination”

Sandya Nishanthi Gunasekara, sandya.gunasekara@griffithuni.edu.au

“Small states in international order: Can they be actors of their own rights?”

Wednesday, June 1, 13:15-14:45

Venue: Scurfield 257

Energizing Inspiration: Radical Women Remembered and Engaged

Chair and Organizer: Sandra Rein, University of Alberta, srein@ualberta.ca

This panel focuses on the contributions of particular women radicals with the goal of not just “remembering” but also engaging their contributions to theory, philosophy, organization, and radical thought broadly construed. In a sense, the panel is an act of reclamation, seeking to place women in their historical contexts and ensuring that their contributions and commitments are not simply displaced or excluded from our historical narratives and contemporary thinking. The focus of the paper can be a living or deceased “radical woman” whose legacy and contribution are often overlooked even among critical thinkers.

Speakers:

Sandra Rein, University of Alberta, srein@ualberta.ca

“Graphic Rosa: Rosa Luxemburg’s biography and political thought in Kate Evans’ graphic biography”

Janet Wesselius,

“Has the Personal Overshadowed the Political? Taking Emma Goldman seriously as Philosopher”

Stacey Haugen,

“You Don’t Know Helen: the overlooked and forgotten contributions of Helen McFarlane”

Ottokar Luban,

“Together with Rosa Luxemburg for Peace, Social Justice, and Revolution (August 1914 – November 1918): The Female German Spartacus Militants Clara Zetkin, Kaete Duncker, Mathilde Jacob, Fanny Jezierska, Berta Thalheimer”

Wednesday, June 1, 13:15-14:45

Venue: Trailer A 101

Alberta in Transition

Chair and Organizer: Trevor Harrison, Parkland Institute and the University of Lethbridge, trevor.harrison@uleth.ca

Alberta's 2015 provincial election saw the NDP come to power, ending nearly 44 years of Progressive Conservative rule. Was it a blip? Or does it signify deep changes in Alberta’s political, economic, and social structures? This session will explore ways of understanding the election.

Speakers:

Trevor Harrison, Parkland Institute and the University of Lethbridge, trevor.harrison@uleth.ca

“Political Identities in Alberta”

Steve Patten, University of Alberta, spatten@ualberta.ca

“Alberta Under the NDP: Assessing the Extent of Change in Politics and Governance”

Melanee Thomas, University of Calgary, thomasm@ucalgary.ca

“Explaining Alberta’s 2015 Election”

Wednesday, June 1, 13:15-14:45

Venue: Trailer A 102

Transformations and Traditions of Repression and Control

Chair and Organizer: Lesley Wood, York University ljwood@yorku.ca

This panel seeks those working to understand the changes and continuities in policing and security practices in protest and community contexts in Canada and internationally. These include militarization, surveillance, community policing, privatization, and spatial control, keeping in mind the ways that these trends affect Black communities and other communities of colour, indigenous communities, poor people and other marginalized groups.

Speakers:

Susan Dianne Brophy, Saint Jerome’s University, s3brophy@uwaterloo.ca

“Immigrant Fight-back: The Emancipatory Praxis of Ukrainian Canadians (1891-1919)”

Josephine L. Savarese, St. Thomas University, savarese@stu.ca

“Unsettling the Presumption of (Settler) Innocence in Homicides”

Jamie Magnusson, University of Toronto, jamielynn.magnusson@utoronto.ca; Judy

Grant, University of Toronto, judy.grant@mail.utoronto.ca

“Community Colleges and the Surveillance-Military Complex”

Ngozi Okidegbe, ngozi.okidegbe@mail.mcgill.ca

“A ‘Bad Rap’: The Implications of Rap Lyrics Being Admitted as Evidence in Criminal Trials”

Wednesday, June 1, 13:15-14:45

Venue: Scurfield 157

Twenty-First Century Socialism in Latin America

Chair and Organizer: Susan Spronk, University of Ottawa

Susan.Spronk@uOttawa.ca

Kristin Ciupa, Queen Mary University of London, k.ciupa@qmul.ac.uk

“Venezuelan Oil Development and the Bolivarian Revolution in Historical Context”

Richard Fidler, Independent Researcher and Essayist, rfidler_8@sympatico.ca

“Plurinational State, Indigenous Autonomy in Bolivia – and Canada?”

Ana Maria Peredo, University of Victoria, aperedo@uvic.ca

“El ‘Buen Vivir’: Re-Energizing South American Indigenous Peoples Struggles”

Wednesday, June 1, 13:30-15:00

Venue: MS-205

Cross-listed with the Canadian Association for Work and Labour Studies
Moving Beyond the Low Wage Economy: Strategies, Policies and Politics for a Living Wage

Organizer and Chair: Bryan Evans, Ryerson University,
b1evans@politics.ryerson.ca

A central and enduring characteristic of capitalist labour markets for 25 or more years has been the stagnation in earned wages and income. This is a consequence of a restructuring of work organization and employment relations, more part-time, temporary, contract employment but also of a marked decline in the capacity of workers to bargain for better wages. The expansion of low waged work has, as a result, become increasingly normalized with dire consequences for social and economic equality, political contestation, and economic development. While primarily located in the private service sector, low waged work and strategies to pursue such, have entered into the public sector as states restrain compensation through austerity policies.

Speakers:

Meg Luxton, York University

“Getting by but Dreaming of Normal: Low Wage Employment, Living in Toronto and the Crisis of Social Reproduction”

Patricia McDermott, York University

“Consumption and Young Minimum Wage Workers”

Pam Frache, Ontario Federation of Labour

“Raising the floor to set the bar: Reflections on minimum and living wage campaigns”

Carol-Anne Hudson, McMaster University

“Why is it so hard to raise the minimum wage to a living wage in Canada? A comparison of Calgary and Seattle’s living wage movements”

Wednesday, June 1, 13:30-15:00

Venue: MS-211

Cross-listed with the Canadian Association for Work and Labour Studies
Exploring the Employment Standard Enforcement Gap in Ontario

Organizer and Chair: Mark Thomas, York University, mpthomas@yorku.ca

Employment Standards (ES) set the minimum terms and conditions in areas such as wages, working time, vacations and leaves, and termination and severance of employment. In Ontario, over six million workers rely on ES as the only source of workplace protection. Yet available research shows that ES violations are widespread, while enforcement mechanisms remain weak. These papers are part of a long-term multi-disciplinary study of ES enforcement that explores the dimensions of ES violations, current enforcement practices, and alternative

approaches that might better meet the need to insure that precarious workers are able to enjoy basic labour market protections.

Speakers:

Rebecca Casey, York University, **John Grundy**, York University, **Andie M. Noack** Ryerson University, **Leah F. Vosko**, York University

“The Recovery of Unpaid Wages in Ontario”

Leah F. Vosko, York University, **Andrea M. Noack**, Ryerson University, **Mark Thomas**, York University

“Addressing the Employment Standards Coverage Gap”

Eric Tucker, York University, **Leah F. Vosko**, York University, **Andrea Noack**, Ryerson University, **Rebecca Casey**, York University, and **Maria Gintova**, Ryerson University

“Understanding Employment Standards Act Appeals”

Alan Hall, Memorial University, **Leah F. Vosko**, York University, **Rebecca Hall**, York University, **Nicole Bernhardt**, York University

“Dealing with the Hard Cases: Front-Line Constraints and Strategies in Employment Standards Enforcement”

Wednesday, June 1, 15:15-17:00

Venue: Science B 103

Keynote panel: Intersectionality and Socialist Feminism

Speakers: Abigail Bakan, Enakshi Dua, Meg Luxton

Wednesday, June 1, 15:30-17:00

Venue: MS-211

Cross-listed with the Canadian Association for Work and Labour Studies

Exploring the Employment Standard Enforcement Gap in Ontario

Organizer: Mark Thomas, York University, mpthomas@yorku.ca

Employment Standards (ES) set the minimum terms and conditions in areas such as wages, working time, vacations and leaves, and termination and severance of employment. In Ontario, over six million workers rely on ES as the only source of workplace protection. Yet available research shows that ES violations are widespread, while enforcement mechanisms remain weak. These papers are part of a long-term multi-disciplinary study of ES enforcement that explores the dimensions of ES violations, current enforcement practices, and alternative approaches that might better meet the need to insure that precarious workers are able to enjoy basic labour market protections.

Speakers:

Alan Hall (Memorial University), **Leah F. Vosko** (York University), **Rebecca Hall** (York University), **Nicole Bernhardt** (York University)

“Dealing with the Hard Cases: Front-Line Constraints and Strategies in Employment Standards Enforcement”

Ayesha Mian Akram (Windsor), **Shelley Condratto** (Laurentian University), **Mary Jean Hande** (University of Toronto), **Justin Kong** (University of Toronto)

“This is What Canada is REALLY Like? Comparing Immigrant and Canadian-born Workers’ Experiences of the Ontario ESA Claims Process”

Jennifer Jihye Chun (University of Toronto), **Shelley Condratto** (Laurentian University), **Stephanie MacKinnon** (OISE), **Elliot Siemiatycki** (Ryerson University)

“Violations without Claims: The Problem of Precarity and New Governance in the Culture of Employment Standards Enforcement in Ontario”

Thursday, June 2, 9:00-10:30

Venue: Scurfield 157

Governance and Democracy

Chair: Mojtaba Mahdavi, University of Alberta, mahdavia@ualberta.ca

Organizers: SSS

Speakers:

Thomas Haines-Doran, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, T_Haines-Doran@soas.ac.uk

“The Political Economy of Rail Privatization in Britain”

Dennis Pilon, York University, dpilon@yorku.ca

“Occupy Democracy: Exploring Democracy as a Relationship”

Laura Tocco, University of Cagliari, Italy, ltocco@unic.it

“The Redefinition of Social Borders: The Experiment of “Özgür Kazova”

Aina-Obe Shamsuddin Bolatito, Sudan University of Science and Technology, samtitooye@gmail.com

“Local Government and Public Value: A Prospect for Downtrodden Masses in Nigerian States”

Thursday, June 2, 9:00-10:30

Venue: Scurfield 257

Precarity and Internationalization in Higher Education

Chairs and Organizers: Lorin Geoffrey Yochim, Beijing Normal University lyochim@ualberta.ca; **Robert McGray**, Brock University, rmcgray@brocku.ca

This session includes scholars presenting theoretical and empirical perspectives on the internationalization of higher education, specifically as it relates to conditions of precarity. Analyses are either grounded in a particular geographical context (e.g., North America, East Asia, China), in an examination of relations between such contexts (e.g., North-South or East- West relations), or in a consideration of social

relations within and between institutions [e.g., tenured vs. contingent faculty, north-south MOUs].

Speakers:

Jarrold Kachur, University of Alberta, jkachur@ualberta.ca

“Scholars at Risk in the Neocapitalist ‘Teacher-less Classroom’: Colonizing Forces, Neoauthoritarian Micropolitics, and the Decline of Professional Autonomy”

Robert Ovetz, Lecturer, San Francisco State University and San José State University, rfovetz@riseup.net

“The Fast Food College: The Impact of On-Line Education on the Division of Academic Labor and Faculty Organizing”

Zuhra Abawi, University of Toronto, zuhra.abawi@mail.utoronto.ca

“Citizenship and Belonging in the Canadian Education System: Class, Race and Gender”

Vicki Macris, University of Alberta, macris@ualberta.ca

“The precarious existence of the contemporary secular feminist”

Thursday, June 2, 9:00-10:30

Venue: Scurfield 268

Book Launch: Escape from the Staple Trap

Organizer: Paul Kellogg, Athabasca University, pkellogg@athabascau.ca

From fur and fish to oil and minerals, Canadian development has often been understood through its relationship to export staples. This understanding has led many political economists to assume that Canadian economic development has followed a path similar to those of staple-exporting economies in the Global South, ignoring a more fundamental fact: as an advanced capitalist economy, Canada sits in the core of the world system, not on the periphery or semi-periphery. In *Escape from the Staple Trap*, Paul Kellogg challenges statistical and historical analyses that present Canada as weak and disempowered, lacking sovereignty and economic independence. In developing a sustained critique of the dominant trend in Canadian political economy since the 1970s, *Escape from the Staple Trap* offers an important new framework for understanding the distinctive features of Canadian political economy.

Chair: William Carroll, University of Victoria, wcarroll@uvic.ca

Speakers:

Radhika Desai, University of Manitoba, Radhika.Desai@ad.umanitoba.ca

James Lawson, University of Victoria, lawsonj@uvic.ca

Sandra Rein, University of Alberta, srein@ualberta.ca

Paul Kellogg, Athabasca University, pkellogg@athabascau.ca

Thursday, June 2, 9:00-10:30

Venue: Scurfield 202

Political Economy of Food Production in Northern Indigenous Communities

Chair and Organizer: Rebecca Schein, Carleton University,

Rebecca.Schein@cunet.carleton.ca

“Food insecurity” has become a mobilizing issue across Northern Canada for Indigenous communities who continue to face the twin challenges of contemporary capitalism: deepening structural inequality and climate change. Community members depend on locally harvested plants and wildlife (country food) for their sustenance, and yet while these resources are under threat, the social systems that support country food economies and that are integral to community life are also changing. In this panel we consider how local food economies are impacted by the forces of global capitalism, and how the study of political economy can inform our understanding of these changes. In holding this panel, we hope to deepen our theoretical understanding of local food economies and the role of the state and Indigenous institutions in shaping them, and to share new empirical insights from across Canada (and internationally, if relevant).

Speakers:

Rebecca Schein, Carleton University, Rebecca.Schein@cunet.carleton.ca

“Against harvesting as social reproduction: calculating the value of wildlife in the contemporary Arctic”

Joshua Gladstone, Gladstone.joshua@gmail.com

“Displacing Local Food Systems: The role of the welfare state in the advancement of capitalism in Canada’s North”

Deborah Simmons, Department of Native Studies, University of Manitoba, director@srrb.nt.ca

Thursday, June 2, 10:45-12:15

Venue: ICT-102

CAWLS Keynote: Kim Voss, University of California Berkeley

Neoliberal Dilemmas: Shifting Targets, Changing Repertoires, and Internal Democracy in the Labor Movement

Thursday, June 2, 10:45-12:15

Venue: Scurfield 268

Roundtable: Major Events and Issues in Today’s Geopolitical Economy

Organizers: Alan Freeman, Geopolitical Economy Research Group,

afreeman@iwgvt.org; **Radhika Desai**, University of Manitoba,

Radhika.Desai@ad.umanitoba.ca

Chair: Radhika Desai, University of Manitoba, Radhika.Desai@ad.umanitoba.ca

This session will feature panelists discussing major issues in world affairs today and offering reflections on them and discussion will focus on how they might be connected. Panelists will also remark, as necessary on how existing paradigms of understanding world affairs, including 'globalization' and 'empire' are inadequate to understanding them and how we need to develop geopolitical economy if it is to do better.

Speakers:

Sabah Alnasseri, York University, alnasseri@yorku.ca

Paul Kellogg, Athabasca University, pkellogg@athabascau.ca

Petar Kurecic, University North, Croatia, pkurecic@unin.hr

Thursday, June 2, 10:45-12:15

Venue: Scurfield 257

Idle No More

Organizer: Tom Langford, University of Calgary

Speakers:

Cora Voyageur, University of Calgary, voyageur@ucalgary.ca

Heather Divine, University of Calgary, hdivine@ucalgary.ca

Thursday, June 2, 10:45-12:15

Venue: Scurfield 157

Roundtable: Recognition and Socialism: Whither Class Struggle?

Convener: Igor Shoikhedbrod, University of Toronto, ishoikhed@gmail.com

In his most recent work, the eminent German philosopher Axel Honneth makes the case for a revamped understanding of socialism. It is telling, however, that the normative foundation on which Honneth basis his idea of socialism eschews any consideration of class struggle. Yet, since Honneth's social philosophy concerns itself with social struggles for recognition, it is worth inquiring whether the theory of recognition can offer conceptual tools for analyzing contemporary forms of class struggle. This international roundtable will also examine the extent to which the theory of recognition provides a helpful strategy for re-actualizing the idea of socialism in the 21st century.

Speakers:

Victor Kempf V.Kempf@em.uni-frankfurt.de

"Universality Mediated by Class Struggle: Politicizing Honneth's Idee des Sozialismus"

Arthur Bueno, artbueno@gmail.com

"The Politics of Social Pathology"

Igor Shoikhedbrod ishoikhed@gmail.com

“Class Struggle or the Blackmail of the Single Alternative?”

Clifton Mark, clifton.mark@utoronto.ca

“Why Honneth’s Formal Conception of Ethical Life Cannot Serve as the Basis for Social Struggle”

Thursday, June 2, 10:45-12:15

Venue: Scurfield 202

Roundtable: From International Solidarity Towards a Pan-Canadian Left Alternative

Chair and Organizer: André Frappier, National Leadership of Québec Solidaire, afrappier34@gmail.com

As the global economic crisis deepens, social movements throughout the advanced capitalist world are responding with struggles against austerity and for greater sovereignty and democracy. In North America, Quebec has been at the forefront of such struggles and its bid for emancipation and the creation of a sovereign state can play a dynamic role in bringing about the kinds of far-reaching social change that will necessarily transform the Canadian state as a whole. Meanwhile, the left in the Rest of Canada is involved in social issues and trying to organize at the federal level. The Leap Manifesto played an important role and the NDP convention, but what is the strategy behind? Building towards a convergence of social movements in English Canada, Quebec and First Nations is one of the essential tasks that was set out at the Peoples’ Social Forum in Ottawa in 2014. The question remains: How can we follow through on it?

Speakers:

André Frappier, Montréal, Member of National Leadership of Québec Solidaire, afrappier34@gmail.com

Matthew Brett, Solidarity Winnipeg, brett.matthew@yahoo.ca

Sarah Beuhler, Former executive director of COPE Vancouver, sbeuhler@gmail.com

Tahia Ahmed, Critical Muslim Voices and BC Muslim Association, Vancouver, tahia.ahmed@gmail.com

David Bush, Toronto, Rankandfile.ca, davidmobush@gmail.com

Thursday, June 2, 13:15-14:45

Venue: Scurfield 202

Roundtable: The Politics of Fossil Fuel Divestment

Convener: James K. Rowe, University of Victoria, jkrowe@uvic.ca

This roundtable will explore the emergence, impacts, and future trajectories of the fossil fuel divestment movement. Naomi Klein has argued that “no tactic in the climate wars has resonated more powerfully.” If that is the case, then why? What can other movements learn about the relatively rapid spread of fossil fuel

divestment? What dangers lurk in the uneasy alliances forming between fractions of the finance industry and this fledgling movement? Does the movement effectively prefigure democratic control over collective wealth like pensions, endowments, and sovereign wealth funds? How is the movement contributing to the ongoing project of decolonization? How might these intersections be strengthened? This roundtable will be an opportunity explore the politics of fossil fuel divestment more generally, while also facilitating a discussion of concrete tactics for those who are already engaged in campaigns, or looking to help start one.

Speakers:

James Rowe, University of Victoria, jkrowe@uvic.ca

Carol Linnitt, Desmog Canada, carol@desmog.ca

Matt Hoffman, University of Toronto, mjhoff@utsc.utoronto.ca

George Hoberg, University of British Columbia, george.hoberg@ubc.ca

Emilia Belliveau-Thompson, University of Victoria, emilia.belliveau@gmail.com

Thursday, June 2, 13:15-14:45

Venue: Scurfield 157

Foreshortened and Displaced Critiques of Capitalism in the Global Justice Movement

Organizer: Regina Cochrane, University of Calgary, r.cochrane@ucalgary.ca

Chair: Nidhi Panwar, University of Calgary, nidhi.panwar@ucalgary.ca

Neoliberal globalization has been accompanied by the rise of resistance movements/spaces in both the Global North and South – Occupy, Via Campesina, Andean indigenism, the World Social Forum, etc. – and writers/academics supporting this “newest left.” Strongly influenced by populism, nationalism, and/or academia’s “cultural turn,” many of these challenge neoliberalism and/or transnational finance capitalism rather than capitalism per se. Some even go so far as to reduce neoliberalism to its “cultural underpinnings” in (Enlightenment) modernity and its universalizing tendencies. Papers should address the following questions: What are the political implications of such foreshortened and displaced critiques of capitalism? Are they merely reformist or do they embody deeper contradictions?

Speakers:

Regina Cochrane, University of Calgary, r.cochrane@ucalgary.ca

“Against (Neoliberal) Globalization: Foreshortened and Displaced Critiques of Capitalism at the World Social Forum”

Andony Melathopoulos, University of Calgary,
andony.melathopoulos@ucalgary.com,

“If climate ‘changes everything,’ why does so much remain the same?”

Evgeniia Sidorova, University of Calgary, evgeniia.sidorova@ucalgary.ca

“Marxism and Aboriginal Peoples in the Soviet Union”

Murray Cooke, York University, mcooke@yorku.ca
“The Use and Abuse of ‘Populism’ in Contemporary North American Left Politics”

Thursday, June 2, 13:15-14:45

Venue: Scurfield 268

Blackness, Gender, and Class

Chair and Organizer: Abigail Bakan, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto, abigail.bakan@utoronto.ca

Frantz Fanon’s chapter, “The Fact of Blackness” in *Black Skin, White Masks* (1967) starkly notes the experience of being “an object in the midst of other objects.” Citing the Hegelian moment of “being for others,” Fanon notes the specific ontological reality that frames colonialism in terms of the body, consciousness, negation and the gaze. Contemporary Blackness studies draws upon Fanon’s work, as well as leading Marxist scholars such as WEB DuBois, CLR James and Angela Davis. This panel draws on current research that attends to these conversations, with a focus on the intersection of Blackness, gender and class.

Speakers:

Rosalind Hampton, McGill University, rosalind.hampton@mcgill.ca

“(Re)Conceiving Blackness”

Abigail B. Bakan, University of Toronto abigail.bakan@utoronto.ca; **Daiva**

Stasiulis, Carleton University, dstasi@ccs.carleton.ca

“Revisiting ‘Negotiating Citizenship’ for Caribbean Women in Live-in Domestic Labour: Anti-Blackness, Gender and Class”

Grace-Edward Galabuzi, Ryerson University, galabuzi@politics.ryerson.ca

“Contextualizing the Insurgency in the early Twenty-First Century: Black experience and its race, gender, class and colonial dimensions”

Thursday, June 2, 13:15-14:45

Venue: Scurfield 257

Cross-listed with the Canadian Association for Work and Labour Studies

Organizing for Socialism – Part One

Chair and Organizer: Ingo Schmidt, Athabasca University, ingos@athabascau.ca

Neoliberal capitalism is in a crisis of legitimacy. In many countries, though, it is the political right, rather than the left, that thrives on that crisis. In Canada, an organized socialist voice is all but absent. This session explores the reasons for the weakness of the left and possible ways out of it. It includes papers dealing with the following questions:

- What are recent experiences the left can learn from?
- Which role do unions and social movements play in reinventing socialism?

- Does socialism need a new type of party? What would that look like?

Speakers:

Ingo Schmidt, Athabasca University, ingos@athabascau.ca

“Limits to Social Democracy, Populist Movements, and Left Alternatives”

Brent Toye, York University, toye@yorku.ca

“Broken Mirrors: The Representational Crises and Organizational Fragmentation of Swedish Civil Society during the Neoliberal Turn”

Benjamin O’Heran, University of Victoria, oheranbc@gmail.com

“Decolonial Intimacy: (Re)creating communities of Co-Resistance”

Thursday, June 2, 15:00-16:30

Venue: Scurfield 202

Indigenous Resistance and Questions of Economy

Chair and Organizer: Greer Brabazon, Independent Scholar

greerbrabazon@gmail.com

Exploring the possibility of solidifying Indigenous/non-Indigenous solidarity systems and plausibility of decolonizing the economy, this panel draws out particular points of resistance within the larger decolonization movement that, in part, combine Indigenous and Socialist approaches, including the contradictions, challenges, and compatibilities therein. This panel asks if the connections, claims, and assertions of Socialism are compatible within Indigenous-based decolonization framework, ultimately asking: Can we indigenize the economy in a way that is truly decolonial?

Speakers:

Peter Kulchyski, Department of Native Studies, University of Manitoba,

peter.kulchyski@umanitoba.ca

“In the Marrow of Dissent: Social Justice and Hydro Politics in Rural Indigenous Manitoba”

Renee Erica McBeth, Department of Political Science, University of Alberta,

rmbeth@ualberta.ca

“The ethics of interruption: Unsettling Participatory Anti-Poverty Research”

Greer Brabazon, Independent Scholar, greerbrabazon@gmail.com

“Indigenous Rap and the Economies of Cultural Resistance”

Thursday, June 2, 15:00-16:30

Venue: Scurfield 257

JOINT SESSION, co-sponsored by the Canadian Association for Work and Labour Studies: Organizing for Socialism – Part Two

Chair and Organizer: Ingo Schmidt, Athabasca University ingos@athabascau.ca

Neoliberal capitalism is in a crisis of legitimacy. In many countries, though, it is the political right, rather than the left, that thrives on that crisis. In Canada, an organized socialist voice is all but absent. This session explores the reasons for the weakness of the left and possible ways out of it. It includes papers dealing with the following questions:

- What are recent experiences the left can learn from?
- Which role do unions and social movements play in reinventing socialism?
- Does socialism need a new type of party? What would that look like?

Speakers:

Matt Fodor, York University, mattnfodor@gmail.ca

“What Happened to the Left of the NDP? Can it be Revived?”

Roger Annis, Editor, The New Cold War: Ukraine and Beyond, & the Canada Haiti Action Network, rogerannis@hotmail.com

“Building a Socialist Alternative in Canada Since World War 2”

Yuri Forbes-Petrovich, Centre for the Study of Theory and Criticism, University of Western Ontario, yforbesp@uwo.ca

“Bernie Sanders and the Organization of a Contemporary Vanguard”

Thursday, June 2, 15:00-16:30

Venue: Scurfield 268

Workshop: Economics for Activists: Report and Dialogue on a Work in Progress

Chair and Organizer: Kim Pollock, kbpollock64@gmail.com

The current generation of community and labour activists is committed to social change but often lack a coherent critique of capitalism. We hope to offer a series of workshops titled “Economics for Activists”. Combining the techniques of peer-led enquiry with a curriculum based on Marxist economics, we tentatively plan to pilot the workshops in Saskatoon this fall, hopefully followed by similar workshops in the Lower Mainland. Our session will present brief accounts of peer-led learning, our proposed curriculum and some of the research that will aid in the development of pedagogy and curriculum.

Speakers:

Kim Pollock, kbpollock64@gmail.com

Cheryl Hewitt, cherylhewitt54@gmail.com

Marion Craft, marionhewittpollock@gmail.com

Thursday, June 2, 15:00-16:30

Venue: Scurfield 157

Socialist Studies Journal Session for New Scholars

Chair and Organizer: Sandra Rein, University of Alberta, srein@ualberta.ca

Although this session is open to everyone, special attention will be paid to assisting new scholars in pursuing scholarly publication in the journal *Socialist Studies*. The session will be led by the current editor, Dr. Sandra Rein and joined by Editorial Board members. Topics will include: assessing the “fit” between your work and the journal mandate; presenting your manuscript; and dealing with peer review and revisions.

Thursday, June 2, 7:00-9:30 PM

Venue: Scurfield 268

Caste Oppression Today: Documentaries and Discussion

Chair: Major Mal, Ambedkar International Mission Canada, Calgary

Discussants: Raj Kamble, President, Dr. Ambedkar International Mission Inc. USA, Dallas

Jai Birdi, Executive Director, Chetna Association of Canada, Vancouver

Naleem Mal, M.Ed., Twelve Mile Coulee School,

Documentary Films: *Shit*, RP Amudan India, 2003, 26 minutes

<http://events.fullhyderabad.com/shit-a-documentary-by-r-p-amudhan/2007-january/tickets-dates-videos-reviews-19169-1.html>

The Backward Class, NFB Canada, 2014, 90 minutes,

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

Friday, June 3, 8:45-10:15

Venue: TBA

Cross-listed with the Canadian Association for Latin American and Caribbean Studies

Extractive Industries and Organized Violence in Central America, Mexico and Columbia

Organizer: Simon Granovsky-Larson, University of Regina, simon.granovsky-larson@uregina.ca

Transnational corporations involved in extractive industries such as mining and hydroelectric production are currently enjoying a wave of expansion across Latin America, extracting resources and wealth despite community resistance. This growth is facilitated officially by states, and backed up by state forces as well as by an array of non-state armed groups. As intimidation tactics, violent attacks, and assassinations have become the norm, this panel asks who the organized armed groups involved are, and what relationship exists between armed actors, transnational corporations, and local and foreign governments. The panel aims to identify common threads across case studies from Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, and Colombia.

Speakers:

Simon Granovsky-Larson, University of Regina, simon.granovsky-larson@uregina.ca; **Caren Weisbart**, York University, caren@riseup.net
“Extracted by Force: Violent Norms in the Implementation of Mining Projects in Guatemala”

Jasmin Hristov, McMaster University, jasminmanaus@gmail.com
“Violence, the Commodification of Women and the Destruction of Childhood in a Paramilitary-dominated Society”

Tyler Shipley, York University, tyshipley@hotmail.com
“Land Seizure, Dispossession, and Canadian Mega-Projects in Honduras”

Dawn Paley, Universidad Autónoma de Puebla, dawnpaley@gmail.com
“The Alliance for Prosperity and the Promotion of Extractive Industries under the Paradigm of the War on Drugs”

Friday, June 3, 9:00-10:30

Venue: Science A-124A

Cross-listed with the Canadian Sociological Association

Political Sociology

Session Organizer and Chair: Ivanka Knezevic, University of Toronto

Session Discussant: Carly Elizabeth Schall, Indiana University Purdue University - Indianapolis

Political sociology is a vibrant field with constantly redefined boundaries. The session features empirical papers in sociology that focus on the political realm broadly defined, to include power relations in diverse areas of social life and among a wide variety of actors: governmental and non-governmental institutions, organisations, and citizens. Diverse and intersecting bases of political engagement, including class, identity, and citizenship are of interest, as are investigations of the political process itself.

Speakers:

Douglas Baer, University of Victoria

“Public Opinion, Voting and the Politics of Inequality in Canada, 2004-2011”

Marie-Philippe Lemoine, University of Ottawa

“What’s the plan(t)? Different Perspectives on Cannabis Legalization”

Benjamin Christensen, York University

“Power, society, and the drivers of change: Ontario occupational pension policy 1987- 2016”

Friday, June 3, 9:00-10:30

Venue: Scurfield 257

Marxist Debates on Commodification and Colonialism

Organizers: SSS

Mervyn Nicholson, Thompson Rivers University, mnicholson@tru.ca
“Commodifying Children”

Keith Haysom, University of Ottawa, k_haysom@yahoo.ca
“Is The Precariat a Class? Thoughts on a Diagonalist Reconstruction of Class Struggle”

Jason Chalmers, University of Alberta, chalmers@ualberta.ca
“Genocide as colonial recognition: Using ‘genocide’ to reproduce colonised subjects”

Ginette Thomas, School of Social Work, Carleton University,
ginette.thomas@carleton.ca

“Why do Health and Social Inequalities Persist in Indigenous Communities?”

Friday, June 3, 9:00-10:30

Venue: Scurfield 202

Book Launch/Panel Discussion: *The Economics and Politics of Austerity, Resistance, and Alternatives*

Chair and Organizer: Carlo Fanelli, Ryerson University, carlo.fanelli@ryerson.ca
In *The Servant State: Overseeing Capital Accumulation in Canada*, Geoff McCormack and Thom Workman explore economic stagnation and the retreat of working-class organizations, as well as Canada’s experience through the “age of austerity” and highlight how this experience has been shaped by the exigencies of capitalist development and the catalyzing role of the Canadian state. In *Megacity Malaise: Neoliberalism, Labour and Public Services*, Carlo Fanelli focuses on the neoliberal transformation of cities in Ontario, with special attention to Toronto. He argues that cities have been underfinanced, which has led to a deterioration of public services based on the contention that they are unaffordable. He puts forward a range of social policy alternatives to austerity, drawing attention to labour-community coalitions as the most effective strategy for building resistance against neoliberalism. William Carroll in *Expose, Oppose Propose: Cognitive Praxis in the Struggle for Social Justice*, explores the networks, discourses and practices through which transnational alternative policy groups exert political and cultural influence and assesses the challenges they face as transnational change agents in an era of economic and ecological crisis. Based on in depth interviews with members of transnational alternative policy groups from across the globe, this book illustrates the importance these organizations play in disseminating progressive, socially just knowledge in both mainstream and alternative media, collaborating with social movements and developing and implementing alternative ideas.

Speakers:

Thom Workman, University of New Brunswick, wworkman@unb.ca

Geoff McCormack, Wheelock College, gmccormack@wheelock.edu

Carlo Fanelli, Ryerson University, carlo.fanelli@ryerson.ca

William Carroll, University of Victoria, wcarroll@uvic.ca

Friday, June 3, 9:00-10:30

Venue: Scurfield 268

Caste Oppression Today I: Violence, Human Rights, and Justice

Organizer and Chair: **Regina Cochrane**, University of Calgary,
rcochran@ucalgary.ca

Papers:

Sandeep Chavan, Ambedkarite activist USA

“Caste Oppression Today: Root Causes and Remedies”

Nidhi Panwar, University of Calgary

“Caste-based Violence against Dalits in the Context of the Anti-Reservation Riots”

Dr. Raj Narnaware, MacEwan University

“Human Rights Violations against Dalits in India”

Raj Kamble, Dr. Ambedkar International Mission Inc. U.S.A

“Caste Oppression Today and India's Justice System”

Friday, June 3, 10:45-12:15

Venue: Science A-124A

Cross-listed with the Canadian Sociological Association

Political Sociology

Organizer: Ivanka Knezevic, knezevic@cass.utoronto.ca

Session Discussant: Stephen Marmura, St. Francis Xavier University

Political sociology is a vibrant field with constantly redefined boundaries. The session invites empirical papers in sociology that focus on the political realm broadly defined, to include power relations in diverse areas of social life and among a wide variety of actors: governmental and non-governmental institutions, organisations, and citizens. Diverse and intersecting bases of political engagement, including class, identity, and citizenship are of interest, as are investigations of the political process itself.

Speakers:

Ali Dadgar, dadgar@uwindsor.ca; **Roozbeh Hatami**, hatamir@uwindsor.ca

“Introducing the ‘Republic’ Political Structure as an intermediary to the Oil Rentier State Theory: The Case of the Islamic Republic of Iran (1979-present)”

Mushahid Hussain, mushahid.mh@gmail.com

“Labor Politics in the Age of ‘Precarity’: Lessons from the Bangladeshi garment sector”

Carly Schall, Purdue University

“Three Histories of Patient-Centered Care”

Friday, June 3, 10:45-12:15

Venue: Scurfield 157

Parenthetically Settled: Raced and Gendered Bodies Negotiate Imperialist Academe

Chair and Organizers: **Katie Aubrecht**, Mount Saint Vincent University, katieaubrecht@gmail.com, **Stephanie Latty**, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto, sk.latty@gmail.com, **Isabel Mackenzie Lay**, Artist, Mental Health Counselor and Gestalt Psychotherapy Student, Isabelmackenzielay@gmail.com, **Tania Ruiz-Chapman**, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto, t.ruiz.chapman@mail.utoronto.ca

Although colonial universities saw themselves as being part of an international community and inheritors of a legacy of Western knowledge, they were also part of historical processes of imperialism. They were established as a central part of the colonizing process, a bastion of civilization and a sign that a colony and its settlers had 'grown up'. (Smith, 1999, p. 65) This session is energized by Tuhiwai Smith's understanding of the role of universities in legitimizing and reproducing imperialist orders. We seek to examine the infantilization, pathologization and surveillance of gendered, racialized, indigenous, LGBTQ2S and disabled challenges to capitalism within academe.

Speakers:

Katie Aubrecht, Mount Saint Vincent University, katieaubrecht@gmail.com; **Isabel Mackenzie Lay**, Artist, Counsellor and Gestalt Psychotherapy Student, isabelmackenzielay@gmail.com

"Parenthetical Belonging: Women Students Discuss the Gendered Organization of University Life and Labour"

Stephanie Latty, Department of Social Justice Education, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, sklatty@gmail.com

"Space Invaders: The Racial-Spatial Logics of the Black Feminine Body in Academe"

Angele Alook, Alberta Union of Provincial Employees, a.alook@aupe.org

"Identifying as an Indigenous scholar: a strategic decision in my career?"

Blake Hawkins, University of British Columbia, blake.hawkins@alumni.ubc.ca

"Recognizing White Privilege in #CritLib: The Ability to Critique Whiteness in the Neoliberalized Academy"

Friday, June 3, 10:45-12:15

Venue: Scurfield 257

Social Reproduction: Theory Meets Empirical Inquiry

Chair and Organizer: **Susan Braedley**, Carleton University, susan.braedley@carleton.ca

Social reproduction has become one of the most promising and exciting concepts for research on contemporary social life, used in multiple ways, with developments in

geography, indigenous studies, labour and activism, studies of care and many more. This session includes papers that capture and explore some of this richness, in order to inquire how this concept is being employed and the promise it holds. What is the relationship between social reproduction and capitalism NOW, and how does a social reproduction perspective foster analyses of all oppressions – gender, race, class, sexuality, ability and more –including their connections? Can social reproduction inspire us to imagine bold, emancipatory futures and if so, how?

Speakers:

Susan Braedley, Carleton University, susan.braedley@carleton.ca

“Slow Violence and Bare Life in Canadian Cities: Social Reproduction and the Reluctant Welfare State”

Leslie J. Nichols, Osgoode Hall Law School, lesliejane.nichols@ryerson.ca

“Social Reproduction, Motherhood and Unemployment”

Meg Luxton, York University, mluxton@yorku.ca

“The Production of Life Itself: Beyond Neoliberalism and Social Reproduction”

Friday, June 3, 10:45-12:15

Venue: Scurfield 202

Book Launch: A World to Win

Chair: Kanchan Sarker, UBC-Okanagan, kanchan.sarker@ubc.ca

In this time of economic, ecological and social crises, a diverse array of collective movements carry the possibilities of deep democratization and alternative futures. *A World to Win* brings these movements alive as agents of history-in-the-making. Using theory and case studies, this book articulates the particular histories and structures facing social movements while offering analyses of our current era of crisis and change—in Canada and the world. In this session, contributing authors – including well-known political and social theorists, activist-intellectuals who have made significant contributions to movement politics and emerging voices in this field – will reflect on their analyses.

Speakers:

William Carroll, University of Victoria, wcarroll@uvic.ca

Laurie Adkin, University of Alberta, ladkin@ualberta.ca

James Rowe, University of Victoria, jkrowe@uvic.ca

Mark Stoddart, Memorial University of Newfoundland, mstoddart@mun.ca

Michael Bueckert, Carleton University, michael.bueckert@gmail.com

Friday, June 3, 10:45-12:15

Venue: Scurfield 268

Caste Oppression Today II: Cultural and Strategic Dimensions

Organizer: **Regina Cochrane**, University of Calgary, rcochran@ucalgary.ca

Chair: **Nidhi Panwar**, Department of Political Science, University of Calgary

Papers:

Siddhartha Valicharla, KnowRealIndia.com, USA, "Effects of Caste on Modern India – Sports

Pranali Garud, WITS South Africa, "Dalit Camera: 'Through an Untouchable Eye'"*

Rama Krishna Bhupathi, Board of Directors, Ambedkar International Center, USA, "Taking Ambedkar Forward: Tackling Rampant Caste Oppression in Indian Context"

Jai Birdi, Executive Director, Chetna Association of Canada, Vancouver, "Dalit Assertion – Strategic Considerations"

Friday, June 3, 13:45-15:15

Venue: Science A-124A

Cross-listed with the Canadian Sociological Association

Session Organizer and Discussant: **Ivanka Knezevic**, University of Toronto

Session Chair: TBA

Political sociology is a vibrant field with constantly redefined boundaries. The session invites empirical papers in sociology that focus on the political realm broadly defined, to include power relations in diverse areas of social life and among a wide variety of actors: governmental and non-governmental institutions, organisations, and citizens. Diverse and intersecting bases of political engagement, including class, identity, and citizenship are of interest, as are investigations of the political process itself.

Speakers:

Anya Litviniuc, University of Calgary

"Centre right and Far right: Competition or Alliance?"

Andrew Patterson, University of Lethbridge

"Electoral Systems and Population Health"

Margaret Bancarz, Ryerson University

"Food Policy-Making in Canada: The Return of the State?"

Friday, June 3, 13:45-15:15

Venue: Scurfield 268

Caste Oppression Today III: Gender and Class Intersections

Organizers: **Regina Cochrane**, University of Calgary, rcochran@ucalgary.ca and **Raj Narnaware**

Chair: **Raj Narnaware**, MacEwan University

Speakers:

KP Ashwini, St. Joseph Arts and Science College, Bengaluru, India, and **Areesh**

Kumar Karamala, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, "Interlinks of Caste and

Gender: Interpreting Humiliation and Discrimination through Dalit Women's Bodies"*

Jaspreet Mahal, Fulbright Scholar, Brandeis University, Boston, and **Dadasaheb Tandale**, CARE India, "Caste and Gender Intersections in the Paradigm of Health Services"

Karthik Navayan Battula, EFL University, Hyderabad, "Caste in Context of Globalization: The Perception of International Aid Agencies"*

Suraj Yengde, WITS, Johannesburg, and Harvard University, Boston, "Oppressed Caste Capitalism"

Friday, June 3, 13:45-15:15

Venue: Scurfield 157

Critical Enquiries into Marxist Theory and History—Part One

Chair: Jamie Lawson, University of Victoria, lawsonj@uvic.ca

Organizers: SSS

Alberto Martínez-Delgado, albertdelg@hotmail.com

"De-Re-Energizing the Dialectic"

Karen Marie Walker Brogan, York University, k162walker@gmail.com

"The Self-overcoming of Identity Thinking: Reinterpreting the Nietzschean Foundation of Negative Dialectics"

Jeremy Hexham, University of Calgary, jjhexham@shaw.ca

"The Fabian Society's Discovery of Cultural Hegemony"

Friday, June 3, 13:45-15:15

Venue: Scurfield 257

Contemporary Sites of Feminist Critique

Organizers: SSS

Chair: TBA

Christina Rousseau, York University, christina.rousseau@gmail.com

"All in the Family? How Marginalized Women Experience the Nuclear Family Structure (Or Don't)"

Jean Chapman, Simone de Beauvoir Institute, Concordia University, chapman@wilkinson.ca

"The women's movement and the 'woman question'"

Kanchan Sarker, University of British Columbia-Okanagan, sarkerk@gmail.com

"Unionisation and Inclusive Civic Infrastructure: Report from Mumbai's Female Home-based Workers"

Lauren Janelle Montgomery, Carleton University

"Post Modern Cities and the Neoliberal Imaginary: Gentrification and Sex Workers in Canada"

Friday, June 3, 15:30-17:00

Venue: Science A-124A

Cross-listed with the Canadian Sociological Association

Political Sociology

Organizer: Ivanka Knezevic, University of Toronto, knezevic@cass.utoronto.ca

Political sociology is a vibrant field with constantly redefined boundaries. The session features empirical papers in sociology that focus on the political realm broadly defined, to include power relations in diverse areas of social life and among a wide variety of actors: governmental and non-governmental institutions, organisations, and citizens. Diverse and intersecting bases of political engagement, including class, identity, and citizenship are of interest, as are investigations of the political process itself.

Speakers:

Stephen Marmura, St. Francis Xavier University smarmura@stfx.ca

“Is the Medium the Message? Assessing WikiLeaks’ impact in the context of a Legitimation Crisis”

Tyler David Dunford, University of Alberta tdunford@ualberta.ca

“Legal Nominalism and the War on Terror: A look at new Post-9/11 Legal Complexes”

Katherine Pendakis, Western University kpendaki@uwo.ca

“The Politics of Kinship in Post-Civil War Greece”

Azar Masoumi, York University amasoumi@yorku.ca

“Incest and Murder: Taboos and Donald Trump’s Politics of Security”

Friday, June. 3, 15:30-17:00

Venue: Scurfield 157

Critical Enquiries into Marxist Theory and History—Part Two

Chair: Tom Langford, University of Calgary, langford@ucalgary.ca

Organizers: SSS

Sophie Mireielle Lavoie,

“Carmen Aguirre’s Writing: ‘Terrorist’ or Revolutionary?”

Martin Schoots-McAlpine, Trent University, martin.schoots.mcalpine@gmail.com

“The Communist Party of Canada and the Popular Front: A Critical History”

Kaveh Boveiri, Université de Montréal, “Arms Industry Analysis based on the Grundrisse”

Friday, June. 3, 15:30-17:00

Venue: Scurfield 257

Marcuse’s Legacy and the Twilight of Postmodernism

Organizer: Thom Workman, University of New Brunswick, wworkman@unb.ca
An exploration of the continuing relevance of Herbert Marcuse's critique as we pass through the twilight of postmodernism.

Speakers:

David Bedford,

“Nature as Resistance: ODM and Liberating Sublimation”

Tom Cheney,

“Art and the Experience of Nature in Marcuse's Aesthetic Dimension”

Terry Maley,

“Marcuse's Resilience: The Dialectics of Liberation in the era of Neoliberal/Post-Modern Decline”

Thom Workman, University of New Brunswick, wworkman@unb.ca

“Marcuse and the Science Question”

Friday, June 3, 15:30-17:00

Venue: Scurfield 210

Canadian Dimension Book Launch

Organizer: Cy Gonick, University of Manitoba, gonick@cc.umanitoba.ca

(Details TBA)

Other information for program

The Society for Socialist Studies is co-sponsoring a free public event to celebrate the history of labour and the left in Alberta. The event will feature a performance of Juno-award nominated singer Maria Dunn's new "video ballad," *Packingtown*, about the history of the meat packing industry in Alberta. *Packingtown* involves archival research, recording oral histories, scanning photographs and writing songs inspired by the people who worked in Alberta meatpacking plants between the early 1900s and the 1980s.

WHEN: SUNDAY, 29 MAY 2016 FROM 3:00 PM TO 5:00 PM

WHERE: Calgary Public Library - Central Library - 616 Macleod Trail Southeast
Calgary- View Map

Reserve your ticket at <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/packingtown-maria-dunn-in-concert-tickets-21839860611>

SSS Pub Night and Book Prize Award

Tuesday May 31, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. (but feel free to arrive early since Postino will be open, and it has a great patio if the weather is good)

Where? Postino Café and Lounge, 2520 Capitol Hill Crescent NW, Calgary. [Walking distance from the University of Calgary campus — next to the SE corner of campus, just across Crowchild Trail. Postino is beside the train line (underground at this point) and is closest to the Banff Trail station.]

Info. Postino is a small café that holds a maximum of 38 people. We have booked it for our exclusive use between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. You will be able to buy supper at Postino after the walking tour in downtown Calgary. The café also sells craft beers, wine, a wide range of specialty coffees and snacks.