

Society for Socialist Studies
Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences
Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
27 – 30 May 2009

***Kapital* Connections: Socialism, Nation, State**

Programme

Updated 07 April 2009

This programme is available as a downloadable .pdf at <http://www.socialiststudies.ca>

Sessions at Carleton University 2009 mark 40 years of Socialist Studies at the Congress of Humanities and Social Sciences in Canada. In keeping with the theme of the 2009 Congress, “Capital Connections: Nation, Terroir, Territoire,” sessions concentrate on how being in Canada has influenced analyses from the left. Canadian political economy emerges with the metropolis-hinterland thesis, challenging the assumption that we are ordained to be hewers of wood and drawers of water while exploring our subject status in the global economy.

But Canada as a state has a very different existence vis-à-vis First Nations, their territories, and their place in the world. Many forms of socialism employ an ongoing reliance on the state as a lever to exert power, a premise that has been undermined by post-modernist thought, and has since been promoted by the popular media in that vein. “Indeterminacy” could act as a dis-assembler of popular organisations and political thrusts -- a fragmenter of groupings organized around state, nation and territory -- even around the abstract notion of “place”.

Marxism holds positions about state, nation, territory and place that differ from those of social democracy, of anarchism, other socialisms, feminist and ecological points of view. What are those contrasts, and are there similarities and/or parallels? What is the practical or theoretical impact of these similarities and differences? Sessions at the 2009 Congress explore these connections as we mark forty years of Socialist Studies.

www.socialiststudies.ca

Socialist Studies: the journal of the Society of Socialist Studies
is now available online at
www.socialiststudies.com

Keynote Address

**Capitalism's Closing Circle:
Economy, Ecology, and Empire**

John Bellamy Foster

Editor, *Monthly Review* & Professor of Sociology, University of
Oregon, Eugene OR, USA

Thursday 28 May 2009

14:30 -17:00

Minto Case Theatre Room 2000

with funding support from the Congress of Humanities and Social Sciences

Society for Socialist Studies

Annual General Meeting

Friday 29 May 2009

14:45-16:30

Azrieli Theatre Room 102

Sessions: Wednesday, 27 May 2009

A.1 Socialism, Bureaucracy and Trade Unions (Part 1 of 2) 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4332

Karl Radek, when discussing the trade union question at the 2nd Congress of the Comintern, emphasizes the need to have a concrete analysis of the trade union bureaucracy and the need for socialists to actively defeat said bureaucracy. This panel seeks to re-address the problem of the trade union bureaucracy by asking a variety of questions: What is the role of unions in the struggle for socialism? How should socialist trade unionists relate to the trade union bureaucracy? How can socialists defeat the trade union bureaucracy?

Chair: Ian Hussey ihussey@yorku.ca

CUPE 3903, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

“Fighting Unionism: Being Realistic and Demanding the Impossible”

Dhruv Jain jaindhruv@hotmail.com

Social & Political Thought, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

“Lenin, ‘Left-Wing’ Communism, and the Trade Union Question: Towards a Second Opinion”

Dale Shin daleshin99@gmail.com

Social & Political Thought, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

“What is Trade Union Bureaucracy? Theoretical Considerations and the Canadian Case”

David Camfield camfield@ms.umanitoba.ca

Labour Studies, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg MB, Canada

A.2 What Is Radical Imagination? Potentials and Barriers to Mobilization in the Global North (Part 1 of 2) 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4342

In the face of massive financial crisis, increasing inequality, and ecological collapse, why do North American elites enjoy reckless accumulation untroubled by mass movements demanding radical socio-political change? While possible answers are legion, radical imaginations of political possibility capable of provoking movement are strikingly absent. Through diverse theoretical and methodological approaches, this panel explores radical imagination(s) by focusing on concrete sites of struggle, particularly - but not exclusively - in North America. Papers focus on the ways movements seek - or fail - to conceive of, articulate, and mobilize radical imagination(s) and the consequences thereof.

Chair: Max Haiven maxhaiven@gmail.com

English & Cultural Studies, McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada

“Re-Imagining Breast Cancer: Unravelling the Pink Ribbon and Decommodifying Feminism”

Julie Dowsett jdowsett@yorku.ca

Political Science, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

“The Idea of Porto Alegre in Europe and Canada: Why There and Not Here?”

Terry Maley maley@yorku.ca

Political Science, York University, Toronto, ON, Canada

“Fight to Win!! Political Economic Disruption - Discussing Tactics and Strategies”

DT Cochrane & Jeff Monaghan bones@mutualaid.org

Independent Scholars

“Is Resistance Fertile? Mobilizing Against Agricultural Biotechnology in Canada”

Wilhelm Peekhaus wpeekhau@illinois.edu

Library & Information Science, University of Illinois, Champaign IL, USA

A.3 ROUNDTABLE: The Spectre Haunting America 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4124

The 2008 American presidential election concluded with an unprecedented result: the popular election of an African American as leader of a developed capitalist state. Watching this unfold from outside the United States, it was impossible to avoid the fascination and enthusiasm of the campaign, to reflect on the bizarre return of “Marxism” and “socialism” to the American cultural and political lexicon, and to contrast this with the soporific Canadian election. But the question remains: does this, unlike other American elections, mean anything? As America and the world celebrated the election of Barack Obama and the

combination of grassroots and hi-tech organisation, affirmative action laws were struck down, same-sex marriages banned, and billions poured into a banking sector whose reckless pursuit of profit had shattered the global economy. This session invites proposals which offer insights from the left on what, if anything at all, “change we can count on” means for the United States, Canada, and the world.

- Chair:** NJ Baker normajobaker@gmail.com
Sociology, Nipissing University, North Bay ON, Canada
- Speakers:** John Conway John.Conway@uregina.ca
Sociology & Social Studies, University of Regina SK, Canada
- Leo Panitch lpnitch@yorku.ca
Political Science, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

B.1 ROUNDTABLE: Bankruptcies & Bailouts 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4332

Recession? Depression? Market adjustment? Billion-dollar bailouts? Just what is happening to Canada's economy? We are in the midst of a global economic crisis yet even economists like Alan Greenspan cannot explain what happened. The authors in *Bankruptcies and Bailouts*, published by Fernwood Books and forthcoming in May, explain the roots of this economic disaster. They argue that the global capitalist economy, rooted in the contradictions of deep inequalities, must inevitably lead to such a crisis and they propose solutions beyond simply bailing out those who created the chaos. Contributing authors –economists and political scientists – present their arguments in this session.

- Organiser:** Julie Guard guardj@cc.umanitoba.ca
Labour Studies, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg MB, Canada
- Chair:** Wayne Anthony wayne@fernpub.ca
Fernwood Books, Halifax, NS, Canada
- Speakers:** Robert Chernomas chernoma@cc.umanitoba.ca
Economics, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg MB, Canada
- Ian Hudson HUDSONI@MS.UMANITOBA.CA
Economics, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg MB, Canada
- David McNally davidmcnally@sympatico.ca
Political Science, York University, Toronto ON, Canada
- Marjorie Griffin Cohen mcohen@sfu.ca
Political Science, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby BC, Canada

B.2 What Is Radical Imagination? Potentials and Barriers to Mobilization in the Global North (Part 2 of 2) 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4342

In the face of massive financial crisis, increasing inequality, and ecological collapse, why do North American elites enjoy reckless accumulation untroubled by mass movements demanding radical socio-political change? While possible answers are legion, radical imaginations of political possibility capable of provoking movement are strikingly absent. Through diverse theoretical and methodological approaches, this panel explores radical imagination(s) by focusing on concrete sites of struggle, particularly - but not exclusively - in North America. Papers focus on the ways movements seek - or fail - to conceive of, articulate, and mobilize radical imagination(s) and the consequences thereof.

- Chair:** Alex Khasnabish Alex.Khasnabish@msvu.ca
Sociology & Anthropology, Mount Saint Vincent University, Halifax NS, Canada
- “Activism in the Idiom of Failure”**
Petra Rethmann rethman@mcmaster.ca
Anthropology, McMaster University, Hamilton ON, Canada
- “Imaginative Practices, Practical Imaginations: Precognitive Politics in Contemporary Anti-Authoritarian Organizing”**
Chris Dixon chrisd@resist.ca
History of Consciousness, University of California, Santa Cruz CA, USA

“On the Uneven Development of Radical Imagination”

Justin Paulson justin_paulson@carleton.ca

Sociology & Anthropology, Carleton University, Ottawa ON, Canada

B.3 Imperialism and Culture 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4124

This session explores the relationship between contemporary culture and the development of globalized imperialism. Themes addressed include: the impact of American-led globalization, national culture in Canada and Quebec, the aesthetics of particular media, features of the political and ideological conjuncture, the history of imperialism and colonialism, and various forms of national and socialist cultural resistance and opposition.

Chair: Scott Forsyth sforsyth@yorku.ca

Film & Political Science, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

“Culture, Economy and Politics in Quebec Cinema: Imperialism and/or Resistance?”

Christian Poirier Christian.Poirier@ucs.inrs.ca

Institut national de la recherche scientifique –Urbanisation, Culture et Société,
Montréal QC, Canada

“Film, History and the Contemporary Moment: Reading Loach’s *The Wind that Shakes the Barley* in light of Imbert’s *No Pasarán, Album Souvenir*”

Keith O’Regan koregan@yorku.ca

Social & Political Thought, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

“Imperialism and Education: The case of India”

Kanchan Sarker sarkerk@gmail.com

Grant MacEwan College, Edmonton AB, Canada

“Canadian Communists and Culture in the early Cold War”

Scott Forsyth sforsyth@yorku.ca

Film & Political Science, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

C.1 NEW SCHOLARS FORUM (Part 1 of 2) 13:00-14:15 Mackenzie 4332

As part of its mandate to facilitate and encourage research and analysis in Canada with an emphasis on socialist, feminist, ecological and anti racist points of view, the Society for Socialist Studies is pleased to offer a venue to new scholars working in these areas who have not yet completed a Masters degree.

Chair: Chad D Thompson chad.d.thompson@gmail.com

Sociology, University College of the North, Thompson MB, Canada

“State-form versus State-effect: Foucault’s Proposal for a Socialist Governmentality”

Michael Lait mlait056@uottawa.ca

Criminology, University of Ottawa, ON, Canada

“The socialist market economy in China: the symbolic and economic role of ‘peripheral’ peoples in a rapidly changing nation”

Joanne Schmidt, reigasan@hotmail.com

Communication & Culture, University of Calgary, AB, Canada

“Political Autonomy and the (Non)Unitary Social”

Sarah LeBlanc, leblancs@yorku.ca

Political Science, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

**D.1 ROUNDTABLE: Palestine Solidarity on Campus: The Question of Boycott 14:30-17:00
Mackenzie 4332 (joint session with the Canadian Association of Studies in International
Development)**

The brutal Israeli assault on Gaza has led to a growth in the movement for solidarity with Palestine both on and off campuses. In Britain there were occupations in more than 15 campuses demanding that the university stops investing in companies that sell arms to Israel. While popular protest against Israeli aggression continues to grow, the issue is still controversial on campus. No other issues today pose the kinds of challenges this one does. The roundtable will discuss a range of Palestine solidarity activities, including

work to support the right to education for Palestinians, the right to free speech about Palestine on Canadian campuses and broader campaigns around Palestinian issues. Participants will assess the value of boycott, divestment and sanctions campaigns; examine the debate that has emerged since the 2005 call-out from the Palestinian Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel (PACBI); and present different perspectives on strategies for building the movement for solidarity with Palestine.

- Chair:** Alan Sears asears@soc.ryerson.ca
Sociology, Ryerson University, Toronto, ON, Canada
- Speakers:** Yasmeen Abu-Laban
Political Science, University of Alberta
- Yafa Jarrar
Politics & International Development, Trent University, Peterborough ON,
Canada
- Kevin Moloney
Languages, Literature, & Linguistics, York University, Toronto ON, Canada
- Judy Rebick
Political Science, Ryerson University, Toronto, ON, Canada

Sessions: Thursday, 28 May 2009

E.1 The Working-Class Movement in Contemporary Canada and Quebec 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4332

This panel is an opportunity for researchers to present papers that contribute to increasing our knowledge and understanding of the working-class movement in Canada and Quebec today, including studies of unions, community-based workers' organizations and working-class politics.

- Chair:** David Camfield camfield@ms.umanitoba.ca
Labour Studies, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg MB, Canada
- "The Difficulties We Face: Can We Imagine a Reinvigorated Unionism Based on Principles of Equality and Equity?"**
Anne Forrest forrest@uwindsor.ca
Women's Studies, University of Windsor, Windsor ON, Canada
- "The Working Class and the Next New Left"**
Alan Sears asears@ryerson.ca
Sociology, Ryerson University, Toronto ON, Canada
- "The Social Relations of Labour-Community Workers Rights Organizing: the Ontario Minimum Wage Campaign"**
Sheila Wilmot swilmot@oise.utoronto.ca
Adult Education, OISE, University of Toronto, Toronto ON, Canada

E.2 Exploring issues of one's identity and/or theoretical perspective on research or teaching (Part 1 of 2) 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 3174 (joint session with the Canadian Sociological Association)

This session brings together papers that explore the relationship between one's theoretical perspective(s) such as Marxism, feminism, and postmodernism, and/or one's social, ethnic, gender, sexual identity and one's research and/or teaching. The session includes papers that examine one's identity and theory/practice when one is studying post-conflict situations, peoples and cultures that have experienced violence, atrocities, and/or genocide.

- Chair:** Sima Arahamian aprhsma@alcor.concordia.ca
Sociology & Anthropology, Concordia University Montréal QC, Canada
- "Borderlands"**

Wendy E. Burton wendy.burton@ufv.ca

Teaching & Learning, University of the Fraser Valley, Chilliwack BC, Canada

“The Holocaust in German Studies: Overcoming Learning Obstacles”

Karin Doerr kdoerr@alcor.concordia.ca

Classics, Modern Languages & Linguistics, Concordia University, Montréal QC, Canada

“Personalizing Research: Pushing the Boundaries of Academic Vulnerabilities”

Marion Gerlind marion@gerlindinstitute.org

Gerlind Institute for Cultural Studies, Oakland CA, USA

E.3 Radicalization and other personal-is-political transformations 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4124

Papers focus on personal transformations of political orientation, conceptualization, or responsibility, such as bell hooks' (2003) 'what happens when white people change?' The changes explored may be toward 'the left,' toward 'the right,' or in a direction that doesn't unambiguously plot onto the 'political spectrum' (from Marxism to anarchism, from postcolonial to antiracist, from dialectical to *differential*, from any of these to a focus on disability). Papers attempt to theorize such personal/political transformations, to consider how to effect or prevent such changes, or something else entirely.

Chair: Chris Chapman c.chapman@utoronto.ca

Sociology & Equity Studies, OISE, University of Toronto, ON / Social Work, Dalhousie University, Halifax NS, Canada

“The Fragmented Ubuntu Family: Homeward Through Our Stories of Fragmented Memories”

Devi Mucina devi.mucina@utoronto.ca

Sociology & Equity Studies, OISE, University of Toronto ON, Canada

“Understanding Collective Politics through the Lived Experience of Anxiety”

Melissa Strowger melissa.strowger@utoronto.ca

Sociology & Equity Studies, OISE, University of Toronto, ON, Canada

“An Anarchism of Difference”

Liat Ben-Moshe lbenmosh@maxwell.syr.edu & Anthony J. Nocella, II nocellat@yahoo.com

Sociology & Disability Studies, Syracuse University Syracuse NY; Sociology & Criminology, Le Moyne College, Syracuse University NY, USA

F.1/CPSA ROUNDTABLE: Against and Beyond Neo-liberalism: New challenges for political economy 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4332 (joint session with the Canadian Political Science Association)

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the launching of the journal *Studies in Political Economy: A Socialist Review* (SPE). When *SPE* started out in 1979 the editors intended that the journal would facilitate “creative dialogue and debate” within the various traditions of political economy, while at the same time contributing to the development of the tradition itself. It is in that spirit that participants reflect on the tradition of political economy within which they work, assessing what this tradition offers in the context of neo-liberalism and the current financial crisis, and what the prospects are for moving beyond the crisis and neo-liberalism.

Chair: Rosemary Warskett rosemary_warskett@carleton.ca

Studies in Political Economy; Department of Law, Carleton University, Ottawa ON, Canada

Speakers: Greg Albo

Political Science, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

Pat Armstrong

Sociology, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

Duncan Cameron

Political Science, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby BC, Canada

Joyce Green

Political Science, University of Regina, SK, Canada

Charlotte Yates

Political Science & Labour Studies, McMaster University, Hamilton ON,
Canada

**F.2 Exploring issues of one's identity and/or theoretical perspective on research or teaching
(Part 2 of 2) 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174 (joint session with the Canadian Sociological
Association)**

This session brings together papers that explore the relationship between one's theoretical perspective(s) such as Marxism, feminism, and postmodernism, and/or one's social, ethnic, gender, sexual identity and one's research and/or teaching. The session includes papers that examine one's identity and theory/practice when one is studying post-conflict situations, peoples and cultures that have experienced violence, atrocities, and/or genocide.

Chair: Sima Aprahamian aprhsma@alcor.concordia.ca

Sociology & Anthropology, Concordia University, Montréal QC, Canada

"A Systemic Perspective Approach and its potential towards paths of reconciliation: The case of Armenian-Turkish Reconciliation"

Chiara H. Megighian-Zenati chm66@pitt.edu

Public & International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh PA, USA

"Indians, Muslims, Others - India, Gender, Nation"

Dolores Chew d.chew@marianopolis.edu

Liberal & Creative Arts, Marianopolis College & Simone de Beauvoir Institute, Concordia University, Montréal QC, Canada

"Connections, Inner Nations and the Global Subject"

Nellie Hogikyan nellie@b2b2c.ca

Comparative Literature, Université du Québec à Montréal QC, Canada

F.3 Socialism, Bureaucracy and Trade Unions (Part 2 of 2) 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4124

Karl Radek, when discussing the trade union question at the 2nd Congress of the Comintern, emphasizes the need to have a concrete analysis of the trade union bureaucracy and the need for socialists to actively defeat said bureaucracy. This panel seeks to re-address the problem of the trade union bureaucracy by asking a variety of questions: What is the role of unions in the struggle for socialism? How should socialist trade unionists relate to the trade union bureaucracy? How can socialists defeat the trade union bureaucracy?

Chair: Dhruv Jain jaindhruv@hotmail.com

Social & Political Thought, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

"Labour bureaucracy as professionalization of 'troubled persons' in a striking union context"

Chelsea Flook chelsea.eff@gmail.com

Disability Studies, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

"Building Solidarity, Confronting Bureaucracy in International Solidarity Organizing"

Katherine Nastovski knastov@gmail.com

Social and Political Thought, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

"Trade Union Bureaucracy and the CUPE 3903 Strike"

Noaman Ali noaman.ali@gmail.com

Social & Political Thought, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

**CASID KEYNOTE: Is "development" a panacea? How to think beyond obsolete
presuppositions? 11:00-12:45 Azrieli Theatre 302 (sponsored by the Canadian Association
of Studies in International Development)**

Speaker: Gilbert Rist

Professor Emeritus, Geneva Institute of Graduate Studies in International Relations
& Development (IUÉD), Switzerland

Gilbert Rist offers the scholarly and larger educated public a critical exposition of the historical role of the development enterprise and assesses its limits as a mobilizing force. He establishes the development

paradigm as the core of the Western contemporary imagination and scrutinizes its universal pretensions. His presentation will be of immense appeal to all those interested in the study of development, whether local, national or international.

G.1 NEW SCHOLARS FORUM (Part 2 of 2) 13:00-14:15 Mackenzie 4332

As part of its mandate to facilitate and encourage research and analysis in Canada with an emphasis on socialist, feminist, ecological and anti racist points of view, the Society for Socialist Studies is pleased to offer a venue to new scholars working in these areas who have not yet completed a Masters degree.

Chair: June Madeley: madelej@hotmail.com
Information & Communication Studies, Social Science, University of New Brunswick, Saint John NB, Canada

“The Criminalization of Poverty”

Jaime McGuire jaime15@bust.com
Criminal Justice & Social Welfare, Nipissing University, North Bay ON, Canada

“Privatization and the Renegotiation of Health

Lindsay Baxter lindbaxter@hotmail.com
Sociology & Social Welfare, Nipissing University, North Bay ON, Canada

“The amelioration of life through the application of assimilation”

Hillory Tenute hillorytenute@yahoo.ca
Sociology & Native Studies, Nipissing University, North Bay ON, Canada

H.1 KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Capitalism's Closing Circle: Economy, ecology, and empire 14:30-17:00 Minto Case Theatre Room 2000 (with funding support from the Congress of Humanities and Social Sciences)

Speaker: John Bellamy Foster

Editor, *Monthly Review* & Professor of Sociology, University of Oregon, Eugene OR, USA

“Capitalism's Closing Circle: Economy, Ecology, and Empire” traces the shift in planet-wide ecological threats, beginning with the nuclear era, to the present embeddedness within a globalised political economy which has been unable to address environmental destruction in good times or bad.

John Bellamy Foster, Professor of Sociology at the University of Oregon, is the editor of the influential socialist journal *Monthly Review*. He also serves on the editorial boards of the *Historical Materialism* and *Organization and Environment*. Foster is the author and co-author of nine books on political economy, imperialism, and environmentalism, most recently *The Ecological Revolution: Making Peace with the Planet* (2009) and *The Great Financial Crisis: Causes and Consequences* (2008) with Fred Magdoff. His works have been published in English, Turkish, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, Japanese, and Farsi editions (soon to be available in Bengali and Greek). His forthcoming books include *Communications and Monopoly Capitalism* (2009).

Sessions: Friday, 29 May 2009

I.1 Rethinking Leninism (Part 1 of 2) 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4332

It is difficult to overstate the influence of Lenin's intervention in Marxist praxis. His achievements (including his ideas) have reshaped the landscape itself. However, this influence is not properly reflected in contemporary Marxist thought. While rethinking Marxism has won some measure of legitimacy in the academy, rethinking Leninism continues largely on the margins. In recent years, this near-silence has been broken by the publication of books like *Lenin Rediscovered* by Lars Lih and *Lenin Reloaded*, edited by Budgen, Kouvelakis and Žižek. Papers in this session rethink Lenin's contribution to Marxism in light of the current moment.

- Chair:** Alex Levant alevant@yorku.ca
Political Science, York University, Toronto ON, Canada
- “Positivism, Lenin, and Academe”**
Herb Gamberg gamberg@dal.ca
Sociology, Dalhousie University, Halifax NS, Canada
- “Leninism: It’s Not What You Think”**
Paul Kellogg paulkellogg@trentu.ca
Trent University, Peterborough ON, Canada
- “Antonio Negri and the Real Subsumption of Politics”**
Barret Weber barretw@ualberta.ca
Sociology, University of Alberta, Edmonton AB, Canada
- “Economic Imperialism and the Current Financial Crisis: Lenin told us so”**
Adam Belton adam.belton@uregina.ca
Sociology, University of Regina, Regina SK, Canada

I.2 Class structure and class struggle in transnational contexts 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 3174 *(joint session with the Canadian Association of Studies in International Development)*

This session includes empirical and theoretical papers centred upon class relations and practices of two kinds: those that span national borders (as in transnational corporations or migrant labour systems) and those that appear ‘locally’ but are shaped by such forces as international finance, globalizing mass media and transnational political-economic governance. The session aims to explore class from above, as a structure of appropriation and control, and from below; hence issues of resistance and prefiguration are highly relevant.

- Chair:** William K. Carroll wcarroll@uvic.ca
Sociology, University of Victoria, BC, Canada
- “Transnational Social Movements: Coalitions, Alliances and Global Resistance”**
Josh Brem-Wilson J.W.Brem-wilson@Bradford.ac.uk , David Huxtable huxtable@uvic.ca
& J.P. Sapinski sapinski@uvic.ca
Peace Studies, University of Bradford, UK; Sociology, University of Victoria, BC;
Sociology, University of Victoria, BC, Canada
- “Social Movements in India: From Representative Institutional Politics to Participatory Democracy”**
Kanchan Sarker sarkerk@gmail.com
Sociology, Grant MacEwan College, Edmonton AB, Canada
- “The Universal Singular: Slavoj Žižek and the Symptom of ‘Class Struggle’”**
Matthew Flisfeder mflisfed@ryerson.ca
Communication & Culture, Ryerson University & York University, Toronto ON, Canada
- “Billionaires and networkers: wealth and position in the global corporate power structure”**
William K. Carroll wcarroll@uvic.ca
Sociology, University of Victoria, BC, Canada

I.3 Academic Capital 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4124

The University can be understood as both the site of great privilege and creative labour, and as an oppressive and alienating institution that produces and re-produces certain kinds of social subjects. The modern university has been interpolated through modernist narratives of progress and enlightenment, as one of the great bastions of civil society, safeguarding the free flow of ideas, a myth belying the fact that universities generate a great deal of capital, financial and social. What are the uses of academic capital? This panel seeks to create a space for inter-generational dialogue on being within and against the university, and on the university as a site of struggle.

- Chair:** Alyson McCready alyson.mccready@gmail.com
English & Cultural Studies, McMaster University, Hamilton ON, Canada
- “Repressed Sites of Reproduction: The Preconditions of Academic Labour”**

Mary Ellen Campbell president@cupe3906.org
CUPE 3906; English & Cultural Studies, McMaster University, Hamilton ON, Canada

“The Neoliberal University”

Evan Mauro mauroed@mcmaster.ca
English & Cultural Studies, McMaster University, Hamilton ON, Canada

“Cloistering Criticism: Protecting the System”

Errol Sharpe errol@fernpub.ca
Fernwood Publishing, Black Point NS, Canada

I.4/CSA118 Immigration Policy, Migrant Workers & Growing Underclass 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 3269 (joint session with Canadian Sociological Association)

Immigration continues to shape and transform the Canadian political and economic landscape. Recent reforms to immigration policy have created a new “experience” class of immigrants to meet labour market needs, while at the same time the number of Temporary Foreign Workers (TFW) have been increased. This session examines how Canadian immigration policy has changed the face, diversity and demographics of Canadian society. What lessons can be learned from other countries facing similar demographic pressures?

Organiser: Tony Wohlfarth Tony_Wohlfarth@carleton.ca
Carleton University Academic Staff Association (CUASA), Ottawa ON, Canada

Chair: Christine Hughes chughes@connect.carleton.ca
Sociology & Anthropology, Carleton University, Ottawa ON, Canada

Discussant: Elke Winter elke.winter@uottawa.ca
Sociology, University of Ottawa, ON, Canada

“Mexican Workers and Farming in the Okanagan Valley, British Columbia”

Patricia Tomic patricia.tomic@ubc.ca
Sociology, UBC Okanagan, Kelowna BC, Canada

“The Costs of Illegality”

Paloma Villegas col0mbe@yahoo.com
Sociology, OISE, University of Toronto, ON, Canada

“Globalizing Guest worker programs in an Era of Neoliberal Immigration”

Aziz Choudry aziz.choudry@mcgill.ca
International Education, McGill University, Montréal QC, Canada

I.5/CASID ROUNDTABLE: Scholars/Activists of Development 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 3275 (joint session with the Canadian Association of Studies in International Development)

The participants of this roundtable will expose and debate the merits, contributions and challenges of scholars from both the North and the South in their analytical and activists activities in international development. They will present their involvement with social movements and how this influences their teaching and research.

Chair: Charmain Levy
Département de travail social et des sciences sociales, Université du Québec en
Outaouais, Gatineau QC, Canada

Speakers: Bernardo Mançano Fernandes
Geography, São Paulo State University, São Paulo, Brazil
Justin Podur
Environmental Studies, York University, Toronto ON, Canada
Pun Ngai
Social Science, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, China
Claudette Commanda
First Nations Confederacy of Cultural Education Centres; Institute of
Women’s Studies, University of Ottawa, ON, Canada

J.1 Rethinking Leninism (Part 2 of 2) 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4332

It is difficult to overstate the influence of Lenin's intervention in Marxist praxis. His achievements (including his ideas) have reshaped the landscape itself. However, this influence is not properly reflected in contemporary Marxist thought. While rethinking Marxism has won some measure of legitimacy in the academy, rethinking Leninism continues largely on the margins. In recent years, this near-silence has been broken by the publication of books like *Lenin Rediscovered* by Lars Lih and *Lenin Reloaded*, edited by Budgen, Kouvelakis and Žižek. Papers in this session rethink Lenin's contribution to Marxism in light of the current moment.

Chair: Alex Levant alevant@yorku.ca
Political Science, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

"Lenin for Our Time"

Paul LeBlanc Paul.LeBlanc@LaRoche.edu
Arts & Sciences, La Roche College, Pittsburgh PA, USA

"Reconsidering Leninism by Rereading Lenin"

Steve D'Arcy sdarcy@huron.uwo.ca
Philosophy, Huron University College, London ON, Canada

"Lenin's Aggressive Unoriginality, 1914-1918"

Lars T. Lih larslih@yahoo.ca
Independent Scholar, Montréal QC, Canada

J.2 The State and Civil Society 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174

State-sponsored nationalism is confronted with the actuality of ethnic national identity. The evident contradiction of the two concepts of national-identity and the state is found in the mutual demands for self-determination for a common territory, as is the case in Palestine/Israel or the impasse of Québécois/e national identity in the context of the Dominion of Canada. This session explores the tendency to seek ever more numerous numbers of states which separate the various ethnic identities on a territorial basis with the accompanying series of ethnic cleansing operations.

Chair: Abraham Weizfeld saalaha@fokus.name
Independent Scholar, Montréal QC, Canada

"National-Cultural Autonomy and The State"

Abraham Weizfeld saalaha@fokus.name
Independent Scholar, Montréal QC, Canada

"The State and Civil Society in Lebanon through the experiences of the Armenian community of Anjar in Beka'a valley of Lebanon"

Sima Aprahamian aprhsma@alcor.concordia.ca
Sociology & Anthropology, Concordia University, Montréal QC, Canada

"Citizenship expertise, the case of 'have-not' residents"

Franc Rottiers franc.rottiers@ugent.be
Centre for Critical Philosophy, Ghent, Belgium

J.3/CSA131/CPSA The Current Crisis of Capitalism: Lessons from the Great Depression 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3269 (joint session with the Canadian Sociological Association & the Canadian Political Science Association)

Schumpeter termed capitalism a system of "creative destruction." The creation of the post-war Keynesian welfare state was meant to lessen the destruction occasioned by unfettered capitalism during the Depression. The advent of neo-liberal globalization, beginning in the 1980s, saw much of this protective framework eroded, however. The economic crisis which began in 2007 bears similarities to that of the 1930s. This session considers the lessons that the Great Depression might offer in terms the causes of the crisis, the array of outcomes that could arise, and the strategic value for the left in looking back to the 1930s.

- Chair:** Slobodan Drakulic drakulic@ryerson.ca
Sociology, Ryerson University, Toronto, ON, Canada
- Discussant:** Trevor Harrison trevor.harrison@uleth.ca
Sociology, University of Lethbridge, AB, Canada
- “The Current Crisis of Capitalism: Lessons from the Great Depression”**
Ingo Schmidt ingos@athabascau.ca
Work & Community Studies, Athabasca University, Athabasca AB, Canada
- “Lessons from the Then and Now Crises of Capitalism”**
Elizabeth Quinlan quinlan@sasktel.net & Lukin Robinson lukinr@rogers.com
Sociology, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon SK, Canada
- “Responses to Capitalist Crises Past and Present: A New New Deal? Or Socialism versus Barbarism?”**
Leo Panitch leo.panitch@sympatico.ca
Political Science, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

K.1 ROUNDTABLE: Past and Futures: forty years of the Society for Socialist Studies 13:00-14:30 Mackenzie 4332

With the 2009 Congress at Carleton marking over 40 years of the Society for Socialist Studies, the Society is engaged in looking forwards as well as reflecting on its legacy. What are the futures and prospects for socialist thought, organisation, and action? Does our situatedness within Canada offer unique opportunities for understanding these possibilities? Roundtable participants from throughout the history of Socialist Studies will reflect upon these issues and their relevance to the past, present, and future of the Society for Socialist Studies.

- Chair:** Jerrold L Kachur jerry.kachur@ualberta.ca
Theoretical, Cultural and International Studies, University of Alberta,
Edmonton AB, Canada
- Speakers:** Frank Cunningham frank.cunningham@utoronto.ca
Philosophy and Political Science, University of Toronto, ON, Canada
Darrell McLaughlin dmclaughlin@stmcollege.ca & Ken Collier kcollier@shaw.ca
Sociology, St. Thomas More College, University of Saskatchewan,
Saskatoon SK, Canada; Community Studies, Athabasca University
(Retired), Red Deer AB, Canada
Jesse Vorst vorst2@mail.cc.umanitoba.ca
Economics, University College, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg MB,
Canada

L.1 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: Society for Socialist Studies 14:45-16:30 Azrieli Theatre Room 102

Sessions: Saturday, 30 May 2009

M.1 The Fall of the Wall Twenty Years Later 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4124

It has been two decades – a generation – since the dismantling of the Berlin Wall. The event triggered an outpouring of futurological optimism in diverse quarters, provoking Francis Fukuyama to declare the “end of history” with the apparent triumph of liberal democracy. Papers in this session revisit the event and the historical significance – or ultimate irrelevance – of “The Fall of the Wall.”

- Organiser:** Ivanka Knezevic knezevic@chass.utoronto.ca
Sociology, University of Toronto, ON, Canada
- Chair:** Slobodan Drakulic drakulic@ryerson.ca
Sociology, Ryerson University, Toronto ON, Canada

Discussant: Christine Lavrence clavrenc@uwo.ca

Sociology, University of Western Ontario, London ON, Canada

“High Modernism Revisited: post-communism, post-colonialism, and neurotic liberalism”

Chad D. Thompson chad.d.thompson@gmail.com

Sociology, University College of the North, Thompson MB, Canada

“On plurality of possible paths of post-communist transformation: the relevance of traditional evolutionary-institutionalist perspective”

Anna Klimina aklimina@stmcollege.ca

Economics, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon SK, Canada

M.2 Marxism and Psychoanalysis 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 3174

According to Slavoj Žižek, Marxism and psychoanalysis are the only two theories, today, which imply and practice an ‘engaged notion of truth’. This session engages the relationship between Marxism and psychoanalysis in contemporary critiques of ideology. Particular focus will be placed upon Lacanian readings and interpretations of Marxism, or critical Marxian perspectives on psychoanalysis.

Chair: Matthew Flisfeder mflisfed@ryerson.ca

Communication & Culture, Ryerson University & York Universities, Toronto ON, Canada

“The Obscene Supplement to Ideology Critique”

Matthew Flisfeder mflisfed@ryerson.ca

Communication & Culture, Ryerson University & York University, Toronto ON, Canada

“Upon neither Couch nor Page: From Ideology Critique to Reverie Machine”

Jason Rovito kathexis@gmail.com

Communication & Culture, Ryerson University & York University, Toronto ON, Canada

“Symbolic paralysis: Revisiting Reich’s Theory of the Orgone”

Arshavez Mozafari arshavez@gmail.com

Political Science, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

N.1 Afghanistan, Imperialism, and the New Canadian Foreign Policy 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4124 (joint session with the Canadian Association of Studies in International Development)

The war in Afghanistan has been a catalyst for radical changes in Canadian foreign policy. The war has been used to increase defence spending and to restructure the state around the military and security apparatus. It has also been used to break the legacy of peacekeeping and to align Canada more closely with the imperialist project of the US. This panel features papers on the counterinsurgency war, on the multiple failures of the occupation, on the economics of Canadian foreign policy, and on reasons for Canada to withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Chair: Jerome Klassen jklassen.congress09@gmail.com

Independent Scholar, Cambridge MA, USA

“Canada’s Occupation”

Jerome Klassen jklassen.congress09@gmail.com

Independent Scholar, Cambridge MA, USA

“Canadian imperialism and the war in Afghanistan”

Todd Gordon tsgordon@yorku.ca

Political Science, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

“Canada’s Imperialistic Role in the ‘War on Terror’ in ‘Afghanistan and Beyond’”

Michael Skinner m.skinner@sympatico.ca

Political Science, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

“Militarization through Civilianization in Canada’s Counterinsurgency Strategy: ‘Exercise Maple Guardian’?”

Colleen Bell colleendbell@gmail.com

Politics & the Governance Research Centre, University of Bristol, UK

**N.2 ROUNDTABLE: Be Realistic, Demand the Impossible: Reflections on the CUPE 3903 Strike
10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174**

On November 6, 2008, CUPE 3903 – which represents 3340 teaching assistants, contract faculty, and graduate assistants at York University – began what would become the third longest strike in Canadian university history (85 days, longest in Anglo-Canadian university history). This roundtable is a chance for 3903 members to reflect on the strike. Participants will locate the strike in the larger political and economic context by discussing the purported economic crisis and workers' and students' response to it in Greece, Italy, Spain, Chicago, New York, and Toronto.

Chair: Ian Hussey ihussey@yorku.ca
CUPE3903, York University, Toronto, ON, Canada

Speakers: Noaman Ali, Brad Bauerly, Jordy Cummings, Chelsea Flook, Amrit Heer, Dhruv Jain, Alex Levant, Katherine Nastovski, Ryan O'Neill, Jesse Payne, Christina Rousseau, Parastou Saberi, Megan Shrubsole, & Yuri Yarin
CUPE3903, York University, Toronto, ON, Canada

Please contact Chad D. Thompson, Programme Committee Chair <chad.d.thompson@gmail.com>, if you have any questions.

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www.socialiststudies.com

INDEX OF PRESENTERS AND ABSTRACTS

Yasmeen Abu-Laban, Political Science, University of Alberta

Speaker: D.1 ROUNDTABLE: Palestine Solidarity on Campus: The Question of Boycott 14:30-17:00
Mackenzie 4332 (*joint session with the Canadian Association of Studies in International Development*),
Wed. 27 May

Greg Albo, Political Science, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

Speaker: F.1/CPSA ROUNDTABLE: Against and Beyond Neo-liberalism: New challenges for political
economy 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4332 (*joint session with the Canadian Political Science Association*),
Thurs. 28 May

Noaman Ali, CUPE3903, York University, Toronto, ON, Canada

Presenter: F.3 Socialism, Bureaucracy and Trade Unions (Part 2 of 2) 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4124, Thurs.
28 May

“Trade Union Bureaucracy and the CUPE 3903 Strike”

Abstract: CUPE 3903's 85-day strike at York University revealed tendencies in trade unions for the
bureaucratization of leadership and the influence of already-existing bureaucracies. Bureaucratic
tendencies gravitated toward concentration of decision-making power and isolation of bargaining
from political mobilization, and so must be countered by leftists. To do so, leftists must continuously
innovate to firmly embed “bargaining from below” and mobilize members to limit the decision-making
power of centralized groups. Further, socialists must bring politics to the union in two ways: through
political actions emphasizing the political nature of collective agreements, and through rank-and-file
connections with community groups and other locals.

Speaker: N.2 ROUNDTABLE: Be Realistic, Demand the Impossible: Reflections on the CUPE 3903 Strike
10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174, Sat. 30 May

Wayne Anthony wayne@fernpub.ca, Fernwood Books, Halifax, NS, Canada

Chair: B.1 ROUNDTABLE: Bankruptcies & Bailouts 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4332, Wed. 27 May

Sima Aprahamian aprhsma@alcor.concordia.ca, Sociology & Anthropology, Concordia University
Montréal QC, Canada

Chair: E.2 Exploring issues of one's identity and/or theoretical perspective on research or teaching (Part 1
of 2) 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 3174 (*joint session with the Canadian Sociological Association*), Thurs. 28
May

Chair: F.2 Exploring issues of one's identity and/or theoretical perspective on research or teaching (Part 2
of 2) 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174 (*joint session with the Canadian Sociological Association*), Thurs. 28
May

Presenter: J.2 The State and Civil Society 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174, Fri. 29 May

“The State and Civil Society in Lebanon through the experiences of the Armenian community of Anjar in
Beka'a valley of Lebanon”

Abstract: The paper examines the State and Civil Society in the context of Lebanon through the
experiences of a small group of Lebanese citizens of Armenian heritage. The paper is an ethnographic
analysis of the politics of citizenship and identity cards through fieldwork in the Beka'a valley, in the
Armenian community of 'Anjar - Haouch Moussa, with a focus on the 'civil war' of 1975-1990 and the
current [June 2009] elections. Identity in Lebanon is defined by legislation and marked on citizenship
identity cards; one has to belong to a religious denomination: One's collective 'belonging' as defined
by the State publicly 'marks' one.

Pat Armstrong, Sociology, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

Speaker: F.1/CPSA ROUNDTABLE: Against and Beyond Neo-liberalism: New challenges for political
economy 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4332 (*joint session with the Canadian Political Science Association*),
Thurs. 28 May

NJ Baker normajobaker@gmail.com, Sociology, Nipissing University, North Bay ON, Canada
Chair: A.3 ROUNDTABLE: The Spectre Haunting America 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4124, Wed. 27 May

Brad Bauerly, CUPE3903, York University, Toronto, ON, Canada
Speaker: N.2 ROUNDTABLE: Be Realistic, Demand the Impossible: Reflections on the CUPE 3903 Strike
10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174, Sat. 30 May

Lindsay Baxter lindbaxter@hotmail.com, Sociology & Social Welfare, Nipissing University, North Bay ON, Canada

Presenter: G.1 New Scholars Forum (Part 2 of 2) 13:00-14:15 Mackenzie 4332, Thurs. 28 May
“Privatization and the Renegotiation of Health

Abstract: Shifts ideologically have absolved governmental responsibility in meeting the heterogeneous health needs of Canadians. Canada’s health care system – founded on equality and social justice – has along with other social programs, undergone dramatic changes. Negating from a welfare state framework has had serious implications in delivering ‘healthy’ policy. The mechanics of a private system and the interests it serves, calls for a renegotiation of what constitutes ‘health’. A system of privatization welcomes market norms and commodifies health thus disallowing for equal access and quality of care. Challenging current claims within a socialist model highlights a timely issue that influences our lives in a capitalist structure.

Colleen Bell colleendbell@gmail.com, Politics & the Governance Research Centre, University of Bristol, UK
Presenter: N.1 Afghanistan, Imperialism, and the New Canadian Foreign Policy 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4124 (*joint session with the Canadian Association of Studies in International Development*), Sat. 30 May
“Militarization through Civilianization in Canada’s Counterinsurgency Strategy: ‘Exercise Maple Guardian?’”

Abstract: In an effort to turn the tide on mission failure in Afghanistan, counterinsurgency is back in vogue. Some argue that counterinsurgency methods, with their emphasis on human security and reconstruction, offer a more humane way of war. Others argue that counterinsurgency militarizes development and humanitarian efforts, and is unethical in its use of ethnographic knowledge. This paper examines Canada’s counterinsurgency and argues that it exposes how the export of liberal peace to zones of conflict can be so easily invested in the activity of war. Counterinsurgency, it is argued, can be usefully understood as a civilianization of warfare which attempts to retell the atrocity of military occupation through an evolutionary narrative of political and economic liberalization in Afghanistan.

Adam Belton adam.belton@uregina.ca, Sociology, University of Regina, Regina SK, Canada
Presenter: I.1 Rethinking Leninism (Part 1 of 2) 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4332, Fri. 29 May

“Economic Imperialism and the Current Financial Crisis: Lenin told us so”

Abstract: Lenin’s analysis of monopoly capital and financial oligarchy during initial capitalist imperialism predicts today’s transnational corporations and dependence on centralized finance capital. He recognizes “decaying capitalism” in early twentieth century advanced capitalist states, predicting the decline of the Western powers. His conclusions about connections between corporations and state officials (post-political “soft jobs” on patronized corporations’ Boards), core capitalist parasitism on industrializing colonies, and manipulation of fictitious values in investment capital leading to huge bank gains and great public losses, have all been realized. It’s with the current financial crisis that Lenin’s economic theories will return to prominence with Marxist theory.

Liat Ben-Moshe lbenmosh@maxwell.syr.edu & **Anthony J. Nocella, II** nocellat@yahoo.com
Sociology & Disability Studies, Syracuse University Syracuse NY; Sociology & Criminology, Le Moyne College, Syracuse University NY, USA

Presenter: E.3 Radicalization and other personal-is-political transformations 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4124, Thurs. 28 May

“An Anarchism of Difference”

Abstract: Anarchism and disability studies (DS) have been traditionally disconnected. DS demands a respect of difference and inclusion socially, while anarchism challenges authority and domination

specifically by capitalist structures. DS can aid anarchism realize the importance of difference and not equality and anarchism can show DS that until capitalism is abolished people with disabilities will always be marginalized. This presentation will highlight the affinities and tensions between various facets of anarchist thought and action and DS and activism, as brought forth by the lived experience of the presenters who are anarchists and disabled and try to bridge the chasm between the two.

Josh Brem-Wilson J.W.Brem-wilson@Bradford.ac.uk, David Huxtable huxtable@uvic.ca & J.P. Sapinski sapinski@uvic.ca, Peace Studies, University of Bradford, UK; Sociology, University of Victoria, BC; Sociology, University of Victoria, BC, Canada

Presenters: I.2 Class structure and class struggle in transnational contexts 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 3174
(*joint session with the Canadian Association of Studies in International Development*), Fri. 29 May

“Transnational Social Movements: Coalitions, Alliances and Global Resistance”

Abstract: The current reconfiguration of historic blocs in the struggle for global hegemony draws attention to the way hegemonic and counter-hegemonic groups each organize in their own ways, with a fundamental inequality between the groups involved in the global struggle. We investigated how global social movement organizations build coalitions and alliances. This paper presents the results of exploratory interviews with representatives of social movement organizations including peasants, labour, and environmental movements. It examines venues where coalitions develop, themes and campaigns around which they emerge, and the role of international organizations in bringing together representatives from these sectors. This allows us to reflect back on questions of counter-hegemonic strategy in the global struggle for hegemony.

Wendy E. Burton wendy.burton@ufv.ca, Teaching & Learning, University of the Fraser Valley, Chilliwack BC, Canada

Presenter: E.2 Exploring issues of one's identity and/or theoretical perspective on research or teaching (Part 1 of 2) 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 3174 (*joint session with the Canadian Sociological Association*), Thurs. 28 May

“Borderlands”

Abstract: I am an ostensibly white, anglo-saxon Jewish woman in middle age, who, as a Marxist/ feminist philosopher, has explored the intersections of gender, ethnicity, race, identity and the borderlands, working with the Sto:lo people of the Fraser Valley. In the span of my work I have been moved from helpful friend to potential adversary, and at the same time have discovered in my research on the Metis dispersal substantial Metis roots on both sides of my family shrubbery. I live in the borderlands. The question continues to be - which border? I am a story-teller. I am a witness. Every day I hear tales that challenge at least one of my multiple identities, as I work alongside indigenous story-tellers, speaking for their lives. I offer to tell some of these stories, mine and non-mine.

Duncan Cameron, Political Science, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby BC, Canada

Speaker: F.1/CPSA ROUNDTABLE: Against and Beyond Neo-liberalism: New challenges for political economy 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4332 (*joint session with the Canadian Political Science Association*), Thurs. 28 May

David Camfield camfield@ms.umanitoba.ca, Labour Studies, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg MB, Canada

Presenter: A.1 Socialism, Bureaucracy and Trade Unions (Part 1 of 2) 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4332, Wed. 27 May

“What is Trade Union Bureaucracy? Theoretical Considerations and the Canadian Case”

Abstract: “Union bureaucracy” is a vexed term in the analysis of unions and in radical politics. When used in materialist explanation (rather than as an idealist political pejorative), it usually refers to a group of people: “the trade union bureaucracy.” The existence of such a social layer is undeniable, but equating bureaucracy with this layer is an obstacle to understanding the social relations of working-class movement organization. This paper will develop a theoretical account of union bureaucracy and officialdoms, examine their concrete forms in contemporary Canada, and suggest some political implications of this analysis.

Chair: E.1 The Working-Class Movement in Contemporary Canada and Quebec 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4332, Thurs. 28 May

Mary Ellen Campbell president@cupe3906.org, CUPE 3906; English & Cultural Studies, McMaster University, Hamilton ON, Canada

Presenter: I.3 Academic Capital 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4124, Fri. 29 May

“Repressed Sites of Reproduction: The Preconditions of Academic Labour”

Abstract: The university professes to protect freedom of thought but then assures through various mechanisms that this thought follow predictable mainstream formula: if critical of the institution itself or broader social structures, token leftists are paraded when deemed necessary to legitimize the institution, but otherwise cloistered within it and have little impact on society as a whole. Meanwhile, academic endeavours that favour the status quo are given full play and used to legitimate reactionary social, political and economic actions. I argue the critical, academic “left” needs to break out of the cloister and become more active in struggles for social justice and social change.

William K. Carroll wcarroll@uvic.ca, Sociology, University of Victoria, BC, Canada

Chair: I.2 Class structure and class struggle in transnational contexts 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 3174 (*joint session with the Canadian Association of Studies in International Development*), Fri. 29 May

Presenter: I.2 Class structure and class struggle in transnational contexts 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 3174 (*joint session with the Canadian Association of Studies in International Development*), Fri. 29 May

“Billionaires and networkers: wealth and position in the global corporate power structure”

Abstract: In this paper, I take the analysis of capital and class to the level of individual directors of the world’s 500 largest corporations (1996-2007). Integrating *Forbes* magazine’s annual lists of the world’s billionaires with data on individuals’ positions in the corporate network, I explore the role that the world’s richest families and individuals play in the structure of global corporate power. Although from 1996 to 2007, with the massive polarization of wealth that transnational neoliberalism unleashed, the ranks of billionaires swelled and came to include more capitalists based in the semi-periphery, these transformations in the concentration of wealth did not necessarily transform the elite network. Through case studies of key families, I assess the nuanced and often localized relation between personal wealth and corporate power.

Chris Chapman c.chapman@utoronto.ca, Sociology & Equity Studies, OISE, University of Toronto, ON / Social Work, Dalhousie University, Halifax NS, Canada

Chair: E.3 Radicalization and other personal-is-political transformations 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4124, Thurs. 28 May

Robert Chernomas chernoma@cc.umanitoba.ca, Economics, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg MB, Canada

Speaker: B.1 ROUNDTABLE: Bankruptcies & Bailouts 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4332, Wed. 27 May

Dolores Chew d.chew@marianopolis.edu, Liberal & Creative Arts, Marianopolis College & Simone de Beauvoir Institute, Concordia University, Montréal QC, Canada

Presenter: F.2 Exploring issues of one’s identity and/or theoretical perspective on research or teaching (Part 2 of 2) 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174 (*joint session with the Canadian Sociological Association*), Thurs. 28 May

“Indians, Muslims, Others - India, Gender, Nation”

Abstract: This paper will be a reflection on my years of academic research, teaching and lived experience as a woman, scholar, historian, feminist, community activist, (Anglo) Indian, diasporic person. It will explore the intersections of these multiple identities in a variety of contexts . post-colonial India, settler-colonialist state of Canada and the nationalist framed Qubec, minority and marginal person in geographic and imagined communities. The basis of my paper will be how these various identities provide the imperatives for my focus and attention -- gendered identities in colonial history, Gujarat genocide. I will examine the manner in which they have been teased out through feminist, post-colonial and subaltern theoretical frameworks and amplified by engagement with lived realities.

Aziz Choudry aziz.choudry@mcgill.ca, International Education, McGill University, Montréal QC, Canada
Presenter: I.4/CSA118 Immigration Policy, Migrant Workers & Growing Underclass 9:00-10:30

Mackenzie 3269 (*joint session with Canadian Sociological Association*), Fri. 29 May

“Globalizing Guest worker programs in an Era of Neoliberal Immigration”

Abstract: This paper situates Canada’s expanding temporary foreign worker programs (including the Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program, Temporary Foreign Worker Program, live-in caregiver program and others) in the context of a global resurgence of guestworker programs, and the contested terrain of labour mobility provisions in free trade and investment agreements. I argue that Canada’s labour/immigration policies have always been highly racialized, and driven by the interests of local and global capital, and must be seen through both historical and international political economy lenses. It draws from my own research and activism on bilateral and multilateral free trade and investment agreements and a SSHRC-funded study on immigrant workers’ struggles in Quebec.

D.T. Cochrane & Jeff Monaghan bones@mutualaid.org, Independent Scholars

Presenter: A.2 What Is Radical Imagination? Potentials and Barriers to Mobilization in the Global North
(Part 1 of 2) 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4342, Wed. 27 May

“Fight to Win!! Political Economic Disruption - Discussing Tactics and Strategies”

Abstract: A challenge facing any movement that confronts dominant political economic entities is the difficulty of evaluating the actual impacts of a campaign. Employing the concept of ‘differential accumulation’ we ‘empiricize’ the strategies and tactics from various political-economic disruption campaigns. Among the campaigns we chart: elements of the South African apartheid boycott, the SHAC campaign, actions targetting war profiteers, and various elements of organizing against Big Oil. We argue that strategically organized campaigns with a diversity of tactics can – and do – create market disrupting (and transforming) panics, threats, risks, and liabilities that open spaces and possibilities for global justice movements.

Marjorie Griffin Cohen mcohen@sfu.ca, Political Science, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby BC, Canada

Speaker: B.1 ROUNDTABLE: Bankruptcies & Bailouts 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4332, Wed. 27 May

Ken Collier kcollier@shaw.ca, Community Studies, Athabasca University (Retired), Red Deer AB, Canada

See Darrell McLaughlin & Ken Collier

Claudette Commanda, First Nations Confederacy of Cultural Education Centres; Institute of Women's Studies, University of Ottawa, ON, Canada

Speaker: I.5/CASID ROUNDTABLE: Scholars/Activists of Development 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 3275 (*joint session with the Canadian Association of Studies in International Development*), Fri. 29 May

John Conway John.Conway@uregina.ca, Sociology & Social Studies, University of Regina SK, Canada

Speaker: A.3 ROUNDTABLE: The Spectre Haunting America 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4124, Wed. 27 May

Jordy Cummings, CUPE3903, York University, Toronto, ON, Canada

Speaker: N.2 ROUNDTABLE: Be Realistic, Demand the Impossible: Reflections on the CUPE 3903 Strike
10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174, Sat. 30 May

Frank Cunningham frank.cunningham@utoronto.ca, Philosophy and Political Science, University of Toronto, ON, Canada

Speaker: K.1 ROUNDTABLE: Past and Futures: forty years of the Society for Socialist Studies 13:00-14:30
Mackenzie 4332, Fri. 29 May

Steve D’Arcy sdarcy@huron.uwo.ca, Philosophy, Huron University College, London ON, Canada

Presenter: J.1 Rethinking Leninism (Part 2 of 2) 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4332, Fri. 29 May

“Reconsidering Leninism by Rereading Lenin”

Abstract: Whereas Marxism is a theory, or a cluster of theories, Leninism is something else: a political strategy. And as Lenin himself pointed out, strategies are neither true nor false, but only effective or ineffective, depending largely on the context within which they are carried out. But in today's North America, the standard "Leninist" norms for anti-capitalist organizing would be counter-productive. What is needed now is a very different approach: a strategy of *attrition*, as Lenin would have said, rather than a strategy of *overthrow*. But just what would it mean for today's radicals to embrace a strategy of anti-capitalist attrition?

Chris Dixon chrisd@resist.ca, History of Consciousness, University of California, Santa Cruz CA, USA
Presenter: B.2 What Is Radical Imagination? Potentials and Barriers to Mobilization in the Global North (Part 2 of 2) 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4342, Wed. 27 May
"Imaginative Practices, Practical Imaginations: Prefigurative Politics in Contemporary Anti-Authoritarian Organizing"

Abstract: One essential way anti-authoritarian organizers sustain the radical imaginary is through prefigurative politics – reflecting our desired society in our means of achieving it. In practice, however, prefigurative politics bears an interconnected contradiction and challenge: on one hand, new and emancipatory social relations are never fully possible in the context of exploitation and oppression; on the other hand, new social relations are crucial to building visionary movements capable of transforming the world. Based on interviews with organizers in six North American cities, this presentation explores how anti-authoritarians wrestle with this challenge practically as we work in broad-based movements.

Karin Doerr kdoerr@alcor.concordia.ca, Classics, Modern Languages & Linguistics, Concordia University, Montréal QC, Canada

Presenter: E.2 Exploring issues of one's identity and/or theoretical perspective on research or teaching (Part 1 of 2) 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 3174 (*joint session with the Canadian Sociological Association*), Thurs. 28 May

"The Holocaust in German Studies: Overcoming Learning Obstacles"

Abstract: I have encountered resistance by students when teaching Germany's twentieth-century genocide in German courses. The subject is often viewed as Jewish and not German. These students either have a personal link to German and/or entertain notions of a German work ethic and German greatness. Pertaining to history, they prefer to focus on Germany's miraculous economic recovery after World War II. While German-background students feel uncomfortable about Germany's Nazi period, non-German students feel sympathetic towards them. The result is an emotional entanglement on both sides that creates learning obstacles. I wish to present a teaching technique that increases receptiveness to Germany's difficult history.

Julie Dowsett jdowsett@yorku.ca, Political Science, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

Presenter: A.2 What Is Radical Imagination? Potentials and Barriers to Mobilization in the Global North (Part 1 of 2) 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4342, Wed. 27 May

"Re-Imagining Breast Cancer: Unravelling the Pink Ribbon and Decommodifying Feminism"

Abstract: The paper theorises the 'commodity feminism' (a play on Marx's commodity fetishism) underlying the role of corporations within the 'pink ribbon' campaign. While corporations produce carcinogens and toxins that contribute to increasing breast cancer rates, these same corporations claim to be part of the 'solution' by selling toxic pharmaceutical treatments and pink ribbon products. Ostensibly designed to raise 'awareness' about breast cancer and research money (through donating a portion of pink ribbon product revenues), the campaign commodifies women's empowerment. This limits the potential for a decommodified breast cancer activism as a part of radical environmental, political and economic change.

Slobodan Drakulic drakulic@ryerson.ca, Sociology, Ryerson University, Toronto, ON, Canada
Chair: J.3/CSA131/CPSA The Current Crisis of Capitalism: Lessons from the Great Depression 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3269 (joint session with the Canadian Sociological Association & the Canadian Political Science Association), Fri. 29 May
Chair: M.1 The Fall of the Wall Twenty Years Later 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4124, Sat. 30 May

Matthew Flisfeder mflisfed@ryerson.ca, Communication & Culture, Ryerson University & York University, Toronto ON, Canada
Presenter: I.2 Class structure and class struggle in transnational contexts 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 3174 (joint session with the Canadian Association of Studies in International Development), Fri. 29 May
“The Universal Singular: Slavoj Žižek and the Symptom of ‘Class Struggle’”
Abstract: What, today, is meant by “the universal emancipation of the global proletariat”? At a time when the term ‘worker’ is dissolving in the political discourse of the global North, the politics of ‘class struggle’ seem to be slipping to the margins of Leftist politics. As such, contemporary Marxian politics must rethink the meaning of ‘class struggle’, or ‘class antagonism’. Drawing upon Žižek’s insights, I aim to rethink the category of ‘class struggle’ from a Lacanian/psychoanalytic, and post-Marxist perspective, developing a conception of proletariat as the *symptom* of social (i.e., class) antagonism, as opposed to the simple notion of ‘working class’ as a mere status of social being.
Chair: M.2 Marxism and Psychoanalysis 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 3174, Sat. 30 May
Presenter: M.2 Marxism and Psychoanalysis 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 3174, Sat. 30 May
“The Obscene Supplement to Ideology Critique”
Abstract: In the simplest terms, the Marxian notion of ‘false consciousness’ can be defined using the phrase, “They do this without being aware of it,” from the section on ‘commodity fetishism’ in Marx’s *Capital Volume I*. Such a definition suggests an understanding of ideology based upon the precedence of illusion over reality. However, how do we account for the fact that, today, the ideological illusion is not on the side of (false) knowledge, but on the side of reality itself? The definition of ideology, today, has the structure of the psychoanalytic conception of ‘fetishism disavowal’, “I know very well, but nevertheless...” Referring to the work of the contemporary philosopher and psychoanalyst, Slavoj Žižek, my paper investigates the ways in which psychoanalytic modes of interpretation are useful for supplementing Marxist critiques of ideology.

Chelsea Flook, CUPE3903, York University, Toronto, ON, Canada
Presenter: F.3 Socialism, Bureaucracy and Trade Unions (Part 2 of 2) 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4124, Thurs. 28 May
“Labour bureaucracy as professionalization of “troubled persons” in a striking union context”
Abstract: As workplaces open their doors and accommodate people with disabilities, organized labour must critically reflect on the treatment of disabled members by non-disabled members in unions generally, and strikes particularly. Labour bureaucracy objectifies rank-and-file members in a similar fashion to models of accommodation and ‘disability management’, rather than full inclusion. A critical examination of the practices of ‘professionalization’ of members with disabilities in the recent CUPE 3903 strike illuminates the prevalence of the bureaucratic approach to rank-and-file members as a whole. I explore strategies to include “troubled persons” in decision-making in particular, and greater unions democracy in general.
Speaker: N.2 ROUNDTABLE: Be Realistic, Demand the Impossible: Reflections on the CUPE 3903 Strike 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174, Sat. 30 May

Anne Forrest forrest@uwindsor.ca, Women’s Studies, University of Windsor, Windsor ON, Canada
Presenter: E.1 The Working-Class Movement in Contemporary Canada and Quebec 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4332, Thurs. 28 May
“The Difficulties We Face: Can We Imagine a Reinvigorated Unionism Based on Principles of Equality and Equity?”
Abstract: Small size and limited reach leave organized labour politically and economically vulnerable. In progressive times, these factors can also be a source insular thinking and unbalanced self-interested behaviour. In the present moment, these difficulties and tendencies are exacerbated by the fact that

unionism in Canada is ever-more a public/quasi-public sector phenomenon. In my presentation, I will briefly explain why I think a unionism dominated by public sector workers can be problematic. However, my main focus will be an examination of the changes in thinking and practice - changes that prioritize equality and equity across the working class - that could open up opportunities for union growth and reinvigoration.

Scott Forsyth sforsyth@yorku.ca, Film & Political Science, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

Chair: B.3 Imperialism and Culture 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4124, Wed. 27 May

Presenter: B.3 Imperialism and Culture 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4124, Wed. 27 May

“Canadian Communists and Culture in the early Cold War”

Abstract: The Cold War between imperialism and communism was fought both domestically and internationally. This presentation will explore the cultural politics of the Communist Party of Canada in the early Cold War years of the forties and fifties. Emphasis is on cultural organizing including clubs, theatre and art troupes, journals, classes and campaigns. Discussion of the relationship of cultural work to political organization, of changes in strategy from the National Front politics of WWII to the Cold War and shifts in international communism led by the Soviet Union and of changes in theorization of art, culture and the Canadian nation-state.

John Bellamy Foster, Editor, *Monthly Review* & Professor of Sociology, University of Oregon, Eugene OR, USA

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: H.1 “Capitalism’s Closing Circle: Economy, ecology, and empire” 14:30-17:00 Minto Case Theatre Room 2000 (with funding support from the Congress of Humanities and Social Sciences), Thurs. 28 May

Abstract: “Capitalism’s Closing Circle: Economy, Ecology, and Empire” traces the shift in planet-wide ecological threats, beginning with the nuclear era, to the present embeddedness within a globalised political economy which has been unable to address environmental destruction in good times or bad. John Bellamy Foster, Professor of Sociology at the University of Oregon, is the editor of the influential socialist journal *Monthly Review*. He also serves on the editorial boards of the *Historical Materialism* and *Organization and Environment*. Foster is the author and co-author of nine books on political economy, imperialism, and environmentalism, most recently *The Ecological Revolution: Making Peace with the Planet* (2009) and *The Great Financial Crisis: Causes and Consequences* (2008) with Fred Magdoff. His works have been published in English, Turkish, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, Japanese, and Farsi editions (soon to be available in Bengali and Greek). His forthcoming books include *Communications and Monopoly Capitalism* (2009).

Herb Gamberg gamberg@dal.ca, Sociology, Dalhousie University, Halifax NS, Canada

Presenter: I.1 Rethinking Leninism (Part 1 of 2) 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4332, Fri. 29 May

“Positivism, Lenin, and Academe”

Abstract: There appears to be a disjunction between the acceptance of Marxist ideas in academic life and its almost complete marginality (or worse) in the world at large. This is traced to the predominance of positivist Marxism in academia. The significance of Lenin rests on his fundamental attack on positivism both theoretically and organizationally.

Marion Gerlind marion@gerlindinstitute.org, Gerlind Institute for Cultural Studies, Oakland CA, USA

Presenter: E.2 Exploring issues of one’s identity and/or theoretical perspective on research or teaching (Part 1 of 2) 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 3174 (joint session with the Canadian Sociological Association), Thurs. 28 May

“Personalizing Research: Pushing the Boundaries of Academic Vulnerabilities”

Abstract: Encounters with Holocaust survivors triggered my personal engagement, leading to oral history interviews. These inspired dialogues of solidarity between Jewish survivors and myself, a non-Jewish German descendant of the perpetrator nation, displaced in the United States. Although feminist scholars have long argued to make the researcher’s subject positions explicit, being highly involved and bringing one’s own assumptions and biases, speaking in one’s own voice is still often considered “too personal” in academic writing. This paper addresses vulnerabilities of the researcher and what

was not discussed in our interviews: political disagreements, silence about family background, sexual identity, and mourning.

Todd Gordon tsgordon@yorku.ca, Political Science, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

Presenter: N.1 Afghanistan, Imperialism, and the New Canadian Foreign Policy 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4124 (*joint session with the Canadian Association of Studies in International Development*), Sat. 30 May
“Canadian imperialism and the war in Afghanistan”

Abstract: This paper contextualizes the Canadian project in Afghanistan by analyzing the economic relationship between Canada and the developing world. By analyzing the political economy of Canadian imperialism, this paper makes sense of Canada's foreign policy initiatives in Afghanistan.

Joyce Green, Political Science, University of Regina, SK, Canada

Speaker: F.1/CPSA ROUNDTABLE: Against and Beyond Neo-liberalism: New challenges for political economy 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4332 (*joint session with the Canadian Political Science Association*), Thurs. 28 May

Julie Guard guardj@cc.umanitoba.ca, Labour Studies, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg MB, Canada

Organiser: B.1 ROUNDTABLE: Bankruptcies & Bailouts 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4332, Wed. 27 May

Max Haiven maxhaiven@gmail.com, English & Cultural Studies, McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada

Chair: A.2 What Is Radical Imagination? Potentials and Barriers to Mobilization in the Global North (Part 1 of 2) 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4342, Wed. 27 May

Trevor Harrison trevor.harrison@uleth.ca, Sociology, University of Lethbridge, AB, Canada

Discussant: J.3/CSA131/CPSA The Current Crisis of Capitalism: Lessons from the Great Depression 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3269 (*joint session with the Canadian Sociological Association & the Canadian Political Science Association*), Fri. 29 May

Amrit Heer, CUPE3903, York University, Toronto, ON, Canada

Speaker: N.2 ROUNDTABLE: Be Realistic, Demand the Impossible: Reflections on the CUPE 3903 Strike 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174, Sat. 30 May

Nellie Hogikyan nellie@b2b2c.ca, Comparative Literature, Université du Québec à Montréal QC, Canada

Presenter: F.2 Exploring issues of one's identity and/or theoretical perspective on research or teaching (Part 2 of 2) 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174 (*joint session with the Canadian Sociological Association*), Thurs. 28 May

“Connections, Inner Nations and the Global Subject”

Abstract: Being a third-generation member of the Armenian Diaspora, a first generation Canadian immigrant from Lebanon, a self-displaced citizen from B.C. to Quebec, having different affective attachments in several countries--including Australia, France, Turkey and the United States--due to the post-genocide dispersal of the survivors of the families on both sides of my exiled parents who settled in a Palestinian camp near the Lebanese-Israeli border, I wish to trace the emergence of an epistemological debate about the relationship between the affects of the researcher and the transformations of these affects into the act of cultural research. I will use theories from Postcolonial Studies (Satya Mohanty) and Cultural Studies (Raymond Williams).

Ian Hudson HUDSONI@MS.UMANITOBA.CA, Economics, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg MB, Canada

Speaker: B.1 ROUNDTABLE: Bankruptcies & Bailouts 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4332, Wed. 27 May

Christine Hughes chughes@connect.carleton.ca, Sociology & Anthropology, Carleton University, Ottawa ON, Canada

Chair: I.4/CSA118 Immigration Policy, Migrant Workers & Growing Underclass 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 3269 (*joint session with Canadian Sociological Association*), Fri. 29 May

Ian Hussey ihussey@yorku.ca, CUPE 3903, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

Chair: A.1 Socialism, Bureaucracy and Trade Unions (Part 1 of 2) 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4332, Wed. 27 May

Chair: N.2 ROUNDTABLE: Be Realistic, Demand the Impossible: Reflections on the CUPE 3903 Strike 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174, Sat. 30 May

David Huxtable huxtable@uvic.ca, Sociology, University of Victoria, BC

See Josh Brem-Wilson, David Huxtable & J.P. Sapinski

Dhruv Jain jaindhruv@hotmail.com, Social & Political Thought, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

Presenter: A.1 Socialism, Bureaucracy and Trade Unions (Part 1 of 2) 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4332, Wed. 27 May

“Fighting Unionism: Being Realistic and Demanding the Impossible”

Abstract: ‘Fighting Unionism’ attempts to recognize the relationship between employer and worker as being that of ‘war’. Due to the unsymmetrical nature of the current situation, the Union must be strategically defensive whilst being tactically offensive in which union forces recognize that they cannot defeat the employer through frontal assault and rather, attempt to create new grounds of struggle in sites of struggle that the employer is relatively weaker. This recasting of labor struggles in the context of two polarized warring sides, especially in bargaining scenarios, is an effective means by which to undermine the labor bureaucracy’s advocacy for ‘class peace’.

Chair: F.3 Socialism, Bureaucracy and Trade Unions (Part 2 of 2) 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4124, Thurs. 28 May

Speaker: N.2 ROUNDTABLE: Be Realistic, Demand the Impossible: Reflections on the CUPE 3903 Strike 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174, Sat. 30 May

Yafa Jarrar, Politics & International Development, Trent University, Peterborough ON, Canada

Speaker: D.1 ROUNDTABLE: Palestine Solidarity on Campus: The Question of Boycott 14:30-17:00 Mackenzie 4332 (*joint session with the Canadian Association of Studies in International Development*), Wed. 27 May

Jerrold L Kachur jerry.kachur@ualberta.ca

Theoretical, Cultural and International Studies, University of Alberta, Edmonton AB, Canada

Chair: K.1 ROUNDTABLE: Past and Futures: forty years of the Society for Socialist Studies 13:00-14:30 Mackenzie 4332, Fri. 29 May

Paul Kellogg paulkellogg@trentu.ca, Trent University, Peterborough ON, Canada

Presenter: I.1 Rethinking Leninism (Part 1 of 2) 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4332, Fri. 29 May

“Leninism: It’s Not What You Think”

Abstract: “There is no question that literature is least of all subject to mechanical adjustment or levelling, to the rule of the majority over the minority. There is no question, either, that in this field greater scope must undoubtedly be allowed for personal initiative, individual inclination, thought and fantasy”. This advocacy of experimentation and democracy was written in 1906 by the great centralist Vladimir Lenin. This paper will argue that the pro-fantasy Lenin of 1906 is much more relevant to socialists in liberal democracies than the “Leninism” offered us by Gregory Zinoviev and the Communist International in the years following Lenin’s death.

Alex Khasnabish Alex.Khasnabish@msvu.ca Sociology & Anthropology, Mount Saint Vincent University, Halifax NS, Canada

Chair B.2 What Is Radical Imagination? Potentials and Barriers to Mobilization in the Global North (Part 2 of 2) 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4342, Wed. 27 May

Jerome Klassen jklassen.congress09@gmail.com, Independent Scholar, Cambridge MA, USA
Chair: N.1 Afghanistan, Imperialism, and the New Canadian Foreign Policy 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4124
(joint session with the Canadian Association of Studies in International Development), Sat. 30 May
Presenter: N.1 Afghanistan, Imperialism, and the New Canadian Foreign Policy 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie
4124 (joint session with the Canadian Association of Studies in International Development), Sat. 30 May
“Canada’s Occupation”

Abstract: This paper examines the reality of occupation in Afghanistan against the claims of Canadian government and military officials. While the latter argue that Canada is promoting peace, development, and democratization in Afghanistan, this paper argues that Canada is in fact waging a fierce counterinsurgency war against a local population in arms against a failed occupation. To make this argument, the paper shows how the military mission is complicit in problems of warlordism, drug trafficking, torture, human rights abuses, and democratic unaccountability. It also outlines the real geopolitical interests of the US and NATO in the wider region.

Anna Klimina aklimina@stmcollege.ca, Economics, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon SK, Canada
Presenter: M.1 The Fall of the Wall Twenty Years Later 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4124, Sat. 30 May
“On plurality of possible paths of post-communist transformation: the relevance of traditional evolutionary-institutionalist perspective”

Abstract: The institutionalist paradigm has conventionally been considered as a viable alternative to the mainstream neoliberal approach to post-communist transition. This paper aims to contrast two alternative viewpoints on the prospects of transition within the institutionalist approach: neoclassical (new) institutionalism and evolutionary (traditional) institutionalism. Since transition is considered to be a path-dependent evolutionary phenomenon with open-ended cumulative causation, original institutionalism - with its emphasis on uncertainty, error and non-equilibrium open-ended dynamics - emerges as a better device for realistic assessment of the future of transition. The variety of transitional experiences and outcomes in Eastern European and Former Soviet states are used to confirm the above viewpoint.

Ivanka Knezevic knezevic@chass.utoronto.ca, Sociology, University of Toronto, ON, Canada
Organiser: M.1 The Fall of the Wall Twenty Years Later 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4124, Sat. 30 May

Michael Lait mlait056@uottawa.ca, Criminology, University of Ottawa, ON, Canada
Presenter: C.1 NEW SCHOLARS FORUM (Part 1 of 2) 13:00-14:15 Mackenzie 4332, Wed. 27 May
“State-form versus State-effect: Foucault’s Proposal for a Socialist Governmentality”

Abstract: Although his relations with Marxism and socialism were mostly tentative, Michel Foucault did stress the need for an autonomous socialist governmentality. He argued that a distinctive socialist mode of thinking about and practicing government cannot be discerned from its already existing texts: it has yet to be invented. That is, socialism has been entirely focused around the development of a problematic of the state rather than of government. To further develop his argument, this paper will contrast Marxist theories of state formation with Foucault’s analysis of political rationalities, in order to reveal the broadened focus provided by the governmentality lens.

Christine Lavrence clavrenc@uwo.ca, Sociology, University of Western Ontario, London ON, Canada

Discussant: M.1 The Fall of the Wall Twenty Years Later 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4124, Sat. 30 May

Paul LeBlanc Paul.LeBlanc@LaRoche.edu, Arts & Sciences, La Roche College, Pittsburgh PA, USA
Presenter: J.1 Rethinking Leninism (Part 2 of 2) 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4332, Fri. 29 May
“Lenin for Our Time”

Abstract: Lenin is the obvious keystone of what can be called “the Bolshevik tradition.” There has been considerable confusion over the meaning of this term, with frequent identification of it with the murderously bureaucratic phenomenon that in fact strangled it. This paper argues that Lenin and the tradition he represents are inseparable from the revolutionary, anti-dogmatic, profoundly democratic perspectives of Karl Marx. Consistent with this, it is a tradition that is essential to the best and most

activist elements associated with “Western Marxism” -- particularly as represented by its foundational figures of the 1920s, Lukács and Gramsci. The paper concludes that Lenin's perspectives are an essential resource for global justice activists of today and liberation struggles of tomorrow.

Sarah LeBlanc leblancs@yorku.ca, Political Science, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

Presenter: C.1 New Scholars Forum (Part 1 of 2) 13:00-14:15 Mackenzie 4332, Wed. 27 May

“Political Autonomy and the (Non)Unitary Social”

Abstract: This paper addresses specific issues within the existing literature on autonomy (i.e. political self-rule) in political theory. Some of this literature in effect treats “the social” and its units (individual subjects) as unitary. Indeed, a certain strand of contemporary French political theory (exemplified here by Pierre Clastres and Cornelius Castoriadis) has done exactly this. I will argue that Clastres and Castoriadis' treatment of the social as unitary overshadows divisions within it which could present obstacles to the very realization of the autonomy projects they posit. Drawing from Chantal Mouffe's and Hannah Arendt's thought on social power, I explicate how cleavages and power relations within the social must be taken into account by theories of political autonomy if they are to be equally relevant and accessible to all.

Alex Levant alevant@yorku.ca, Political Science, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

Chair: I.1 Rethinking Leninism (Part 1 of 2) 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4332, Fri. 29 May

Chair: J.1 Rethinking Leninism (Part 2 of 2) 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4332, Fri. 29 May

Speaker: N.2 ROUNDTABLE: Be Realistic, Demand the Impossible: Reflections on the CUPE 3903 Strike
10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174, Sat. 30 May

Charmain Levy, Département de travail social et des sciences sociales, Université du Québec en Outaouais, Gatineau QC, Canada

Chair: I.5/CASID ROUNDTABLE: Scholars/Activists of Development 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 3275 (*joint session with the Canadian Association of Studies in International Development*), Fri. 29 May

Lars T. Lih larslih@yahoo.ca, Independent Scholar, Montréal QC, Canada

Presenter: J.1 Rethinking Leninism (Part 2 of 2) 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4332, Fri. 29 May

“Lenin's Aggressive Unoriginality, 1914-1918”

Abstract: Many writers on Lenin stress the new and original nature of his outlook after 1914. Lenin himself, on the other hand, continually stressed his own *lack* of originality--that is, he claimed that he was now saying no more than the prewar consensus of orthodox socialists had always said. He maintained this stance at least until *The Proletarian Revolution and the Renegade Kautsky*, written in late 1918. My paper will bring out this aspect of Lenin's rhetoric and argue that Lenin's view of what he was doing is essentially correct.

June Madeley: madelej@hotmail.com, Information & Communication Studies, Social Science, University of New Brunswick, Saint John NB, Canada

Chair: G.1 New Scholars Forum (Part 2 of 2) 13:00-14:15 Mackenzie 4332, Thurs. 28 May

Terry Maley maley@yorku.ca, Political Science, York University, Toronto, ON, Canada

Presenter: A.2 What Is Radical Imagination? Potentials and Barriers to Mobilization in the Global North (Part 1 of 2) 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4342, Wed. 27 May

“The Idea of Porto Alegre in Europe and Canada: Why There and Not Here?”

Abstract: The Porto Alegre experiment has come to symbolize a leap in political imagination - the capacity of marginal citizens to govern themselves by participation in a democratic budget process. But can the model be ‘exported’ to the first world? Since 2000 Europe has seen an explosion of (often socialist supported) participatory budgets (PB's). I ask, Why have similar PB movements *not* emerged in Canada? Instead we have the Alternative Budgets of the labour-sponsored CCPA. The reasons for this have to do with the political-institutional barriers in Canada's capitalist democracy. I ask whether the Alternative Budget movement has captured the radical political imagination in Canada.

Bernardo Mançano Fernandes, Geography, São Paulo State University, São Paulo, Brazil
Speaker: I.5/CASID ROUNDTABLE: Scholars/Activists of Development 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 3275 (*joint session with the Canadian Association of Studies in International Development*), Fri. 29 May

Evan Mauro mauroed@mcmaster.ca, English & Cultural Studies, McMaster University, Hamilton ON, Canada

Presenter: I.3 Academic Capital 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4124, Fri. 29 May

“The Neoliberal University”

Abstract: The university is one of the key institutions of the modern nation-state. This paper examines the modern(ist) concept of the university as the lynchpin of civil society: as the particular space thought to ensure the rational, free flow of ideas, the university is bound up with civility, civil society, and the displacement of conflict to the borders. As the site of the legitimation of knowledge, I argue that the neoliberal university (and more recently, the neoliberal university in crisis) depends upon vestiges of the modern project.

Alyson McCreedy alyson.mccreedy@gmail.com, English & Cultural Studies, McMaster University, Hamilton ON, Canada

Chair: I.3 Academic Capital 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4124, Fri. 29 May

Jaime McGuire jaime15@bust.com, Criminal Justice & Social Welfare, Nipissing University, North Bay ON, Canada

Presenter: G.1 New Scholars Forum (Part 2 of 2) 13:00-14:15 Mackenzie 4332, Thurs. 28 May

“The Criminalization of Poverty”

Abstract: This paper examines the criminalization of poverty with a focus on women. As young racialized, poor women are the fastest growing prison population in Canada, the United States, and worldwide, this paper attempts to parallel poverty with criminalization in contemporary capitalism. It argues that for women, poverty is a contributing factor to women’s criminality. This paper explores the concepts of capitalist criminal justice and the “feminization of poverty,” looking at their impact on the increasing criminalization of women within American context.

Darrell McLaughlin dmclaughlin@stmcollege.ca & Ken Collier kcollier@shaw.ca

Sociology, St. Thomas More College, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon SK, Canada;

Community Studies, Athabasca University (Retired), Red Deer AB, Canada

Speakers: K.1 ROUNDTABLE: Past and Futures: forty years of the Society for Socialist Studies 13:00-14:30 Mackenzie 4332, Fri. 29 May

David McNally davidmcnally@sympatico.ca, Political Science, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

Speaker: B.1 ROUNDTABLE: Bankruptcies & Bailouts 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4332, Wed. 27 May

Chiara H. Megighian-Zenati chm66@pitt.edu, Public & International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh PA, USA

Presenter: F.2 Exploring issues of one’s identity and/or theoretical perspective on research or teaching (Part 2 of 2) 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174 (*joint session with the Canadian Sociological Association*), Thurs. 28 May

“A Systemic Perspective Approach and its potential towards paths of reconciliation: The case of Armenian-Turkish Reconciliation”

Abstract: A labyrinth of the Armenian Highland and a book of a Turkish Author will take us through the dynamics of the relationships between Armenians and Turks. We will be brought to an unusual perspective of Reconciliation. In this presentation, volunteer representatives will be part of a Constellation regarding Armenians and Turks, a Systemic Approach that unveils the hidden dynamics of relationships.

Kevin Moloney, Languages, Literature, & Linguistics, York University, Toronto ON, Canada
Speaker: D.1 ROUNDTABLE: Palestine Solidarity on Campus: The Question of Boycott 14:30-17:00
Mackenzie 4332 (*joint session with the Canadian Association of Studies in International Development*),
Wed. 27 May

Jeff Monaghan bones@mutualaid.org, Independent Scholar
See D.T. Cochrane & Jeff Monaghan

Arshavez Mozafari arshavez@gmail.com, Political Science, York University, Toronto ON, Canada
Presenter: M.2 Marxism and Psychoanalysis 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 3174, Sat. 30 May
“Symbolic paralysis: Revisiting Reich’s Theory of the Orgone”
Abstract: In this article, Wilhelm Reich’s theory of the orgone (abstract cosmic energy) is revisited for the purpose of proposing the importance of its very untenability. Although Reich’s pre-orgonomic findings have been used to supplement critical theory, it is argued here that the theory of the orgone was not a result of a dialectical appropriation of psychoanalysis and Marxism, but a reflection of proletarian (im)possibility. In this way, orgonomy can be said to be of more import than Reich’s pre-orgonomic findings. Through several Lacanian (through Žižekian optics) thought experiments, an attempt is made to extricate Reich from his Symbolic paralysis; his experience of being undead.

Devi Mucina devi.mucina@utoronto.ca, Sociology & Equity Studies, OISE, University of Toronto ON, Canada
Presenter: E.3 Radicalization and other personal-is-political transformations 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4124, Thurs. 28 May
“The Fragmented Ubuntu Family: Homeward Through Our Stories of Fragmented Memories”
Abstract: In this paper, I present how I can place myself at the center of my research and how I can use my family story as one micro example of the larger macro problem of Ubuntu families that have been fractured by colonialism. I show that by sharing our personal individual stories we build collective confidence in our ability to engage each other with dignity, honour, respect and – most importantly – with love, which is the basis for researching our truths.

Katherine Nastovski, CUPE3903, York University, Toronto, ON, Canada
Presenter: F.3 Socialism, Bureaucracy and Trade Unions (Part 2 of 2) 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4124, Thurs. 28 May
“Building Solidarity, Confronting Bureaucracy in International Solidarity Organizing”
Abstract: This paper will explore Canadian trade union activist struggles against the bureaucracy’s control and undermining of International solidarity work. In the 1980’s and early 1990’s activists engaged in solidarity work won important victories resulting in the union bureaucracy having to secede to a politics that openly sought alliances with explicitly Socialist, Communist and anti-Imperialist unions internationally and also having to secede space for membership participation and control over the direction and nature of solidarity work. Secondly, I will look at the current situation, in which activists are working to challenge a bureaucracy that has largely re-taken control over solidarity work
Speaker: N.2 ROUNDTABLE: Be Realistic, Demand the Impossible: Reflections on the CUPE 3903 Strike 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174, Sat. 30 May

Anthony J. Nocella, II nocellat@yahoo.com, Sociology & Criminology, Le Moyne College, Syracuse University NY, USA
See Liat Ben-Moshe & Anthony J. Nocella

Ryan O’Neill, CUPE3903, York University, Toronto, ON, Canada
Speaker: N.2 ROUNDTABLE: Be Realistic, Demand the Impossible: Reflections on the CUPE 3903 Strike 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174, Sat. 30 May

Keith O’Regan koregan@yorku.ca, Social & Political Thought, York University, Toronto ON, Canada
Presenter: B.3 Imperialism and Culture 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4124, Wed. 27 May

“Film, History and the Contemporary Moment: Reading Loach’s *The Wind that Shakes the Barley* in light of Imbert’s *No Pasarán, Album Souvenir*”

Abstract: This paper is a study of the relation of history to the contemporary moment in socialist film. The paper argues that Loach, arguably the most significant practitioner of oppositional film, has in *The Wind* used an unproductive version of history. In contrast, the French director Henri-François Imbert, in *No Pasaran, Souvenir Album*, provides a reading of history which attempts to open up that history in a way that sheds light on the struggles of today. Both works are responses to fascism and imperialism and in this paper attention will be given to how both films speak to these regimes.

Leo Panitch ipanitch@yorku.ca, Political Science, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

Speaker: A.3 ROUNDTABLE: The Spectre Haunting America 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4124, Wed. 27 May
Presenter: J.3/CSA131/CPSA The Current Crisis of Capitalism: Lessons from the Great Depression 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3269 (*joint session with the Canadian Sociological Association & the Canadian Political Science Association*), Fri. 29 May

“Responses to Capitalist Crises Past and Present: A New New Deal? Or Socialism versus Barbarism?”

Abstract: The economic crisis that began in 2007 bears similarities to that of the 1930s. This paper considers the lessons that the Great Depression might offer in terms the causes of the crisis, the array of outcomes that could arise, and the strategic value for the left in looking back to the 1930s.

Justin Paulson justin_paulson@carleton.ca, Sociology & Anthropology, Carleton University, Ottawa ON, Canada

Presenter: B.2 What Is Radical Imagination? Potentials and Barriers to Mobilization in the Global North (Part 2 of 2) 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4342, Wed. 27 May

“On the Uneven Development of Radical Imagination”

Abstract: This paper addresses the ways in which structures of capital can shape the limits of radical imagination as well as its translation into practice. It also addresses the (often unpredictable) openings for social movements in times of capitalist crisis, and how those openings may close precisely for lack of radical imagination. The paper argues that radical imagination is most important when it appears most disconnected from the realm of the possible. Examples discussed include Zapatismo, solidarity movements, and the current crisis in finance capital.

Jesse Payne, CUPE3903, York University, Toronto, ON, Canada

Speaker: N.2 ROUNDTABLE: Be Realistic, Demand the Impossible: Reflections on the CUPE 3903 Strike 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174, Sat. 30 May

Wilhelm Peekhaus wpeekhau@illinois.edu, Library & Information Science, University of Illinois, Champaign IL, USA

Presenter: A.2 What Is Radical Imagination? Potentials and Barriers to Mobilization in the Global North (Part 1 of 2) 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4342, Wed. 27 May

“Is Resistance Fertile? Mobilizing Against Agricultural Biotechnology in Canada”

Abstract: This paper reports on research that critically analyses the Canadian Biotechnology Strategy from a perspective that draws on theoretical elements from autonomist Marxism and its privilege of struggle. Like Marx’s methodological orientation based on the perspective of the working-class rooted in its own historical activity, contemporary efforts at understanding and situating the current conjuncture of capitalist social relations might be advanced through research into the genealogy of social and political opposition movements. It is precisely those struggles mobilised around biotechnology issues in Canada that this paper seeks to elaborate, including an assessment of some of their successes and failures.

Justin Podur, Environmental Studies, York University, Toronto ON, Canada

Speaker: I.5/CASID ROUNDTABLE: Scholars/Activists of Development 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 3275 (*joint session with the Canadian Association of Studies in International Development*), Fri. 29 May

Christian Poirier Christian.Poirier@ucs.inrs.ca, Institut national de la recherche scientifique –Urbanisation, Culture et Société,
Montréal QC, Canada

Presenter: B.3 Imperialism and Culture 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4124, Wed. 27 May

“Culture, Economy and Politics in Quebec Cinema: Imperialism and/or Resistance?”

Abstract: The domination of Hollywood movies is an enduring feature of the Canadian cultural landscape. Quebec is similar and different. In 2007, Quebec movies reached 10,2 % of box-office share, compared to 4,1 % in Canada, numbers that however include Quebec statistics. Still, U.S. features recorded 76,3 % of box-office. This paper explores relationships between culture, nation, economy and politics in the Quebec film industry to better understand the internal and external sources of domination and resistance. Placing the Quebec situation in its broader Canadian, North American and international contexts, the paper will critically assess theoretical insights about film and cultural industries.

Pun Ngai, Social Science, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, China

Speaker: I.5/CASID ROUNDTABLE: Scholars/Activists of Development 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 3275 (*joint session with the Canadian Association of Studies in International Development*), Fri. 29 May

Elizabeth Quinlan quinlanl@sasktel.net & **Lukin Robinson** lukinr@rogers.com, Sociology, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon SK, Canada

Presenters: J.3/CSA131/CPSA The Current Crisis of Capitalism: Lessons from the Great Depression 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3269 (*joint session with the Canadian Sociological Association & the Canadian Political Science Association*), Fri. 29 May

“Lessons from the Then and Now Crises of Capitalism”

Abstract: The current economic crisis bears similarities to the Great Depression, but there are also important differences. While the political consequences of the current crisis’ are unknown, this paper explores these foregoing differences with an eye to capitalism’s contradictory tendencies.

Judy Rebick jrebick@politics.ryerson.ca, Political Science, Ryerson University, Toronto, ON, Canada

Speaker: D.1 ROUNDTABLE: Palestine Solidarity on Campus: The Question of Boycott 14:30-17:00 Mackenzie 4332 (*joint session with the Canadian Association of Studies in International Development*), Wed. 27 May

Petra Rethmann rethman@mcmaster.ca, Anthropology, McMaster University, Hamilton ON, Canada

Presenter: B.2 What Is Radical Imagination? Potentials and Barriers to Mobilization in the Global North (Part 2 of 2) 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4342, Wed. 27 May

“Activism in the Idiom of Failure”

Abstract: In May 1986 a group of women in Goettingen, West Germany, squatted a house to create a space for themselves in which to pursue alternative forms of living, including cultural and political projects and discussions. The squat was run by the women in an autonomous fashion, decisions were made in and through the collective, and factionalism was as much as possible avoided. The squat survived for five years, marked increasingly by sexual and political divisions, uneven articulations of commitment, and everyday struggles of making a living. In this talk, I examine a few registers that contributed to the squat’s “failure.” Keeping in step with the squat’s politics, I will present this examination in a densely narrative rather than theoretical form.

Gilbert Rist, Professor Emeritus, Geneva Institute of Graduate Studies in International Relations & Development (IUÉD), Switzerland

CASID KEYNOTE SPEAKER: “Is ‘development’ a panacea? How to think beyond obsolete presuppositions?” 11:00-12:45 Azrieli Theatre 302 (*sponsored by the Canadian Association of Studies in International Development*), Thurs. 28 May

Abstract: Gilbert Rist offers the scholarly and larger educated public a critical exposition of the historical role of the development enterprise and assesses its limits as a mobilizing force. He establishes the development paradigm as the core of the Western contemporary imagination and scrutinizes its

universal pretensions. His presentation will be of immense appeal to all those interested in the study of development, whether local, national or international.

Lukin Robinson lukin@rogers.com, Sociology, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon SK, Canada
See Elizabeth Quinlan & Lukin Robinson

Franc Rottiers franc.rotters@ugent.be, Centre for Critical Philosophy, Ghent, Belgium
Presenter: J.2 The State and Civil Society 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174, Fri. 29 May
“Citizenship expertise, the case of ‘have-not’ residents”

Abstract: Tackling societal complicatedness, the current political rationale puts forward legal citizenship, participation in society and democratic ownership as core principles that need to be implemented. To date however, these principles, though powerful, fail to access the public space intended. It will be argued that the perspective of viewing society as complicated, i.e. as consisting of quantifiable elements that can be compartmentalized, is conditional to this failure. Drawing upon currently unrecognized qualities of democratic ownership, e.g. the practices of residents in ‘have-not’ situations, a new rationale will be proposed that starts from the perspective of citizenship expertise rather than legal citizenship.

Christina Rousseau, CUPE3903, York University, Toronto, ON, Canada
Speaker: N.2 ROUNDTABLE: Be Realistic, Demand the Impossible: Reflections on the CUPE 3903 Strike
10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174, Sat. 30 May

Jason Rovito kathexis@gmail.com, Communication & Culture, Ryerson University & York University,
Toronto ON, Canada

Presenter: M.2 Marxism and Psychoanalysis 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 3174, Sat. 30 May
“Upon neither Couch nor Page: From Ideology Critique to Reverie Machine”

Abstract: Possibly owing to the scattered nature of his insights on psychoanalysis, the writings of Henri Lefebvre have rarely been highlighted within the tradition of psychoanalytic-Marxism. This paper seeks to address this lack, insofar as Lefebvre’s attempt to develop a ‘psychoanalysis of space’ (as double genitive) uniquely foregrounded the spatial dimension of ideology critique. In particular, sensitive to Lefebvre’s materialist inflection of Bachelard’s synthesis of psychoanalysis and phenomenology, we will advance ‘the reverie machine’ as an alternative model for Marxist criticism.

Parastou Saberi, CUPE3903, York University, Toronto, ON, Canada
Speaker: N.2 ROUNDTABLE: Be Realistic, Demand the Impossible: Reflections on the CUPE 3903 Strike
10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174, Sat. 30 May

J.P. Sapinski sapinski@uvic.ca, Sociology, University of Victoria, BC
See Josh Brem-Wilson, David Huxtable & J.P. Sapinski

Kanchan Sarker sarkerk@gmail.com, Grant MacEwan College, Edmonton AB, Canada
Presenter: B.3 Imperialism and Culture 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4124, Wed. 27 May
“Imperialism and Education: The case of India”

Abstract: Imperialism has been influencing Indian culture since 1757 when the British East India Company started gaining control of India through its win in the Battle of Pallasay. However, the degree of influence differs in different periods, with the nature of imperialism and in different sectors of culture. In this paper, I have tried to show how the traditional Indian educational system gave way to the imperial educational system after India was colonized by British in 1757 and finally very recently how privatization is encroaching on the Indian educational system, which once was almost free or highly subsidized by government.

Presenter: I.2 Class structure and class struggle in transnational contexts 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 3174 (*joint session with the Canadian Association of Studies in International Development*), Fri. 29 May
“Social Movements in India: From Representative Institutional Politics to Participatory Democracy”

Abstract: India has opened its economy in 1991. Increasing privatization of public limited companies, acquisition and merger of local companies by the TNCs as well as closing up of local businesses are the features of this new era. Some of the results are: increasing unemployment, unstructured employment and anti-labour laws. There are continuous popular micro-level protests against this process of globalization, mostly organized by different small social activist groups, in turn uniting with other similar groups, thus making a platform of masses irrespective of their institutional political allegiance. This paper will try to analyze these new types of class struggle in the light of emerging trend of participatory democracy in India.

Ingo Schmidt ingos@athabascau.ca, Work & Community Studies, Athabasca University, Athabasca AB, Canada

Presenter: J.3/CSA 131/CPSA The Current Crisis of Capitalism: Lessons from the Great Depression 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3269 (*joint session with the Canadian Sociological Association & the Canadian Political Science Association*), Fri. 29 May

“The Current Crisis of Capitalism: Lessons from the Great Depression”

Abstract: The current economic crisis has raised questions whether the time is right for a Roosevelt-style New Deal and, more broadly, the possibilities of a comeback of Keynesian economics and policies. Countering this optimism, this presentation argues that some of the major preconditions that made Keynesianism viable in the 1930s today do not exist.

Joanne Schmidt, reigasan@hotmail.com, Communication & Culture, University of Calgary, AB, Canada

Presenter: C.1 New Scholars Forum (Part 1 of 2) 13:00-14:15 Mackenzie 4332, Wed. 27 May

“The socialist market economy in China: the symbolic and economic role of ‘peripheral’ peoples in a rapidly changing nation”

Abstract: With the increasing weight on “market” in the socialist market economy of China, peripheral peoples are finding that their territorial roots restrict their participation in society. The drive to construct cosmopolitan cities and create a modern nation has left many of the rural poor and minority peoples defined by the territory they occupy; these peoples are controlled by the hukou, an internal passport system, and certain minority policies, which root them to impoverished regions while ensuring that their production sustains the centre. The situation will be examined by looking at the connections and intersections between *Nation, Terroir, Territoire* in China.

Alan Sears asears@ryerson.ca, Sociology, Ryerson University, Toronto ON, Canada

Chair: D.1 ROUNDTABLE: Palestine Solidarity on Campus: The Question of Boycott 14:30-17:00 Mackenzie 4332 (*joint session with the Canadian Association of Studies in International Development*), Wed. 27 May

Presenter: E.1 The Working-Class Movement in Contemporary Canada and Quebec 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4332, Thurs. 28 May

“The Working Class and the Next New Left”

Abstract: The current economic crisis is shaking up politics, leading to new forms of attack by employers and the state and possibilities for renewed resistance. The left enters this shake up in a state of weakness and marginalization and the next radicalization will not look like the last one. The infrastructure of dissent through which the 20th century working class developed its capacities for organization, analysis and communication has largely withered due to changes in modes of work and life as well as political shifts. This paper will discuss ways of understanding the next new left and emerging forms of infrastructure of dissent.

Errol Sharpe errol@fernpub.ca, Fernwood Publishing, Black Point NS, Canada

I.3 Academic Capital 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4124, Fri. 29 May

“Cloistering Criticism: Protecting the System”

Abstract: Tenured professorship is often invoked as “the last good job”. But how is this one good job situated within the labour economy of the university? And bound up with notions of meritocracy and hierarchy that are fundamentally undemocratic, how “good” can it be? I argue that there are repressed sites of reproduction that are prerequisite for academic labour’s conditions of possibility. As

a nineteenth-centuryist, I draw upon the metaphor of “the angel in the house” to “domesticate” the erstwhile-lofty trade in ideas, and its material and biopolitical (re)production(s).

Dale Shin daleshin99@gmail.com, Social & Political Thought, York University, Toronto ON, Canada
Presenter: A.1 Socialism, Bureaucracy and Trade Unions (Part 1 of 2) 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4332, Wed. 27 May

“Lenin, ‘Left-Wing’ Communism, and the Trade Union Question: Towards a Second Opinion”

Abstract: In *‘Left-Wing’ Communism*, Lenin sought to intervene in a dispute within the German Communist Party (KPD), over the ‘union question’ – a dispute that resulted in the ‘left’ faction splitting to form the rival German Communist Workers Party (KAPD). Whereas Lenin argued that unions remained important vehicles of class struggle, the ‘lefts’ contended that they had by now been rendered obsolete by the proliferation of wildcat strikes, etc., beyond the writ of labour officialdom, and organs of proletarian self-organization, e.g., workers’ councils. I will reevaluate this historic debate, by reexamining the history of the KPD-KAPD split.

Megan Shrubsole, CUPE3903, York University, Toronto, ON, Canada

Speaker: N.2 ROUNDTABLE: Be Realistic, Demand the Impossible: Reflections on the CUPE 3903 Strike 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174, Sat. 30 May

Michael Skinner m.skinner@sympatico.ca, Political Science, York University, Toronto ON, Canada
Presenter: N.1 Afghanistan, Imperialism, and the New Canadian Foreign Policy 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4124 (*joint session with the Canadian Association of Studies in International Development*), Sat. 30 May

“Canada’s Imperialistic Role in the ‘War on Terror’ in ‘Afghanistan and Beyond’”

Abstract: Canadian political and military leaders cite humanitarian objectives as well as national and global security interests to legitimate Canada’s role in Afghanistan. Using ethnographic research conducted in Afghanistan, this paper questions the supposed altruism of Canadian policymakers. As an alternative, it examines the geopolitical and economic interests that are served by the military mission. In the process, it analyzes Canada’s imperialistic role in the current global geopolitical context.

Melissa Strowger melissa.strowger@utoronto.ca, Sociology & Equity Studies, OISE, University of Toronto, ON, Canada

Presenter: E.3 Radicalization and other personal-is-political transformations 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4124, Thurs. 28 May

“Understanding Collective Politics through the Lived Experience of Anxiety”

Abstract: Having anxiety, I find it fascinating to witness cultural metaphors for urgency and panic. Observing North American newspaper stories, my work takes notice of propaganda that produces fear through war, terrorism and the recent economy. But further, I am also curious about my relationship to this work. If, as Max van Manen suggests, “one’s own experiences are also possible experiences of others”, much can be gleaned from a consideration of our intertwined politics and positionalities. Using a phenomenological approach, this paper will explore my Anxiety as a conversational entry-point into thinking about the connection between individual and collective political transformations.

Hillory Tenute hillorytenute@yahoo.ca, Sociology & Native Studies, Nipissing University, North Bay ON, Canada

Presenter: G.1 New Scholars Forum (Part 2 of 2) 13:00-14:15 Mackenzie 4332, Thurs. 28 May

“The amelioration of life through the application of assimilation”

Abstract: Using traditions within classical and contemporary sociological thought and theory, this paper illustrates the rationalization process through which Eurocentric government policy and the implementation of assimilation based institutions have attempted to destroy the cultures of Aboriginal people. Other themes of importance will be the attempts of Aboriginal people to sustain their culture in order to create social solidarity which will transition into self-determination, eventually manifesting into a culturally appropriate self-government. The paper argues that imperialism, state control of

resources, and rationalisation have used capitalism as a tool to destroy Aboriginal sovereignty, sustainable economic plans and Aboriginal philosophies and cultures.

Chad D Thompson chad.d.thompson@gmail.com, Sociology, University College of the North, Thompson MB, Canada

Chair: C.1 New Scholars Forum (Part 1 of 2) 13:00-14:15 Mackenzie 4332, Wed. 27 May

Presenter: M.1 The Fall of the Wall Twenty Years Later 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4124, Sat. 30 May

“High Modernism Revisited: post-communism, post-colonialism, and neurotic liberalism”

Abstract: Twenty years after 1989 and the ensuing collapse of the USSR, it has been easy to reduce the communist experiment to an historical aberration. In consigning communist modernity to the dustbin of history, liberal development strategies have been able to sever the communist past from the Enlightenment project, and in so doing have reclaimed the high modernist impulse which was integral to communist and capitalist development. This paper explores how the covert reclamation of this impulse in the post-Soviet world has produced a neurotic liberalism, seeking a unified liberal subject through mobilising techniques familiar from the Soviet past.

Patricia Tomic patricia.tomic@ubc.ca, Sociology, UBC Okanagan, Kelowna BC, Canada

Presenter: I.4/CSA118 Immigration Policy, Migrant Workers & Growing Underclass 9:00-10:30

Mackenzie 3269 (*joint session with Canadian Sociological Association*), Fri. 29 May

“Mexican Workers and Farming in the Okanagan Valley, British Columbia”

Abstract: In 2004, the Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program (SAWP) was expanded to British Columbia (BC-SAWP). The Okanagan Valley, an agricultural region that in the past, in large part, depended on French-Canadian seasonal migrant labor, has enthusiastically embraced the BC-SAWP. From a handful of Mexican workers in 2004, the program has expanded to around 1000 in 2008 (around one third of the provincial in-take). In this presentation we analyze the particularities of the SAWP in the Okanagan in the last five years.

Paloma Villegas colombe@yahoo.com, Sociology, OISE, University of Toronto, ON, Canada

Presenter: I.4/CSA118 Immigration Policy, Migrant Workers & Growing Underclass 9:00-10:30

Mackenzie 3269 (*joint session with Canadian Sociological Association*), Fri. 29 May

“The Costs of Illegality”

Abstract: This paper uses the notion of a cost-benefit analysis to explore how migrant illegalization in Canada operates. Using the idea of comparing the costs and benefits of migrant illegalization we ask: Who benefits from such a process? To which benefits are migrants without full immigration status eligible? What are the potential costs (economic and psychological) to receive such benefits? What other costs do involved parties (migrants, immigration officials, other government parties, lawyers etc.) accrue to maintain or do away with illegalization? We propose that the costs are many for migrants and the benefits are few, and argue that the socioeconomic and political system of global inequality facilitates these costs and benefits.

Jesse Vorst vorst2@mail.cc.umanitoba.ca

Economics, University College, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg MB, Canada

Speaker: K.1 ROUNDTABLE: Past and Futures: forty years of the Society for Socialist Studies 13:00-14:30

Mackenzie 4332, Fri. 29 May

Rosemary Warskett rosemary_warskett@carleton.ca, *Studies in Political Economy*; Department of Law, Carleton University, Ottawa ON, Canada

Chair: F.1/CPSA ROUNDTABLE: Against and Beyond Neo-liberalism: New challenges for political economy

10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4332 (*joint session with the Canadian Political Science Association*), Thurs. 28

May

Barret Weber barretw@ualberta.ca, Sociology, University of Alberta, Edmonton AB, Canada

Presenter: I.1 Rethinking Leninism (Part 1 of 2) 9:00-10:30 Mackenzie 4332, Fri. 29 May

“Antonio Negri and the Real Subsumption of Politics”

Abstract: Antonio Negri's recent writings make a compelling case for why we should insist on the enduring utility the distinction between modernism and postmodernism. Negri's radical position since his militant introduction into politics already in the early 1950s is not without its detractors. In this presentation I discuss Negri's text *The Porcelain Workshop: For a New Grammar of Politics* (Semiotext(e), 2008) which moves beyond the work of Max Weber, Carl Schmitt and V.I. Lenin on one side with a supplementation of Michel Foucault and Gilles Deleuze on the other. Negri attempts to do nothing less than conduct a history of political theory in the twentieth century and, furthermore, push to forge a movement beyond the traditional terms of leftist thought.

Abraham Weizfeld saalaha@fokus.name, Independent Scholar, Montréal QC, Canada

Chair: J.2 The State and Civil Society 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174, Fri. 29 May

Presenter: J.2 The State and Civil Society 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174, Fri. 29 May

"National-Cultural Autonomy and The State"

Abstract: Nationalism of the State is counterpoised to the national identity associated with ethnicity found in the social context. While the incorporation of ethnic national identity with the State gives rise to "exclusive nationalism", national identity per se is associated with Civil Society. The Hegelian concept of the Nation-State presented national identity in the Form of The State, rather than in its social Form of multiculturalism, as in the greater Society. Accordingly, national-cultural autonomy as formulated by the Yiddisher Arbiter Bund, identified a national consciousness beyond and above the bounds of any of the States where it was found.

Sheila Wilmot swilmot@oise.utoronto.ca, Adult Education, OISE, University of Toronto, Toronto ON, Canada

Presenter: E.1 The Working-Class Movement in Contemporary Canada and Quebec 9:00-10:30
Mackenzie 4332, Thurs. 28 May

"The Social Relations of Labour-Community Workers Rights Organizing: the Ontario Minimum Wage Campaign"

Abstract: Contemporary unions are engaged in various forms of "union renewal" for their basic survival. Yet, rather than being a force in developing political unity and leading coordinated movement-building, they are in a generally fragmented state. First in the US and much more recently in Canada, labour-community coalitions have arisen as key campaign vehicles. While the organizations central to these relationships may share select organizing tactics, place value on workers participation and have a focus on anti-racist representation, they generally have quite different political goals and strategic orientations. The Ontario Minimum Wage Campaign provides an example of such complex and contradictory relations.

Elke Winter elke.winter@uottawa.ca, Sociology, University of Ottawa, ON, Canada

Discussant: I.4/CSA118 Immigration Policy, Migrant Workers & Growing Underclass 9:00-10:30
Mackenzie 3269 (joint session with Canadian Sociological Association), Fri. 29 May

Tony Wohlfarth Tony_Wohlfarth@carleton.ca, Carleton University Academic Staff Association (CUASA), Ottawa ON, Canada

Organiser: I.4/CSA118 Immigration Policy, Migrant Workers & Growing Underclass 9:00-10:30
Mackenzie 3269 (joint session with Canadian Sociological Association), Fri. 29 May

Yuri Yarin, CUPE3903, York University, Toronto, ON, Canada

Speaker: N.2 ROUNDTABLE: Be Realistic, Demand the Impossible: Reflections on the CUPE 3903 Strike
10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 3174, Sat. 30 May

Charlotte Yates, Political Science & Labour Studies, McMaster University, Hamilton ON, Canada

Speaker: F.1/CPA ROUNDTABLE: Against and Beyond Neo-liberalism: New challenges for political economy 10:45-12:15 Mackenzie 4332 (joint session with the Canadian Political Science Association), Thurs. 28 May