kapital
ideas

analysis  critique  praxis

Society for Socialist Studies
Conference 2015
We are happy that you are able to join us from your home base locally, nationally or internationally. Welcome to our 47th conference!

As you know, we are an association of progressive academics, students and activists who support and engage in research that emphasizes anti-racist, ecological, feminist and socialist points of view. Our first conference was held at the University of Calgary in 1968 under the umbrella of the Canadian Political Science Association. That event marked the birthplace of the Committee on Socialist Studies which became the Society for Socialist Studies in 1981.

In 2015, Rosa Luxemburg, Emma Goodman, Clara Zetkin and Raya Dunayevskaya share space with Gramsci, Kun, Lenin, Mao, Marcuse, Marx, Miliband, E. P. Thompson, William Morris, and Piketty and his critics. Our global socialist studies take us to India and Greece, Mexico and Argentina, Zimbabwe and South Africa, Armenia and Zambia, Ukraine and Nigeria, Italy and Bolivia, America, Australia and Brazil. We tap into the rich vein of neoliberalism, its evolution and institutions, its beneficiaries and those who are violated by it. We register the ongoing crisis of capitalism, the changing landscape of dissent, neopatriarchy as neoliberalism’s gender settlement, the conceptual challenges of feminist intersectionality and Indigenous resistance to Canadian colonialism.

There are sessions, joint sessions, double sessions, roundtables, book launches, a symposium, and a slide show giving us an American perspective on 21st century socialism. The first Annual Book Prize will be awarded on 3 June following the Keynote address by Himani Bannerji. To close the day we have organized a social evening beginning around 7:30 at Avant Garde, a restaurant and bar at 1351/2 Besserer Street in Byward Market. All are welcome!

The current that runs through the programme is optimism that there is another way. Syriza, in the making for 20 years, is a Kapital Idea. The pink tide in Latin America, Indigenous resurgence, climate justice and anti-austerity organizing are Kapital Ideas. Celebrating the life of a stalwart on the Left (whose legacy is examined in one of our sessions) Julian Wood’s clerihew clinches it….

Stuart Hall
had time for all
and he never lost sight
of why the Left was right

William Carroll, Jean Chapman, Elaine Coburn
Co-Chairs, Conference Planning Committee
SOCIETY FOR SOCIALIST STUDIES
Conference at a Glance

DAY ONE      TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2015

09:00 - 10:30
A-1 Desmarais 4120 Strategies against Collective Amnesia of Iconic Genocidal Events
A-2 Desmarais 4130 Taking Stock of the Corporatization of Canada’s Universities
A-3 Desmarais 4140 The Nature of Capital: Capital’s Engagement with Ecological Crises
A-4 Desmarais 4170 Critical Problems in Contemporary Global Politics

10:45 - 12:15
B-1 Desmarais 4120 Organizing Dissent Redux - Part 1
Critical perspectives on contemporary politics
B-2 Desmarais 4130 Battling Bureaucracy: Class Struggles in the Neoliberal University
B-3 Desmarais 4140 Feminist Intersectionality: conceptual and theoretical challenges
B-4 Desmarais 4170 Memory, Forgetting and Neoliberalism in Asia: Histories of Repression 1970-1990

13:45 - 15:15
C-1 Desmarais 4120 Organizing Dissent Redux - Part 2
The changing landscape of dissent
C-2 Desmarais 4130 Critical studies in post-secondary education
C-3 Desmarais 4140 Transforming Classes, Transforming States
C-4 Desmarais 4170 Nature, Time, and Marx’s “Laws”

15:45 - 17:15
D-1 Desmarais 4120 Organizing Dissent Redux - Part 3
Movement practices in-and-against dominant institutions
D-2 Desmarais 4130 Will we Know we're Free? The beginning of a philosophical conversation
D-3 Desmarais 4140 Police, Capital and Pacification – Part 1
D-4 Desmarais 4170 Rethinking Praxis in (Post-) Marxist Theory

17:30 – 19:00
E-1 Montpetit 201 The Rik Davidson/Studies in Political Economy 2015 Book Prize
E-2 Desmarais 4170 Rosa Luxemburg: Personal and Political Aspects of a Revolutionary’s Life
E-3 Desmarais 4130 In/Against/Beyond the New Austerity

DAY TWO      WEDNESDAY, 3 JUNE 2015

09:00 - 10:30
F-1 Desmarais 4120 Long Waves of Marxist Political Economy - Part 1
F-2 Desmarais 4130 Socialist Studies Journal Session for New Scholars
F-3 Desmarais 4140 Labour in the New Economy
F-4 Desmarais 4170 Roundtable: Thomas Piketty’s Capital in the Twenty-first Century
F-5 FTX 147A Political Sociology: International cases and comparisons in Political Sociology

10:45 - 12:15
G-1 TBT 327 Concepts in Feminist Intersectionality and Empirically Informed Studies
G-2 Desmarais 4120 Long Waves of Marxist Political Economy - Part 2
G-3 Desmarais 4130 A Political Economy of Class - Part 1
Historicizing Class Struggle: Class Struggle and the Politics of Labour
Toward a Social Movement Convergence: Connecting struggles for social justice, Environmental defence and political emancipation in Québec, Indigenous communities, and English Canada

Adventures in Queer Anti-Capitalism
Contemporary Theories of Imperialism
Stuart Hall's Legacy: Theory and Praxis for the Present Crisis?
A Political Economy of Class - Part 2
Political Economy of Class - Part 2

Political Sociology: Political engagement in context

Annual General Meeting

Keynote Address - Himani Bannerji, York University
Chair: Matthew Brett

Errol L. Sharpe Book Award
Chair: Marjorie Griffin Cohen
Introduced by Thom Workman

D A Y T H R E E      T H U R S D A Y , 4 J U N E  2 0 1 5

Institutional Ethnography and Making change from below
Towards a Marxist Institutionalism: Rethinking Corporations, Parties and the American State
Author meets Critics. "To Build a Shadowy Isle of Bliss:" William Morris' Radicalism and the Embodiment of Dreams
Critical Issues in Human Emancipation – Part 1

The Left and the Struggle for Alternatives in South Africa
Indigenous Resistance and Resurgence - Part 2
Author meets critics - Gender and Neoliberalism: The All India Democratic Women’s Association and Globalization Politics
New Contributions to Marxist Sociology

Slide Show 21st Century Socialism: A Perspective from the USA

Closing the Employment Standards Enforcement Gap: Case Studies from Ontario

Toward a Resurgence of Anti-capitalist Politics: Strategic Perspectives
Colonization/Decolonization
The new activist Left: forms of organization
Launch of Democratic Marxism Book Series
16:00 - 17:20

Q-1 Desmarais 4120  Facilitating a just transition: the role of policy alternatives
Q-2 Desmarais 4130  Sociology of Canadian Politics
Q-3 Desmarais 4140  Continuity of Capitalism in Canada, 2007-15
Q-4 Desmarais 4170  Police, Capital and Pacification - Part 2
Q-5 Montpetit 203  Author meets critics A World to Build: New Paths Towards Twenty-First Century Socialism

17:30 - 19:00

R-1 Desmarais 4120  The State of Anarchism Today: Limits, Hopes and Prospects
R-2 Desmarais 4130  Gender, labour, care and the state
R-3 Desmarais 4140  The Greek Cauldron: Syriza and Socialist Strategy
R-4 Desmarais 4170  Policing and Resistance

**DAY FOUR      FRIDAY, 5 JUNE 2015**

09:00 - 10:30

S-1 Desmarais 4120  The NATO offensive in Eastern Europe and the class and national dynamics of the war in Eastern Ukraine
S-2 Desmarais 4130  Struggling for Justice in and through Insurgent Communities
S-3 Desmarais 4140  Issues in Canadian political economy
S-4 Desmarais 4170  Socialisms, Feminisms, Anti-racisms

10:45 - 12:15

T-1 Desmarais 4120  Critical issues in human emancipation
T-2 Desmarais 4130  Race, ideology, state: case studies
T-3 Desmarais 4140  Drawing Lessons from National Formations
T-4 Desmarais 4170  Feminism, Materialism and Global Contexts

**JOINT SESSIONS     MONDAY, 1 JUNE 2015, FTX 137**

13:45 - 15:15

Z1/Joint Session

**FEMINISMS TODAY AND CONTEMPORARY SPACES**

Chair: Linda Christiansen-Ruffman, Saint Mary’s University lindacruffman@yahoo.ca
Organizer: Ann Denis, University of Ottawa adenis@uottawa.ca

The papers in this session explore dimensions of power in a variety of contemporary social spaces, including the gendering of (often sexist) interaction rituals in online spaces, the use of social media in the prevention of violence against women, gender policing within queer communities, and consensual non-monogamy.

Nicole Andrejek “Gendering Interaction Rituals”
Jordan Fairbairn “Feminism in digital spaces: Exploring violence against women prevention and social media”
Meg Howison “Rigid queer aesthetics: femme-phobia and gender presentation policing within queer communities”
Milaine Alarie “Consensual Non-Monogamy and Feminism: Contemporary Debates/ La non-monogamie consensuelle: débats contemporains” (bilingual presentation)

Hosted by Canadian Sociological Association
Joint session with Canadian Association for Social Work Education (CASWE)
Canadian Sociological Association (CSA)
Canadian Committee on Women’s History (CCWH)
Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women (CRIAW)
Women’s and Gender Studies (WGS)

15:30 - 17:00

Z2/Joint Session
FEMINISM(S) TODAY: TELLING FEMINIST STORIES

Co-Chairs: Ann Denis, University of Ottawa adenis@uottawa.ca and Karen Balcom, McMaster University balcomk@mcmaster.ca

Organizer: Ann Denis, University of Ottawa adenis@uottawa.ca

Reflecting dimensions of the telling of feminist stories, the first paper discusses ethics informing how the archives of feminist stories are developed, and the second considers how feminist histories are expressed through performance-based histories as a form of active citizenship. Then 4 parts of a paper offer an interdisciplinary and collaborative analysis of a protest by high school feminists against the proliferation of rape culture in their school.

Marcia Braundy “Feminist Ethics in Archive Development”
Sorcha Beirne, Emilia Deil, Amanda Benjamin, Linda Eyre, Judy Piers-Kavanaugh “Youth Activism and School Dress Codes: An Interdisciplinary Feminist Analysis” (4 parts)

Hosted by CSA
Joint session with CASWE, CSA, CCWH, CRIAW, WGS

17:15 - 18:45

Z3/Joint Session
INDIGENOUS RESISTANCE AND RESURGENCE – PART 1

Chairs and Organizers: Elaine Coburn, American University of Paris and CADIS-Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales coburn.elaine@gmail.com and Jennifer Adese, Otipemisiwak/Métis, Carleton University Jennifer.Adese@carleton.ca

Indigenous resistance is over five centuries old and means survival against colonial-capitalist forms of dispossession. During the same period, Indigenous resurgence, the renewal of many different Indigenous ways of being, knowing and doing has waxed and waned but never disappeared. This resurgence matters first and foremost to diverse Indigenous peoples, but has implications for all of society. At the same time, Indigenous resistance and resurgence faces formidable opposition, from the neoliberal colonial ‘security’ state through to multibillion dollar, transnational corporations and persistent racisms.

Jennifer Adese, Carleton University, jennifer.adese@carleton.ca “Behaving Unexpectedly in Expected Places: First Nations Artists and the Embodiment of Visual Sovereignty”
Kelly Aguire, University of Victoria kagguire@uvic.ca “Re/Prefiguration: Temporalities of Struggle and AlterNatives”
Elaine Coburn, American University of Paris and CADIS-Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales coburn.elaine@gmail.com “And More Will Sing Their Way to Freedom”
Kahente Horn-Miller, Concordia and McGill Universities Kahente@gmail.com “From Paintings to Power: The Meaning of the Warrior Flag Twenty Years after Oka”

Hosted by CSA
Joint Session with CSA
Kapital Ideas: analysis, critique, praxis.

*Kapital Ideas* are theories and analyses that help point us toward a better world through critique of the unequal, violent and exploitative one we now inhabit. They take inspiration from the author of *Das Kapital* though they range widely over many issues which include ecology and political economy, gender and sexuality, colonization and imperialism, communication and popular struggles, but also movements and parties, hegemony and counter hegemony, governance and globalization and, of course, class struggle and transformation. *Kapital Ideas* are interventions that contribute to what Marx, in 1843, called the ‘self-clarification of the struggles and wishes of the age.’ In an era of deepening crisis and proliferating struggles, of grave threats and new possibilities, the need for these ideas, and for the praxis they can inform, could not be more acute.

**CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS**

**Keynote Address: Marx’s Critique of ideology: its uses and abuses**
Keynote Speaker: Himani Bannerji, York University
Wednesday, 3 June 2015 @ 16:30-18:00
Montpetit Hall 203
Chair: Matthew Brett

**Errol L. Sharpe Book Award**
Wednesday, 3 June 2015 @ 18:10-19:10
Montpetit Hall 203
Chair: Marjorie Griffin Cohen
Introduced by Thom Workman

**The Rik Davidson/Studies in Political Economy 2015 Book Prize Lecture**
Leo Panitch and Sam Gindin, York University
The Unmaking of Global Capitalism?
Tuesday, 2 June 2015 @ 17:30-19:00
Montpetit Hall 201
Chair: Susan Spronk

**Registration**
Desmarais 4000
Tuesday, 2 June @ 08:30-10:00
TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2015
9:00-10:30
Venue: Desmarais 4120

A1/Session

STRATEGIES AGAINST COLLECTIVE AMNESIA OF ICONIC GENOCIDAL EVENTS

Chair and Organizer: Sima Aprahamian, Concordia University
simaaprahamian@yahoo.ca
In the face of present-day extreme violence and murder past genocides and atrocities recede into the background. This session will address strategies that aid in maintaining or regenerating collective memory of a genocidal history. We will explore existing memorialisation or resistance to it, as well raise questions as to how best to pass on memory, how to use language and images conducive to re/kindle interest in its preservation. Through feminist and socialist reflections, we will present case studies that exemplify meaningful ways to focus on the original victims and their lost lives.

Sima Aprahamian, Concordia University
simaaprahamian@yahoo.ca
Oral history as resistance against forgetting: the Armenian Genocide, Turkish denial, a centennial project

Karin Doerr, Concordia University
Karin.doerr@concordia.ca
Reconsidering Paul Celan’s holocaust poetry for today’s Germany

Indira Natasha Prahst, Langara College, Vancouver,
indira_prahst@yahoo.com
Resistance against a politics of disappearance: Survivors of the 1984 Sikh Genocide recount the irreducible

Levon Chorbajian, University of Massachusetts Lowell,
Lchor@comcast.net
“The Lie and What to Do about It: Turkish Denial of the Armenian Genocide from 1915 to the Present”

Anoush Ter Taulian, Artsakh War Veteran,
anoush49@hotmail.com
“Uncovering the Memory of the 1915 Armenian Genocide”

Janice Newson, York University janewson@eagle.ca
The corporatization of Canada’s universities has been ongoing for at least 35 years. This session aims to take stock of the corporatization process and to consider and debate where we may go from here. We will explore the new shape of longstanding issues, the current shape of more recent issues, or newly emerging issues within our corporate universities.

Jocelyn Piercy, OISE University of Toronto
jpiercy@sympatico.ca
“Financialized College Imaginaries”

Amanda Mary Williams, awilliams2@mtroyal.ca
Delia D Dumitrica Mail, dumitrica@slu.edu
“MOOCs (massive open on-line courses) in Canada: An empirical exploration of their capacity to challenge, reincorporate and accelerate the commodification of post-secondary education”

Claire Polster, University of Regina
claire.polster@uregina.ca
“Shooting ourselves in the Foot: A critique of academics’ responses to growing insecurity in Western higher education”

Eric Newstadt, Acadia University
eric.newstadt@gmail.com
“From the Corporate Lab to Program Prioritization (and back again): The Long History of New Managerialism”

Joint session with CSA
Financial support from The Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences

Tuesday, 2 June 2015
9:00-10:30
Venue: Desmarais 4140

A3/Session

THE NATURE OF CAPITAL: CAPITAL’S ENGAGEMENT WITH ECOLOGICAL CRISIS

Chair and Organizer: Mark Hudson, University of Manitoba mark.hudson@umanitoba.ca
Only a few years ago, capital’s response to environmental harm was primarily one of denial or minimization. We now see increasingly public acknowledgement of these issues by capitalists and political elites. This is combined with efforts to interpret ecological degradation, rendering it legible and actionable to capital. Outcomes might include maps of hazard and values, risk factors, rankings, new markets, or new commodities. This has not been a smooth process. This session seeks to explore the contradictions, outcomes, presuppositions, requirements, and terms of “success” of capital’s engagement with ecological crisis.

Tuesday, 2 June 2015
9:00-10:30
Venue: Desmarais 4130

A2/Session

TAKING STOCK OF THE CORPORATIZATION OF CANADA’S UNIVERSITIES

Chairs and Organizers: Claire Polster, University of Regina claire.polster@uregina.ca
Scott Prudham, University of Toronto
scott.prudham@utoronto.ca

Mike Ekers, University of Toronto - Scarborough, mekers@utsc.utoronto.ca
"Metabolism and the Spatial Fix: Toward a Notion of the Socio-Ecological Fix"

Mark Hudson, University of Manitoba
mark.hudson@umanitoba.ca
"Counting Carbon: Misadventures in making climate change 'visible' in finance and insurance"

James McCarthy, Clark University
JaMcCarthy@clarku.edu
“A Socioecological Fix to Capitalist Crisis and Climate Change: the Possibilities and Limits of Renewable Energy”

Kieran James McDougal, University of Waterloo
kieranmcdougal@gmail.com
“Making WAVES: The Wealth Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services Global Partnership and the Commodification of Ecological Functioning”

Tuesday, 2 June 2015
9:00-10:30
Venue: Desmarais 4170

A4/Roundtable

CRITICAL PROBLEMS IN CONTEMPORARY GLOBAL POLITICS

Convenor: Randall Germain, Carleton University
randall.germain@carleton.ca

The contemporary era is marked by a shifting international political balance of power and economic transformation on a global scale. New patterns of economic activity emerging from the Global South are challenging the norms, institutions and practices of the global political economy. Issues ranging from financial regulation to climate change to corporate organization to the place and role of borders are being recast in this new political and economic environment. This roundtable considers these changes and the challenges they present to a world order in transition.

Randall Germain, Carleton University
randall.germain@carleton.ca

William Walters, Carleton University
william.walters@carleton.ca

Matthew Paterson, University of Ottawa
matthew.paterson@uottawa.ca

David Black, Dalhousie University david.black@dal.ca

Isabella Bakker, York University ichbakker@yorku.ca

Radhika Desai, University of Manitoba
Radhika.Desai@umanitoba.ca

Tuesday, 2 June 2015
10:45-12:15
Venue: Desmarais 4120

B1/Symposium

ORGANIZING DISSENT REDUX – PART 1
CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES ON CONTEMPORARY PRACTICES

Chair and Organizer: William Carroll, wcarroll@uvic.ca

Papers in this three-part symposium take up critical perspectives on social movements as change agents, proceeding from a reading of contemporary Canada as a social formation marked by deeply seated contradictions, both social and ecological. Our Canadian frame of reference is alert to broader regional and global contexts. Analyses range from discussion of key conceptual issues to theoretically informed case studies. A defining feature of the symposium is its emphasis on the ways in which contemporary movements contest dominant political-economic and cultural-psychological formations, as agencies of counter-hegemony.

Sam Gindin, York University sam.gindin@gmail.com
“Globalization and Internationalism”

Jacinthe Michaud, York University (Glendon)
jmichaud@yorku.ca
“Synergy between Feminism and the Left: Two Moments in the Genealogy of Feminism as a Political Movement”

Stephen D'Arcy, Huron University College
sdary@huron.uwo.ca
"The Political Vocabulary of the Post-New Left: How Activists Articulate their Politics, and Why it Matters"

Jordan House,York University housej@yorku.ca
Matthew Corbeil, York University mcorb056@yorku.ca
“Does Direct Action Get the Goods? A Study of the Possibilities and Limits of ‘Solidarity Networks’”

Tuesday, 2 June 2015
10:45-12:15
Venue: Desmarais 4130
‘BATTLING BUREAUCRACY’: CLASS STRUGGLES IN THE NEOLIBERAL UNIVERSITY

Chairs and Organizers: Herbert Pimlott, Wilfrid Laurier University hpimlott@wlu.ca
Garry Potter, Wilfrid Laurier University gpotter@wlu.ca

The neoliberal assault on the postsecondary sector has seen a rising tide of petitions and protests at programme cuts, bureaucratic diktat and the exploitation of precarious academic labour at universities across Canada (and beyond). Different strategies have been employed in attempting to push back against the attack on the public university by senior administrations and governments and their faculty allies.

Gregory Cameron, Wilfrid Laurier University grcameron@wlu.ca
“Between Representations: Identity Crisis and the Bureaucratization of the University”

Jamie Magnusson, OISE University of Toronto jamieleynn.magnusson@utoronto.ca
“Community Driven Postsecondary Education and the Dialectics of Local/International”

Garry Potter, Wilfrid Laurier University garrypotter34@aol.com
“Resistance to the Walmartization of Universities: the example of Wilfrid Laurier and IPRM (Integrated Planning Resource Management)”

Herbert Pimlott, Wilfrid Laurier University hpimlott@wlu.ca
“A Class for and against Itself: Strategy and Tactics of the ‘Precarious Professoriate’ In and Against the University”

Tuesday, 2 June 2015
10:45-12:15
Venue: Desmarais 4140

FEMINIST INTERSECTIONALITY: CONCEPTUAL AND THEORETICAL CHALLENGES

Chair and Organizer: Ann Denis, Université d’Ottawa/University of Ottawa adenis@uottawa.ca
Drawing on varied empirical research experiences, each of the papers in this session examines the conceptual challenges of feminist intersectionality. The first addresses competing methodological approaches. The second explores the potentialities of integrating intersectional analysis with institutional ethnography. The third challenges intersectionality to bridge the divide between the ‘hard’ and ‘soft’ sciences. And the fourth examines the intersection of gender with other social hierarchies in feminist criminology’s consideration of victimization and offending.

Leslie J. Nichols, Ryerson University, lesliejane.nichols@ryerson.ca
“Should We Create a Comprehensive Methodology for Conducting Intersectionality Research?”

Marilyn Porter, Memorial University mporter2008@gmail.com
“Overcoming the Great Divide: Feminism and Fisheries Research”

Julie Poon, Guelph University jpoon@uoguelph.ca
“Women’s Victimization and Offending in Feminist Criminology: From Criticisms, to Contributions, to Current Challenges”

Joint Session with CASWE, CCWH, CRIAW, CSA, WGS

Tuesday, 2 June 2015
10:45-12:15
Venue: Desmarais 4170

MEMORY, FORGETTING AND NEOLIBERALISM IN ASIA: HISTORIES OF REPRESSION 1970-1990

This session is dedicated to Dr Ghardezi and the late Jasodhara Bagchi, scholars and activists on the Left.

Chair and Organizer: Judy Whitehead, Lethbridge University judy.whitehead@gmail.com
Contemporary imperialist interventions in West, South and Southeast Asia hinge on the doubled construction of religious fundamentalism and fanaticism, notwithstanding general awareness among socialists that imperialism had a role in creating many of these ‘fundamentalist’ forces. However, what is often forgotten is that the emergence of religiously conservative forces and identities were linked to the active destruction/repression of left, secular, feminist, and progressive organizations throughout the region. We will excavate this relatively recent history of repression, and to appreciate its centrality to the global reconstitution of finance capital and the global reorganization of labour in the 1980s and 1990s.

Jean Chapman, Concordia University, chapman@wilkinson.ca
“State repression and the Indian feminist movement in the 1970s and 80s”

Gökbörü Sarp Tanyildz, York University gokboru@yorku.ca
“Our Boys Did It: The 1980 Coup in Turkey”

Judith Whitehead, University of Lethbridge judy.whitehead001@gmail.com
“Flexible Labour and Flexible Housing: The Rescaling of Mumbai into a Global Financial Centre”
ORGANIZING DISSENT REDUX - PART 2
THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE OF DISSENT

Chair and Organizer: William Carroll, University of Victoria
wcarroll@uvic.ca

Papers in this three-part symposium take up critical perspectives on social movements as change agents, proceeding from a reading of contemporary Canada as a social formation marked by deeply seated contradictions, both social and ecological. Our Canadian frame of reference is alert to broader regional and global contexts. Analyses range from discussion of key conceptual issues to theoretically informed case studies. A defining feature of the symposium is its emphasis on the ways in which contemporary movements contest dominant political-economic and cultural-psychological formations, as agencies of counter-hegemony.

Gary Kinsman, Laurentian University
gkinsman@laurentian.ca
"From Resisting Police Raids to Charter Rights: Queer Organizing in the 1980s"

Lesley Wood, York University
ljwood@yorku.ca
"Consent to Coercion: the Criminalization of Dissent and the Militarization of Policing"

Barry Adam, University of Windsor
adam@uwindsor.ca
"Political Economy and Culture in New Social Movement Theory"

Alan David Sears, Ryerson University
asears@ryerson.ca
Xavier Lafrance, UQAM
lafrance.xavier@uqam.ca
"Infrastructure of Dissent in Student Mobilization"

C2/Session
CRITICAL STUDIES IN POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

Chair: Jerrold Kachur, University of Alberta
jkachur@ualberta.ca
Organizer: Programme Committee

The field of post-secondary education is striated with many kinds of political struggles. Papers in this session explore some of them, around issues of gender, race, class and state.

Helen Ramirez, Wilfrid Laurier University
helen.ramirez@me.com
"The Selling of Rape Culture on a University Campus"

Jerrold Kachur, University of Alberta
jkachur@ualberta.ca
"Sweet, Sexy, Dirty Money in Alberta: Financialization and the New Political Governance of Neocapitalist Higher Education"

Eliana Moraes de Almeida Alencar, Secretaria de Estado de Ciência e Tecnologia - SECITEC-MT
elianaalencar@uol.com.br
"Professor’s work in the Vocational and Technical Education in Brazil: two perspectives"

Sobia Shaheen Shaikh, Memorial University
sobia_shaikh@hotmail.com
Nigel Moses, Independent Scholar
nigelroy99@hotmail.com
"Antiracism in Canadian student organizations (1981-1995): A preliminary review"

Robert McGray, Brock University
rmcgray@brocku.ca
"Austerity-Privacy and Higher Education"

C3/Session
TRANSFORMING CLASSES, TRANSFORMING STATES

Chair and Organizer: Greg Albo, York University
albo@yorku.ca

In the face of a rapidly emerging neoliberal order, Ralph Miliband wrote: 'Socialist work means intervention in all the many different areas of life in which class struggle occurs: for class struggle must be taken to mean not only the permanent struggle between capital and labour, crucial though that remains, but the struggle against racial and sex discrimination, the struggle against arbitrary state and police power, the struggle against the ideological hegemony of the conservative forces, and the struggle for new and radically different defence and foreign policies.' Today, this means confronting social classes and states remade under the period of neoliberalism. What are the challenges and emergent strategies for transforming social classes and politics?

Richard Fidler, Independent Researcher and Essayist
rfidler_8@sympatico.ca
"Rethinking the Transition"
Readers of Marx often cite, credulously or critically, the various “laws” that appear in Capital. Marx, of course, offers up the laws of classical political economy for scrutiny or derision, while also presenting his own reading of the laws of capitalist accumulation, its dynamics, and its necessary social effects. Concepts of Time, Nature, and History often underpin the meaning of “law” and “determinism” in these discussions, with real implications for the way such axioms can be deployed for various political and intellectual projects — in Marx’s own work and beyond.

Rebecca Schein, Carleton University
rshschein@gmail.com
“Time and the Fulcrum of Struggle: Rethinking Decommodification and the Struggle over the Working Day”

Justin Paulson, Carleton University
justin.paulson@carleton.ca
“The laws and logics of Capital”

José Julian López, University of Ottawa
jlopez@uottawa.ca
“Should Science Studies Study Capital Vol. 1?”

Peter Gose, Carleton University peter_gose@carleton.ca
“Praxis versus law in Marx”

Organizer: Ann Denis, University of Ottawa
adenis@uottawa.ca
Co-Chairs: Linda Christiansen-Ruffman, Saint Mary’s U, lindacrfuffman@yahoo.ca and Karen Balcom, McMaster U, balcomk@mcmaster.ca

In this session feminists integrate ecological and social issues as they explore transformative feminist approaches over a historical and global swath including witch hunts, colonialism, indigenous perspectives, urban mobility, peace, food sovereignty (and other food issues) and contemporary troubled times.

Martha McMahon
“Feminist Strategies for Living in Troubled Times”

Leigh Brownhill
“Peace, Food Sovereignty and Women’s Issues”

Terran Giacomini
“Global Alliances toward a Democratic Food System”

Sujata Thapa-Bhattarai
“Feminist Questions around Gender and Urban Mobility”

Zoe Patricia Miller
“Teaching the Witch Hunts as (one) Transformational Method in ‘Story-ing Space”

Makere Stewart-Harawira and Angela Miles
“Feminist and Indigenous Perspectives: Ecological, Social and Colonial Issues”

Hosted by CSA
Joint Session with SSS, CASWE, CCWH, CRIAW, WGS
and cultural-psychological formations, as agencies of counter-hegemony.

Elaine Coburn, American University of Paris and CADIS-Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales
coburn.elaine@gmail.com
Clifford Atleo clifford.atleo@yale.edu
“Not Just another Social Movement: Indigenous Resistance and Resurgence”

Dax D’Orazio, Institute of Political Economy, Carleton University daxdorazio@gmail.com
“Academic Freedom and Contentious Politics: Israel/Palestine in Canadian Universities”

James Rowe, University of Victoria jkrowe@uvic.ca
Jessica Dempsey, University of Victoria jdempsey@uvic.ca
Peter Gibbs, University of Victoria petergibbs@gmail.com
“The Power of the Petro-Divestment Movement (and its Secret)”

Mark Stoddart, Memorial University mstoddart@mun.ca
Jillian Smith, Memorial University js7176@mun.ca
David Tindall, University of British Columbia Tindall@mail.ubc.ca
“Blame Canada: Environmental Movements, National Media, and Canada’s Reputation as a Climate Villain”

Tuesday, 2 June 2015
15:45-17:15
Venue: Desmarais 4130

D2/Session

WILL WE KNOW WE’RE FREE? THE BEGINNING OF A PHILOSOPHICAL CONVERSATION

Chair and Organizer: Sandra Rein, University of Alberta srein@ualberta.ca
This session is intended to reflect a philosophical conversation about women and freedom drawn primarily from the works of Rosa Luxemburg, Emma Goldman, and Raya Dunayevskaya. The session draws on the research from a larger project that examines the ontological place of freedom in the thinking of these three important but often overlooked radical women.

Sandra Rein, University of Alberta srein@ualberta.ca
"Rosa Luxemburg: Feminist Philosopher mediated by Raya Dunayevskaya"

Stacey Haugen, University of Alberta
"Emma Goldman: The Personal is very Political but need not be Intimate"

Janet Wesselius, University of Alberta janet.wesselius@ualberta.ca
“It’s About Freedom, Stupid: a philosophical negotiation among feminists”

Tuesday, 2 June 2015
15:45-17:15
Venue: Desmarais 4130

D3/Double Session

POLICE, CAPITAL AND PACIFICATION - PART 1

Chair and Organizer: Aaron James Henry, Carleton University aaronjameshenry@gmail.com
Grounded in the politics and analytics of anti-security, this session interrogates the historical and contemporary relations between capitalist exploitation and domination through security, police and pacification. Some themes include but are not limited to: the materiality of policing, pacification, international institutions and ‘state formation’, contemporary iterations of police science, commodification and public-private policing, theorizing the unity of police power and war power in liberal societies.

Martin Vihrenov Manolov, Carleton University martin.manolov@carleton.ca
“A field of mines: European Union studies from an Anti-Security perspective”

Nicholas Lamb, Carleton University nicholas.lamb@carleton.ca
“The Costs of Policing Summit Dissent: A Preliminary Political Economy of the Toronto G20 Pacification Project”

George S. Rigakos, Carleton University george.rigakos@carleton.ca
“Urban pacification: The case of the Business Improvement District”

Tuesday, 2 June 2015
15:45-17:15
Venue: Desmarais 4170

D4/Session

RETHINKING PRAXIS IN (POST-) MARXIST THEORY

Chairs and Organizers: Samuel Clevenger, University of Maryland, scleveng@umd.edu Hector Mackie, University of Toronto, hector.mackie@hotmail.co.uk
Developments in (post-) Marxist theory have complicated scholarly conceptualizations class struggle and praxis as central components propelling the revolutionary impulses of the theoretical tradition. One consequence of these advancements brought by, among others, cultural Marxist, feminist and postmodern theory has been the centering of class as a category of analysis, neglecting struggle as the concept intrinsically connecting theory with political engagement and confounding how such theory should be practically applied in activism and social movements. This session aims to examine and illustrate how Marxist
conceptions of class, struggle, and praxis have manifested themselves in today’s empirically grounded sociocultural theory.

Samuel Clevenger, University of Maryland
sclveng@umd.edu
“The Theory of the ‘Psycho-Drama’: Struggle, Praxis, and (post-) Marxism Through the Work of E. P. Thompson”

Radha D’Souza, University of Westminster
dsouzar@westminster.ac.uk
“Right’s Talk, Agency and Transformative Actions: Revisiting Marxist Critique of Liberalism”

Alex Levant, Wilfrid Laurier University alevant@yorku.ca
“Activity and Revolution: E.V. Ilyenkov and Activity Theory on the Problem on Self-emancipation”

Hector Mackie, University of Toronto
hector.mackie@mail.utoronto.ca
“Class struggle and sport”

Tuesday, 2 June 2015
17:30-19:00
Venue: Montpetit Hall 201

E1/BOOK PRIZE AND JOINT SESSION

Chair: Susan Spronk, Ottawa University
Susan.Spronk@uOttawa.ca
The Rik Davidson/Studies in Political Economy 2015 Book Prize Lecture
Leo Panitch and Sam Gindin, York University
The Unmaking of Global Capitalism?

Co-sponsored with the Canadian Association for the Study of International Development

Tuesday, 2 June 2015
17:30-19:00
Venue: Desmarais 4170

E2/Session

ROSA LUXEMBURG - PERSONAL AND POLITICAL ASPECTS OF A REVOLUTIONARY’S LIFE

Chair and Organizer: Ingo Schmidt, Athabasca University
inges@athabascau.ca
One of the great martyred thinkers and actors of the early twentieth century European Left, Rosa Luxemburg lived a life brimming with lessons for today’s Left. Papers in this session address some of them, both practical and theoretical.

Ingo Schmidt, Athabasca University
inges@athabascau.ca
“Rosa Luxemburg’s Political Economy in the Light of New Publications”

Karin Doerr, Concordia University
Karin.doerr@concordia.ca
“RL and ‘Life’s Little Ornaments: Escaping Hostile Times”

Sandra Rein, University of Alberta srein@ualberta.ca
“Re-reading Luxemburg’s Theory and Practice”

Tuesday, 2 June 2015
17:30-19:00
Venue: Desmarais 4130

E3/Roundtable

IN/AGAINST/BEYOND THE NEW AUSTERITY

Convenor: Stephen McBride, McMaster University
mcbride@mcmaster.ca
New Austerity refers to post-2010 policies targeting public spending and public debt. The public sector has assumed and institutionalized responsibility for a private sector crisis, the ultimate costs being paid by people with no role in creating it. We will discuss lived experience of the new austerity and alternatives; the complex politics of austerity including: austerity as a program of traditional political parties including social democracy; new political movements of the Left and of the right; and citizen disengagement where passive (if disaffected) consent produces political malaise.

Marjorie Griffin Cohen, Simon Fraser University
mcohen@sfu.ca
“Austerity, Social Reproduction and Economic Crisis”

Stephen McBride, McMaster University
mcbride@mcmaster.ca
“Constitutionalizing Austerity: Taking the Public out of Policy”

Caitlin Hewitt-White, OISE University of Toronto
caitlinhw@gmail.com
“CasaPound Italia and the anti-austerity politics of the far right”

Heather Whiteside, University of British Columbia
heather.whiteside@geog.ubc.ca
“Austerity and the Financialization of Urban America”

Stephanie Baker Collins, McMaster University
sbcollins@mcmaster.ca
“‘There’s wiggle room in every decision’: finding discretionary room for resisting austerity in Ontario Works”

Tyler Pollard, McMaster University
“Austerity Discourses in Education: The Case of Financial Literacy”
F1/Double Session

LONG WAVES OF MARXIST POLITICAL ECONOMY - PART 1

Chair and Organizer: Ingo Schmidt, Athabasca University
ingos@athabascau.ca

Innovations in Marxist Political Economy seem to loosely coincide with the long waves or phases of capital accumulation. This session will ask what we learn from Marxist political economy of the past; what came out of the Marx-orthodoxy of the 1970s; what lessons do Soviet communism teach us in terms of making a new socialist project; what role might a rejuvenated Marxist political economy play for socialist renewal; does capitalism have a future and if so, what might it look like; what are the limits to capitalist development and how do they affect socialist politics?

Ingo Schmidt, Athabasca University
ingos@athabascau.ca

“Long Waves of Marxist Political Economy”

Michael Lebowitz, Simon Fraser University
mlebowit@sfu.ca

“The Concept of Primitive Socialist Accumulation: Then and Now”

Mariano Félix, CIG-IdIHCS/CONICET-UNLP
marianfelix@gmail.com

“Capitalist intensification in the neodevelopmentalist era: what are the alternatives for popular movements in Argentina?”

Wednesday, 3 June 2015
9:00-10:30
Venue: Desmarais 4130

F2/SESSION FOR NEW SCHOLARS

Socialist Studies
Chair and Organizer: Sandra Rein, University of Alberta
srein@ualberta.ca

Although this session is open to everyone, special attention will be paid to assisting new scholars in pursuing scholarly publication in the Journal for Socialist Studies. The session will be led by its Editor, Sandra Rein, who will be joined by members of the Editorial Board. Topics will include assessing the “fit” between research and the journal’s mandate; presenting manuscripts and dealing with peer review and revisions.

Wednesday, 3 June 2015
9:00-10:30
Venue: Desmarais 4130

F3/Session

LABOUR IN THE NEW ECONOMY

Chair and Organizer: Gary Teeple, Simon Fraser University
teeple@sfu.ca

The overarching theme of this session is the ‘post-industrial’ society or the ‘knowledge’ economy. Key themes: a) Reviews/analyses of the current state of study of the labour process; b) Periodization: the stages of development of the labour process from the Industrial Revolution to today; c) Reassembling nature and the labour process: computerization, biotechnology, nanotechnology, and synthetic materials; d) Changing structure of capital; e) Changing structure of the working class; f) Changes in Management? g) Jobless future? h) The state of the unions and resistance.

Alvaro Abraham Graterol, Popular Power
alvarograterol@gmail.com

“Management self-sustaining model ‘gradual development for urban communities’”

Paramjit Singh, Punjab University
paramjiteco@yahoo.com

“Labour Market in the Age of Technological Revolution: Question of Livelihood in Neoliberal India”

Leslie J. Nichols, Ryerson University
lesliejane.nichols@ryerson.ca

“How do Women in Toronto and Halifax Navigate Dependency while Unemployed?”

Gary Teeple, Simon Fraser University
teeple@sfu.ca

“Class Structure and Struggle in the Age of Robots”

Wednesday, 3 June 2015
9:00-10:30
Venue: Desmarais 4170

F4/Roundtable

THOMAS PIKETTY’S CAPITAL IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

Convenor: Marjorie Griffin Cohen, Simon Fraser University
mcohen@sfu.ca

This roundtable will examine the significance of Piketty’s work on inequality to understand both his explanation for its rise, and the solutions he sees as possible.

Mara Fridell, University of Manitoba
fridellm@umanitoba.ca

“Patrimonial Accumulation within Multiphasic Capital”

Duncan Cameron
ncnrm@gmail.com
“Piketty’s ‘law of motion of capitalism’ and what he leaves out from the story”

Ian Angus, Simon Fraser University iangus@sfu.ca
“The role of human capital in Piketty’s analysis”

Elaine Coburn, American University of Paris and CADIS-Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales coburn.elaine@gmail.com
“Capital vs capital: comparing Piketty’s economics with historical materialist political economy”

Marjorie Griffin Cohen, Simon Fraser University mcohen@sfu.ca
“A critique of Piketty’s solutions to inequality”

Wednesday, 3 June 2015
10:30-12:00
Venue TBT 327

G1/Joint Session

CONCEPTS IN FEMINIST INTERSECTIONALITY AND EMPIRICALLY INFORMED STUDIES

Organizer: Ann Denis adenis@uottawa.ca
Co-Chairs: Marleny Bonnycastle and Rachael Crowder
In this session a variety of instances of feminist intersectionality are examined and conceptualized. The first explores how identity is mobilized in a mayoral election. The second examines how human rights can serve as a feminist platform for a new welfare state model incorporating a politics of both redistribution and recognition. The third assesses the effects of gender and race on the ways in which human rights instruments are used in asylum-seeking cases. The fourth considers how ‘female headed households’ constitute an important analytic intersectional category which is crucial in any development program intent on improving the lives of women.

Elise Maiolino
“‘I’m not male. Not white. Want to start there?’: Olivia Chow and identity mobilization in Toronto’s mayoral election”

Tracy A. Smith-Carrier, University of Ottawa tsmithca@uwo.ca
“Human rights: A valuable platform for critical feminists?”

Evangelia Tatsoglou, evie.tatsoglou@smu.ca

Shingiralala Mandizadza
“Intersectionality in rural agricultural economies: the case of Female Household Heads in Zimbabwe”

Hosted by CASWE
Joint session with CASWE, CCWH, CRIAW, CSA, WGS

Wednesday, 3 June 2015
10:45-12:15
Venue: Desmarais 4120

G2/Double Session

LONG WAVES OF MARXIST POLITICAL ECONOMY - PART 2

Chair and Organizer: Ingo Schmidt, Athabasca University ingos@athabascau.ca
Innovations in Marxist Political Economy seem to loosely coincide with the long waves or phases of capital accumulation. This session asks what can we learn from Marxist political economy of the past; what came out of the Marx-orthodoxy of the 1970s; what lessons do Soviet communism teach us in terms of making a new socialist project; what role might a rejuvenated Marxist political economy play for socialist renewal; does capitalism have a future and if so, what might it look like; what are the limits to capitalist development and how do they affect socialist politics?

Joel Warren, Independent cjwarren@sfu.ca
“Towards a Hybrid Ecosocialist Critique of Capitalist Unsustainability”

Alan Freeman, Cultural Economist afreeman@iwgvt.org
“What causes booms? A critical alternative to Schumpeterian crisis theory”

Mara Fridell, University of Manitoba fridellm@umanitoba.ca
“From Hegelian Notrecht to Piketty’s Capital: Political economy through capitalist phases”

Wednesday, 3 June 2015
10:45-12:15
Venue: Desmarais 4130

G3/Double Session

A POLITICAL ECONOMY OF CLASS - PART I

Chairs and Organizers: Meg Luxton, York University mluxton@yorku.ca
Adrian Smith, Carleton University adrian.smith@carleton.ca
In the current period class and class politics, Political Economy’s central concepts, have been seriously challenged in two different ways. The global power of neoliberalism fosters claims that class and class struggle are no longer relevant. Mobilisations of indigenous, anti-imperialist, anti-racist and feminist movements especially in the global south, have insisted that class and class politics must be rethought. This session asks how political economy has responded to such challenges and what understandings of...
class and class politics are most relevant in today's situations.

Arua Silva de Lima, Universidade Federal de Alagoas
arualima@gmail.com
“Philosophy of praxis in practical terms: experiences of anti-racism and anti-sexism in early communist parties in the Americas”

Victor Rizescu, University of Bucharest
v_rizescu@yahoo.com
“Left and Right in the framework of liberalism: a Romanian departure from the pre-communist period”

Jenna Amirault, Carleton University
jennaamirault@cmail.carleton.ca
“The Return of Marx, Class and Capitalism: A Glimpse into Social Movement Theory”

Michael Bueckert, Carleton University
michael.bueckert@gmail.com
“Institutional Investment, Class Power, and the Politics of Investing”

How classes are made and remade within the long history of capitalism is a decisive determinant of the nature of class struggle and the politics of labour. Socialist possibility cannot be imagined, let alone constructed, without analytic consideration of this reality, which develops at the interface of structured determination and active political intervention, or agency. Past complexities, present circumstances, and future directions are all understandable only through considerations of class struggle’s history, which involves appreciations of formations both political and economic.

David Frank, University of New Brunswick
dfrank@unb.ca
“Was there a Left in Canada before the 1890s? An Historical Speculation”

Robert Ware, Professor Emeritus, University of Calgary, Adjunct Research Professor, Carleton University ware.hodson@shaw.ca
“Proletariat and Precariat: Two Projects”

Sonja Karla Killoran-McKibbin, York University
sonjakm@yorku.ca

“Cooperatives without Cooperation: Conflicts among Mine Labourers in Bolivia”

Patricia McDermott, York University patmed@yorku.ca
“The Temporary Foreign worker Program: a Look at Recent Developments”

Wednesday, 3 June 2015
10:45-12:15
Venue: Desmarais 4170

G5/Roundtable

TOWARD A SOCIAL MOVEMENT CONVERGENCE: CONNECTING STRUGGLES FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE, ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENCE AND POLITICAL EMANCIPATION IN QUÉBEC, INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES AND ENGLISH CANADA

Convenor: Andrea Levy, Editor, Nouveaux cahiers du socialisme, Canadian Dimension alevy@videotron.ca

The Peoples’ Social Forum held in Ottawa last August was a pivotal moment in the history of progressive social movements in Canada. It succeeded in drawing together a significant contingent of activists and intellectuals from Québec, Indigenous communities and English Canada. The purpose of this session is to continue and deepen the discussion initiated at the Peoples’ Social Forum about how we can go about joining forces across difference to work toward a convergence of struggles that can fuel our resolve, consolidate our strength and heighten our effectiveness in resisting neoliberal capitalism, colonialism and extractivism. Where are we at? What obstacles do we face? How can we overcome them? What can we hope to achieve?

Speakers

André Frappier, Communications, Québec solidaire
Jessica Squires, Member, Le Réseau écosocialiste
Michal Rozworski, Vancouver-based journalist
Dave Bush, Editor, RankandFile.ca
Cat Boyd, Member, Scottish Left Project

Wednesday, 3 June 2015
13:15-14:45
Venue: Desmarais 4120

H1/Session

ADVENTURES IN QUEER ANTI-CAPITALISM

Chair and Organizer: Alan Sears, Ryerson University
asears@ryerson.ca
This session will investigate the potential role of queer anti-capitalism in developing a vision and strategies for liberation that go beyond lesbian and gay rights. At the same time, it will consider the role queer anti-capitalism might play in developing a vibrant Left with broad and integrative emancipatory politics.

Kathy (Vi) Mac, OISE University of Toronto
kathy.mac@mail.utoronto.ca

Dawn Shickluna OISE University of Toronto
dawn.shickluna@mail.utoronto.ca

Jamie Magnusson, Adult Education and Community Development, OISE jamielynn.magnusson@utoronto.ca

“Queer Youth in the Struggle Over Cities”

Alan David Sears, Ryerson University
asears@ryerson.ca

Gökbörü Sarp Tanyıldız, York University
gokborusarp@gmail.com

“Queering Freedom”

Gary Kinsman, Laurentian University
okinsman@laurentian.ca

“Reflections on the Making of the Neoliberal Queer”

In the face of several American and/or NATO-led wars, political upheaval in the Middle East, the re-emergence of the Latin American Left, global economic crisis, and regional and global positioning of the so-called BRICS, the 21st century has witnessed a rebirth in theories of imperialism. This session will explore key themes central to the new debates on imperialism such as: is the US an empire in decline; do the BRICs represent the emergence of new inter-imperial rivalries; what is the future anti-imperialist struggle; how do we theorize the relation between imperialism and ecological crisis; how do we theorize the role of secondary imperialist powers, particularly Canada?

Radhika Desai, University of Manitoba
Radhika.Desai@umanitoba.ca

“Western and NATO Imperial Misadventures in a Multipolar World”

Toby Moorsom, Toby.moorsoom@carleton.ca

“Imperialism, Sub-Imperialism and Multi-Polar Predation: The Case of South Africa in Zambia”

Paul Kellogg, Athabasca University,
pkellogg@athabascau.ca

“Geographies of capital accumulation: implications for US hegemony”

Colin Mooers, Ryerson University,
cmooperspolitics@ryerson.ca

“Imperial Subjects: the New Citizens of Empire”

Wednesday, 3 June 2015
13:15-14:45
Venue: Desmarais 4130

H3/Session

STUART HALL’S LEGACY: THEORY AND PRAXIS FOR THE PRESENT CRISIS?

Chairs and Organizers: Herbert Pimlott, Wilfrid Laurier University hpimlott@wlu.ca
Tanner Mirrlees, University of Ontario Institute of Technology tanner.mirrlees@uoit.ca

Stuart Hall’s legacy is measured in part by the ways his scholarship linked to political struggles, especially through the adaptation of the work of Antonio Gramsci to forge an open, non-reductive and dynamic ‘Marxism without Guarantees’. Are the concepts he developed in the 1970s useful to understanding and changing the world today? In this conjuncture of neoliberalism, what analytical and political value does Hall’s contribution to cultural studies hold? Where might it fall short?

Tanner Mirrlees, University of Ontario Institute of Technology, tanner.mirrlees@uoit.ca

“Stuart Hall, Hegemony and the Media, 2.0”

Herbert Pimlott, Wilfrid Laurier University, hpimlott@wlu.ca

“Stuart Hall: the Public Politics of the Socialist Intellectual”

Kirsten Kozolanka, Carleton University, kkozolan@connect.carleton.ca

“Stuart Hall and the First Draft of Communication History”

Wednesday, 3 June 2015
13:15-14:45
Venue: Desmarais 4140

H4/Double Session

A POLITICAL ECONOMY OF CLASS - PART 2

Chairs and Organizers: Meg Luxton, York University mluxton@yorku.ca
Adrian Smith, Carleton University
adrian.smith@carleton.ca

In the current period class and class politics, Political Economy’s central concepts, have been seriously challenged in two different ways. The
global power of neoliberalism fosters claims that class and class struggle are no longer relevant. Mobilisations of indigenous, anti-imperialist, anti-racist and feminist movements especially in the global south, have insisted that class and class politics must be rethought. This session asks how political economy has responded to such challenges and what understandings of class and class politics are most relevant in today’s situations.

William Carroll, University of Victoria wcarroll@uvic.ca 
“Corporate Power and Canadian Capitalism: surveying some recent developments”

Tania Das Gupta, York University, “Problematizing Class and Praxis: the portability of class, race and gender across national borders”

Adrian Smith, Carleton University adrian.smith@carleton.ca 
“Migrant Justice and the Politics of Class: an Anti-Racist Intervention”

Katheryne Schulz, OISE/University of Toronto katheryneschulz@gmail.com
“Militant mothers: low-income women, community work and economic justice”

(I-1) Annual General Meeting
Venue: Montpetit 203
Wednesday, 3 June 2015 15:25-16:25

(J-1) Keynote Address
Marx’s critique of ideology: its uses and abuses
Himani Bannerji, York University
Venue: Montpetit 203
Wednesday, 3 June 2015 @ 16:30-18:00
Chair: Matthew Brett

(K-1) Errol L. Sharpe Book Award
Wednesday, 3 June 2015 @ 18:10-19:10
Venue: Montpetit 203
Chair: Marjorie Griffin Cohen
Introduced by Thom Workman

Chair and Organizer: Dorothy Smith, University of Victoria desmith@uvic.ca
Institutional ethnography explores ruling relations from below and from people’s experience. Recently institutional ethnographers have been investigating how forms of management based on those developed for corporations are being imposed by government on the provision of public services such as health, welfare, and education (at all levels). Workers at the front-line - nurses, doctors, social workers, teachers, university faculty and others - have found their professional autonomy undermined and displaced. This session is proposed to open discussion of how to make change from below in this new situation. What are some of the ways institutional ethnography can be useful and used in developing change from below? Draw on your experiences or what you’ve learned as an ethnographer to get us all thinking further and better.

Marie Campbell, University of Victoria, mariecam@uvic.ca
“A Web-based Project for Making Change from Below”

Annie Carrier, Université de Sherbrooke, Annie.Carrier@Usherbrooke.ca
“Making changes from below in Québec’s homecare occupational therapists’ work”

Susan Marie Turner, University of Toronto sturner@utoronto.ca
“Building Change: An In-progress Update on Working with the Aboriginal Sexual Violence Community Response Initiative”

Thursday, 4 June 2015
9:00-10:30
Venue: Demarais 4130

L2/Session

TOWARDS A MARXIST INSTITUTIONALISM: RETHINKING CORPORATIONS, PARTIES AND THE AMERICAN STATE

Chair and Organizer: Leo Panitch, York University lpanitch@yorku.ca
This session addresses the need for improving contemporary historical-materialist theorisations of capitalist competition, capitalist classes and capitalist states. It profiles research which reanalyzes the relationship between corporations, labour and the State in the USA through the development of an institutionalist approach to Marxist political economy and historical sociology.

Sam Gindin and LeoPanitch
“Institutions, Competition and Class: Renewing Historical Materialism”
Stephen Maher, York University SMaher85@gmail.com
“50 Years after Monopoly Capital: Theorizing Corporations and the State in a Neoliberal Age”

Adam Hilton, York University adhilt@yorku.ca
“Between Labor and Capital: The ‘New Class’ Hypothesis and the Transformation of Postwar American Liberalism”

Thursday, 4 June 2015
9:00-10:30
Venue: Desmarais 4140

L3/Book Launch

“TO BUILD A SHADOWY ISLE OF BLISS:” WILLIAM MORRIS’ RADICALISM AND THE EMBODIMENT OF DREAMS MCGILL QUEEN’S UNIVERSITY PRESS

Chair and Organizer: Paul Leduc Browne, Université du Québec en Outaouais paul.leducbrowne@uqo.ca
Editors: Michelle Weinroth, University of Ottawa, and Paul Leduc Browne, Université du Québec en Outaouais,

Meet Critics:
Matthew Beaumont, University College London m.beaumont@ucl.ac.uk
Nicholas Frankel, Virginia Commonwealth University nrfranke@vcu.edu
Douglas Moggach, University of Ottawa dmoggach@uOttawa.ca
Jason Camlot, Concordia University jason.camlot@concordia.ca

Thursday, 4 June 2015
9:00-10:30
Venue: Desmarais 4140

L4/Double Session

CRITICAL ISSUES IN HUMAN EMANCIPATION – PART 1

Chair: Katheryne Schulz, OISE/University of Toronto katheeryneschulz@gmail.com
Organizer: Programme Committee

The session takes up the theme of human emancipation, in several voices, including the theoretical, the visionary, the ethical, the anthropological and the revolutionary.

Paul Christopher Gray, York University paul.c.gray@gmail.com
“What is Moralism? Toward a Non-Moralizing Ethics”

Robert Froese, York University rfroese@yorku.ca
“Can Society Be Completed? Reflections on Revolution, Ideology and Critique in the History of Philosophy”

Sharry Taylor sharry.taylor@gmail.com
“Social studies of finance and a new activist Left”

Thursday, 4 June 2015
10:45-12:15
Venue: Desmarais 4120

M1/Session

THE LEFT AND THE STRUGGLE FOR ALTERNATIVES IN SOUTH AFRICA

Chair and Organizer: Michelle A. Williams, University of the Witwatersrand (Wits), Johannesburg michelle.williams@wits.ac.za

South Africa has one of the highest inequality rates in the world, is the 12th highest carbon emitter, and is experiencing systemic crises. In this context, the ANC has been fracturing with two break-away groups, there are increasing protests in urban and rural spaces, and the militant labour federation (Cosatu) is in the process of fragmenting. In response to these challenges, Left alternatives are being articulated and fermenting from below. This session will explore the nature of some of these alternatives, their prospects and challenges.

Michelle A. Williams, University of the Witwatersrand (Wits), Johannesburg michelle.williams@wits.ac.za
“The Solidarity Economy and Women Transforming their Local Spaces in South Africa”

Vishwas Satgar, University of Witwatersrand (Wits), Johannesburg vishwas.satgar@wits.ac.za
“NUMSA and Left Realignment in South Africa”

Carolyn Bassett, University of New Brunswick cbassett@unb.ca
“How can ‘knowledge production’ contribute to alternative Left visions for South Africa?”

Thursday, 4 June 2015
10:45-12:15
Venue: Desmarais 4130

M2/Double Session

INDIGENOUS RESISTANCE AND RESURGENCE

Chairs and Organizers: Elaine Coburn, American University of Paris and CADIS-Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales coburn.elaine@gmail.com
Jennifer Adese, Otipemisiwak/Métis, Carleton University Jennifer.Adese@carleton.ca

Indigenous resistance is over five centuries old and means survival against colonial-capitalist forms of
dispossession. During the same period, Indigenous resurgence, the renewal of many different Indigenous ways of being, knowing and doing has waxed and waned but never disappeared. This resurgence matters first and foremost to diverse Indigenous peoples, but has implications for all of society. At the same time, Indigenous resistance and resurgence faces formidable opposition, from the neoliberal colonial 'security' state through to multibillion dollar, transnational corporations and persistent racisms.

Makere Stewart-Harawira, University of Alberta
makere@ualberta.ca
"Re-Singing the World: Indigenous Pedagogies and Global Crisis in Conflicted Times"

Julie Tomiak, Ryerson University
julietomiak@ryerson.ca
"First Nations Political Organizations, the Shadow State, and Resistance"

Valerie McCarroll vmccarrol@alumni.ubc.ca
"Told and Untold Stories in the Law: The Role of Remorse in Warrior Trials"

This session profiles research that uses insights from Marxist methodology and analysis to help advance our understanding of different dimensions of contemporary society and the development of social theory.

David Camfield, University of Manitoba
david.camfield@umanitoba.ca
“Elements of a Historical Materialist Theory of Racism”

Adrian Smith, Carleton University
adrian.smith@carleton.ca
“Juridical Beasts of the Southern Wild”

Justin Paulson, Carleton University
justin.paulson@carleton.ca
“To what questions does a Marxist theory of hegemony provide an answer?”

Clarice Kuhling, Wilfrid Laurier University
ckuhling@gmail.com
“Toward a Marxist Perspective on Sexual Violence”

Joint session with CSA

Thursday, 4 June 2015
10:45-12:15,
Venue: Desmarais 4140

M3/BOOK LAUNCH
Chair and Organizer: Jean Chapman, Concordia University
chapman@wilkinson.ca

Author meets critics - Gender and Neoliberalism: The All India Democratic Women’s Association and Globalization Politics (2014) Routledge, New York, London (pp. 275).

Author Elisabeth Armstrong, Smith College
earmstro@smith.edu

Meets critics
Vrinda Narain, McGill University vrinda.narain@mcgill.ca
Himani Bannerji, York University himanib@yorku.ca
Judy Whitehead, University of Lethbridge
judy.whitehead001@gmail.com

Thursday, 4 June 2015
10:45-12:15,
Venue: Desmarais 4140

NEW CONTRIBUTIONS TO MARXIST SOCIOLOGY
Chairs and Organizers: David Camfield, University of Manitoba, david.camfield@umanitoba.ca
Mark Thomas, York University mpthomas@yorku.ca

Employment Standards (ES) set minimum conditions in areas like wages, working time, vacations and leaves, termination and severance of employment. In Ontario, over six million non-unionized workers rely solely on ES for workplace protection. Yet ES violations are widespread and enforcement mechanisms weak. A recent survey of precarious workers in Ontario revealed that 22 percent reported pay below the minimum wage and many experienced other violations, including unpaid wages and overtime pay. This
interdisciplinary session explores the shape of ES violations, current enforcement practices, and alternative approaches that better meet precarious workers’ need for basic labour market protections.

Leah Vosko, York University lvosko@yorku.ca
John Grundy, Western University jgrundy8@uwo.ca
Andrea Noack, Ryerson University anoack@ryerson.ca
“Complaints, Compliance and Settlements: Charting Workers’ Uneven Resort to Employment Standards Protections”

Leah Vosko, York University lvosko@yorku.ca
Mark Thomas, York University mpthomas@yorku.ca
Eric Tucker, York University etucker@osgoode.yorku.ca
Elliot Siemiatycki, York University esiemiat@gmail.com
Andrea Noack, Ryerson University anoack@ryerson.ca
John Grundy, Western University jgrundy8@uwo.ca
Mary Gellatly, Parkdale Community Legal Services
Elizabeth Leinveer, Osgoode Hall Law School
“Employment Standards Avoidance and the Overtime Pay Exemption”

Lesley Wood, Department of Sociology, York University ljwood@yorku.ca
“Spaces of Resistance and Fighting to Win”

Ajamu Nangwaya, Educator and community organizer, Network for the Elimination of Police Violence
“Organizing, Labour Self-management and Building the Anti-Capitalist Movement”

Stephen D’Arcy, Department of Philosophy, Huron University College steve.darcy@gmail.com
“Movement-Readiness in Anti-Systemic Organizing”

Thursday, 4 June 2015
14:00-15:30
Venue: Desmarais 4130

P2/Session

COLONIZATION/DECOLONIZATION

Chair and Organizer: Elaine Coburn, American University of Paris and CADIS-Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales coburn.elaine@gmail.com
This session considers colonial-capitalism, or colonialism, as a wide-ranging project that saturates all aspects of contemporary life across lands claimed by Canada. Colonialism involves the dispossessions of Indigenous lands and waters, but colonial norms, institutions and practices operate in many fields, including political economy, social and welfare policy, education and academia, the arts and the mass media. The papers here map out colonialism, not as theory but as everyday relations, practices and ideas. At the same time, contributors describe the ways that diverse Indigenous actors challenge colonization, reasserting self-determination with respect to Indigenous lands and waters but also in social policy, education, and the arts. Decolonization is thus described and critically analysed, in all its contradictions and possibilities, as an important form of Indigenous resistance to a colonial project which overdetermines contemporary society on Turtle Island -- but that is never totalizing.

Greer Brabazon, Carleton University
greer_brabazon@carleton.ca
“In The Clubs: Indigenous Hip Hop as a Locator of Resistance”

Thursday, 4 June 2015
14:00-15:30
Venue: Desmarais 4120

P1/Session

TOWARD A RESURGENCE OF ANTI-CAPITALIST POLITICS: STRATEGIC PERSPECTIVES

Chair and Organizer: Stephen D’Arcy, Huron University College sdary@huron.uwo.ca
This session starts from the premise that the anti-capitalist Left remains mired in a protracted crisis,
Thursday, 4 June 2015
14:00-15:30
Venue: Desmarais 4140

P3/Session

THE NEW ACTIVIST LEFT: FORMS OF ORGANIZATION

Chair: Garry Potter. Wilfrid Laurier University
gpotter@wlu.ca
Organizer: Programme Committee

This session explores challenges and modes of organizing on the new activist Left, focusing on co-operatives and trade unions.

Marilyn Porter, Memorial University,
mporter2008@gmail.com
“How Not To Be A Charity: Thoughts from a Social Justice Co-operative”

Chris Bailey, York University chris.be.bailey@gmail.com
“Education Restructuring and Teachers’ Union Struggles in Ontario and British Columbia”

Kanchan Sarker, University of British Columbia-Okanagan, sarkerk@gmail.com
“Shankar Guha Niyogi: The Vanguard Trade Unionist A Model for Workers’ Struggle: Contention and Construction”

Brian McDougall, Carleton University
brianmcdougall25@gmail.com
Neil Burrón naburron@yahoo.ca
“Harper’s Austerity Agenda and Federal Public Sector trade unions: Reviving and Creating a Capacity for class Struggle Unionism”

Thursday, 4 June 2015
14:00-15:30
Venue: Desmarais 4140

P4/Launch of Book Series

DEMOCRATIC MARXISM BOOK SERIES

Chair and Organizer: Vishwas Satgar, WITS University and Cooperative and Policy Alternative Centre, South Africa copac@icon.co.za

The Democratic Marxism series originates in South Africa and is about advancing a Marxism unshackled from vanguardism. The first volume published in the series is entitled Marxisms in the 21st Century – Crisis, Critique and Struggle (2014). The second volume due out by mid-year 2015 is entitled Capitalism’s Crises in South Africa and the World – Class Struggle and Left Responses.

Participants: Jacky Cock (South Africa), Michelle Williams (South Africa), William Carroll (Canada) and Vishwas Satgar (South Africa).

Thursday, 4 June 2015
16:00-17:20
Venue: Desmarais 4120

Q1/Roundtable

FACILITATING A JUST TRANSITION: THE ROLE OF POLICY ALTERNATIVES

Convenor: William Carroll, University of Victoria
wcarroll@uvic.ca

This roundtable takes up the challenges, strategies, successes and failures in developing and promoting alternative policies that can help catalyze a just transition away from neoliberal capitalism, including its ecological crisis. All levels of policy formation, from transnational and regional through national to local, are deemed relevant to the discussion.

Bruce Campbell, Executive Director, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives brucec@policyalternatives.ca

Eve-Lyne Couturier, Institut de recherche et d’informations socio-economiques (IRIS) couturier@iris-recherche.qc.ca

Tony Clarke, Polaris Institute tclarke@polarisinstitute.org

Trevor Harrison, Director, Parkland Institute trevor.harrison@uleth.ca

Jonathan Sas, Director of Research, Broadbent Institute jsas@broadbentinstitute.ca

Thursday, 4 June 2015
16:00-17:20
Venue: Desmarais 4130

Q2/Joint Session

SOCIOLOGY OF CANADIAN POLITICS

Organizer: Ivanka Knezevic, University of Toronto Mississauga, knezevic@chass.utoronto.ca
Political sociology is a vibrant field, covering a wide variety of topics. The session invites empirical papers in sociology that focus on the political realm broadly defined, to include power relations among a wide variety of social actors: governmental and non-governmental institutions, organizations, and individuals. Diverse aspects of citizenship and identity, as they appear in the political process, are also of interest. We welcome research using quantitative, qualitative and historical methods.

Kyle Willmott, Simon Fraser University
kyle_willmott@sfu.ca
“Accountability and Transparency as Governmentality: the Politics of the First Nations Financial Transparency Act”

Sarah Rodimon, sarah.rodimon@gmail.com
“Reproducing inequalities: A social history of abortion legislation in Canada”

Erikac Thekla McCollum, University of British Columbia
erica.mccollum@ubc.ca
“Pathways to Politics of Canadian Youth”

Joint session with CSA

Thursday, 4 June 2015
16:00-17:20
Venue: Desmarais 4140

Q4/Double Session

POLICE, CAPITAL AND PACIFICATION - PART 2

Chair and Organizer: Aaron James Henry, Carleton University aaronjameshenry@gmail.com
Grounded in the politics and analytics of anti-security, this session interrogates the historical and contemporary relations between capitalist exploitation and domination through security, police and pacification. Some themes include but are not limited to: the materiality of policing, pacification, international institutions and ‘state formation’, contemporary iterations of police science, commodification and public-private policing, theorizing the unity of police power and war power in liberal societies.

Abraham Weizfeld, l’Université du Québec à Montréal saalaha@fokus.name
“Power and Authority”

Ryan William Toews, York University toewsr@gmail.com
“Gramsci, Mao, and American Counterinsurgency Doctrine”

Tia Dafnos, York University, tdafnos@gmail.com
Scott Thompson, Queen’s University snt@queensu.ca
Martin French, Concordia University martin.french@concordia.ca
“Surveillance and the Colonial Dream: Canada’s Surveillance of Indigenous Protest”

Thursday, 4 June 2015
16:00-17:30,
Montpetit 203

Q5/Book Launch

Chair and Organizer: Michael Lebowitz, Simon Fraser University mlebowitz@sfu.ca
Over the last few decades Marta Harnecker has emerged as one of Latin America’s most incisive socialist thinkers. In A World to Build she grapples with the question that has bedeviled every movement for radical social change: how do you construct a new world within the framework of the old? Harnecker draws on lessons from socialist movements in Latin America, especially Venezuela, where she served as an advisor to the Chávez administration and was a director of the Centro Internacional Miranda.

Author meets critics - A World to Build: New Paths towards Twenty-first Century Socialism

Author Marta Harnecker, winner of the 2013 Liberator’s Prize for Critical Thought

Meets critics
Thursday, 4 June 2015
17:30-19:00
Venue: Desmarais 4120

R1/Roundtable

THE STATE OF ANARCHISM TODAY: LIMITS, HOPES AND PROSPECTS

Convenor: Matthew Brett, Society for Socialist Studies and Canadian Dimension brett.matthew@yahoo.ca

Anarchism is a rich political philosophy and practice with a vibrant history, and it is seeing something of a resurgence. The purpose of this roundtable is to offer a cursory assessment of existing anarchism - its strengths, limitations and prospects. Drawing from lived experience in the U.S., Canada, Quebec and the UK, speakers will address challenges within the broad anarchist movement and point toward promising directions emerging from existing organizing initiatives.

Matthew Brett, Society for Socialist Studies and Canadian Dimension magazine editorial collective brett.matthew@yahoo.ca

Chris Dixon, Institute for Anarchist Studies chrisd@resist.ca

Rachel Sarrasin, Collectif de recherche sur l’autonomie collective/ Research Group on Collective Autonomy rachelsarrasin@yahoo.ca

Amanda Joy, Carleton University mandyjoy@hotmail.com

Thursday, 4 June 2015
17:30-19:00
Venue: Desmarais 4130

R2/Session

GENDER, LABOUR, CARE AND THE STATE

Chair: Paul Gray, York University paul.c.gray@gmail.com
Organizer: Programme Committee

Xander Selene, Independent Scholar xander.selene@umontreal.ca
“The Root of Gender Oppression: Reproductive Class Exploitation or Double Socialization?”

Josephine Savarese, St. Thomas University Fredericton savarese@stt.ca
Tracy Glynn, University of New Brunswick t.glynn@unb.ca

Thursday, 4 June 2015
17:30-19:00
Venue: Desmarais 4140

R3/Roundtable

THE GREEK CAULDRON: SYRIZA AND SOCIALIST STRATEGY

Convenor: Leo Panitch, York University lpanitch@yorku.ca

Syriza represents the strongest democratic socialist response to the deepening of neoliberalism since the current global crisis erupted in 2007-8. It is important that the international Left understand how this developed and where it now stands with a Syriza government now in place. Were it to be stymied by its own limitations adding to the hostility of international capital, this would reinforce the notion that the only way to protect people from neoliberal austerity is through supporting right-wing ethno-nationalist parties. The implications for socialist strategy could not be greater.

Neil Burron naburron@yahoo.ca
“Europe’s Break with Austerity-Capitalism: Syriza and the Socialist Moment”

Ingo Schmidt, Athabasca University ingos@athabascau.ca
“International Solidarity with Syriza”

Leo Panitch, York University lpanitch@yorku.ca
“The Greek Cauldron: Syriza and Socialist Strategy”

Jean Chapman, Concordia University chapman@wilkinson.ca
“‘Our time has come’: for gender too?”

Thursday, 4 June 2015
17:30-19:00
Venue: Desmarais 4170

R4/Roundtable

POLICING AND RESISTANCE

Convenor: Lesley Wood, York University, ljwood@yorku.ca

With the aim of advancing our shared understanding of the dynamics between police and contention, this roundtable will bring together

Richard Fidler, Life on the Left
http://lifeonleft.blogspot.ca/
Susan Spronk, University of Ottawa
Susan.Spronk@uOttawa.ca

Thursday, 4 June 2015
17:30-19:00
Venue: Desmarais 4120

The invisibility of contingent academic faculty and mental health”

Priscillia Lefebvre, Carleton University priscillia.lefebvre@carleton.ca
“Sex Workers’ Guide to the (Capitalist) Galaxy: Analyzing Decriminalization through a Marxist Feminist Lens”

Thursday, 4 June 2015
17:30-19:00
Venue: Desmarais 4140

R3/Roundtable

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R4/Roundtable

POLICING AND RESISTANCE

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With the aim of advancing our shared understanding of the dynamics between police and contention, this roundtable will bring together
FRIDAY, 5 JUNE 2015
9:00-10:30
Venue: Desmarais 4120

S1/Session

THE NATO OFFENSIVE IN EASTERN EUROPE AND THE CLASS AND NATIONAL DYNAMICS OF THE WAR IN EASTERN UKRAINE

Chair and Organizer: Roger Annis, independent scholar rogerannis@hotmail.com

Two political questions are key for understanding the war that erupted in eastern Ukraine in April 2014. One, what are the class and national dynamics at play in Ukraine since independence in 1991? How did these lead to a disastrous civil war? And two, what, exactly are the interests and the role of Russia in the Ukraine conflict? Does present-day Russia constitute an 'imperialist' power pursuing imperial ambitions in Ukraine and Crimea? The NATO military alliance is backing the Kyiv government in its war effort while sanctioning Russia and staging provocative military exercises against it. What are NATO’s goals? This session explores these issues.

Roger Annis, Independent Scholar rogerannis@hotmail.com

“The myth of Russian imperialism”

Halyna Mokrushyna, University of Ottawa halouwins@gmail.com

“The self-fulfilling prophecy of two Ukraines: The East-West cultural and political split in Ukraine since 1991”

Kevin Skerrett, Discussant, No War/Paix antiwar coalition, Ottawa kevin.skerrett@gmail.com

Friday, 5 June 2015
9:00-10:30
Venue: Desmarais 4130

S2/ Session

STRUGGLING FOR JUSTICE IN AND THROUGH INSURGENT COMMUNITIES

Chair and Organizer: Serena Kataoka, Nipissing University serenak@nipissingu.ca

Ideas about what is called for in order to improve our ways of living together may no longer be a primary site of struggle in Canada. Challenges to once-dominant ideas such as punishment, misogyny, colonial entitlement, ableism, and positivism have been surprisingly effective. Researchers have thus reached significant consensus about the general purposes and impacts of social policy, for instance. Social equality would be better realized through cultural change than by mandatory reporting of abuse, rehabilitation would be better served by social services than by imprisonment, and security would be better achieved by addressing causes of social conflict than by trying to contain social problems. Why, then, do social policies continue to reflect tired and oppressive ideas? Situated within specific insurgent communities, researchers on this session gesture toward some of the actual conditions, practices, and commitments that act as barriers to improvement.

Serena Kataoka, Nipissing University serenak@nipissingu.ca

“With Honours: The classroom as a privileged insurgent community?”

Evan Newman, Social Welfare and Social Development, Nipissing University
“Epidemic fear or middle-class commitments: Resistance to harm reduction and anti-poverty initiatives in North Bay, Ontario”
Shannen Neufeld, Social Welfare and Social Development, Nipissing University
“Broken, behind bars: Resistance to punishment, and creating space for rehabilitation, in Ontario sentencing”
Sam Lee, Social Welfare and Social Development, Nipissing University
“Getting Schooled: learning through the Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Committee at Nipissing University”

Friday, 5 June 2015
9:00-10:30
Venue: Desmarais 4140

S3/Session

ISSUES IN CANADIAN POLITICAL ECONOMY

Chair: Meg Luxton, York University, mluxton@yorku.ca
Organizer: Programme Committee
Contributions to this session explore a range of issues that bear upon the political economy contemporary Canada, from policies of privatization to issues of globalization, imperialism and Left strategies.

Anne Burger, University of Adelaide
anne.burger@adelaide.edu.au
“Privatisation of electricity in British Columbia: marketisation or public subsidization”

J.Z. Garrod, Carleton University, jzgarrod@gmail.com
“Globalization and the Nation-State Centrism of Left Canadian Political Economy”

Wilfred Lynch, University of Toronto
lynch@chass.utoronto.ca
“Canadian Imperialism: The Relevance of a Classical-Marxist Analysis”

K.B. Pollock, retired union researcher
kbpollock54@gmail.com
“The Promise of Canadian Capitalism: Stagnation without End”

Friday, 5 June 2015
9:00-10:30
Venue: Desmarais 4170

S4/Session

SOCIALISMS, FEMINISMS, ANTI-RACISMS

Chair and Organizer: Elaine Coburn, American University of Paris and Centre d’analyse et d’intervention sociologiques-EHESS, Paris coburn.elaine@gmail.com

Abigail Bakan, OISE University of Toronto
abigail.bakan@utoronto.ca
Class relationships are about the ways people get together to produce what is needed to live. Some socialisms have interpreted this in narrowly economic terms, so excluding considerations of gender, race, sexuality, disability and more from their historical materialist analysis and socialist politics. Yet socialist feminisms and anti-racist socialisms insist that class analysis and socialist struggles towards a just society must take the full complexity of the social relationships of class into account. This session explores contributions to socialist theory and practice from feminist, anti-racist and other subaltern perspectives.

Abigail Bakan, OISE University of Toronto
abigail.bakan@utoronto.ca
“Theorizing Anti-Racism: Marxist and Feminist Encounters”

Elaine Coburn, American University of Paris and Centre d’analyse et d’intervention sociologiques-EHESS, Paris coburn.elaine@gmail.com
“‘Making Space’ in Theory and Practice: Socialisms, Feminisms and Anti-Racisms”

Sunera Thobani, University of British Columbia
sunera.thobani@ubc.ca
“Imperialism, Neoliberalism and Racial Violence”

Himani Bannerji, Discussant, York University
himanib@yorku.ca

Friday, 5 June 2015
10:45-12:15,
Venue: Desmarais 4120

T1/Double Session

CRITICAL ISSUES IN HUMAN EMANCIPATION – PART 2

Chair: Katheryne Schulz, OISE/University of Toronto,
katheryneschulz@gmail.com
Organizer: Programme Committee
The session takes up the theme of human emancipation, in several voices, including the theoretical, the visionary, the ethical, the anthropological and the revolutionary.

Efe Can Gurcan, Simon Fraser University egurcan@sfu.ca
Otero Gerardo, Simon Fraser University otero@sfu.ca
“Classical Sociology and Emancipatory Social Science: Toward a Theory of Social Empowerment”

Terry Maley, York University
maley@yorku.ca
“Herbert Marcuse’s Critique of Early Neoliberalism: The Historical Fate of Bourgeois Democracy”

Errol L. Sharpe, Publisher and co-owner Fernwood Publishing Co. Ltd. errol@fernpub.ca
“Visions of a Post-Capitalist Future”

Friday, 5 June 2015
10:45-12:15
Venue: Desmarais 4130

T2/Session

RACE, IDEOLOGY, STATE: CASE STUDIES

Chair: Vrinda Narain, McGill University
Vrinda.narain@mcgill.ca
Organizer: Programme Committee

Papers in this session explore how race/racialization is implicated in such practices as legal pluralism, ethnography, borders/criminalization and representational politics.

Vrinda Narain, McGill University
vrinda.narain@mcgill.ca

“The Discontents of Legal Pluralism: Muslim Women and Normative Diversity in India”

Hamad Alhazza, Imam Muhammad Ibn Saud Islamic University (IMAMU) h.hza@hotmail.com
“The Social Marginalisation of Foreign Workers in the Saudi Novel Munira’s Bottle as a Case Study”

Essya Mabrouka Nabbali enabbali@sfu.ca
“On Becoming ‘White’ Through Ethnographic Fieldwork in Ghana: Are ideas imperial by course?!”

Sarah Olutola, McMaster University
olutolsr@mcmaster.ca
“‘He was a Good Kid’: Representations of Black Violence and the Erasure of Childhood in the Mike Brown Case”

Friday, 5 June 2015
10:45-12:15
Venue: Desmarais 4140

T3/Session

DRAWING LESSONS FROM NATIONAL FORMATIONS

Chair: Robert Chernomas, University of Manitoba
Robert.Chernomans@umanitoba.ca

Organizer: Programme Committee

Contributions to this session focus on political economies of national formations, drawing lessons for them that may illuminate the specificity of those formations or extend more widely -- even to an analysis of capitalism as a whole.

Robert Chernomas, University of Manitoba
Robert.Chernomans@umanitoba.ca

Ian Hudson, University of Manitoba
ian.Hudson@umanitoba.ca

“Is the Neoliberal Era United States a Distinct Stage in the History of Capitalism?”

Aina-Obe Shamsuddin Bolatito, Sudan University of Science and Technology sam1421h@yahoo.com
“The effect of gross corruption in Nigeria; An appraisal on Nigerian Citizens, Economy and international relations”

Antranig Bedrossian, Nakhijevan Institute of Canada antranig1@videotron.ca
“Exploring Class Formations in Postsoviet Armenia”

Dariga Abilova abilova.dariga@gmail.com
“Language Policy Success in Post-Soviet States”

Md. Towhidul Islam, Programme Officer-Monitoring and Evaluation islamtowhid14@yahoo.com
“Review of Research on Urban Poverty and the Urban Poor in Bangladesh”

Friday, 5 June 2015
10:45-12:15
Venue: Desmarais 4170

T4/Session

FEMINISM, MATERIALISM AND GLOBAL CONTEXTS

Chair and Organizer: Elaine Coburn, American University of Paris and Centre d’analyse et d’intervention sociologiques-EHESS, Paris coburn.elaine@gmail.com

Materialist feminisms, both historically and up to the present day, have vitally informed both socialist theory and socialist practice. This session explores critical contributions by socialist feminists, taking into account both international dimensions and local contexts informing feminist materialist concepts and struggles. Too often relegated to the margins of both mainstream feminisms and “malestream” variants of Marxism, these contributions insist that materialist feminisms have vital contributions to make to socialist thought and to socialist justice for women worldwide.

Emma McKenna, McMaster University
mckennej@mcmaster.ca

“Materialist Feminism: Retrieval and Renewal”

Sophie Mireille Lavoie, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton lavoie@unb.ca
“Central American Women Articulate Narratives of National Liberation”

John Riddell, Independent researcher
jriddell63@gmail.com
“Bela Kun, Clara Zetkin, Lenin and the goal of revolutionary inclusivity”
INDEX

Daroga Abilova, T3
Barry Adam, C1
Jennifer Adesem EC1, M2
Kelly Agquire, EC1
Greg Albo, C3
Hamad Alhazza, T2
Jenna Amirault, G3
Ian Angus, F4
Roger Annis, S1
Sima Aprahamian, A1
Elisabeth Armstrong, M3
Chris Bailey, P3
Abigail Bakan, S4
Stephen Baker Collins, E3
Isabella Bakker, A4
Himani Bannerji, J1, M3, S4
Greer Barbizon, P2
Carolyn Bassett, M1
Matthew Beaumont, L2
Antranig Bedrossian, T3
David Black, A4
Marleny Bonycastle, G1
Cat Boyd, G5
Matthew Brett, J1, R1
Leigh Brownhill, C5
Michael Bueckert, G3
Anne Burger, S3
Neil Burron, P3, R3
Dave Bush, G5
Gregory Cameron, B2
Duncan Cameron, F4
David Camfield, M4
Jason Camlot, L2
Marie Campbell, L1
Bruce Campbell, Q1
Efe Can Gurcan, T1
Annie Carrier, L1
William Carroll, B1,C1,D1, H4, P4, Q1
Jean Chapman, B4, M3, R3
Robert Chernomas, T3
Levon Chorbajian, A1
Linda Christiansen-Ruffman, C5
Tony Clarke, Q1
Samuel Clevenger, D4
Elaine Coburn, D1, EC1, F4, M2, S4, T4
Jacky Cock, P4
Eve-Lyne Couturier, Q1
Matthew Corbeil, C1
Rachael Crowder, G1
Tia Dafnos, Q4, R4
Stephen D’Arcy, B1, P1, R4
Tania Das Gupta, H4
Carl Davidson, N1
Jessica Dempsey, A3, D1
Ann Denis, B3, C5, G1
Radhika Desai, A4, H2
Chris Dixon, R1
Karim Doerr, A1, E2
Dax D’Orazio, D1
Radha D’Souza, D4
Mike Ekers, A3
Richard Fidler, C3, Q5
David Frank, G4
Douglas Frankel, L2
André Frappier, G5
Alan Freeman, G2
Martin French, Q4
Mara Fridell, F4, G2
Robert Froese, L4
J.Z. Garrod, S3
Mary Gellatly, O1
Otero Gerardo, T1
Randall Germain, A4
Terran Giacomini, C5
Peter Gibbs, D1
Sam Gindin, B1, E1, L2
Tracy Glynn, R2
Todd Gordon, H2
Peter Gose, C4
Alvaro Abraham Graterol, F3
Robert Gray, C2
Paul Christopher Gray, C3, L4
Paul Gray, R2
Marjorie Griffin Cohen, E3, F4, K1
John Grundy, O1
Alan Hall, O1
Trevor Harrison, Q1
Stacey Haugen, D2
Aaron James Henry, D3, Q4
Caitlin Hewitt-White, E3
Adam Hilton, L3
Kahente Horn-Miller, EC1
Jordon House, B1
Mark Hudson, A3
Md. Towhidul Islam, T3
Amanda Joy, R1
Jerrod Kachur, C2
Serena Kataoka, S2
Paul Kellogg, H2
Sonja Karla Killoran-Mckibbin, G4
Gary Kinsman, C1, H1
Ivanka Knezevic, Q2
Kirsten Kozolanka, H3
Clarice Kuhling, M4
Xavier Lafrance, B1
Nicholas Lamb. D3, R4
Sophie Mireille Lavoie, T4
Jamie Lawson, Q3
Michael Lebowitz, F1, Q5
Paul Leduc Browne, L2
Samuel Lee, S2
Priscillia Lefebvre, R2
Elizabeth Leinveer, O1
Alex Levant, D4
Andrea Levy, G5
José Julian Lopez, C4
Meg Luxton, G3, S3
Wilfred Lynch, S3
Essya Mabrouka Nabhalia, T2
Kathy (Vic) Mac, H1
Hector Mackie, D4
Jamie Magnusson, B2, H1
Stephen Maher, L3
Elise Maiolino, G1
Terry Maley, T1
Shingirala Mandizadza, G1
Martin Vihrenov Manolov, D3
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Geoffrey McCormak, Q3
Patricia McDermott, G4
Kieran James McDougal, A3
Brian McDougall, P3
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Martha McMahon, C5
Jacinthe Michaud, B1
Angela Miles, C5
Zoe Patricia Miller, C5
Kris Millett, R4
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Colin Mooers, H2
Toby Moorsom, H2
Eliana Moraes de Almeida Alencar, C2
Nigel Moses, C2
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Ajamu Nangwaya, P1
Virinda Narain, M3, T2
Shannen Neufeld, S2
Evan Newman, S2
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Eric Newstadt, A2
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Laurel O’Gorman, R4
Sarah Olutola, T2
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Leo Panitch, E1, L3, R4
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K.B. Pollock, S3
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Garry Potter, B2, P3
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James Rowe, D1
Michal Rozworski, G5
Kanchan Sarkar, P3
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Jonathan Sas, Q1
Vishwas Satgar, M1, P4
Josephine Savarese, R2
Rebecca Schein, C4
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Sharry Taylor, S3
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Eric Tucker, O1
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Christine Walsh, M2
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Joel Warren, G2
Michelle Weinroth, L2
Abraham Weizfeld, Q4
Janet Wesselius, D2
Amanda Mary Williams, A2
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Kyle Willmott, Q2
Lesley Wood, C1, P1, R4
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Founded in 1967, the Society for Socialist Studies is an independent academic association not affiliated with any political organization or group. The Society currently focuses on two projects: our peer-reviewed academic journal and our annual conference at the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences.

Both projects provide a forum for wide-ranging discussion, debate and analysis, making an important contribution to the ongoing development of socialist theory, knowledge and practices.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

The Society for Socialist Studies is a growing organization with an expanding online presence. We continue to look for new members, authors, researchers, session-organizers and volunteers. We welcome new scholars and graduate students.

Membership information is available on the Society website. We offer a special membership rate to students and low-income or unemployed persons.

We particularly encourage anti-racist, critical disability, ecological, feminist, Indigenous and queer approaches to socialism.

THE JOURNAL

Socialist Studies/Études socialistes is a peer-reviewed, interdisciplinary and open-access journal. It focuses on describing and analyzing social, economic and/or political injustice, and practices of struggle, transformation and liberation.

As an open-access journal, Socialist Studies/Études socialistes is freely available online and has global reach. Our journal website has been accessed by readers in over 70 countries.

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CONGRESS

The Society for Socialist Studies holds its annual conference as part of the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, the largest multidisciplinary academic gathering in Canada.

Sessions and roundtables are organized by returning and new members of the Society on a wide variety of subjects. The Society chooses an overall theme, but we are open to any topic that relates to the broad mandate of the Society. The Society strongly encourages the participation of new scholars and graduate students.

Each year, a well-known scholar delivers a keynote address. Congress is also our annual opportunity to meet in person, organize and socialize. Returning and new members are encouraged to attend our Annual General Meeting in order to learn more about the Society and to help sustain and build it.

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