
SOCIAL THOUGHT AND POLITICAL ECONOMY NEWSLETTER



MARCH/APRIL 2010

MAKING CONNECTIONS:

Jobs, Internships and Social Change

***Featuring STPEC, Afro-Am,
Labor Center, and
Women's Studies Alumni/ae***

Thursday, April 8

4:30-6:00 pm

Cape Cod Lounge, Student Union Bldg

*Brought to you by STPEC, Women, Gender,
and Sexuality Studies, the Labor Center, and
Afro-American Studies*

*Co-sponsored by the UMass Career Center
This will be a wonderful fun and informative
social event with our extremely cool alums!*

Our participants include a wide array of STPEC,
Women's Studies, Labor Center and Afro-American
Studies graduates who now have careers in law,
medicine, publishing, social services, union/commu-
nity organizing, education, politics and art.

Light food and refreshments will be served

Everyone is welcome to attend!

Welcome to New Students

We are pleased to welcome the following new
students to the STPEC Program as of February 2010:
Mwanase Ahmed, Alex Carmona, Alexandra
Connors, Azra Cous, Adam Dalton, Aaron Hirst,
Kristin McDonough, Mara Montalvo, Emily
Mortimer, Jordan Russ, and Anissa Sukkar.

**Many thanks to all the current students and
staff who helped with these meetings.**

STPEC ON FACEBOOK

Just a reminder that STPEC has a facebook page titled:
STPEC: Social Thought Political Economy. URL is [http://
www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=35014851280](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=35014851280)
We hope you'll use this site to connect with other STPEC
students and alumni/ae.

Fall 2010 Registration and Advising Notes

***ALL STPEC students will need to come to the
STPEC office for advising before they will be
able to register on SPIRE.***

***Don't wait until it's your day to start
registering - come in early!!!***

**Students who will be SENIORS in 2010-2011 must
see Katherine Mallory or Jay Venezia for advising
Appointments for senior advising will begin**

Monday, March 29

*Seniors may contact Katherine (stpecinternship@sbs.umass.edu)
or Jay (advisor@sbs.umass.edu) individually for an earlier
appointment date.*

**FOR ALL OTHER STPEC STUDENTS
Official STPEC pre-registration advising begins
WEDNESDAY March 31**

**Sign up sheets for advising times will be available on
the door of the STPEC Office.**

Access to the SPIRE system for registration for
Fall 2010 courses begins MONDAY, MARCH 29
***Students are ramped on to the system based on seniority
Check SPIRE for your personal access date and time***

Please see page 3 for more advising details

MEETING TIMES FOR NEW STPEC MAJORS

We will be holding meetings for new STPEC majors on
Tuesday, April 6 through Thursday, April 8. Please
come into the STPEC office to sign up for a meeting
time (the sign up sheet will be posted next to the main
desk) and obtain a STPEC Application Form. If you
cannot make any of these times please speak to either
the Program Coordinator or the Program Director so
that they may arrange an alternate time for you. **As
always, we're looking for current STPEC students to
volunteer to help with the new student meetings** - it's
fun and easy and a good way to meet new STPEC
students! Please see Deborah in the STPEC Office if you'd
like to help - or just show up.

Talk by Former Revolutionaries: Women in Nicaragua

April 8, 2010 4:00 pm

Location TBA

Presented by: The Center for Latin American, Caribbean and Latina(o) Studies, Social Thought and Political Economy, and Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies

Amanda Centeno joined the FSLN as a high school student and went on to teach political theory in a popular revolutionary school for local residents. She now is associate director of the Women's Construction Project and works closely with autonomous women's movements nationally.

Patricia Orozco was a student activist and journalist for the FSLN, fought in the insurrection, has worked for the UN Permanent Committee for the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women since 2000. She is a radio journalist now for the Primerisima radio station in Managua, one of the main radio stations in the country.

Helen Shears worked with the UK Nicaraguan Solidarity Movement, as well as other Women's, GBLT and UK based social justice groups prior to arriving in Nicaragua to live and work in 2001. She has much experience in the non-governmental organizational development sector.

This will be a talk about reproductive rights in Nicaragua, per a recent case in which the government denied a woman an abortion despite her own need for life-saving medical treatment. The speakers can also address a range of related historic and present political and economic issues that may be of interest to STPEC students including: the role of media in social movements; feminism, NGOs, civil society, the Catholic Church and the state; key players and issues in contemporary Nicaragua; a variety of economic factors including global Neo-Liberalism and organized labor in Nicaragua; the history of committed revolutionaries from the 1970s on; current human rights issues; gender based economic development projects in Nicaragua; and the experience of the Women's Construction Collective in Condega.

An intimate and disturbing portrait of the contemporary American workplace:

*At the Altar of the Bottom Line:
The Degradation of Work in the 21st Century*
by Tom Juravich

Wednesday, March 31 7:00 pm
Odyssey Bookshop

9 College St (Routes 116 at 47), in the Village Commons,
South Hadley, 534-7307 or www.odysseybks.com

GRADUATING SENIORS: BIG CHANGES FOR 2010 COMMENCEMENT

This year, for the first time, Undergraduate Commencement, at which degrees will be conferred, has been divided into two parts. The university commencement will take place on Saturday, May 15 from 10:00–11:30 a.m. in Warren McGuirk Alumni Stadium. Then, after light refreshments, each school/college will conduct an additional ceremony at various venues across campus from 1:30–2:30 p.m. The College Social and Behavioral Sciences' Senior Celebration will be held in the Warren McGuirk Alumni Stadium.

The College ceremony will offer special recognition of each graduate, each graduate will have his or her name announced and will receive a Commemorative UMass Medal. Graduates will also be photographed while shaking hands with College leaders. The College commencement will feature a faculty speaker who has been selected by the seniors.

STPEC staff will be present to greet graduates and their families and STPEC graduates will be seated together.

Please plan on attending both ceremonies. Each has been created to make your day memorable and fun.

Please check this site for more details:

http://www.umass.edu/sbs/news_events/news_stories/commencement_info.htm

The Women's Fund of Western Massachusetts Leadership Institute for Political Impact Kick-Off Celebration

March 27 9:30 am-2:00 pm

Holyoke community College Kittredge Center

Keynote Speaker: Jennifer Lawless, co-author of *It Takes a Candidate: Why Women Don't Run for Political Office*.

Learn from veteran and newly elected officials

Network with like-minded Western MA women

Learn more about the Women's Fund Leadership

Institute

Limited space. *No cost but registration is required by March 19.* RSVP to 529-0087 x 10 or julieh@womensfund.net

The Leadership Institute for Political Impact trains Western MA women in community organizing, legislative processes, and running for office.

STPEC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

STPEC policy is set by the STPEC Executive Committee, whose voting members consist of STPEC paid staff, UMass faculty close to STPEC, and one student spokesperson from each regularly scheduled course plus one student each from the first and second year classes.

- Elected students are accountable to the students they represent.
- The Executive Committee will meet at least once per semester and can meet more often if necessary.
- Elected students will meet together before every scheduled Executive Committee meeting to discuss what items they'd like to put on the agenda.

If you have STPEC concerns that you'd like the Executive Committee to address, please talk to your student representative about them. Student reps for Spring 2010 are:

First year class: Avery Fuerst and Shelby Brimmer
Sophomore class: Christiana McDougal and Lovis Axon
Intro to STPEC: Tenzin GGT, Margaret Hersey, Sara Moffett, and Jordan Russ.
Junior I: Aaron Hirst
Junior II: Tori Zopf
Junior Writing: Michael O'Connor
Senior 491H: Avital Benedek and Steven Gray
Senior 492H: Tyler Rocco-Chaffee
Senior 493H: Christina Grappi
Office Staff: Andrew Cogan and Emily Mortimer

Avery Fuerst, Shelby Brimmer, and Emily Mortimer will be serving as committee coordinators.

All STPEC students are welcome to attend the final full Executive Committee meeting. The time and date of the meeting have yet to be determined.

Advising Details

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- ★ The STPEC Recommended Course List will not be published until March 29th. The Fall 2010 STPEC course description page will be published and up on the STPEC website by March 26th. *If you have any suggestions for courses you would like to see - or not see - put on our lists, please let us know!*
- ★ **All STPEC seminars and Junior Writing will be on-line until Wednesday, May 5th. STPEC Senior Seminars will be available on-line to STPEC Seniors and STPEC Junior Seminars and Junior Writing will be available on-line to STPEC Juniors and Seniors.** Please be sure to register before May 5th for the classes you want - after May 5th we reserve the right to take classes off-line if they are full or almost full. Once a STPEC seminar is taken off-line you will need to fill out a STPEC add request form and wait until September to find out if you are in the class!
- ★ Juniors may add themselves to a request list for Senior Seminars, and Sophomores may add themselves to a request list for Junior Seminars and Junior Writing, by filling out a STPEC course add request form in the STPEC Office. On May 5th we will review these written requests and add additional students to courses based on course enrollment size and special student needs. Our goal is to put as many STPEC students as possible into the seminars of their choice. If you do not receive the STPEC course you have put in a written request for, you may attempt to add the course again by filling out an add request form in the STPEC office during the first week of the Fall 2010 semester.

NOTE ON COMPLETION OF JUNIOR I

You must have completed (turned in the work and officially received a final grade of C or better for) STPEC's Junior Seminar I by Monday, August 2nd in order to remain on the registration lists for Junior Seminar II or any Senior Seminars. After this date you will be dropped from the roster(s) and will need to fill out an add/drop request to be added back into the course(s). You will not be able to take Junior II or any Senior Seminars unless you have completed Junior I before the beginning of the Fall semester.

STPEC T-SHIRTS & SWEATSHIRTS AVAILABLE

NEW! We now have **RED STPEC t-shirts** available for sale in the STPEC office. We also have hooded sweatshirts, in a variety of styles and sizes, along with our regular black STPEC "Red Star" t-shirts in all sizes. See a staff person if you'd like to purchase one!

★ \$10.00 per black t-shirt/\$14.00 per red t-shirt.

Hooded sweatshirt prices vary according to size and style.

STPEC student phone and e-address lists are now available from the mailboxes in the STPEC office.
If your information is missing or incorrect please contact Deborah at 545-0043 or stpec@sbs.umass.edu.

Reader to Reader Five College Program

Reader To Reader, Inc., a nonprofit literacy organization based on the campus of Amherst College announces a new program that will bring Five College students into the world of non-profit work through the development and implementation of their own literacy projects. This program incubates and supports student-designed and student-run projects that bring educational resources to under-served populations, either abroad or within the United States. Reader To Reader will guide these students through the entire process, teach them the skills necessary to lead their project and give them unparalleled leadership opportunity.

In addition, Reader To Reader will provide significant resources to aid each project's success, including monetary and in-kind donations, institutional support, connections, and publicity. This program gives Five College students the unique opportunity to take their creative ideas and make them a reality that can enact real change.

Brochures and additional student information are available by request. For more information about Reader To Reader, please visit their website at www.readertoreader.org or their blog at www.reader2reader.blogspot.com.

Guides to Scholarships, Careers and Jobs in International Education, Conflict Resolution, Social Entrepreneurship, International Development & Related Fields

As part of the Peace and Collaborative Development Network, <http://internationalpeaceandconflict.org> several free guides to careers, internships and scholarships have been developed. The guides include:
* Guide to Internships * Guide to Career and Scholarship Resources * Guide to Academic Jobs in Conflict Resolution and Related Fields * Guide to Scholarships and Fellowships in Conflict Resolution and Related Fields

More Scholarships are available from the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences

Please go to: www.umass.edu/sbs for full details

Deadline - Thursday, April 8, 2010

Ansin Study Abroad Fellowships

\$500-\$2,000 awards

Alan L. and Carol S. LeBovidge Undergraduate Research Scholarship. Supports students doing research with a UMass Amherst SBS faculty member - up to \$2,000.

Merriam Internship Scholarship

Provides support to undergraduates who take unpaid internships in public policy, law, ecological conservation and/or real estate development.

Awards of \$2,500 for summer or fall semester internships

STPEC SCHOLARSHIP MONEY AVAILABLE FOR INTERNSHIPS

We are in the third year of our Samuel Rubin Peace and Justice Internship Program. This is a scholarship opportunity that provides funding to support students in internships that they would otherwise be unable to afford. The Rubin Scholarship can be applied to internships directly involved with work in community, regional, national or international organizations working in the areas of social and economic justice, peace and civil rights, and political or human rights. This means you can apply for internships abroad, in another city, or simply instead of working your requisite summer job for money.

If you are interested in finding some money to support an internship that is part of your educational goals and relates to social change, consider applying for the Samuel Rubin Peace and Justice Internship Program. Please send a resume, personal statement, letter of acceptance from the internship organization, and budget to Katherine Mallory (stpecinternship@sbs.umass.edu) in the STPEC office. Materials should be turned in no later than 5:00 pm, Monday, April 12, 2010.

Note: The personal statement should include a description of the organization you are interning with, what you will be doing there, and why you want to work there. The budget should show your expenses for the time during which you will be working at the internship, and should reflect how much you will need from the Rubin Fund. Normally requests for more than \$2500 cannot be accommodated. We ask also that you respect the needs of other applying students. Recognizing that the more money we have, the more students we can fund, please take some time with your budget and resist the temptation to ask for more than you really need.

We look forward to getting your applications and supporting the always interesting work you are all doing. If you are applying for a second time, please be advised that first time applicants will be considered first.

Maureen Flanagan Scholarship Endowment

Are you a student (preference given to women) with financial need? Interested in travel, internships, or service that complements your campus course work? Go to <http://www.biochem.umass.edu/Flanagan%20Scholarship.pdf> for details.

Student applicants must prepare a one-page proposal, which describes their initiative and the estimated costs, and **submit the proposal to the Financial Aid Office by March 31st.**

All About the STPEC Internship Requirement (STPEC 498Y)

All STPEC majors are required to complete a 3 or more credit graded internship with a grade of C or better.

If you have not yet completed this requirement, you can do so by registering for STPEC 498Y, section 1. Your faculty sponsor will be Katherine Mallory, STPEC's Internship Advisor. *You are responsible for finding your own internship placement, and having it approved by Katherine prior to registering for the course.*

Grades for the STPEC Internship requirement are based on your written analysis of your experience and observations. We therefore recommend that you complete at least one semester in the STPEC program before registering for an internship, so that you have an analytical framework to use as the basis of your written work.

Occasionally we accept prior internships or internships completed through other departments for the required internship. In order for such a course to count, it must be graded, worth three or more credits, and involve at least 100 hours of work. In addition you must have written an analytical paper of at least 12 pages based on your experience, which you must submit to Katherine for approval.

Regardless of how you plan to fulfill your internship requirement, **you must have Katherine's prior approval. Please don't wait until your final semester** to talk to Katherine, or you may find that you have to stick around for an extra semester!

Want to get more out of your Internship experience?

Want some extra help writing your Internship paper?

We strongly recommend **STPEC 494A: Praxis**.

This is a two credit graded optional course offered to help students further explore the relationship between theory and practice. This class is intended for students currently fulfilling their STPEC Internship requirement and offers practical guidance on writing the Internship papers. Progressive critical theory is applied to the internship experience generating insight into the structure of our institutions, and supporting student development into constructive change agents in those settings. Race, gender, sexuality, and class are examined in terms of their intersections. To register please speak with Katherine.

Planning to do an Internship during Summer

Session or Fall 2010? Are you planning to do your STPEC internship requirement over summer session or during the fall semester? If so, you should discuss your plans with Katherine Mallory, STPEC Internship Advisor, before the end of this semester.

Internships as Electives

We welcome and encourage STPEC students to do internships beyond the 3 credits required for the major. The University allows you to count up to 15 internship credits toward graduation. You can earn up to 15 credits in one placement, or you can complete two or more smaller internships. Students doing elective internships may work with the Faculty Sponsor of their choice.

NEW YORK UNION SEMESTER at The City University of New York (CUNY)

An Academic Internship Program that
makes a Difference

***Live, work, study and be a part of the
New York City labor movement!***

Union semester is a unique "semester away" program offered by Joseph S. Murphy Institute for Worker Education and Labor Studies/CUNY which gives students the opportunity to take courses in labor studies and intern with a labor union in New York City. As interns at unions and affiliated organizations in New York City, students gain an understanding of the inner workings of organized labor while they make a real contribution to the work of the movement. In the classroom, students analyze the experience they are gaining in the field, by studying the labor movement, both past and present.

This program is designed for students with a commitment to social justice and a strong interest in the labor movement. Current undergraduates who have completed 45 credits with a minimum GPA of 2.5 are eligible. Students who successfully complete their internship and a full Union Semester course load are awarded a Certificate in Labor Studies by the School of Professional Studies (SPS), CUNY.

For more information and application instructions, please visit: www.unionsemester.org or email to info@unionsemester.org. Preference will be given to applicants who apply for fall 2010 before April 15, 2010.

UNITE HERE - 2010 Internships and Jobs

Want to fight for economic and social justice?

Want to learn union organizing skills with one of North America's most progressive and successful unions?

Paid Internships and jobs available at:

<http://jobs.unitehere.org/>

*Social Thought and Political Economy Program
E-27A Machmer Hall
University of Massachusetts
240 Hicks Way
Amherst, MA 01003-9278*

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