

# NEWSLETTER

Spring/Summer 2014  
vol. 5, no. 1

## Southern Labor Studies Association

### Message from the President

Dear fellow SaLSAtons,

These are interesting times, indeed. First, the bad news: The federal supreme court confirmed that state employees in Wisconsin have lost collective bargaining rights. External reviews have confirmed that public pension funds in California, Illinois, and New Jersey will soon be unable to pay benefits promised to workers in those states.

But interesting things are afoot, especially in the South. Obama's DACA executive order, which gives children of undocumented workers a stay of deportation, may be slowly changing the legal landscape at the state level. The Virginia and Florida assemblies, for example, recently allowed DACA students to apply for in-state tuition. Ongoing efforts by activists in Georgia may soon be bearing fruit there as well. Activists in Georgia (including SLSA members) have bypassed the university network entirely by creating their own classes for undocumented students through Freedom University.

Beyond just education, North Carolina's Moral Mondays protests have expanded into nearly every county in the state. The wildcat Walmart strikes have put the problem of the minimum wage in the news. History may be on the side of labor's liberation, as it was in 1865, though it is seldom in a form we expect. From the bread riots in nineteenth century Richmond to the strikes in Gastonia and Memphis, the South has been home to forms of working-class organizing that defy easy explanation. The time for scholarship about southern labor is all the more necessary now.

Now is the time to start thinking about how to bring those ideas to fruition at our next meeting. The SLSA conference will meet from March, 5-8, 2015. We'll begin on Thursday March 5th at College Park with a mini-conference on new labor organizing models and then shift to George Washington University's Marvin Center in Washington, DC for the remainder of the conference.

Conference organizers Eric Arnesen, Cindy Hahamovitch and the Program Committee have decided to go themeless this time. They welcome historical and contemporary topics, and are hoping to encourage scholars from all relevant academic disciplines as well as non-academic participants. They are looking for regional as well as comparative and transnational approaches to southern labor history writ large. See the full call for papers on another page of this newsletter. Note the deadline for proposals is September 1, 2014, so now is the time to scheme up your dream panel.

SLSA will also be awarding the first Robert H. Zieger Prize for the best essay in Southern Labor Studies at the March conference. The Zieger family and members of the SLSA raised over \$13,000 to fund this biannual \$500 prize, which will go to a graduate student or early career scholar, journalist, or activist. Deadline for submissions is December 31, 2014, so pass the word to students, friends and colleagues. See this newsletter for submission information.

The SLSA is a big tent. Members are working on such diverse subjects as colonial carpenters, the carceral state, coolie labor in the British Empire, Latino migrants in the 19th century South and in the present, black farmers, and Italian sharecroppers in Arkansas. Many of us are activists and academics, but we can use the occasion of the conference to invite other sorts of people into our tent: archivists, public school teachers, labor center activists, legal services lawyers, and many other sorts of people share our interests. Reach out to them now and we'll have an especially lively conference in March.

Our joint luncheon with OSSECS will be at the Southern Historical Association in Atlanta at noon on Saturday, November 14, 2014. You should be able to sign up if you are going to the meeting.

Thanks!  
Scott Nelson

## Robert H. Zieger Prize

The Southern Labor Studies Association will award the Robert H. Zieger Prize for the best essay in Southern Labor Studies. This prize will be awarded every two years to the best article in southern labor studies submitted by a graduate student or early career scholar, journalist, or activist (“early career” being defined as no more than five years beyond the author’s highest degree). The winner will receive a cash prize of \$500. This prize has been established with the cooperation of the Zieger family and members of SLSA.

The prize is named in honor of the late Robert H. Zieger—teacher, scholar, and tireless union activist. Zieger was a prolific, award-winning writer whose books include *For Jobs and Freedom: Race and Labor in America since 1865* and *The CIO, 1935-1955*, as well as three field-defining edited volumes on southern labor history. Zieger served as an officer in the North Central Florida Central Labor Council and an organizer for the United Faculty of Florida. Along with his wife of fifty years, Gay Zieger, an English professor Santa Fe College, he maintained a strong commitment to social justice his entire life. Many of his former students went on to become labor organizers. The Southern Labor Studies Association hopes that the spirit of Zieger’s combination of rigorous scholarship and his dedicated commitment to improving the lives of working-class people will live on through this prize.

Eligible essays must be in English, in print or electronic formats and should be primarily concerned with southern labor and working-class history broadly conceived. Applicants are not required to be members of SLSA at the time of the submission. Deadline for submissions is December 31, 2014. The winner will be announced at the Southern Labor Studies Association biennial national conference, March 5-8, 2015 in Washington, DC.

To apply for the prize, email [Paul Ortiz](#) a PDF or Word copy of your essay and a brief resume or CV.

## Southern Labor Studies Association Announces New *Southern Spaces* Series

The Southern Labor Studies Association announces the launch of a new series published by *Southern Spaces: The Spaces of Southern Labor*.

In coordination with SLSA’s biennial conferences, this is a joint collaboration between SLSA and *Southern Spaces*. *Southern Spaces* is an innovative on-line, peer-review forum that publishes cutting-edge scholarly work and features on the contemporary South. The first article in the series is “Low Wage Legacies: Race and the Gold Chicken in Mississippi: Where Contemporary Immigration Meets African American Labor History,” by Angela Struesse and Laura E. Helton. Through archival and field work, Struesse and Helton argue that the history of African American integration and organizing in chicken-processing plants in central Mississippi is central to understanding the community’s reception of Latino migrants and the challenges of organizing.

The next essay is: “The Vanished World of the New Orleans Longshoreman” by Justin Nystrom. In this essay and short documentary, Nystrom showcases the work of Loyola University’s Documentary and Oral History Studio and highlights the changing work experiences of New Orleans longshoreman as the port was transformed by containerization and the city’s shift to the service economy.

Joey Fink’s article, “In Good Faith: Working-Class Women, Feminism, and Religious Support in the Struggle to Organize J. P. Stevens Textile Workers in the Southern Piedmont, 1974-1980,” will be published in June.

If you are interested in submitting an article for this series, please contact Jana Lipman (Tulane University) or Steve Striffler (University of New Orleans).

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### Southern Labor Studies Association Biennial Conference

March 5-8, 2015  
College Park and DC

The Southern Labor Studies Association invites academics, activists, students, attorneys, public historians, archivists, and any other people interested in the experiences of working people in the Early American or US South to propose sessions for our next conference, which will take place from March 5-8, 2015. We will meet in two locations: at the University of Maryland, College Park during the day on Thursday, March 5, and then in Washington, D.C. from the evening of March 5 to the morning of Sunday, March 8.

Sponsored by the Center for the History of the New America, day one of the conference (March 5) will focus on “Workers and Organizing in the 21st Century.” The rest of the conference will feature a wide range of topics.

The Southern Labor Studies Association defines labor and working class studies broadly. We welcome historical and contemporary topics, all relevant academic disciplines, non-academic participants, and regional as well as comparative and transnational approaches. Please note that there is no official conference theme for the DC part of the conference; our hope is to assemble a broad and diverse set of participants on a wide range of subjects.

As always, we will consider traditional panels with three or four presenters plus a chair and commentator, but we encourage prospective participants to propose other types of sessions as well (and create new ones). For example, we invite sessions that put activists and academics in dialogue, sessions that approach topics from multi-disciplinary perspectives, panels that consider one important pre-circulated work in progress, as well as roundtables, teaching workshops, organizing workshops, etc.

As part of the Southern Labor Studies Association’s collaboration with *Southern Spaces*—a cutting-edge, interdisciplinary multimedia journal about regions, places, and cultures of the US South and their global connections—selected panels and papers may be solicited for peer review and publication in conjunction with the conference.

The deadline for submitting proposals is September 1, 2014. Proposals should include an approximately 250 words description of the session, 100-200 word abstracts of individual papers if appropriate, and a short bio for each participant (100 words max.). Proposals should be sent by email to [Professor Eric Arnesen](#).

# TCU Sodexo Workers Unite!

Max Krochmal  
Texas Christian University

It was 6:30AM on a Monday, March 24, cool and blustery outside with no sign yet of the sun. A pair of organizers from the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Local 1000 huddled with a half-dozen students on Stadium Drive, across from the football palace and just outside the student dining hall at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. Workers employed on campus by Sodexo, the multinational service giant, had been arriving at the loading dock out back for hours.

It was Election Day, and 170 Sodexo workers qualified to cast ballots for or against union representation, all under the watchful eye of the NLRB. At a meeting the previous day, organizers and students planned a bold action to ensure that the workers' first impression of the day would not be a scowl from the legion of low-level supervisors called in from afar to intimidate them but instead a friendly smile from a union supporter.

When the front doors opened at 7:00AM, TCU students swiped their cards and entered the dining hall in their normal fashion. Once inside, they reached into their backpacks and pulled out stacks of 8.5x11-inch flyers printed on heavy card stock and emblazoned with the school's trademark purple. Instead of the customary university slogans, the sheets read: "TCU students support your right to ...VOTE YES! ... for a better future." The back of the page carried the same message in Spanish: "VOTE Sí." The students scattered the flyers on tables and counters throughout the cafeteria. Most creatively, they placed copies on the tray return, a conveyor belt that carried the union's message back into the bowels of the kitchen.

Black, brown, and white, the workers had come together and called the union after Sodexo reclassified as many as

77 of them as "part-time." Citing the Affordable Care Act, the company announced that it would subsequently use a new formula to calculate employees' average weekly hours and thereby avoid being forced to buy health insurance for its labor force. Work in the dining hall was always far from steady. During summers and other semester breaks, workers found their already short schedules cut down to nil. Sodexo reasoned that these slack weeks should count. Take the total number of hours worked in the year, divide it by 52, and keep most of the workers under Obamacare's 30 hour per week threshold for mandatory benefits.

According to one organizer, the change in policy disproportionately affected African American and Latino/a workers, who in any event were already at the lower end of the pay scale and on the wrong end of the favoritism-based totem pole. As with most non-union shops, wages were not disclosed, and seniority was nonexistent. But white workers just happened to make as much as three dollars per hour more than their non-white counterparts. Unsurprisingly, on Election Day the student activists often encountered hostility from the laborers with light skin, a sharp contrast from the cautious, friendly gestures they received from black and brown workers.

The students likewise understood it as an issue of racial justice in addition to labor rights. Essie Craft, president of the campus chapter of the NAACP, said that his group was "paying close attention to the union vote because of its core organizational purpose," in the words of student-journalist Daniel Salazar. "Demographically, African Americans and Latinos make up most of the workers," Craft told Salazar. "It is an NAACP issue that the NAACP is designed for ...

*(Continued, p. 6)*

## Join the Southern Labor Studies Association

Annual membership is \$25 (\$10 for students and the unemployed); lifetime membership is \$500. Members receive the biannual newsletter, steep discounts on conference registration, and access to other members via the SLSA listserv.

To join, visit: [www.southernlaborstudies.org](http://www.southernlaborstudies.org)

## Reed Fink Award Recipient

Congratulations to Lane Windham, winner of the 2013 Reed Fink Award in Southern Labor History! Windham is a PhD candidate in US history at the University of Maryland. She recently delivered a talk at Georgia State University on her research, “Knocking on Labor’s Door: Union Organizing and the Origins of the New Economic Divide (1968-1985).” Windham asserts that working men and women tried to use the tool of organizing private-sector union to gain economic traction in the pivotal 1970s, making the decade one of working-class hope. As women and people of color finally won full access to the nation’s best jobs and unions following Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, they tried to make those jobs even better by knocking on labor’s door and organizing unions—including in the service and retail sectors and throughout the South. However, employers closed that door by attacking labor law and by sharpening their attacks on workplace organizing. While it once seemed that the nation was poised to expand economic security—instead, all private-sector US workers essentially lost the freedom to form unions by the mid-1980s, a loss which set the stage for our current economic divide. Four case studies illuminate the struggle: the largest-NLRB election in the South, among Newport News, Virginia shipyard workers in 1978; campaigns in 1974 and 1985 by Cannon Mills textile workers in Kannapolis, North Carolina; the 1979 campaign among 5300 department store at Woodward & Lothrop in Washington, DC; and the women office worker’s group “9to5” in Boston who forged a new kind of labor organizing.

The Reed Fink Award in Southern Labor History is awarded annually by the Souther Labor Archives at Georgia State University. The award honors Professors Merl E. Reed and Gary Fink, leading southern labor scholars, who were instrumental in the establishment, development, and use of the Southern Labor Archives at Georgia State University from the early 1970s.

## News from the Program Committee

Beth English  
Princeton University

Mark your calendars! Planning is underway for the Southern Labor Studies Association luncheon at the 2014 Southern Historical Association annual meeting in Atlanta. SLSA co-sponsors this event annually with the Organization for the Study of Southern Economy, Culture, and Society (OSSECS).

The luncheon at the Southern will be held on Saturday, November 15 from 12:00–2:00 p.m. Susanna Delfino (University of Genoa, Italy), first vice-president of the OSSECS, will deliver a talk focusing on the emergence of white women in the labor market of antebellum Kentucky, with a special focus on domestic servants and the problems connected with the cohabitation of black slave and white domestics within the same household.

Don’t forget that the Southern Labor Studies sponsors panels, openings, exhibits, and walking tours at other meetings and conferences too. SLSA will sponsor or co-sponsor panels and other events on any aspect of southern labor studies, broadly defined. A listing of upcoming conferences that may be of interest to members is on page 10.

When submitting proposals to conference committees for consideration, please indicate SLSA’s sponsorship in your proposal and copy SLSA’s [program committee chair](#) on the submission email.

Like SLSA  
on Facebook



## Member News

The SLSA is proud of our members' achievements and public engagements, and hopes to connect scholars, teachers, and activists working on similar issues and with complementary interests. Members are encouraged to use the newsletter, email listserv, and website to stay up-to-date on what your colleagues and friends are doing and connect with others for research, conferences, and projects.

**LAUREN H. BRAUN** was selected for the inaugural Community College Humanities Association – American Academy in Rome Affiliated Fellowship. Dr. Braun will be in residence at the Academy in late spring of this year. She will conduct research for a book project on the Italian state's formal migration program to the American South, and the transatlantic impact of the *contadini* who went to live in the southern US in the post-emancipation era.

**DENIZ DASER** is a PhD candidate in the anthropology department at Rutgers University. She is currently conducting ethnographic and archival research in New Orleans, Louisiana on the working lives of Honduran migrants in the construction industry and the pathways of migration between Honduras and New Orleans forged in the early twentieth century through the transnational banana trade. Daser recently received a grant through the Labor Research and Action Network to continue her dissertation research in New Orleans.

**JAY DRISKELL's** book *Schooling Jim Crow: The Fight for Atlanta's Booker T. Washington High School and the Roots of Black Protest Politics* will be published by the University Press of Virginia in Fall of 2014.

**DIANA EIDSON** completed her PhD in Rhetoric and Composition at the Georgia State University in May. Her dissertation, "Labor, Literacies, and Liberation: A Rhetorical Biography of Stetson Kennedy," examines the rhetoric of Stetson Kennedy (1916-2011), a socially conscious journalist and author from Florida. For over seven decades, Stetson Kennedy fought for positive social change on labor and civil rights issues. Eidson looks at how labor unions built different literacies among workers; her dissertation is the first to uncover Kennedy's work during the 1940s for the CIO-PAC. The Southern Labor Archives at Georgia State University holds part of Kennedy's papers, and they are the focal point of this project. Eidson has been offered a position as Assistant Professor of Rhetoric and Composition at Auburn University, where she will continue to research and teach courses on Southern labor rhetoric.

*(Continued, p. 9)*

### [\(Sodexo at TCU, Cont.\)](#)

Losing benefits might just look like a piece of paper or something, but to the actual person it affects, that's livelihood: that's food, shelter, water, clothing."

The company pulled out all the stops, as is customary in any NLRB election today, especially in the South. After Salazar published a series of exposés on the union campaign and working conditions inside the dining hall, TCU released a statement saying that the university would remain a neutral third party. Eerily, there was little buzz about the entire campaign on campus, except for Salazar's muckraking and a handful of activist students who desperately wanted to know more and wanted to help out the union but didn't know how to do so.

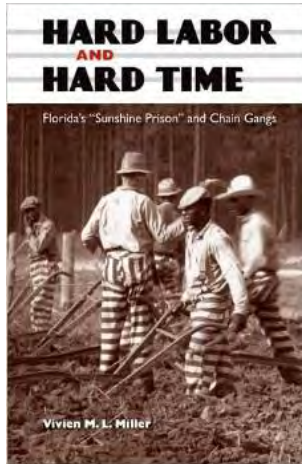
Union organizers finally brought the students in for the innovative action inside the cafeteria on Election Day,

and the solidarity between students and labor helped to carry the day. Sodexo workers voted 89-63 in favor of representation by the UFCW. Local 1000 leaders were optimistic that the company would accept the union's presence and negotiate a contract in good faith, as Sodexo has done at other campuses across the country.

The union's triumph promises to dramatically improve the lives and careers of the 170 Sodexo workers and especially the conditions of the 77 so-called "part-time" employees. But for this writer, the more important legacy will be the improved relationship between students and the people who serve them. Little by little, in this corner of the dark red home state of Rick Perry and Ted Cruz, students and workers are carving out space for democratic interactions across lines of race, class, gender, age, and occupation. Hopefully this is just the beginning.

## Books of Interest

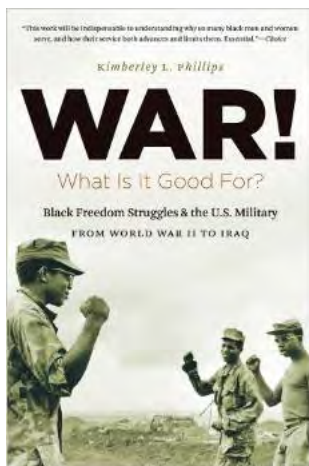
*Hard Labor and Hard Time:  
Florida's "Sunshine Prison" and Chain Gangs*  
Vivien M. L. Miller



*Hard Labor and Hard Time* is a history of continuity and change in Florida's state prison system between 1910 and 1957, exploring conditions at the state prison farm at Raiford (the third largest prison farm in the South at this time) as well as in the chain gangs and road prisons. Vivien Miller examines the experiences of the prisoners as well as the guards and other prison personnel in this comprehensive, groundbreaking study. She demonstrates that despite progressive changes in the treatment of inmates (better diet, better structuring of work and leisure activities, better medical provision, and the like), these improvements were matched by continued brutality and mistreatment, unequal or discriminatory treatment according to race and/or gender, and neglect.

Vivien M. L. Miller is associate professor of American history at the University of Nottingham, UK. *Hard Labor and Hard Time* is available from the [University Press of Florida](#).

*War! What Is It Good For?:  
Black Freedom Struggles and the U.S. Military from World War II to Iraq*  
Kimberley L. Phillips



African Americans' long campaign for "the right to fight" forced Harry Truman to issue his 1948 executive order calling for equality of treatment and opportunity in the armed forces. In *War! What Is It Good For?*, Kimberley Phillips examines how blacks' participation in the nation's wars after Truman's order and their protracted struggles for equal citizenship galvanized a vibrant antiwar activism that reshaped their struggles for freedom.

Using an array of sources—from newspapers and government documents to literature, music, and film—and tracing the period from World War II to the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, Phillips considers how federal policies that desegregated the military also maintained racial, gender, and economic inequalities. Since 1945, the nation's need for military labor, blacks' unequal access to employment, and discriminatory draft policies have forced black men into the military at disproportionate rates. While mainstream civil rights leaders considered the integration of the military to be a civil rights success, many black soldiers, veterans, and antiwar activists perceived war as inimical to their struggles

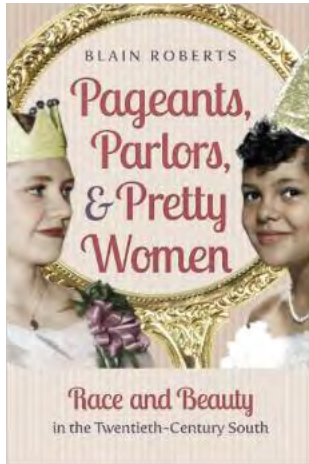
for economic and racial justice and sought to reshape the civil rights movement into an antiwar black freedom movement. Since the Vietnam War, Phillips argues, many African Americans have questioned linking militarism and war to their concepts of citizenship, equality, and freedom.

Kimberley L. Phillips is provost and dean of the faculty at Mills College. *War! What Is It Good For?* is available from [UNC Press](#).

(Continued, p. 8)

(Books of Interest, Cont.)

*Pageants, Parlors, and Pretty Women:  
Race and Beauty in the Twentieth-Century South*  
Blain Roberts



From the South's pageant queens to the importance of beauty parlors to African American communities, it is easy to see the ways beauty is enmeshed in southern culture. But as Blain Roberts shows in this incisive work, the pursuit of beauty in the South was linked to the tumultuous racial divides of the region, where the Jim Crow-era cosmetics industry came of age selling the idea of makeup that emphasized whiteness, and where, in the 1950s and 1960s, black-owned beauty shops served as crucial sites of resistance for civil rights activists. In these times of strained relations in the South, beauty became a signifier of power and affluence while it reinforced racial strife.

Roberts examines a range of beauty products, practices, and rituals—cosmetics, hair-dressing, clothing, and beauty contests—in settings that range from tobacco farms of the Great Depression to 1950s and 1960s college campuses. In so doing, she uncovers the role of female beauty in the economic and cultural modernization of the South. By showing how battles over beauty came to a head during the civil rights movement,

Roberts sheds new light on the tactics southerners used to resist and achieve desegregation.

Blain Roberts is associate professor of history at California State University, Fresno. *Pageants, Parlors, and Pretty Women* is available from [UNC Press](#).

*Cooking in Other Women's Kitchens:  
Domestic Workers in the South, 1865-1960*  
Rebecca Sharpless



As African American women left the plantation economy behind, many entered domestic service in southern cities and towns. Cooking was one of the primary jobs they performed, feeding generations of white families and, in the process, profoundly shaping southern foodways and culture. Rebecca Sharpless argues that, in the face of discrimination, long workdays, and low wages, African American cooks worked to assert measures of control over their own lives. As employment opportunities expanded in the twentieth century, most African American women chose to leave cooking for more lucrative and less oppressive manufacturing, clerical, or professional positions. Through letters, autobiography, and oral history, Sharpless evokes African American women's voices from slavery to the open economy, examining their lives at work and at home.

Rebecca Sharpless is associate professor of history at Texas Christian University. *Cooking in Other Women's Kitchens* was the Southern Historical Association's 2012 Bennett H. Wall Award winner, and was selected in 2011 as a CHOICE Outstanding Academic

Title. It is available from [UNC Press](#).



(Member News, Cont.)

**JOEY FINK** took her dissertation show on the road this year with public talks on her research on the many “Norma Raes” in the effort to organize J.P. Stevens textiles in the 1970s: the Museum and Archives of Rockingham County; Alamance Community College; the Center for the Study of the American South; NC Women Advance’s “Ms. Behaving” conference; and a featured guest on Frank Stasio’s “The State of Things” (NC Public Radio, WUNC). She presented a paper at Boston University’s conference on the 1970s Women’s Liberation Movement. This summer and fall she will finish writing her dissertation and is accepting donations of coffee and printer ink.

**PERLA M. GUERRERO** has been awarded a Ford Postdoctoral Fellowship for 2014-2015 to work on her book manuscript, *Nuevo South: Latinas/os, Asians, and the Remaking of Place*, which provides a framework that scrutinizes the legacies of southern history in terms of dealing with racial difference and driving economic development, takes into account political and social factors, and considers how refugees and immigrants negotiate these dynamics in their daily lives and interactions. The text moves beyond “Nuevo South” as a catchphrase and gives it rigor in order to constitute an analytically sound concept of social relations akin to “New South” in historical scholarship. New South leaders adjusted their regime of accumulation and used new labor forces in a manner most financially beneficial for them yet did little to disrupt the socioeconomic and political landscape. Guerrero contends a similar process happened in Arkansas and the region at the end of the twentieth century.

**CINDY HAHAMOVITCH** is currently a National Humanities Center Fellow and was named an OAH Distinguished Lecturer. She has served as an expert witness and on a human rights commission, both involving guestworker cases.

**MICHAEL INNIS-JIMÉNEZ** was awarded tenure and promotion to associate professor in the department of American studies at the University of Alabama.

**SCOTT NELSON** is a resident fellow at the National Humanities Center. He’s at work on a parallel biography of Rosa Luxemburg, Sigmund Freud, Anton Chekhov and Dwight Moody.

**PAUL ORTIZ** is director of the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program. He was the recipient of this year’s César E. Chávez Action and Commitment Award, for “Outstanding leadership through engaging in activities which dignify workers and by making notable contributions to the labor movement & demonstrating resilience in organizing workers, especially those who have been traditionally disadvantaged” given by the Florida Education Association, AFL-CIO. The Samuel Proctor Oral History Program received the Oral History Association’s Stetson Kennedy Vox Populi Award “For outstanding achievement in using oral history to create a more humane and just world.” The Proctor Program recently completed a documentary film on the lives of immigrant workers in Florida titled “Siempre Adelante: A Look at Faith and the Immigrant Struggle,” which is [available online](#).

**NATHAN RABY** graduated with a MA in History from the University of Alabama in Huntsville on May 4. He successfully defended his thesis entitled “Pickets, Politics, Perdition, and Perspectives: The 1934 Textile Strike in North Alabama” on March 7. His thesis emphasized the importance of President Roosevelt’s rhetoric and the hampering effects of the corporatism of the First New Deal, embodied by individuals such as Hugh S. Johnson of the National Recovery Administration, and its effects on millworkers’ strike to improve their economic condition. Textile workers in North Alabama struck before the nationwide strike and utilized Roosevelt’s New Deal rhetoric to in an effort to reclaim their dignity taken by unscrupulous mill owners. Ruby is considering applying for a PhD program as well as pursuing job opportunities.

**EMILY SENEFELD** is a PhD candidate at the University of Virginia, where she’ll be graduating in May 2015. Her research interests include modern US cultural history, working-class and labor history, and the South. Her dissertation focuses on the cultural programs—folk music and dancing, labor theatre, and documentary films—which the staff of the Highlander Folk School used in their labor and civil rights organizing from the 1930s to 1960s. She is very interested in hearing by [email](#) from other scholars working on similar topics, particularly to put together panels for conferences such as next year’s SHA and SLSA.

## Calls for Papers

### Southern Studies Conference Auburn University, Montgomery February 6-7, 2015

Now in its seventh year, the AUM School of Liberal Arts invites panel and paper proposals on any aspect of Southern history from Civil War to Civil Rights, from dueling to NASCAR, from King Cotton to corn whiskey. This two-day conference includes a keynote presentation by Dr. Stephen V. Ash, a distinguished Civil War historian from the University of Tennessee. Registrants to the conference will also be able to enjoy a variety of peer-reviewed panels and exhibits on southern topics representing all of the liberal arts disciplines. Proposals should include a 250-word abstract and a brief CV (they can be [emailed](#)). The deadline is 15 October 2014. For more information, visit the [conference website](#).

### 10th Southern Conference on Women's History Re-membering/Gendering: Women, Historical Tourism, and Public History College of Charleston, South Carolina June 11-14, 2015

The Southern Association for Women Historians (SAWH) invites proposals for its tenth triennial conference, to be held June 11-14, 2015 at the College of Charleston in Charleston, South Carolina. Co-sponsored by the College of Charleston, The Citadel, and Clemson University, the conference provides a stimulating and congenial forum for discussing all aspects of women's history. Its program seeks to reflect the best in recent scholarship and the diversity of our profession, including university professors, graduate students, museum curators, public historians, and independent scholars. We invite sessions on any dimension of women's and gender history and particularly welcome presentations that explore the conference themes: public history, tourism, memory, historic commemoration, and marketing history. The program committee seeks proposals for panels, roundtables, working group discussions, and scholarly shorts. For more information on these presentation formats, submission guidelines, and the submission email address, visit [SAWH online](#).

### Southern Historical Association 2015 Meeting Little Rock, Arkansas November 11-14, 2015

The Southern Historical Association's 2015 Program Committee has issued a call for papers for the eightieth annual

meeting, which will be held in Little Rock on November 11-14, 2015. All submissions should be made electronically through the SHA website. The deadline for submissions is September 15, 2014. In accordance with SHA by-laws, no one who participated on the previous two programs, either in St. Louis or Atlanta, is eligible for participation on the Little Rock program. The Association strongly encourages proposed sessions that reflect racial, gender, and institutional diversity.

### 99th Annual ASALH Convention Memphis, Tennessee September 24-28, 2014

The Association for the Study of African American Life and History has selected this theme to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, and we invite all Americans and the global community to join us in exploring the history of equal rights for all. Proposals must be submitted electronically by May 30, 2014. While individual papers will be accepted, please note that all papers and presentations will be grouped together and formed into multi-presentation sessions (with rare, pre-approved exceptions). Moreover, a decided preference will be given to complete panels. Please refer to the FAQ page for what constitutes a complete panel. For more information see the [call for papers online](#).

### 4th Annual Labor Research and Action Network National Conference Georgetown University, Washington DC June 16-17, 2014

Explore the intersection of cutting-edge labor research and innovative worker organizing campaigns, and hear from the AFL-CIO Executive Vice President Tefere Gebre, Harvard University scholar Theda Skocpol, journalist Rick Perlstein, and many more scholars and practitioners. The LRAN conference is an opportunity for academics, labor leaders, activists, and supporters to think creatively and daringly about the future of the labor movement. It's a space to question fundamental assumptions, reflect critically on victories and challenges, and propose new pathways that can propel our movement forward. More information and registration is available by visiting [LRAN online](#).

Masthead Image: Three turpentine "dippers." Georgia 1937. Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, USF34-017897-E [P&P].