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About Us

Unions and Democracy

Whether it's shipyard workers in Poland, hospital workers in America, or coal miners in South Africa, democratic unions are an essential bulwark of a democratic society. Nations that favor corporate elites or state power at the expense of workers and their unions are nations that weaken the foundations of political democracy.

Mission

The Labor Studies Center is a comprehensive labor education center committed to strengthening the capacity of organized labor to represent the needs and interests of workers, while at the same time strengthening the University's research and teaching on labor and workplace issues. The Center's primary areas of research and practice include:

- Training and technical assistance to unions on labor relations and workplace issues.
- An undergraduate Labor Studies major and internship program.
- Interventions to increase the organizational effectiveness of unions.
- The development and diffusion of constructive labor-management relations practices, particularly in the public sector.
- The formation and institutionalization of labor-community coalitions and regional power building strategies.
- The impact of lean production systems on workers and labor relations practice in the North American auto industry.

Our Staff

Click here for staff directory

Program Contacts:

- Union Skills & Strategy Classes Gayle Hamilton --av6012@wayne.edu
- Labor-Management Programs, Strategic Planning, Negotiation, Privatization, Union Organization and Administration --laborschool@wayne.edu
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