

In Critical Solidarity

Newsletter of the Labor and Labor Movements Section American Sociological Association

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2003 ASA Meetings: We'll have two sessions and a roundtable session.

"New Perspectives on Labor Movement Theory and Research," Ruth Milkman, UCLA, Organizer

"Coalitions and Alternative Forms of Labor Organizing," Gay Seidman, University of Wisconsin, Organizer

Round tables, Joel Stillerman, Grand Valley State University, Organizer

Urge friends and colleagues to join or renew their memberships. Our September membership was 327; at 400 we'd get an extra ASA session.

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Next issue: Labor and the War

In the next issue, we'd like to run short statements (not more than about 500 words each) on thoughts about labor and the war.

Please send your ideas (now!), or suggestions of others you'd like to see write on the issue, to [clawson@sadri.umass.edu](mailto:<clawson@sadri.umass.edu>)

For example, you could analyze which unions took the best positions and why, or contrast this time with Vietnam, or discuss the effects the war will have on labor, or [make a suggestion!!]

Brazil: The Workers Party takes power, by Gay Seidman

Within days of his inauguration as Brazil's new president, Luis Inacio da Silva performed what will undoubtedly be the first of many delicate balancing acts: after inspiring crowds of activists at Porto Alegre's World Social Forum, the former metalworker universally known as Lula flew to Davos, where he reassured participants at the World Economic Forum that international investors have no reason to fear his term in office.

The euphoria in Porto Alegre – crowds cheering, red flags waving – is understandable. As leader of Brazil's twenty-year-old Workers Party (Partido dos Trabalhadores, or PT), Lula has traveled a remarkable path. Born into a poor family in Brazil's impoverished northeast in 1946, he only completed primary school, although he later earned a high school equivalency degree. He sold peanuts and pastries on the street as a child, began working in a screw factory at 14, and then rose through the Metalworkers Union ranks in the industrial belt around Sao Paulo during the harshest years of Brazil's military dictatorship.

In the late 1970s, just after Lula was elected president of his union local, he led a national campaign to raise wages, and supported workers as they engaged in militant strikes despite repression. Although his brother had been imprisoned as a suspected Communist, Lula was initially viewed as relatively moderate; once in office, however, he emerged as a surprisingly insightful, strategic and militant labor leader, winning respect from workers, left intellectuals, and even employers. In 1979, when the activists and leftist intellectuals involved in Brazil's "new unionism" decided to form an independent Workers Party, Lula was a key leader; as Brazil moved toward full democratic elections through the 1980s, there was never any question about who would be the party's presidential candidate.

Initially, the PT had a strong workerist tone, modeling itself on Poland's Solidarity. As it aged and grew, however, it shifted to a more inclusive

stance, defining its democratic socialist agenda to emphasize democratic participation and social justice. By the late 1980s, its agenda had broadened to include concerns raised by feminists, anti-racist activists, landless rural workers, and environmentalists. Nevertheless, the party maintains its close link to labor activism: throughout its existence, the PT has been closely allied with Brazil's militant labor federation, the Central Unica dos Trabalhadores (CUT), although both the party and the labor federation have insisted on maintaining separate identities as a matter of principle.

Lula came close to winning the presidency in 1989, and the PT has won elections in states and cities across the country, generally earning good marks for clean democratic governance. But for most of the past decade, Lula's presidential campaigns have appeared hopeless. In national campaigns, the PT hit a mathematical wall, winning working class areas in urban industrial regions, but unable to attract the kind of middle class votes needed for national office.

And of course, for the past decade, Lula was running against sociologist Fernando Henrique Cardoso, whose presidency combined effective control over Brazil's once-galloping inflation with an explicit commitment to global integration and trade liberalization, as well as an eloquent appeal for social democratic policies in health and education. For most of the 1990s, despite its local victories, the national PT often seemed more involved in fractious internal debates over party identity and process than in articulating an alternative vision for Brazil, and Lula seemed doomed to remain a perpetual presidential candidate.

But in last year's election, that pattern changed. Cardoso himself was constitutionally ineligible for another term, and his centrist coalition chose a candidate who was viewed as corrupt and unappealing. Lula, on the other hand, proved willing to make compromises and coalitions of a sort he had previously avoided – not only trimming his beard and wearing elegant suits, but also forming political alliances with public figures far outside the normal PT fold. Surprising even his own ardent followers, Lula reached out to conservative politicians like

former president Jose Sarney and leading Brazilian businessmen to broaden his appeal.

It could be argued that Lula's success represents a nationalist response to global economic pressures, rather than the class-based politics usually identified with the PT. Certainly, Lula's approach to politics has changed somewhat from 1979, when he insisted that only working-class leadership could defend working-class interests, and that coalitions across classes would undermine that stance. In the late 1970s, Lula explicitly rejected the old Brazilian Communist call for a national alliance between workers, peasants and national business, arguing that the Communist strategy overlooked the way national and international capital alike exploited Brazilian workers. Today, ironically, that is precisely the alliance that backed Lula for the presidency: he has explicitly welcomed the support of domestic Brazilian industrialists, who seem to view a popularly-elected leftist president as their best hope of protection against the cold winds of global pressure, and he now appeals to middle-class voters disillusioned by the economic volatility that has accompanied global integration. And now that he is president, Lula has concrete reasons to try to sustain the coalition: lacking a majority in either house of Congress, Lula could not legislate any new policies without looking to alliances of the sort his party might once have disdained.

As president, Lula faces an internal balancing act, as he tries to fulfill the Workers' Party agenda while keeping this new coalition together. His cabinet illustrates the point: it includes left intellectuals, well-known social activists, and experienced left-leaning politicians, as well as former bank executives and domestic industrialists; there are prominent faces from across Brazil's racial spectrum, as well as people of varied political backgrounds and party ties. Several well-known social activists have been handed important portfolios – including, of course, the government's campaign against hunger, which serves as the clearest example of President Lula's pragmatic, unifying approach to reform. Most of the leading economic posts, however, have gone to moderate business figures, apparently to

reassure investors of continued economic stability.

But Lula also faces an external audience: as international banks and investors made clear during the run-up to the election, Brazil's economy is painfully vulnerable to capital flight. No Brazilian could ignore the warning of last summer's devaluation, a warning underscored by the promise publicly extracted from all candidates – including Lula – that Brazil will not renege on its international repayments. Any collapse of the elusive international 'business confidence' required for sustaining economic production in the post-Cold War world could easily send Brazil into the kind of fiscal and political spiral that has already created economic paralysis in Argentina and Venezuela.

And if that were to happen, Lula could not expect much sympathy from the Bush administration. Before the election, American conservatives tried to tarnish his candidacy, labeling him a Communist and a potential ally to Cuba's Castro and Venezuela's Chavez. Brazil represents about 40 percent of Latin America's economy, and it would be easy to argue that if we want trading partners in our hemisphere, U.S. interests require that we help sustain Latin America's economy; but apparently the White House doesn't see things that way. President Bush's refusal to send a high-ranking delegation to Lula's inauguration may well be only the first of many snubs, a firm reminder that behind the economics of neoliberalism lies a politics of power and an explicit understanding of global hierarchy.

At least for the first couple of years of Lula's term, Brazil's labor unions will almost certainly sympathize with his tightrope act. CUT is independent of the PT, of course, but remains clearly allied with it, and will probably try to shape its unions' demands to fit within Lula's broader agenda. Other union federations may be less sympathetic to Lula personally and politically, but will almost certainly support efforts to create jobs and sustain economic growth. If challenges come from the left, they are more likely to come from community-based social movements than from industrial unions — particularly, from large social movements like the Movimento Sem Terra (Landless People's

Movement), which is already well-known for militant tactics, and which has less to lose.

But Lula's supporters also have reason for optimism: his personal record of commitment to working-class goals is unquestionable, and despite the constraints and realities confronting the new government, his victory has global significance. Had he taken the presidency in 1989, Lula would have been in office at the height of neoliberalism's ideological hegemony, when any talk of redistribution, social justice, or state intervention in economic matters appeared retrograde; almost certainly, Lula's PT would have had to adopt neoliberal policies because, as policy-makers used to chant, 'there is no alternative'. Today, however, even mainstream development economists are beginning to acknowledge that markets are imperfect, and to talk about offering developing countries something more attractive than a race to the bottom, where growth can only be based on low wages and cheap exports.

In this context, Lula and the PT might just have a little more room to maneuver. If Lula and the Workers' Party's activists can articulate an alternative vision — if Brazil can point the way toward an alternative strategy involving growth through redistribution, developing domestic consumption and local markets rather than simply focusing on international trade liberalization — perhaps Brazil can find paths to growth that will benefit, rather than exclude, its working class and its poor. That route is not an obvious one, to be sure. But if Lula can sustain the balance — if he can sustain an economic growth that benefits the workers and poor who elected him — Brazil could serve as the cornerstone for a new global possibility.

Gay Seidman, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Enthusiasms

Short statements to alert section members to works they might find stimulating, enjoyable, or useful.

Christopher Rhomberg

One of the best and most widely recognized recent reviews of labor relations in the United States is Lance Compa's report for Human Rights Watch, *Unfair Advantage: Workers' Freedom of Association in the United States under International Human Rights Standards* (<http://www.hrw.org/reports/2000/uslabor>). Clear, concise, filled with sharp analyses and vivid case examples of workers' experiences, *Unfair Advantage* powerfully demonstrates how current American labor law fails to protect workers' rights to act collectively. Surely one reason for the report's public importance is the legitimacy of its sponsor: even those not normally sympathetic to unions may find it harder to dismiss its findings. But even if the facts are familiar to us, *Unfair Advantage* offers more to sociologists. Section IV, "Freedom of Association under U.S. Labor Law," provides a wonderfully short and succinct explanation of the basic laws governing union organization and collective bargaining; I use it in my undergraduate courses. And while I don't believe that legal institutions are everything, an understanding of the law and its failures is critical to analyzing recent tactical innovations in the labor movement, including the increasing attempts to bypass National Labor Relations Board elections, and the evolution of the Unfair Labor Practice strike, among others.

Laura Ariovich

Francesca Polletta (2002). Freedom is an Endless Meeting. Democracy in American Social Movements. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Calls for greater democracy and participation have become commonplace in the debate for union renewal. But when it comes to identifying new organizational models, there are more questions than answers. How much worker participation? How to avoid activism burnout? Do unions sacrifice power or effectiveness when

introducing participatory democratic structures? In a historical and comparative account of American social movements, including the early-twentieth-century labor movement, the Southern civil rights movement, and the women's liberation movement, Polletta presents a sober but encouraging analysis of participatory democracy's benefits and risks.

Participatory democratic groups have been more effective at building internal solidarity than at winning new members, and at fighting local conflicts than regional and national struggles. Moreover, they have sometimes gotten sidetracked into perfecting internal decision-making processes and abandoned their efforts at external change. Nevertheless, in a long history of organizational learning, movement groups have developed solutions to these dilemmas, namely, new kinds of rules and relationships that help to preserve deliberation and innovation at the center of movement life, while allowing for some forms of legitimate authority, centralization, and formalization. Without falling into a naïve idealization of participatory democratic forms, Polletta dispels the myth of participatory democracy's lack of effectiveness at achieving social change. For both scholars and activists interested in union transformation, her book offers refreshing thoughts and illuminating examples.

David Croteau

In the context of a course on social movements, I teach undergrads who usually know almost nothing about labor unions. Consequently, I'm always on the lookout for articles that clearly and succinctly present a union perspective. One of the most useful pieces I've used is the AFL-CIO issue brief, "The Silent War: The Assault on Workers' Freedom to Choose a Union and Bargain Collectively in the United States" (AFL-CIO Publication No. 02146-07-0-2.5).

The June 2002 paper does a nice job of summarizing and documenting the tactics used by employers against workers. From captive audience meetings to union-busting consultants, the culprits may be familiar to us but to many students this is eye-opening material. The short

25-page piece also makes the case that unions help combat poverty and that the freedom to choose a union is a fundamental human right. Packaged with useful summary data, pro-labor quotes from places like the UN Declaration of Human Rights and Human Rights Watch, and a list of additional resources, this piece serves as a useful introduction for the novice.

Edna Bonacich

I love, and recommend highly, Evelyn Nakano Glenn's new book Unequal Freedom: How Race and Gender Shaped American Citizenship and Labor (Harvard University Press 2002). This book is theoretical, historical, and comparative, and is a major contribution to race, class and gender (RCG) studies. Covering the period 1870-1930, it shows how race and gender were used to define the boundaries of the working class. Gender and race were used in the definition of citizenship and its accompanying rights. And they were used in developing the concepts of "free labor," independence, adulthood, and manliness, which were seen as primary characteristics of white men. Needless to say, this profoundly affected the evolution of the labor movement. Glenn traces the history of these developments for three areas of the country and three racialized relationships: Whites and Blacks in the South, Anglos and Mexicans in the Southwest, and Haole and Japanese in Hawaii. It seems to me that, too often in Labor Studies, we pay too little attention to the racialized and gendered aspects of work and of our movement. A deep understanding of the history and ideologies, as developed by Glenn, is essential for us all.

César A. Rodríguez

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Gary Gereffi, David Spener and Jennifer Bair (eds.). 2002. *Free Trade and Uneven Development. The North American Apparel Industry after NAFTA*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press

This edited volume is the most systematic and up-to-date inquiry into the regionalization of the apparel industry spurred by NAFTA and the Caribbean Basin initiatives of the 1980s and 1990s. The sixteen essays in the volume cover a wide range of topics and sites—from the re-emergence of sweatshops in New York and Los Angeles to the explosion of export-processing zones in the Caribbean and the proliferation of global factories in Central Mexico—grounded in detailed empirical research. By consistently using a firm-centered approach based on the global commodity-chain and industrial district literatures, the book strikes a nice balance—uncommon in this type of volume—between thematic diversity and theoretical coherence.

Its relevance to students of labor is twofold. On the one hand, two of the chapters (Edna Bonacich's "Labor's Response to Global Production" and the editors' conclusion) directly tackle the difficulties and potential of transnational labor organizing in the industry. On the other hand, the examination of the geography and structure of the apparel industry—from design to production, marketing and retailing—will be useful for scholars interested in understanding labor processes, labor mobilization and the possibilities for transnational regulation of working conditions in apparel factories. Together with other recent contributions that highlight the political underpinnings of the changing structure of the industry—e.g., Ellen Israel Rosen's *Making Sweatshops* (University of California Press, 2002)—this volume makes a much-needed contribution that will illuminate discussions on these and other pressing scholarly and policy issues.

Dan Clawson

Striking Steel: Solidarity Remembered (Temple University Press, 2000) seemed like such a boring and long-dead topic that I had to be coerced to read the book. But once I did I've been recommending it to everyone I know. It's not really about the steel strike; it's about what the post-war labor movement accomplished, why unions matter, and what a union—even a mediocre business union—accomplishes.

The book is both an intensely personal account of Jack Metzgar's father and family, more or less an autobiography-biography, and a more general account of how the labor movement changed people's lives. As one example: when you get through reading this you understand that unions are a key reason that family incomes doubled from 1945 to 1973, and became more equal at the same time. Metzgar shows what this meant to his family, and argues "if what we lived through in the 1950s was not liberation, then liberation never happens in real human lives." Striking Steel also shows the rank-and-file infrastructure that made business unions work, explains the importance (and potential!) of the grievance system, and indicates both the potential and the contradictions of the 1960s movements. There's lots I don't agree with, but Striking Steel is infinitely more sophisticated and grounded than the conventional dismissals of business unions. It's also a great read.

American Sociological Association
Labor and Labor Movements Section Update
 We're a regular section now, having been granted formal section status in 2001. The only thing we can't yet do is give section awards, as a section has to be in existence for 3 years before it can make awards. So, we'll be able to make them in 2004.

Periodicals of interest to section members

The basic information here is fairly straightforward. I've added my own opinions; it goes without saying they are just one person's opinions. Readers are encouraged to write in adding additional publications of interest (or objecting to my characterizations).

Subscription information given here is for individuals (not institutions) in the United States. Note also that you should see whether your library subscribes to all of these, and encourage it to do so if it does not, a point that applies especially to the first two entries, both relatively new journals. – Dan Clawson

New Labor Forum

Started five years ago. I find this the most stimulating labor publication available. It has been appearing twice a year, but will now appear three, and later four, times a year. The editors self-consciously aim to stimulate debate; they are happiest if articles call forth rejoinders and responses.

A typical issue has three or four sections, typically each guest-edited by someone, and a handful of review essays. Each section contains three or four short articles (roughly ten pages each); perhaps half the articles don't have references but are instead provocative essays. There's an effort to include at least some workers or trade unionists in each issue.

The most recent issue had sections on labor and international affairs, the China question, and youth and labor. The previous issue had sections on organizing to survive, and two views about mergers, along with a scattering of other articles. Other sections have focused on labor and higher education, pride at work, and immigrants. Recent contributors include Ruth Milkman, Nelson Lichtenstein, Robin Kelley, Leslie Bunnage, Kim Moody, Frances Fox Piven.

On the web at www.qc.edu/newlaborforum. Subscriptions \$31 for a year (three issues). Address New Labor Forum, Queens College

Labor Resource Center, Queens College, City University of New York, 25 W. 43rd Street, 19th floor, New York, NY 10036.

WorkingUSA

This was begun by Don Stillman of the UAW, and intended to be a mass market publication with accessible articles and color pictures that would appeal to working trade unionists. It is in many ways similar to New Labor Forum, and like it is a product of the post-Sweeney era. (It is now in its sixth year.) The mass market approach wasn't financially viable, and the publication is now more like an academic journal (in style, layout, organization) than New Labor Forum.

The articles are unequivocally pro-labor, and often argue a point of view, but also resemble academic journal articles. The most recent issue contains articles on public-sector unions and privatization, job descriptions in the health care industry, workers centers and member power (by Steve Jenkins; in my opinion a brilliant article), at-will employment in Florida government, a union victory at Beverly Farm, and motion picture-television unions as a model for new media professionals. It also contains three book reviews, each of a single book.

Published by M.E. Sharpe; see its web site www.mesharpe.com. Subscriptions \$38 a year (4 issues). Address M.E. Sharpe, Inc., 80 Business Park Drive, Armonk, NY 10504.

Labor Notes

There's nothing else like it, and it's the best source for news of the labor movement. It comes out monthly, 16 pages printed on newsprint (but on regular letter size paper). Rather than in-depth analyses, this is basically a news publication, but the news you won't see reported anywhere else. It has more and better coverage of labor activities and struggles than any other publication in America; it has no rival for coverage of dissident movements.

Articles are by rank-and-file workers, left labor staffers, or members of the Labor Notes collective; contributions by academics are rare. Articles are short (usually about a page; often less). The publication as a whole, and most of its articles, have a clear perspective: involve the rank-and-file, don't trust bureaucrats. Articles take a position: the lead article in the December issue attacked the Boston Justice for Janitors settlement. But it's definitely open to alternative views, and often contains debates or extended exchanges through the letters column. Each issue also contains a "steward's corner" with information and advice on some issue, "newswatch" paragraph long updates on assorted issues, and "resources" (including books, pamphlets, videos). Frequently there is a debate on some issue; most recently on Steve Lerner's proposal to re-organize unions so they reflect clear jurisdictional lines.

The publication also puts on a conference once every two years, always in Detroit; the next one is September 12-14, 2003. The conference attracts rank-and-file activists from around the country, together with left labor staffers. The first conference I went to, in one time slot people were to attend a session based on their type of employer. At the "college and university" section there were 40 people, but only two of us were faculty; it was mostly clerical workers, some maintenance, some graduate student union members. I urge people to attend the conference; there's nothing else like it.

On the web at www.labornotes.org. Subscriptions are \$20 for one year (12 issues). Address Labor Notes, 7435 Michigan Avenue, Detroit, MI 48210.

Official Source Periodicals

America@work.

The AFL-CIO's official monthly publication with "ideas, info and ammo for AFL-CIO leaders and activists." Each issue is 24 pages, larger than letter sized, filled with color pictures (on every page). There are usually 4 pages of short news clips (about three paragraphs each), perhaps five articles (each about 3 pages), and a page

discussing publications, web sites, and other materials. The table of contents doesn't identify the authors, since they aren't seen as significant.

There's lots of good information, but no critical edge. For example, every issue contains a page of letters to the editor, but not a single (printed) letter that I've noticed has criticized a union, the labor movement more generally, or the material presented in a previous article. The articles are well written, punchy and engaging, but there's no room for debate, and that's inherently limiting.

The web site is that of the AFL-CIO, www.aflcio.org. Subscriptions are only \$10 a year (11 issues). Address AFL-CIO, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20006.

Work in Progress

The AFL-CIO's weekly two-page bulletin on organizing wins, contract negotiations and strikes, political campaigns, and assorted other short subjects. (It used to be sent by fax; now by email.) Each issue begins with organizing wins. No article is more than a paragraph long. It's more like a telegram than analysis, but nonetheless contains lots of valuable information. Each issue's header reports the number of new members organized that week, and the running total for the year. (For 2002 the total was 230,231.)

On the web at www.aflcio.org. To subscribe, go to <http://www.unionvoice.org/wip/>

Monthly Labor Review

This is a U.S. government journal put out by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Some of the articles are by academics; most are by BLS employees. But they are signed, serious articles. The articles (not unexpectedly) tend to focus heavily on data, but often contain serious analyses as well. Each issue contains three articles; about half the issue is separate from this and presents current labor statistics. Sample articles from the July and August 2002 issues include: how does gender figure in to expenditures of single

parents; experimental poverty measures of medical expenditures; an economic analysis of the influx of women into legal professions.

Academic Journals

Labor Studies Journal

The journal of the United Association for Labor Education, which is the (small) association consisting mostly of people who teach in university based labor studies programs and trade unionists in internal union education departments, but which many section members ought to join. For years this was an unimpressive journal, with the modal article a report of "best practices" that other unions or labor programs could emulate, reports that often had not much in the way of data and little theoretical sophistication. UALE was formed about three years ago by the merger of two predecessor organizations, and at the time an effort was made to rejuvenate and upgrade the journal, with new editors (one of whom is section member Bruce Nissen).

The effects of the new editors show. Both the quality and liveliness of the articles have advanced. The fall 2002 issue contains an interactive forum on bargaining for "quality" in higher education, a case study of the city colleges of Chicago. It also has articles on activating local union power in the global economy, the AFL-CIO's China policy, a review of the grievance procedure, and five book reviews (each of a single book). The previous issue had a symposium on the two sociology books that were co-winners of the SSSP's labor studies award, Howard Kimeldorf's *Battling for American Labor* and Ching Kwan Lee's *Gender and the South China Miracle*, along with two other articles, one on unions and welfare reform and one on a labor education experiment, and 11 book reviews (each of a single book).

UALE is on the web at www.uale.org.

Subscriptions \$45 a year (four issues). Address: Labor Studies Journal, P.O. Box 6295, West Virginia University, Morgantown WV 26505-6295.

International Labor and Working Class History

Issues typically have one or two main themes, with several articles on each. The Fall 2002 issue has 8 articles on "class and catastrophe: September 11 and other working-class disasters" and 4 articles on "recent work in North American labor and working-class history"; two of those 4 articles deal with the period from 1945 to 1985. It also has 17 reviews, some of multiple books. The previous issue had 6 articles on "sweated labor: the politics of representation and reform" and miscellaneous additional articles and reviews. The central features are self-consciously shaped by the editors, who invite contributors and write serious introductions. As a consequence, each section has an impact; it's material you should consult if writing on that issue, and a collection that might be assigned in a course.

Subscriptions are \$31 a year (two issues). Address: ILWCH, Cambridge University Press, 40 West 20th Street, New York, NY 10011-4211.

Labor History

A first-rank peer-reviewed academic journal with a powerhouse set of associate and contributing editors. A typical issue has a handful of articles, some essay reviews, over a dozen book reviews, and perhaps a web site review. Many articles focus on relatively recent times; for example, the only two full length articles in the August 2002 issue are Jefferson Cowie on Nixon's efforts to romance the New Right worker (from 1969-73) and John French on the unexpected re-emergence of the labor question, 1994-99.

Subscriptions are \$57 a year (4 issues). Address: Routledge Journals, Taylor & Francis Inc., Customer Service Department, 325 Chestnut Street, 8th floor, Philadelphia, PA 19106.

Work and Occupations

The leading sociology peer-reviewed journal with a labor-related focus. The editor (Dan Cornfield) and many members of the editorial board are labor-connected. Unequivocally a mainstream academic journal, and union-focused articles are a small fraction of the work published. The November 2002 issue, for example, has articles on autonomy and interests among service workers in the contemporary casino industry, lifestyle preferences as determinants of women's differentiated labor market careers, worker cooperatives (in India) as alternative production systems, and a study of psychological distress among full-time and reduced-hours female doctors, as well as half a dozen book reviews (each of a single book).

Subscriptions are \$80 a year (4 issues). Address: Sage Publications, 2455 Teller Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91320.

Industrial and Labor Relations Review

The premier journal for people in industrial relations, a field that is quasi-management and quasi-union (or, perhaps, for those who think that if relations are handled professionally there need not be conflict). A serious, peer-reviewed, journal with articles that tend toward economics-lite. A sampling of articles from the July and October 2002 issues includes: union effects on health insurance provision and coverage in the United States; employee voice, human resource practices, and quit rates; uncovering and explaining variance in the features and outcomes of contingent work; changes in the union wage premium by industry; the immigrant and native-born wage distributions. A typical issue includes about 8 articles and a dozen book reviews (each of a single book).

Subscriptions are \$26 a year (4 issues). Address: ILR Review, 158 Ives Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853-3901.

Industrial Relations: A Journal of Economy & Society

Another important industrial relations journal (but note labor is not part of its title), but in this case with articles almost exclusively by economists.

The October 2002 issue was focused on Japanese industrial relations, with articles like: a Japan-U.S. comparison of wage and performance appraisal systems in flux, panel data evidence on the productivity effects of participatory employment practices, transfer of system knowledge across generations in Japanese automobile new product development. The July 2002 issue, not a special issue, included articles like: effects of deviation from physical norms on lawyers' salaries, British trade unions and economic and monetary union, the role of job attributes in understanding the public-private wage differential, a note on racial differences in employed male job search. No book reviews, but each issue has a data update article.

Subscriptions: \$47 a year (4 issues). Address: Blackwell Publishing, 350 Main Street, Malden, MA 01248.

Work, Employment, and Society

A publication of the British Sociological Association, this is roughly the equivalent of our Work and Occupations. The bulk of the articles are by people based in Britain, some by Europeans or Canadians, almost none by people from the United States. The December 2002 issue has articles on contracting and the regulation of labor in the telecommunications industry, planning and career perception in the service and working classes, over-qualification in employment, the role of the private employment agency in the placement of the unemployed, and temporary work in the public services.

Subscriptions: \$86 a year (4 issues). On the web at www.sagepublications.com. U.S. Address: SAGE Publications, PO Box 5096, Thousand Oaks, CA 91359.

British Journal of Industrial Relations

A fully international industrial relations journal, defining its scope broadly. Contributors to the September and December 2002 issues came from Britain, the United States, Israel, Argentina, Canada, and the Netherlands. The September issue was a special edition focused on union decline and the prospects for revival. It included

articles on Ronald Reagan and the politics of declining union organization (Bruce Western and Henry Farber), lessons from three rounds of Justice for Janitors negotiations in Los Angeles (Christopher Erickson, Catherine Fisk, Ruth Milkman, Daniel Mitchell and Kent Wong), the promise of the internet for employee organization (Richard B. Freeman and W.J. Diamond), a custom explanation of why fewer workers join unions in Europe (Jelle Visser), trade union growth and decline in Asia, why non-union employees in Britain want to unionize, earnings inequality in Canada, comparing youth and adult desire for unionization in Canada. Most issues don't have as many articles I personally would find interesting, and don't have a single focus.

Subscriptions: \$113 a year (4 issues) [and \$88 for a single issue!]. Address: Blackwell Publishers, 350 Main Street, Malden MA 02148.

AFL-CIO/UALE Annual Education Conference:
Building a Strong Labor Movement: Member
Mobilization, Political Action, and Organizing

April 9-13, 2003
Sheraton Bal Harbor Hotel
Miami, FL

More information on this conference is at the
UALE website:
www.uale.org (click on "UALE/AFL-CIO
Conference")

The Calumet Project

The Calumet Project, an 18 year-old labor-church-community coalition based in Northwest Indiana, has just published its Fall issue of its "Works" newsletter. The lead article is "Toxic Terrorism in Northwest Indiana," and we follow it up with the struggle against a toxic waste dump in East Chicago, a city with a population being almost 88% people of color. Other articles include the struggle against improper tax abatements in Gary, our Labor in the Pulpit-Faith at Work program (in conjunction with the Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice), a report on organizing to win a new contract at the Trump casino boat, update on our efforts to force local communities to clean up brownfield sites, and an article linking environmental justice with human rights.

Those who are interested in receiving a copy of the newsletter can get one by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope (60 cents) to The Calumet Project, 7128 Arizona Avenue, Hammond, IN 46323. If you'd like to be put on the mailing list for future issues (3 a year), please indicate and we will do so.

In solidarity,

Kim Scipes
Executive Director

Who should join our section?

Send us the names of people who should be members of the section. We'll check if they already are, and invite them to join if they are not. Send your suggestions to Heidi Gottfried, Secretary-Treasurer (heidi.gottfried@wayne.edu)

Please tell us what you are working on!

What have you had recently published **or** accepted?

What books?

What articles?

What papers?

What's a long ways from being finished but you've started to work on it?

Please write and tell us what scholarly work or activist projects you have been doing, are now doing, or think you'd like to do next. We'd like to put together a list and publish it in the pre-convention issue.

Send your reports to clawson@sadri.umass.edu by June 1.

Better yet:

Volunteer to collect information about what others in your department, or your area of interest/expertise, are working on. Or at least tell us who we should be in touch with to ask them to give us short reports.