



Organizing U.S. Capitalism: From the Federal Reserve to the Unions

A series of UCSB talks and workshops sponsored by the Center for the Study of Work, Labor, and Democracy; and the Policy History Program

FALL QUARTER EVENTS



October 12: Zulema Valdez, Sociology, UC Merced. “The Great Recession and Precarious Entrepreneurship among Latinos in the United States.” Valdez's research examines how social group formations—based on race, class, gender, and nativity—affect individual social and economic life chances. She is the author of *The New Entrepreneurs: How Race, Class, and Gender Shape American Enterprise* (2011) and *Entrepreneurs and the Search for the American Dream* (2015).



October 19: Jonathan Levy, History, University of Chicago. “Instability and Inequality: American Capitalism after the Volcker Shock of 1980.” Levy is an historian of U.S. capitalism, with interests in the relationships between the law, culture, political economy, and the history of ideas. He is the author of *Freaks of Fortune: The Emerging World of Capitalism and Risk in America* (2012) and the forthcoming *Ages of American Capitalism*.



November 2: Jessica Burch, School of Business, University of Utah. “The Pyramid Problem: Regulating Direct Sales at the Edges of Labor and Consumption, 1972-1982.” Burch, a scholar of management, was a Newcomen fellow at Harvard University in 2015-16. She discusses a chapter from her forthcoming book, *Door-to-Door Capitalism: Direct Selling in America from the New Deal to the Internet Age*.



November 16: Samir Sonti, UNITE-HERE Local 11. “Research Services in the Labor Movement.” Sonti took his Ph.D. at UCSB in 2016 with a dissertation entitled “The Price of Prosperity: Inflation and the Limits of the New Deal Order.” He is a research analyst in a trade union local representing 23,000 workers employed in hotels, restaurants, airports, sports arenas, and convention centers throughout Southern California and Arizona.



December 7: Leon Fink, History, Georgetown. “Neoliberalism Before Its Time? Labor and the Free Trade Ideal in the Era of the ‘Great Compression.’” Fink, the editor of *LABOR: Studies in Working-Class History*, is the author or editor of a dozen books. These include *The Long Gilded Age: American Capitalism and the Lessons of a New World Order* (2014); *Sweatshops at Sea: Merchant Seamen in the World's First Globalized Industry, from 1812 to the Present* (2011); *The Maya of Morganton: Work and Community in the Nuevo New South* (2003); and *Progressive Intellectuals and the Dilemmas of Democratic Commitment* (1997).

All talks will take place in HSSB 4041 at 1 PM on Friday unless otherwise noted.

Pre-circulated papers available at

www.history.ucsb.edu/labor



Students in any discipline may receive credit in History 294 for participating in this workshop.

