

**2017**

**Southern Labor Studies Conference**



**March 3-5, 2017  
Tampa, Florida**

# 2017 Southern Labor Studies Conference

Friday, March 3

**11:45 am – 1:00 pm**     **SLSA Board Meeting/Lunch**  
*Westshore 4*

**1:00 pm – 2:30 pm**     **Environment and Labor in the South**  
*Westshore 3*

Chair: Robert Woodrum, Georgia Perimeter College

Mapping Oil: Using GIS Techniques to Reconstruct  
Landscapes of Work, Extraction, and Contamination in the  
Texas Oil Industry

Sarah Stanford-McIntyre, The College of William & Mary

As The Earth Was Torn Asunder: Environment and Change in  
Southern West Virginia, 1880-1922

Luke Beswick, Florida Atlantic University

Clamming in the Ten Thousand Islands

Nano Riley, University of South Florida, St. Petersburg

Comment: TBD

## **Roundtable – Welfare History Today**

*Westshore 1*

Anna Krome-Lukens, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Sarah McNamara, Texas A&M University

Jessica Wilkerson, University of Mississippi

Robert Korstad, Duke University

**2:45 pm – 4:15 pm**     **Southern and Labor Oral History through Song, Story, and  
Film: A Performative Exploration**  
*Westshore 3*

Michael Honey, University of Washington

Comment: Paul Ortiz, University of Florida

**4:45 pm – 6:30 pm**     **Reception and Keynote**  
*Westshore 1,2,3*

Speaker: Cindy Hahamovitch, University of Georgia

Saturday, March 4

**8:30 am – 10:00 am**    **Minorities and Unions: All for One or One for All?**  
*Westshore 3*

Chair: Matthew Hild, Georgia Tech

The Freedom Labor Union: Economic Justice and the Civil Rights Movement in Mississippi  
Michael Sstrom, Greensboro College

Postwar Southern Farm Labor: Environmental Hazards and Labor Exploitation  
Erin Conlin, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Unfaithful Followers: Rethinking Southern Non-unionism in the Late Nineteenth Century  
Dana Caldemeyer, South Georgia State College

The Historiographies of the Labor and Civil Rights Movements: At the Intersection of Parallel Lines  
Alan Draper, St. Lawrence University

Comment: Matthew Hild, Georgia Tech

**Research and Advocacy Perspectives on Current Issues Facing Florida Farmworkers**  
*Westshore 1*

Chair: Joan Flocks, University of Florida

Collaborations to Promote Florida Farmworker Safety and Health  
Joan Flocks, University of Florida

Grassroots Advocacy Wins Protections for Farmworkers  
Jeannie Economos, Farmworker Association of Florida

Immigration and Agricultural Labor Markets in Florida: An Economic Perspective  
Gülcan Önel, University of Florida

From Slavery to Guest Workers: The Span of Legal Indentured Servitude in American Agriculture  
Antonio Tovar, Florida State University

Comment: The Audience

**10:15 am – 11:45 am Roundtable – Farewell to the Golden Age: Rewriting Labor History after the New Deal**  
*Westshore 3*

Jay Driskell, George Washington University  
Joey Fink, High Point University  
Paul Ortiz, University of Florida  
Cecilia Marquez, New York University

**Organizing the New, New South: Labor Unions and Employers in the South during the 1970s and 1980s**  
*Westshore 1*

Chair: Dan Amsterdam, Georgia Tech University

Working out a Black Mecca: Maynard Jackson, AFSCME Local 1644, and the 1977 Sanitation Strike in Atlanta  
Seth LaShier, George Washington University

Civil Rights Memory and Labor Organizing in Rural Mississippi  
Candice Ellis, George Washington University

“These Damned Lawyers and Their Consultants”: Anti-Union Politics in 1970s Charlotte  
Julia Gunn, University of Pennsylvania

Comment: Dan Amsterdam, Georgia Tech University

**12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Luncheon / Zieger Award Ceremony**  
*Salon AB*

Speaker: Max Krochmal, Texas Christian University

*Robert Zieger Memorial Award for Best Paper in Southern Labor History*

Winner

Joshua Holland, Institute of the Americas, University College, London,

“‘There’s a bigot in your biscuit’: Workplace Discrimination at Cracker Barrel, Civil Rights, and Corporate Activism in the Southern United States”

Honorable Mention

Matt Simmons, University of Florida

"Courage to Really Stand Up for Our Rights':  
Movement Building among Lake Apopka Farmworkers,  
1971–1998,"

**1:15 pm – 2:45 pm**

**Roundtable – Greta de Jong’s *You Can’t Eat Freedom: Southerners and Social Justice after the Civil Rights Movement (University of North Carolina Press, 2016)***  
*Westshore 3*

Raymond O. Arsenault, University of South Florida, St.  
Petersburg

Susan Youngblood Ashmore, Oxford College of Emory  
University

James Bowers Wall, University of Georgia

Response

Greta de Jong, University of Nevada, Reno

John Zippert, Federation of Southern Cooperatives

**Immigration and Protest in the New and the Nuevo New South**

*Westshore 1*

Chair: TBD

The Crack in the “Golden Door”: The Textile Club, *U.S. v. Costello, et. al.*, and the Pursuit of Immigrant Labor

Vince Lowery, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay

In Defiance of Machismo and Castro: Activism among Cuban Women in South Florida

James Derrick, Middle Tennessee State University

Comment: TBD

**3:00 pm - 7:00 pm**

**Ybor City Tour with Gary Mormino**

Bus leaves the hotel at 3:00 pm. Walking tour of Ybor City will begin upon arrival. Bus will return to the hotel at 7:00 pm.

*Limited to the first 50 reservations.*

Sunday, March 5

**9:00 am – 10:30 am**     **Roundtable – Julie M. Weise’s *Corazón de Dixie: Mexicanos in the U.S. South since 1910* (University of North Carolina Press, 2015)**  
*Westshore 3*

Cecilia Marquez, New York University  
Laurie Green, University of Texas at Austin  
Perla Guerrero, University of Maryland

Response

Julie M. Weise, University of Oregon

**The Modern Southern Workplace**  
*Westshore 1*

*Chair: TBD*

*“There’s a bigot in your biscuit”: Workplace Discrimination at Cracker Barrel, Civil Rights, and Corporate Activism in the Southern United States*

*Joshua Hollands, University College London*

*From PermaTemp to InstaMaid: How U.S. Labor Policy Shapes Worker Identity in the Gig Economy*

*Mauri Systo, University of Kentucky*

*Comment: TBD*

**10:45 am – 12:15 pm**     **Breakthroughs and Broken Promises: The Ambivalent Nature of Public and Private Sector Work in the Post-Sunbelt South**  
*Westshore 3*

Chair: Katherine R. Jewell, Fitchburg State University

*“A Threshold Moment”: Public Sector Organizing and Civil Rights Unionism in the Postwar South*

*Joseph Hower, Southwestern University*

*From the “Chosen” Few to the “Precariat”: The Degradation of Work in Nissan’s Smyrna, Tennessee, Plant, 1980s-Present*

*David M. Anderson, Louisiana Tech University*

*Andrew C. McKeivitt, Louisiana Tech University*

Comment: Katherine R. Jewell, Fitchburg State University

**Racism and Violence in Southern Labor History**

*Westshore 1*

Chair: TBD

Raising Cane, Razing Men: Sugar, Convict Labor, and the  
Makings of Black Manhood in Jim Crow Texas, 1871-1910

Jermaine Thibodeaux, University of Texas at Austin

Race, Place, and Trauma: Surviving the Groveland Incident

Diedre Houchen, University of Florida

Comment: TBD

**12:30 pm – 2:00 pm**

**Lunch**

*Salon A*

Speaker: Jennifer Proffitt, President, United Faculty of Florida