

**1991
Southern Labor Studies
Conference**

October 10, 11, 12, 13, 1991



**Georgia State University
Atlanta, Georgia**

Sponsored by
**Southern Labor Archives
Department of History
of
Georgia State University**

General Information

The Southern Labor Studies Conference, held since 1976, provides a forum for scholars, labor leaders, activists, historians and students to share knowledge and ideas on the history and development of the labor movement.

The conference will be held at Georgia State University in downtown Atlanta. The program will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 10 and extend through Sunday afternoon, October 13.

Registration

Conference fees: \$30 (before October 3)
 \$35 (after October 3)
 \$15 students, retirees

Conference fees include all program materials, refreshments and lunch on Friday, October 11. Register by mailing your completed registration form with your check made payable to GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY. The mailing address is on the registration form.

Cancellations

Cancellations must be received by October 3, 1991, in order for you to receive a refund of your registration fee. To cancel your registration, call The Southern Labor Archives at (404) 651-2477.

Location and Parking

Georgia State University is located in downtown Atlanta. A map will be sent to all conference registrants. Please indicate on your registration form if you would like information on parking. A MARTA rapid-rail station is located near campus and attendees are encouraged to use public transportation.

Hotel Accommodations

A number of rooms have been reserved at reduced rates at two hotels within walking distance of Georgia State University. Registrants must make reservations by calling the hotels.

Travelodge: (404) 659-4545
(Ask for Michelle)
\$46/Single or Double \$58 (+ Tax)
Deadline: September 14, 1991

Howard Johnson: (404) 659-2660
\$58/Single or Double \$68 (+ Tax)
Deadline: September 19, 1991

NOTE: Participants should identify themselves as attending the Southern Labor Studies Conference to receive the special rates.

Southern Labor Studies Conference Program

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10

10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Registration - *Lower Lobby, Alumni Hall*

1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

WELCOME: Thomas J. La Belle, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Georgia State University
Herbert Mabry, Georgia State AFL-CIO
Stuart Acuff, Atlanta Labor Council

1. Plenary #1:

THE STATE OF LABOR STUDIES: A HEMISPHERIC VIEW

Veterans' Memorial Hall, Alumni Hall

MODERATOR: **Todd A. Diacon**, History, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

United States and Latin American Labor Studies

Charles Bergquist, History, University of Washington

Brazil

Barbara Weinstein, History, SUNY-Stony Brook

Rural Spanish America

Michael Jimenez, History, Princeton University

COMMENT: The Audience

3:00 P.M.-3:30 P.M.

Refreshments - *Lower Lobby, Alumni Hall*

3:30 P.M. - 5:30 P.M.

2. Plenary #2:

THE PLACE OF BLACK WORKERS IN SOUTHERN HISTORY

Veterans' Memorial Hall, Alumni Hall

MODERATOR: Earl Lewis, History, University of Michigan

Contesting the New South: The Politics and Culture of Wage Household Labor

Tera Hunter, History, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

Toward a Black Working Class Infra-Politics in the Twentieth Century South

Robin D. G. Kelley, History, University of Michigan

COMMENT: August Meier, History, Kent State University
Joe W. Trotter, Jr., History, Carnegie Mellon University

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10

8:00 P.M. - 9:30 P.M.

**3. EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL DALE O. SOMERS
LECTURE**

Room 201, Urban Life Building

PRESIDING: Gary M Fink, Georgia State University

Presentation of Somers Memorial Award,

Timothy J. Crimmins, Georgia State University

Introduction of Speaker

Merl E. Reed, Georgia State University

LECTURE: Sex, Lies, and Southern History: Searching for a

Woman Who Almost Wasn't There

Jacquelyn Dowd Hall, University of North Carolina-

Chapel Hill

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11

9:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon

Registration: *Lobby, Urban Life Auditorium*

9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

4. Plenary #3:

**RACE, CLASS, AND GENDER: TOWARD A NEW
SYNTHESIS IN SOUTHERN TEXTILE HISTORY**

Urban Life Auditorium

MODERATOR: Robert H. Zieger, History, University of
Florida

Race Relations

Mary Frederickson, History, Miami University

Class Relations

David Carlton, History, Vanderbilt University

Gender Relations

Bess Beatty, History, Oregon State University

COMMENT: Gary Gerstle, History, Catholic University of
America

Norman Hill, A. Philip Randolph Institute

11:00 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

5. Luncheon: A TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH JACOBS

Georgia Railroad Depot

PRESIDING: Leslie S. Hough, Southern Labor Archives

Millie Beik, Southern Labor Archives

1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Registration: Department of History, Room 805, General
Classroom Building

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11

1:30 P.M. - 3:15 P.M.

**6. CONVICT LABOR IN THREE GEORGIA
INDUSTRIES**

Room 718, General Classroom Building

CHAIR: Doug Munro, History, Bond University,
Queensland, Australia

**Labor, Punishment and the Task System in Georgia's
Convict Mines**

Alex Lichtenstein, History, Florida International
University

**The Use and Abuse of Convict Labor at the
Chattahoochee Brick Company**

David Berry, History, Georgia State University

**The Rise and Fall of Convict Labor in the Central
Georgia Lumber Industry**

Mary Ellen Wilson, History, Middle Georgia College

COMMENT: Karin Shapiro, History, Yale University
Doug Munro

7. WORKERS AND ECONOMIC NATIONALISM

Room 804, General Classroom Building

CHAIR: Paul B. Goodwin Jr., History, University of
Connecticut, Storrs

Workers and Nationalization of Mexico's Oil Industry

Jonathan C. Brown, History, University of Texas-Austin

**Workers and the Nationalization of Argentina's Railway
Industry**

Maria Celina Tuozzo, History, University of Texas-Austin

COMMENT: Paul B. Goodwin Jr.

Rodney D. Anderson, History, Florida State University

**8. ORGANIZED LABOR AND CIVIL RIGHTS IN
ALABAMA**

Room 904, General Classroom Building

CHAIR: Judith Stein, History, City University of New York

**Mobile During World War II: Organized Labor and the
Struggle for Black Equality in a "City That's Been Taken
by Storm"**

Bruce Nelson, History, Dartmouth University

**George Wallace, Civil Rights, and the Alabama Labor
Movement**

Alan Draper, Political Science, St. Lawrence University

COMMENT: Judith Stein

James Orange, Industrial Union Department, AFL-CIO

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11

1:30 P.M. - 3:15 P.M. (*Cont'd.*)

**9. INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND UNION POLITICS
IN MODERN BRAZIL AND MEXICO**

Room 939, General Classroom Building

CHAIR: Dalila De Sousa, History, Spelman College

Continuity and Change in the Brazilian Industrial Relations System under the 1988 Constitution

Russell Smith, Business, Washburn University

Trozos de Cristal: Privatization and Union Politics at Telefonos de Mexico

Steve Dubb, Political Science, University of California, San Diego

COMMENT: Margaret Keck, Political Science, Yale University

3:30 P.M. - 5:15 P.M.

10. POLITICS AND LABOR IN MEXICO

Room 804, General Classroom Building

CHAIR: Helen McKinney, Languages, Spelman College

Labor Union Rights in Mexico Today

Daniel La Botz, History, University of Cincinnati

Organization without Organizing, Benefits without Benefit: A Farm Worker's Union and Farm Worker's in Sonora, Mexico

Paul Clark, Political Science, University of Illinois

COMMENT: Jeffrey L. Bortz, History, Appalachian State University

11. WORKSHOP: Labor Recruitment and Factory Labor: The International Context

Room 718, General Classroom Building

MODERATOR: Jack Blinksilver, Economics, Georgia State University

DISCUSSION LEADERS:

Leonard A. Carlson, Economics, Emory University

Thomas E. Terrill, History, University of South Carolina

REACTION:

Leon R. Fink, History, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

William Finlay, Sociology, University of Georgia

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11

3:30 P.M. - 3:15 P.M. (*Cont'd.*)

12. POPULISM AND LABOR POLITICS

Room 904, General Classroom Building

CHAIR: Bradley R. Rice, History, Clayton State College

Peculiar Radicals: The Populist/Labor Coalition in Late Nineteenth-Century Dallas

Patricia E. Hill, History, Lander College

The Failed General Strike of 1921: A Turning Point in Argentine Labor History

Joel Horowitz, History, St. Bonaventure College

COMMENT: Robert C. McMath, Jr., History, Georgia Institute of Technology

Charles G. Steffen, History, Georgia State University

8:00 P.M. - 9:30 P.M.

13. KEYNOTE ADDRESS: SEVENTH BIENNIAL SOUTHERN LABOR STUDIES CONFERENCE

Room 201, Urban Life Building

PRESIDING: David J. McCreery, Georgia State University

Slave Resistance in Guyana

Emilia Viotti Da Costa, History, Yale University

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

9:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

14. LABOR RELATIONS UNDER SLAVERY

Room 201, Urban Life Building

CHAIR: Tiffany Patterson, History, Spelman College

Hired Slavery in Virginia's Tobacco Industry

Suzanne Schnittman, History, University of Rochester

Overseers and the Nature of Antebellum Labor Contracts

James D. Schmidt, History, Rice University

In Pursuit of Virtue: The Anti-Slavery Vision of Frances Wright

Vivian Sandlund, History, Emory University

COMMENT: Wayne K. Durrill, History, University of Cincinnati

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

9:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M. (Cont'd.)

15. COMMUNISM, ANTI-COMMUNISM, AND THE CHURCH

Room 302, Urban Life Building

CHAIR: Robert Korstad, History, Duke University

The Communist Party, the Church, and Labor in Costa Rica, 1943-1948

Eugene Miller, History, City University of New York

Christian Radicalism, McCarthyism, and the Dilemma of Organized Labor in Dixie

Doug Flamming, History, California Institute of Technology.

Under the Crimson Flag: Fahle Burman's Two Trips to the Michigan Supreme Court

John P. Beck, Michigan State University

COMMENT: Steve Rosswurm, History, Lake Forest College

16. RURAL LABOR MARKETS: LATIN AMERICA AND THE UNITED STATES

Room 311, Urban Life Building

CHAIR: Thomas F. Armstrong, History, Georgia College

The Changing Nature of the Labor Force in Coffee Agriculture in Columbia

Sutti Ortiz, Anthropology, Boston University

Employment Relations in Developing Country Agriculture: The Case of Mexico

Linda Wilcox Young, Economics, University of Vermont

Turpentine and Timber: An Analysis of the Naval Stores and Timber Workers in Citrus, Hernando, and Pasco Counties [Florida], 1870-1930

Allen Tyler Padgett, History, University of South Florida

COMMENT: Peggy Barlett, Anthropology, Emory University.

Thomas F. Armstrong

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

9:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M. (Cont'd.)

17. TEXTILES AND POLITICS IN THE MODERN SOUTH

Room 203, Urban Life Building

CHAIR: Winifred D. Wandersee, History, Hartwick College

The Failure of Operation Dixie

Michael Goldfield, Political Science, Cornell University

J.P. Stevens and the Union: Struggle for the South

James A. Hodges, History, The College of Wooster

COMMENT: Bruce Raynor, Vice President, Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union

Winifred D. Wandersee

11:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

18. MEETING OF LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION WORKING GROUP ON LABOR STUDIES

LUNCH (on your own)

1:30 P.M. - 3:15 P.M.

19. WORKING WOMEN: A CROSS-CULTURAL COMPARISON

Room 201, Urban Life Building

CHAIR: Lawrence J. Boyette, History, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Cracker Maids: Sowing the Union in Atlanta, 1899 to 1929

Gretchen E. Maclachlan, Political Science, Clark Atlanta University

Uncovering the Invisible Workers: Transition of Colombian Domestic Workers from the Informal to the Formal Sector

Mary Jo Dudley, Latin American Studies, Cornell University

COMMENT: Susan Levine, History, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Cindia Cameron, 9 to 5, National Association of Working Women

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

1:30 P.M. - 3:15 P.M. (Cont'd.)

20. THE UNITED FRUIT COMPANY: LABOR AND ETHNICITY IN CENTRAL AMERICA

Room 302, Urban Life Building

CHAIR: Dee Spears, History, Tulane University

Afro-Jamaican Traditions and Labor Organizing on United Fruit Company Plantations in Costa Rica, 1910

Aviva Chomsky, History, Bates College

Labor and Ethnicity in Panama

Michael L. Conniff, History, Auburn University

West Indians in Costa Rica: The 1934 Banana Contract

Ronald Harpelle, History, University of Toronto

COMMENT: Cindy Foster, History, University of California, Berkeley

21. ORIGINS OF THE BLACK PROLETARIAT: CASE STUDIES FROM THE POST BELLUM SOUTH

Room 311, Urban Life Building

CHAIR: Garrett Weaver, History, Jackson State University

Mississippi's First Labor Union

Ken Lawrence, Deep South People's History Project

"To Control and Sell Thou Own Labor": Blacks and Agricultural Labor Contracts in Post War West Tennessee

Denoral Davis, History, Jackson State University

Dual Labor Systems in Mississippi after the Civil War

Elizabeth Ann Sharpe, Political Science, Jackson State University

COMMENT: William Woods, History, Tougaloo College
Paul Cimbala, History, Fordham University

22. LABOR AND TEXTILES DURING THE GREAT DEPRESSION: A CROSS NATIONAL COMPARISON

Room 203, Urban Life Building

CHAIR: Janet Irons, History, Lock Haven University

The Search for Stability: The Politics of South Carolina Textile Workers during the Great Depression

Bryant Simon, History, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Employment, Wages and Labor Conflict in the Mexican Textile Industry during the Great Depression

Jeffrey L. Bortz, History, Appalachian State University

COMMENT: Cliff Welch, History, Grand Valley State University
Janet Irons

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

3:30 P.M. - 5:15 P.M.

23. FAMILY LABOR AND PATERNALISM IN SOUTHERN TEXTILES

Room 201 Urban Life Building

CHAIR: Glenda Gilmore, History, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Patriarchy Lost: The Preconditions for Paternalism in the Odell Cotton Mills of North Carolina, 1882-1900

Gary R. Freeze, History, Erskine College

Factory Legislation and Exploitation of Child Labor in the Cotton Textile Industry

Philip M. Holleran, Economics, Hampden-Sydney College

COMMENT: Julia Kirk Blackwelder, History, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Glenda Gilmore, History, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

24. POLITICS AND REFORM: UNION REFORM AND LABOR LAW

Room 302, Urban Life Building

CHAIR: W. Carl Biven, Economics, Georgia Institute of Technology

Union Reform and Labor Law: Miners for Democracy and the Use of the Landrum-Griffin Act

George W. Hopkins, History, College of Charleston

The AFL-CIO 1976 Legislative Platform: Its Successes and Failures during the Carter Administration

Bill M. Kaylor, History, Georgia State University

COMMENT: Martin Halpern, History, Henderson State University

Herb Green, United Automobile Workers, Atlanta

25. THE FACTORY: THE VIEW FROM THE INSIDE

Room 311, Urban Life Building

CHAIR: Daniel James, History, Yale University

Social Origins of Resistance in the Factory Workplace: The Not-So-Powerless Prevail

John D. French, History, Florida International University

Flirting in the Factory: Gender Relations in a Caribbean Work Place

Kevin A. Yelvington, Anthropology, Florida International University

COMMENT: Daniel James

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13

8:45 A.M. - 10:45 A.M.

**26. ORAL HISTORY: THE ANGLO, HISPANIC,
AND BLACK EXPERIENCE**

Room 216, Urban Life Center

CHAIR: Clifford M. Kuhn, History and Archives,
Georgia State University

Ya Basta! The San Antonio Pecan Shellers' Strike of 1938

Emily Jones, Education, University of Texas, Austin

**Industrial Work in East Tennessee: An Oral History of
Rayon Plant Workers' Lives, 1930-90**

Marie Tedesco, History & Archives, East Tennessee
State University

Black Workers Remember: The Era of Jim Crow

Michael Honey, History, University of Washington,
Tacoma

COMMENT: Jacqueline Rouse, History, Georgia State
University

Robert P. Ingalls, History, University of South Florida

11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

27. IMAGES OF LABOR IN ART AND FILM

Room 216, Urban Life Center

CHAIR: Allen Tullos, Liberal Arts, Emory University

**The Man with the Hoe: Slave, Sharecropper, and Single
Taxer**

Laura L. Meixner, History of Art and Archaeology,
Cornell University

The 1934 General Textile Strike

George Stoney, Film and Television, New York
University

Judith Helfand, "The Uprising of '34"

COMMENT: Greg Kaster, History, Gustavus Adolphus
College

[General Textile Striker]