

GLOBAL LABOUR RESEARCH CENTRE (GLRC)
Annual Report
2017-18

1. Contact Information

Director	Mark Thomas, Department of Sociology
Centre Coordinator	Ives Polking (maternity leave, July 2017 – April 2018) Jordan House, Interim Coordinator (July 2017 – April 2018)
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2. Charter dates: 07/2013 – 06/2018

3. Mandate

The Global Labour Research Centre (GLRC) engages in the study of work, employment and labour, organizing its activities around four globally situated research clusters: (1) the impact of the changing nature of work and employment on labour rights; (2) the interrelationships between migration, citizenship and work; (3) gender relations in work and labour movements; and (4) the revitalization of workers' movements. A hub for pan-university research collaboration, the GLRC's community engagement model encompasses a range of labour and community partners and the centre aims to promote internationalization through the study of work, employment, and labour by engaging in research activities with leading international scholars, public figures, organizations, and research institutes.

4. Annual Activities in Fulfilling Mandate

Funding Applications

In 2017-18, the GLRC provided support for the following grant applications / funded research projects:

Project	Funding Amount and Source	Principal Investigator	GLRC Role
Spaces of Labour in Moments of Urban Populism	\$196,406 – SSHRC Insight Grant. <i>Awarded April 2016</i>	Steven Tufts	Assisted in preparation. Administers funds.
Remaking Recreation: Exploring the Impacts of Austerity Urbanism on Workers and Communities, And What to Do About It	\$4,599 - LAPS Seed Grant for Collaborative Research Initiatives. <i>Awarded Oct. 2017</i>	Carlo Fanelli	Assisted in preparation. Will administer funds.
Globalization, Work and the Socio-legal Status of Female Garment Workers: A Comparative Study of Bangladesh and Canada	\$54,904 - SSHRC Insight Development Grant. <i>Submitted</i> February 2, 2018	Farah Chowdhury	Assisted in preparation. Will administer funds if successful.
Clocked In - Work, Time, and Technology	\$2500 - SSHRC Research Opportunity Grant. <i>Awarded April 2018</i>	Mark Thomas	Assisted in preparation. Will administer funds.
Clocked In – Work, Time and Technology	\$4,980 - LAPS Minor Research Grant. <i>Submitted</i> April 16, 2018	Mark Thomas	Assisted in preparation. Will administer funds if successful

Faculty Engagement

Global Labour Speaker Series

The GLRC continued to organize the highly successful Global Labour Speaker Series (GLSS). The series featured 6 talks or panel discussions focused on the Centre's four research themes, and drew healthy and diverse participation from across York, other universities in the region, and community members. Three speakers were from outside Canada: from the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia. As part of the GLSS, the GLRC also co-organized 3 speaker events (*see Appendix 2*). Two events planned as part of the Speaker Series were postponed due to the strike by CUPE 3903. Both will be rescheduled in Fall 2018.

Co-Sponsored Events

In 2017-18, the GLRC co-sponsored five panel/speaker events (including 3 as part of the GL Speaker Series). The GLRC co-sponsored the International Herbert Marcuse Society Seventh Biennial Conference, which was held at York University in October 2017. The GLRC also co-sponsored an event involving three scholars visiting from Oaxaca, Mexico, who wished to meet with Canadian-based scholars studying labour and migration. Co-sponsors of these various events included the Centre for Research on Latin America and the Caribbean (York University), International Herbert Marcuse Society, Centre for Social Justice, and Socialist Project (*see Appendix 2*).

Visiting Scholars

In 2017-18, the GLRC co-hosted (with Political Science) Fay Faraday, the Packer Visiting Professor in Social Justice. The GLRC also hosted Dr. Farah Deeba Choudhury (independent

researcher) as a Scholar in Residence. In conjunction with YUFA's Solidarity with Academics at Risk Committee, the GLRC co-sponsored a True Visitor application for Dr. Sümercan Bozkurt-Güngen from Turkey, who will be co-hosted by the Centre in 2018-19.

Student Engagement and Training

Graduate Student Symposium

In October 2017, the GLRC held its third annual Graduate Symposium, organized by Dr. Thomas and a committee of six York Doctoral students. The symposium brought together over 40 graduate students from Canada and the United States in a two-day conference. The symposium featured a keynote lecture from Dr. Henry Giroux (McMaster University) on 'Higher Education and the Plague of Authoritarianism'. Selected papers from the symposium will be published in an open access symposium proceedings in Spring/Summer 2018.

Visiting Students

The GLRC hosted Young-Kyu Shin (PhD Candidate, University of Helsinki, Finland) from April to June 2018 through the International Visiting Research Trainee (IVRT) program. The GLRC also co-sponsored (with Greg Albo) an IVRT application for Selime Yildirim (Ankara University, Turkey) to visit York in 2018-19. The GLRC began preparing an application for a Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship for Dr. Marco Marrone (University of Bologna, Italy), who was a visitor of the GLRC through the IVRT program and wishes to return for postdoctoral research.

Graduate Student Training

In 2017-18, 5 Research Assistants were employed through the GLRC-administered project 'Spaces of Labour in Moments of Urban Populism' (P.I. Steven Tufts). Tasks of the Research Assistants included conducting interviews, interview transcription, and preparing annotated bibliographies of secondary research.

Know Your Rights Project

The GLRC continues to work on updating the *Know Your Rights* (KYR) factsheet series and booklet for use by both undergraduate students and the wider community. In 2017-18, we reformatted and updated all of the factsheets (on Employment Standards, Health & Safety, Human Rights, and Unions). With the cooperation of the Centre for Refugee Studies (CRS), we translated all four of the updated factsheets into Arabic. GLRC worked with the Work and Labour Studies Undergraduate Students Association to plan a KYR workshop. A workshop was organized to take place at the undergraduate student conference in the Work and Labour Studies program, to be held on March 9 but was postponed due to the strike by CUPE 3903.

Socialist Economics Working Group

GLRC-affiliated graduate students coordinated a meeting of a new working group on Socialist Economics, which aims to explore the following questions: How have non-capitalist states organized property relations, financial systems, and labour regimes? Where have these regimes failed, and where have they succeeded? What progressive policy options have yet to be used by any regime? How can we model alternative systems that will ameliorate the ongoing problems of economic inequality, crises of social reproduction, and environmental devastation? The group

plans to explore the possibilities of organizing a conference and/or producing publications for the GLRC working paper series based on these themes.

Workplace Organizing 101

In cooperation with the York University Graduate Association (YUGSA), CUPE 3903, OPIRG York, YUDivest, \$15 and Fairness - York U and the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW), the GLRC sponsored a workplace organizing workshop aimed at undergraduate students in November 2017. The workshop attracted approximately 20 participants and included both a panel discussion and interactive group work focused on workplace organizing strategies.

Community Engagement

In 2017-18, the GLRC was very active in organizing events that engaged community partners. Specifically, we worked with the Centre for Social Justice, Socialist Project, the Toronto Labour Committee, and CERLAC to organize 6 events at times (evenings) and off-campus locations (including Friend's House, Steelworkers Hall, Centre for Social Innovation) that were conducive to participation by community members who are interested in GLRC activities but normally unable to attend events at York University during weekday afternoons (*see Appendix 2*). These events were very well attended. The GLRC also continued to support on-campus activities of campus-based labour rights groups (Fight for \$15 and Fairness at York) by providing access to our resource room. As part of its efforts to foster labour education to community members outside the university, in April 2018, the GLRC co-sponsored two two-day worker-activist trainings in conjunction with the Toronto Labour Committee, the Toronto Airport Workers Council, and the International Transport Workers Federation.

John Eleen Annual Lecture in Global Labour

In late 2016, the GLRC received a donation from Anne Thomson, widow of the late John Eleen, former Research Director at the Ontario Federation of Labour. Following consultations with both Anne and the OFL, the Centre initiated an annual lecture in John's name, to be called the John Eleen Annual Lecture in Global Labour. The annual lecture will present a researcher, advocate, or activist speaking on an issue or topic related to the work of the GLRC. The inaugural lecture was given by Dr. Henry Giroux, McMaster University Chair for Scholarship in the Public Interest, on October 26, 2017, with over 150 people in attendance. The GLRC has engaged in a fundraising campaign for the lecture. As of April 2018, \$21,500 has been secured through donations from organizations including unions and labour law firms. The fundraising campaign will continue with the aim to establish an endowment for the annual lecture.

Knowledge Mobilization

GLRC Working Papers Series

The GLRC working papers series continued in 2017-18. The series is oriented towards the primary themes of the GLRC and features papers from presenters in the Global Labour Speakers Series, as well as from researchers and activists engaged in work through the Centre. Working papers are hosted on the GLRC website, and are shared through the GLRC email list, Facebook page, and Twitter feed. In February 2018, GLRC graduate student affiliates Alia Karim and

David Bush published a paper titled ‘The Road to Bill 148: The Fight for \$15 and Fairness in Ontario.’

Recorded Presentations of the GLRC Speakers Series

Audio recordings (and in some cases video recordings) of presentations made at GLRC events (primarily the Global Labour Speaker Series) are disseminated (with permission) via the GLRC email list, Facebook page, and Twitter feed. Audio and video recordings are also accessible via the GLRC website.

Social Media Strategy

The GLRC’s online presence and following continues to grow through our website, Facebook page, and Twitter feed. The Facebook page has also been used to create specific event pages for the Global Labour Speaker Series. As of 1 May 2018, the Facebook page was followed by 785 people (up from 657 last year). The GLRC Twitter feed has 457 followers (up from 356 last year). The GLRC’s email listserv has also grown. GLRC-Announce now has 603 subscribers (up from 535 last year). The GLRC Skype Account has allowed us to host speakers at our speaker series events from out of town, and has enabled affiliated faculty from other institutions to join meetings without the need for travel. The GLRC was featured in four YFile stories highlighting our Speaker Series.

5. Challenges and Areas for Improvement

A key *area for improvement* that the GLRC will aim to address moving into its second charter is deepening the engagement of GLRC faculty associates through utilizing the Centre as a home for funded research. GLRC faculty associates play a very active role in organizing events for the Centre, including through the speaker series, workshops, etc.; however, the capacities for the Centre to host funded research is currently underutilized. As the Centre offers a range of supports and opportunities for faculty associates, including support for grant application development and administration, we are well positioned to deepen faculty engagement in this regard.

A *major challenge* for the GLRC emerged with the loss of the matching funds GA program. Through most of the first charter period, the Centre employed GAs, whose cost was matched by the Faculty of Graduate Studies. These GAs performed important tasks that made substantial contributions to the life of the Centre. These included assistance with event organizing and logistics, preparation and formatting of Centre materials, and cataloguing materials for the Centre library. The loss of the GA program was deeply felt in 2017-18, which was the first year that the Centre was unable to employ a Graduate Assistant. Some work that would have been done by a GA had to be deferred and some went uncompleted. Future resourcing of the GLRC, and all ORUs at York, should take into account the need for support in addition to that which is provided through the (part-time) administrative coordinator position.

6. PIER Responses

Recommendation 1 - Create opportunities and spaces to promote interactive research engagement that fosters collaboration and interdisciplinarity

The GLRC promotes interdisciplinarity and collaboration through the following activities:

Speaker Series: The Global Labour Speaker Series, featuring scholars and activists from across Canada and around the world, reaches a highly interdisciplinary audience from across York's faculties and departments and also attracts many from off-campus, including both academic and labour communities. Participants and attendees at speaker series events include those from Sociology, Political Science, Labour Studies, Social Science, History, Anthropology, Women's Studies, Geography, Education, Communications and Culture, Law, Health, and Environmental Studies. Through the series, we host 3-4 events in each of the Fall and Winter semesters. Typically, we host at least one event in the Spring/Summer term. A goal for 2018-19 is to expand the cross-faculty reach of the speaker series, to enhance collaboration with other faculties, including Osgoode, Health, FES, and Fine Arts, and with other ORUs.

Graduate Symposium: The annual GLRC Graduate Student Symposium offers a highly interdisciplinary forum for graduate students and post-doctoral fellows to share their research in a collaborative and supportive environment. The symposium typically attracts graduate students from Sociology, Political Science, Labour Studies, History, Anthropology, Women's Studies, Geography, Education, and Communications and Culture. We held this 2-day symposium in 2015, 2016, and 2017. In addition, we published a proceedings of selected papers from the 2016 symposium and are currently preparing the proceedings from the 2017 symposium, which will be published online in Spring/Summer 2018.

Recommendation 4 – Promote and capture a multiplicity of research outputs with an emphasis on impact (Broaden recognition and encourage non-traditional research outputs)

Social Media Strategy: the GLRC is working towards expanding its social media presence. With this initiative we expect to drive more traffic to our website where events, audio recordings and important research content/publications are available. Having a strong online presence allows us to connect/network with Canadian and international researchers/scholars and community partners, and to disseminate information about the projects and initiatives of the GLRC. Specifically, through the use of non-traditional research output strategies we are enhancing our capacities to support faculty researchers, graduate students, unions, and community-based organizations in their efforts to explore the way work is changing and how workers can respond effectively to those changes. We currently have 457 followers on Twitter and 785 on Facebook. Our social media following has grown steadily and we continue to seek ways to enhance our social media presence.

Audio recordings of the Global Labour Speaker Series: In order to increase community access to our speaker series events, audio recordings (and in some cases video recordings) of the presentations are made available on the GLRC website and via social media channels (Facebook & Twitter).

Artistic Production and Performance: As part of the 2017 graduate symposium, the GLRC hosted a performance of the play 'Life on the Line'. Life on the Line, a play by GLRC faculty

associate Patricia McDermott with Vrenia Ivonoffski, follows the course of a six-month strike by Eaton's workers in 1984-85. The play engages wider themes of precarity, class exploitation, gendered work, and racialization in the retail sector. The strike highlighted the need to reform first contract legislation and was an integral episode in the struggle to form unions in the service sector, themes which have continuing relevance today.

Recommendation 18 - Foster the internationalization of research

As the GLRC is focused on the study of work, employment, and labour in a changing global economy, the internationalization of research is central to our mission. We are committed to raising awareness and promoting research initiatives regarding the study of labour rights at local, national, and international scales. Specifically, the GLRC promotes the internationalization of research through the following activities:

- Hosting international visitors. In 2017-18 we hosted a visitor from Finland (Young-Kyu Shin) through the IVRT program;
- Organizing events that attract international participants. We had participants from the United States at our 2017 graduate symposium;
- Including international researchers in our speaker series. In 2017-18, we had international speakers from Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States;
- Supporting research grants with an international focus and international networks. In 2017-18, we supported the development of a SSHRC Insight Development Grant application (P.I. Farah Deeba Chowdhury) with an international focus;
- Sponsoring postdoctoral fellowship applications from international applicants and/or with an international focus. In 2017-18, Mark Thomas sponsored one SSHRC postdoctoral fellowship application with an international research focus and began preparation for a Banting Postdoctoral application from an international applicant;
- Providing support for and co-sponsoring York-based events that involve an internationalization emphasis. In 2017-18, we co-sponsored 5 such events (*see Appendix 2*), including a co-sponsored event with CERLAC, where we co-hosted a gathering for three sociologists from Oaxaca, Mexico, who were visiting Toronto and wished to meet academics engaged in research on labour and migration.

7. Financial Position - attached

8. Space Utilization – attached

9. Objectives for Upcoming Year (e.g. events, membership, grants, space needs)

As 2017-18 was the final year of the GLRC's first charter, a major activity for the Centre this year was preparing an application for rechartering. The objectives for the upcoming year are outlined in detail in the rechartering application. Briefly, the primary objective of the GLRC will

be to expand and deepen the engagement of GLRC faculty associates, including through more extensive support of faculty research grant applications. The GLRC will aim to do so while at the same time maintaining a strong base of activities and programming oriented towards its wide and diverse community of faculty, students, and community members.

10. Other relevant items the Director wishes to include in the annual report

As a new ORU at York University, the GLRC faced many challenges in its first charter term. The application for rechartering, which was developed in Summer and Fall 2017 provided an opportunity to both reflect on what was achieved in the Centre's first five years and to look forward by developing a five-year plan for the next charter period. Building on a strong foundation of scholarship in the area of work and labour at York University, the GLRC provides an important space to support research activities, knowledge mobilization, and community engagement for York faculty and students. Evidence of the important role that the Centre plays is captured in the high degree of interest and involvement in the Centre's array of activities.

11. Appendix 1 – Membership and Governance

12. Appendix 2 – Additional Information about Progress in Fulfilling Mandate

Appendix 1: Global Labour Research Centre Membership and Governance

York Faculty Associates: 24

External Faculty Associates: 14

Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Associates: 26

Community Associates: 9

York Faculty Associates			
Name	Department	Faculty	Research Theme
Greg Albo	Political Science	LA&PS	Work, Employment and Labour Rights; Labour Movement Revitalization
Pat Armstrong	School of Health Policy & Management	LA&PS	Work, Employment and Gender Relations
Soma Chatterjee	Social Work	LA&PS	Labour, Migration and Citizenship
Tamara Daly	School of Health Policy & Management	LA&PS	Work and Health
David Doorey	Human Resource Management	LA&PS	Work, Employment and Labour Rights
Fay Faraday	Packer Chair in Social Justice, Political Science	LA&PS	Work, Employment and Labour Rights; Labour, Migration and Citizenship
Carlo Fanelli	Social Science	LA&PS	Work, Employment and Labour Rights; Labour Movement Revitalization
Jan Kainer	School of Gender, Sexuality & Women's Studies	LA&PS	Work, Employment and Gender Relations
Stefan Kipfer	Faculty of Environmental Studies	FES	Work, Employment and Labour Rights
Meg Luxton	Gender, Sexuality & Women's Studies	LA&PS	Work, Employment and Gender Relations
Viviana Patroni	Social Science / International Development Studies	LA&PS	Work, Employment and Labour Rights; Labour Movement Revitalization
Kelly Pike	Social Science / Work & Labour Studies	LA&PS	Work, Employment and Labour Rights
Dennis Pilon	Political Science	LA&PS	Labour Movement Revitalization
Ann Porter	Political Science	LA&PS	Work, Employment and Gender Relations
Norene Pupo	Sociology	LA&PS	Work, Employment and Gender Relations
Sarah Slinn	Osgoode Hall Law School	Osgoode Hall Law School	Work, Employment and Labour Rights
Jennifer	History	LA&PS	Work, Employment and

Stephen			Gender Relations
Mark Thomas	Sociology	LA&PS	Work, Employment and Labour Rights; Labour, Migration and Citizenship
Eric Tucker	Law	Osgoode Hall Law School	Work, Employment and Labour Rights
Steven Tufts	Geography	LA&PS	Labour Movement Revitalization
Ethel Tungohan	Political Science	LA&PS	Labour, Migration and Citizenship
Leah Vosko	Political Science / School of Gender, Sexuality & Women's Studies	LA&PS	Work, Employment and Labour Rights; Work, Employment and Gender Relations
Jing Wang	Human Resource Management	LA&PS	Labour, Migration and Citizenship
Cynthia Wright	School of Gender, Sexuality & Women's Studies	LA&PS	Work, Employment and Labour Rights; Work, Employment and Gender Relations

External Faculty Associates		
Name	Title / Affiliation	Research Theme
Simon Black	Assistant Professor, Labour Studies, Brock University	Work, Employment and Gender Relations; Labour Movement Revitalization
Aziz Choudry	Assistant Professor, McGill University	Labour, Migration and Citizenship; Labour Movement Revitalization
Nicole Cohen	Assistant Professor, Communication, Culture, Information and Technology, University of Toronto, Mississauga	Work, Employment and Labour Rights; Labour Movement Revitalization
Thomas Collombat	Associate Professor, Département des Sciences Sociales, Université du Québec en Outaouais	Labour Movement Revitalization
Bryan Evans	Associate Professor, Political Science, Ryerson University	Work, Employment and Labour Rights
Wayne Lewchuk	Professor, School of Labour Studies, McMaster University	Work, Employment and Labour Rights
Ian MacDonald	Assistant Professor, Industrial Relations, Université de Montréal	Labour Movement Revitalization
Suzanne Mills	Associate Professor, School of Labour Studies, McMaster University	Work, Employment and Gender Relations; Labour Movement Revitalization
Tanner Mirrlees	Assistant Professor, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities, University of Ontario Institute of Technology	Work, Employment and Labour Rights
Geraldina Polanco	Assistant Professor, California State	Labour Migration and

	University at Northridge	Citizenship
Stephanie Ross	Associate Professor, School of Labour Studies	Labour Movement Revitalization
Charles Smith	Assistant Professor, St. Thomas More College / University of Saskatchewan	Work, Employment and Labour Rights
Susan Spronk	Associate Professor, International Development, University of Ottawa	Labour Movement Revitalization
Don Wells	Professor, School of Labour Studies, McMaster University	Labour Movement Revitalization

Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Associates		
Name	Title / Affiliation	Research Theme
Rawan Abdelbeki	PhD Candidate, Sociology	Labour, Migration and Citizenship
Kritee Ahmed	PhD Candidate, Sociology	Work, Employment and Labour Rights
Guliz Akkaymak	Postdoctoral Fellow, Gender & Work	Labour, Migration and Citizenship
Chris Bailey	PhD Candidate, Political Science	Labour Movement Revitalization
Nico Block	Doctoral Student, Political Science	Work, Employment and Labour Rights; Labour Movement Revitalization
Paul Bocking	PhD Candidate, Geography	Labour, Migration and Citizenship; Labour Movement Revitalization
Gizem Cakmak	Doctoral Student, Sociology	Sociology
Mathew Corbeil	Doctoral Student, Sociology	Work, Employment and Labour Rights; Labour Movement Revitalization
Lacey Croft	Doctoral Student, Sociology	Work and Health
Manoj Dias-Abey	Postdoctoral Fellow, Queen's University	Work, Employment and Labour Rights
Gilberto Fernandes	Postdoctoral Visitor, Robarts Centre	Work, Employment and Labour Rights; Labour Movement Revitalization
Kelly Flinn	PhD Student, Social and Political Thought	Work, Employment and Labour Rights; Labour Movement Revitalization
John Grundy	Postdoctoral Visitor, Gender & Work	Work, Employment and Labour Rights
John Hayes	M.A. Student, Political Science	Work, Employment and Labour Rights; Labour Movement Revitalization
Jordan House	PhD Candidate, Political Science	Labour Movement Revitalization
Jolin Joseph	Doctoral Student, Gender, Feminism & Women's Studies	Labour, Migration and Citizenship
Alia Karim	PhD Candidate, Environmental Studies	Labour Movement Revitalization
Konstantin Kilibarda	PhD Candidate, Political Science	Work, Employment and Labour Rights

Adam King	PhD Candidate, Sociology	Work, Employment and Labour Rights
Kait Kribs	PhD Student, Communication and Culture	Work, Employment and Labour Rights
Danielle Landry	Doctoral Student, Sociology	Work and Health
Tinu Mathew	Student, Seneca College	Labour, Migration and Citizenship
Rupinder Minhas	Doctoral Student, Geography	Work, Employment and Labour Rights
Judith Mintz	Doctoral Student, Gender, Feminism & Women's Studies	Work, Employment and Gender Relations
Jacqueline Ristola	Master Student, Cinema and Media Studies	Work, Employment and Labour Rights
Rana Sukarieh	PhD Candidate, Sociology	Labour Movement Revitalization

Community Associates		
Name	Title / Affiliation	Research Theme
Jordan Brennan	Economist, Unifor	Work, Employment and Labour Rights
Farah Deeba Choudry	Independent Researcher, Visiting Scholar	Work, Employment and Gender Relations
Angelo DiCaro	National Representative, Research Department, Unifor	Work, Employment and Labour Rights
Evelin Encalada Grez	Organizer, Justicia for Migrant Workers	Labour, Migration and Citizenship
Andrew Jackson	Senior Policy Advisor, Broadbent Institute	Work, Employment and Labour Rights
Candies Kotchapaw	Independent scholar	Work, Employment and Labour Rights
Deena Ladd	Coordinator, Workers Action Centre	Work, Employment and Labour Rights
Manzur Malik	Research Officer, Ontario Public Sector Employees Union	Work, Employment and Labour Rights
Chris Roberts	Director, Social & Economic Policy, Canadian Labour Congress	Work, Employment and Labour Rights

Executive Committee members

- Pat Armstrong, Distinguished Research Professor, Sociology
- Lacey Croft, Ph.D. Candidate, Sociology
- Viviana Patroni, Associate Professor, Social Science
- Kelly Pike, Assistant Professor, Human Resource Management
- Mark Thomas, Associate Professor, Sociology
- Eric Tucker, Professor, Osgoode Hall Law School
- Leah Vosko, Canada Research Chair in the Political Economy of Gender & Work / School of Gender, Sexuality & Women's Studies / Political Science
- Gerald Di Trolio, Undergraduate Representative, Work & Labour Studies Program

External Advisory Board Members
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- Aziz Choudry, Professor, McGill University
- Jennifer Chun, Associate Professor, University of Toronto
- Angelo Dicaro, National Representative (Research), Unifor
- Evelyn Encalada Grez, Justice/Justicia 4 Migrant Workers
- Bryan Evans, Associate Professor, Ryerson University
- Mary Gellatly, Parkdale Community Legal Services
- Manzur Malik, Research Officer, Ontario Public Sector Employees Union
- Naveen Mehta, General Counsel, Director of Human Rights, Equity & Diversity, United Food and Commercial Workers
- Suzanne Mills, School of Labour Studies, McMaster University
- Chris Roberts, Director, Social & Economic Policy, Canadian Labour Congress
- Larry Savage, Associate Professor, Centre for Labour Studies, Brock University
- Susan Spronk, Associate Professor, University of Ottawa
- Leah Vosko, Canada Research Chair in the Political Economy of Gender & Work / School of Gender, Sexuality & Women's Studies / Political Science (Executive Committee liaison)

Graduate Symposium Organizing Committee
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- Rawan Abdelbaki, Ph.D. Candidate, Sociology
- Matt Corbeil, Ph.D. Candidate, Political Science
- Lacey Croft, Ph.D. Candidate, Sociology
- Jolin Joseph, Ph.D. Candidate, Gender, Feminist & Women's Studies
- Adam King, Ph.D. Candidate, Sociology
- Candies Kotchapaw, Independent scholar

Appendix 2: Additional Information about Progress in Fulfilling Mandate Global Labour Research Centre Events

Global Labour Speaker Series 2017- 18

Date/Location	Topic	Speakers	Attendance
September 26, 2017 University	Lessons of the Fight for \$15 in the Trump Era	Jonathan Rosenblum	12
October 5, 2017 Friend's House	Insurgent Left, Resurgent Labour? Corbyn, Sanders, and the Labour Movement	Hilary Wainwright, Doug Henwood, <i>In collaboration with Centre for Social Justice, Socialist Project</i>	63
October 26, 2017 York University	John Eleen Annual Lecture in Global Labour: Trump's America and the Plague of Illiberal Democracy	Henry Giroux	170
October 27, 2017 York University	Life on the line: Women Strike at Eaton's 1984-85	Act2 Studio	20
October 26-27, 2017 York University	International Graduate Student Symposium	Keynote speaker – Henry Giroux	42
November 14, 2017 York University	New Directions in the Sociology of Work	Pat Armstrong, Norene Pupo, Mark Thomas	17
January 24, 2018	Precarity and the Nonprofit Sector: Views from Social Work	John Shields, Senator Wanda Thomas Bernard, Lynn Eakin	28
March 29, 2018	The Contradictions of Pension Fund Capitalism	Kevin Skerrett, Chris Roberts, Heather Whiteside, Janice Folk-Dawson, Greg Albo <i>In collaboration with Centre for Social Justice, Socialist Project</i>	80

September 26, 2017: Lessons of the Fight for \$15 in the Trump Era

Attendance at this event came from the following Departments:	Number of attendees:
Geography	1
Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies	1
Political Science	2

Sociology	1
Did not specify	8

**several participants did not sign the sign-in sheet*

Jonathan Rosenblum was campaign director of the SeaTac Airport workers campaign, which he directed for the Service Employees International Union. Prior to SeaTac, he led healthcare organizing campaigns, coordinated multi-union drives in the Seattle area, and was founding organizer of Washington State Jobs With Justice, a labour, faith, student and community coalition organized to fight for the rights of all working people. Jonathan played a key role in the historic 2015 re-election of socialist Seattle City Councilmember Kshama Sawant. He also has served in leadership positions in multi-faith coalitions, and is a leader in Kadima (Jewish) Reconstructionist Community in Seattle. He has written and spoken extensively about workers and the future of the social justice movement.

Labour organizer Jonathan Rosenblum will discuss the inside story of the first successful fight for \$15. Just outside Seattle, an unlikely alliance of Sea-Tac airport workers, union and community activists, and clergy staged face-to-face confrontations with corporate leaders to unite a diverse, largely immigrant workforce in a struggle over power between airport workers and business and political elites. This talk will consider lessons from this campaign that may contribute to building a powerful, inclusive labour movement and enable workers to reclaim their power in the contemporary economy.

October 5, 2017: Insurgent Left, Resurgent Labour? Corbyn, Sanders, and the Labour Movement

Hilary Wainwright is an editor of Red Pepper Magazine.

Doug Henwood is the host of Behind the News.

The relative success of the Bernie Sanders and Jeremy Corbyn campaigns have put left politics back on the political map. This panel will seek to explore the role that the labour movement played in the Sanders and Corbyn campaigns and consider whether similar political campaigns have the potential to contribute to a renewed and strengthened labour movement.

Please note that this is a public event held off campus and detailed attendance was not taken.

October 26, 2017: John Eleen Annual Lecture in Global Labour: Trump’s America and the Plague of Illiberal Democracy

Henry A. Giroux holds the McMaster University Chair for Scholarship in the Public Interest in the Department of English and Cultural Studies. He is on the editorial and advisory boards of numerous national and international scholarly journals, and has served as the editor or co-editor of four scholarly book series. Dr. Giroux is a regular contributor to a number of online journals including Truthout, Eurozine, and CounterPunch. He has published in many journals including Social Text, Third Text, Cultural Studies, Harvard Educational Review, Theory, Culture, & Society, and Monthly Review. His most recent books include: *Neoliberalism’s War on Higher Education* (2014); *Zombie Politics and Culture in the Age of Casino Capitalism* (Peter Lang 2014, 2nd edition); *The Violence of Organized Forgetting* (City Lights, 2014); *Disposable Futures: The Seduction of Violence in the Age of the Spectacle* (co-authored with Brad Evans, City Lights, 2015); *Dangerous Thinking in the Age of the New*

Authoritarianism (Routledge, 2016); America at War with Itself (City Lights, 2017); and The Public in Peril: Trump and the Menace of Authoritarianism (Routledge 2018). His primary research areas are: cultural studies, youth studies, critical pedagogy, popular culture, media studies, social theory, and the politics of higher and public education. He is particularly interested in what he calls the war on youth, the corporatization of higher education, the politics of neoliberalism, public pedagogy, the educative nature of politics, the rise of various youth movements across the globe, and the assault on civic literacy and the collapse of public memory.

Higher education in our politically desperate age is threatened by a legacy that it does not dare to name and that legacy with its eerie resonance with an authoritarian past asserts itself, in part, with the claim that education is failing. The Trump administration needs education to fail in a very particular way. Hostile to its role as a public good and democratic sphere, it is attempting to reshape education according to the market-driven logic of neoliberalism with its emphasis on privatization, commodification, deregulation, fear, and managerialism. Under such circumstances, higher education is threatened for its potential role as a public sphere capable of educating students as informed, critical thinkers capable of not only holding power accountable but also fulfilling the role of critical agents who can act against injustice and resist diverse forms of oppression. In this lecture, Professor Henry A. Giroux posits that the modern loss of faith in the marriage of education and democracy needs to be reclaimed, but that will only happen if the long legacy of struggle over education is once again brought to life as part of a more comprehensive understanding as education being central to politics itself.

Please note that detailed attendance was not taken.

October 27, 2017: Life on the line: Women Strike at Eaton’s 1984-85

Life on the Line, a play by Patricia McDermott with Vrenia Ivonoffski, follows the course of a six-month strike by Eaton’s workers in 1984-85. The play engages wider themes of precarity, class exploitation, gendered work, and racialization in the retail sector. The strike highlighted the need to reform first contract legislation and was an integral episode in the struggle to form unions in the service sector, themes which have continuing relevance today.

The event was co-sponsored by the Centre for Feminist Research.

Please note that detailed attendance was not taken.

October 26 & 27 2017: Graduate Student Symposium

Attendance at this event came from the following Departments:	Number of attendees:
Communication and Culture	1
Environmental Studies	5
Gender, Feminist and Women’s Studies	1
Geography	3
Osgoode Hall Law School	1
Political Science	6
Social Political Thought	2
Social Work	1

Sociology	5
English & Culture Studies (McMaster)	1
Geography and Planning (UofT)	1
History (Queen's)	1
Institute of Political Economy (Carleton)	1
Labour Studies (McMaster)	4
Sociology (Brock)	1
Sociology (UC Berkeley)	1
Sociology (UdeM)	3
Other/Not specified	9

The Graduate Student Symposium is an annual event that showcases graduate student research on a wide range of issues related to the study of work and labour in a global context, and offers an interdisciplinary forum for graduate students and post-doctoral fellows to share their research in a collaborative environment.

November 14, 2017: New Directions in the Sociology of Work

Attendance at this event came from the following Departments:	Number of attendees:
Geography	1
Labour Studies	1
Political Science	2
Social and Political Thought	1
Sociology	3
Sociology (Ryerson)	1
Other/Did not specify	8

Pat Armstrong, Distinguished Research Professor, Department of Sociology

Norene Pupo, Professor, Department of Sociology

Mark Thomas, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology

A discussion of three recent book publications that involve York sociologists Pat Armstrong (Distinguished Research Professor), Norene Pupo (Professor), and Mark Thomas (Associate Professor) engaging in themes related to the sociology of work. In *Wash, Wear, and Care*, Armstrong and Day assess the neglected but important labour involved in ensuring that clothes promote respect for both the washers and the wearers, analyze the part that laundry and clothing play in nursing homes, and raise questions about the wider social, political, economic, and historical contexts of these facilities. In *Crises in Canadian Work*, Pupo, Duffy, and Glenday provide a concise overview of current and emerging issues in the sociology of work, examining the Canadian economy and labour markets in relation to the pressures and processes of globalization. In *Work and Labour in Canada*, Jackson and Thomas draw upon statistics and case studies to identify the economic, social, and political processes that influence contemporary workplace environments and trends, and point to the need for more equitable and democratic strategies to reorganize work.

The event was co-sponsored by the Department of Sociology.

January 24, 2018: Precarity and the Nonprofit Sector: Views from Social Work

Dr. John Shields is a tenured Full Professor with over twenty five years of university teaching and research experience in the areas of public administration and public policy, Canadian politics, the political economy of labour market and welfare state restructuring, immigrant settlement and integration policy and practices, and nonprofit sector studies. He has served on various advisory bodies including most recently for the Ontario Nonprofit Network (ONN). Dr. Shields has published extensively, including the co-authoring of five books and over forty articles and papers and an extensive number of policy papers and conference presentations. His most recent research explores issues related to the marketization of the nonprofit sector, immigration and settlement, public administration reform, labour market restructuring with a focus on precarious work and immigrant populations, and knowledge transfer in support of public policy and advocacy. He has recently published a co-edited a book on Precarious Employment: Causes, Consequences and Remedies (Fernwood 2017).

Senator Wanda Thomas Bernard was appointed to the Senate on November 10, 2016 and is a highly regarded social worker, educator, researcher, community activist and advocate of social change. In 2016, she was appointed Special Advisor on Diversity and Inclusiveness at Dalhousie University and is the first African Nova Scotian to hold a tenure track position. Senator Bernard is a founding member of the Association of Black Social Workers who has also served as an expert witness in human rights cases and has received many honours for her work, including the Order of Nova Scotia and the Order of Canada. Senator Bernard is the Chair of the Standing Senate Committee on Human Rights (RIDR), and a member of the Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology (SOCI). She is also Vice-Chair of the Canada-Africa Parliamentary Association.

Lynn Eakin has an MSW from the University of Toronto and has been providing consulting services to the nonprofit sector since 1989. Initially she provided services that included assistance with restructuring, mergers and service partnerships. She also provided rescue management services for organizations in difficulty. Her experiences with these types of assignments lead her, by the end of the 1990s, to shift the focus of her work to respond to what she saw as a growing crisis in the financing and regulation of nonprofit community organizations. One of the founding members of Ontario Nonprofit Network (ONN), Lynn is currently involved in better positioning the sector to address the cross-cutting policy issues it faces. She continues to engage in sector research and is involved with ONN in identifying, developing and advocating for systemic reforms to improve the ability of the sector to undertake its important work.

This panel will focus on professional precarity dealing with precarious lives in social work and the nonprofit sector.

The event was co-sponsored by the Department of Social Work.

Please note that detailed attendance was not taken.

March 29, 2018: The Contradictions of Pension Fund Capitalism

Kevin Skerrett is a Research Officer for the Canadian Union of Public Employees.

Chris Roberts is the National Director of Social and Economic Policy for the Canadian Labour Congress.

Heather Whiteside is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Waterloo and the author of *About Canada: Public-Private Partnerships*.

Janice Folk-Dawson is the president of CUPE Local 1334 at University of Guelph, the president of the Guelph and District Labour Council, and sits on the OFL Executive Board.

Greg Albo is a board member of the Centre for Social Justice and Associate professor of Political Science at York University.

This event was a book launch for ‘The Contradictions of Pension Fund Capitalism.’ Book description: it is often hoped and assumed that union stewardship of pension investments will produce tangible and enduring benefits for workers and their communities while minimizing the negative effects of what are now global and intensely competitive capital markets. At the core of this book is a desire to question the proposition that workers and their organizations can exert meaningful control over pension funds in the context of current financial markets. Contributing authors review the recent experience of pension ‘austerity’ by comparing the situations of Canada, the US, the UK and Australia. The concluding chapter argues that the central implication of this recent history is an urgent need for a re-orientation of trade union and working class movements to a demand for adequate, universal pension provision that is no longer embedded in financial markets.

Please note that this was an off-campus event and detailed attendance was not taken.

Global Labour Research Centre Co-Sponsored Events

Date/Location	Topic	Contact/Department
May 24-26, 2017 York University	'Marx's Capital after 150 Years'	The Marx Collegium - Marcello Musto
September 5, 2017 York University	Improving Job quality in Australian Aged Care: Challenges and Dilemmas	YU-CARE
October 26-28, 2017 York University	The Dialectics of Liberation in the Era of Neoliberalism	International Herbert Marcuse Society/Terry Maley
April 12, 2018 Centre for Social Innovation - Toronto	Meeting with Colleagues from Oaxaca	CERLAC
April 16-17 & 23-24, 2018 Atchison & Denman Professional Offices	Airport Worker Training	TAWC (Toronto Airport Worker’s Council)