WELCOME TO NEW STUDENTS

We are pleased to welcome the following new students to the STPEC Program as of September 2014:


Join Student Executive Committee!

The name is scary, but the meetings are not! STPEC Student Executive Committee is a group of STPEC students who meet several times a semester. We discuss and decide what happens in STPEC. You can sign up for 1 credit at the beginning of each semester, or just show up. You will learn how to facilitate a meeting and reach consensus. The more students we have, from 101 to the Red Star, the better STPEC will become. Student Exec looks impressive on a resume, we love potlucks, we love jokes, we have power!

Our next meeting is Tuesday November 18, 6:45 in Machmer W-11, and there’s no reason not to come!

Please see page 2 for more details on Student Executive Committee and how to sign up for next semester.

Save the Date!

Please join us for the

STPEC Red Star
End of semester Potluck and
Graduation Ceremony

Saturday, December 6th

Potluck at 5:00

Red Star at 7:00

Location tba!
**Spring 2014 Registration Notes continued**

- All STPEC seminars and Junior Writing will be on-line until **Friday, December 5th**. STPEC Senior Seminars and Junior Writing will be available on-line to STPEC Seniors and Juniors and the STPEC Core Seminars I and II will be available on-line to STPEC Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors. Please be sure to register before December 5th for the classes you want - after December 5th you may find that you need to fill out an add form and then wait until January to find out if you are in the class!

- To request an Independent Study, please fill out an **Independent Study Form** (available from the STPEC Office mailboxes).

- To request an Internship, please fill out an **Internship Study Contract**. For more instruction on registering for the STPEC Internship, please see page 5.

- Praxis: If you’d like to sign up for the regular 2 credit Praxis (497P) which will NOT count for the I.E. Gen Ed requirement you may do so on SPIRE. To register for the 3 credit Praxis (494PI) which WILL fulfill the I.E. requirement please speak with Sigrid Schmalzer, STPEC Program Director, (before December 10) or Katherine Mallory, STPEC Internship Director (after December 10). Please note that students who take Praxis for 2 credits (497P) will NOT be able to register for the 3 credit Praxis (494PI) at a later date. So if you need to take your I.E. this year please be sure to sign up for 494PI!

- Be sure to give any completed STPEC Add Request or Independent Study form(s) to Deborah Reiter, STPEC’s Program Coordinator (you may leave it/them in her mailbox if she is not available in person).

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**STPEC Executive Committee for Fall 2014**

For the Fall 2014 semester our student Executive Committee Reps are: Michelle Constantineau, Saphrona Denney, Pooja Ghosh, Graham Greenland, Liam Gude, Darragh Heffernan, Evan Heller, Nicole Villar Hernandez, Christopher Oo, Michael Stern, Scott Wexler, and Kathleen Wheeler.

If you have issues with/concerns about/suggestions for the STPEC Program please discuss these with a student rep.

The next full Executive Committee Meeting will take place on Friday, December 5 from 3:00-6:00 pm.

**Students wishing to serve on Executive Committee for Spring 2015** should register for STPEC 291X, 1 credit, pass/fail. Please read the course syllabus before registering for this credit. The syllabus is available in the STPEC Office or on the STPEC website under People in STPEC/Executive Committee. In order to receive a P in this course, students will need to attend ALL of the student and full executive committee meetings (as listed on SPIRE) and meet the responsibilities outlined in the bylaws and on the syllabus.

Serving on Executive Committee is a great way to network, gain experience, and have a real impact on your education. You will learn real, transferable skills pertaining to meeting facilitation and participation, make decisions horizontally with faculty and staff, and will add a valuable credential to your résumé. Students in 291X are expected to serve as a link between the Executive Committee and the STPEC student body. This connection is essential to building a strong, active, and informed STPEC community.

**STPEC Office Staff Internship**

To register for **STPEC 298Y section 4: STPEC Office Staff**, please speak to Deborah or Tyler in the STPEC Office. For more details on the STPEC Student Office Staff Internship, please see page 6 or ask a staff member for a syllabus.

**Student Bridges Program**

Student Bridges is a student-initiated outreach program that connects UMass students with local community-based organizations and schools through tutoring-mentoring partnerships, college awareness activities, and policy advocacy. The program has primarily partnered with schools and programs in the Holyoke-Springfield area. For more information: visit www.studentbridges.org - stop by 420 Student Union – call 413 545-1288 – or email umbridge@stuaf.umass.edu.

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**INCOMPLETES IN STPEC CORE SEMINAR I**

Once again a reminder that STPEC 391H is a **pre-requisite** for all other upper level STPEC courses, except for Junior Writing. In most cases, you will not be admitted to other STPEC seminars until you have **completed** STPEC 391H with a grade of C or better. If you find yourself in an extreme panic due to our standard policy please come and talk to Deborah or Tyler about your situation.
SPECIAL COURSE OFFERINGS FROM STPEC FOR SPRING 2015

STPEC 291R: STPEC Brown Bag Activist
Lunch Series  Wednesdays 11:15-1:15
1 credit, mandatory pass/fail  Schedule # 51023
Students will attend four brown-bag lunch meetings with local activists to discuss their work.
This is an ideal opportunity to explore the intersection between social theory and political practice, and to begin thinking about internship possibilities. Two other meetings will be scheduled, one before the series begins and a final one after the series concludes. Students will be expected to complete short readings for the introductory and wrap-up meetings and will write a final paper comparing and contrasting the activist approaches adopted by the four speakers or on a topic of interest to the student approved by the instructor.

★ Activist Meet ‘n’ Greet ★
7:00 pm-9:00 pm Wednesday, November 5 in the STPEC Student Lounge
(next to the STPEC Offices)
All STPEC activists and future activists will come together to eat pizza this November. This will be a space and time for STPEC students interested in activism to learn about their large range of options. Whether you have something in mind or want to find out what’s out there, the Meet ‘n’ Greet is for you. Come share a slice and talk to your peers about current campaigns, awesome resources and meeting times. Going to that first meeting will be so easy with a familiar face!

STPEC Skill Share
Can you fix a computer? Have a car? Got the low down on biological determinism? Share your skills! Send a photo, contact info and a list of skills to jlandon@umass.edu and wait for friendship to form. This is about community building, so no skill is too small to share. Info will be posted online and in the STPEC student lounge.

Non-Profit Career Panel
Interested in working, volunteering or interning with a non-profit organization? Come hear from local and national non-profits!
Wed., November 13  5:30 pm  506 Goodell

MEETING TIMES FOR NEW STPEC MAJORS
We will be holding meetings for new STPEC majors November 14-24. If you are a new STPEC student please go to: http://www.umass.edu/stpec/academics/nsm.html to sign up for a time. If you cannot make any of the times available please contact either the Program Coordinator or the Associate Program Director so that they may arrange an alternate time for you.

As always, we're looking for volunteers 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!

Assad, ISIS, Obama & U.S. Middle East Policy
Reese Erlich gives a reporter’s first hand account
STPEC Co-Sponsors
Thursday, November 13th  6:30pm
Communication Department Hub, Third Floor, Integrative Learning Center (ILC), UMass
Sponsored by College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Department of Communication, Department of Economics and Department of Journalism
Independent journalist Reese Erlich has just returned from the Kurdish region of northern Iraq. His illustrated lecture will assess the rise of ISIS and whether the U.S. military re-engagement helps or hurts the effort to stop it.

Represent.Us Campus Chapter
Corporate money has infiltrated our political system, buying our politicians and obscuring the needs of people. Monsanto and the Koch brothers don’t care about healthcare, education, or racial equality. They care about profit. Come join the Represent.Us campus chapter and fight back against corrupt politicians and big special interests buying out our democracy. We meet on Monday nights at 7:00 PM. Email jlandon@umass.edu for more info.

Join the STPEC Student Group on Facebook!
http://tinyurl.com/stpecstudents
Andrea James on
Real Women. Real Voices.
The Movement of Formerly Incarcerated Women to End Mass Incarceration

Monday November 3, 6:30-8:00 pm, Campus Center 162-75

Andrea James has worked within the criminal justice system for more than 25 years, including as a criminal defense attorney, when she provided zealous representation for families within her community of Roxbury, Massachusetts. In 2009, she was sentenced to a 24-month federal prison sentence, part of which she served at the federal prison camp for women in Danbury, Connecticut. Even after a lifetime of work seeking justice on behalf of disenfranchised people, she was stunned by what she encountered upon entering the prison system as an incarcerated person. Since her release, Andrea James has mobilized to support incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women and their children through the organization Families for Justice as Healing, a criminal justice reform organization advocating for community wellness initiatives to replace the war on drugs and incarceration. STPEC is proud to sponsor Andrea James’s visit to UMass as part of our effort to support UMass programming on prison reform and prison abolition.

Stephanie Luce on
Lifting Up Low-Wage Work: Global Perspectives

Monday, November 17, 7:00 p.m.
Commonwealth Honors College Events Hall

Stephanie Luce, Professor of Labor Studies at the Joseph S. Murphy Institute for Worker Education at the CUNY School for Professional Studies and member of the Department of Sociology, CUNY Graduate Center

About 28 percent of all U.S. workers – almost 37 million people - earn poverty level wages, and of the 10 occupations that are expected to produce the greatest number of new jobs by 2020, eight have median annual incomes below $30,000 a year. The U.S. is not alone: low-wage work in increasingly a problem in other industrialized countries, and is, in fact, a global problem. Are we doomed, as Gary Burtless asked in 1990, to a future of lousy jobs? This talk will discuss some of the possible solutions to our low-wage jobs crisis, considering both the national and international picture.

Dr. Stephanie Luce received both her Ph.D. in Sociology and her M.A. in Industrial Relations from the University of Wisconsin at Madison. She was a faculty member at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst Labor Center, and has worked at the U.S. Department of Labor, a Congressional Commission on Agricultural Workers, the Center for Wisconsin Strategy and the Political Economy Research Institute. Best known for her research on living wage campaigns and movements, she is the author of Fighting for a Living Wage, and co-author of two other books on wage standards: The Living Wage: Building a Fair Economy, and The Measure of Fairness. Her current research focuses on globalization and labor standards, labor-community coalitions, and retail work. She is co-editor of What Works for Workers? Public Policies and Innovative Strategies for Low-Wage. Her current book, Labor Movements: Global Perspectives came out earlier this year from Polity Press.
All About the STPEC Internship Requirement (STPEC 498Y)

Please note: Katherine Mallory is on leave until December 10. If you need approval/advising for an internship placement before December 10 please contact Sigrid Schmalzer, STPEC Program Director at sigrid@history.umass.edu.

All STPEC majors are required to complete a 3 or more credit graded internship before graduation. 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 Director. You are responsible for finding your own internship placement and having it approved by Katherine or Sigrid 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. In order for such an internship 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 twelve 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 or Sigrid’s prior approval. Please don’t wait until your final semester to get approval, or you may find that you have to stick around for an extra semester!

PRAXIS

Katherine will once again be offering Praxis (STPEC 497P (2 credits, does NOT fulfill I.E.) or STPEC 494PI (3 credits, fulfills I.E. requirement). This optional course helps students to further explore the relationship between theory and practice. This course will offer practical guidance on writing the Internship papers. You may register for STPEC 497P on-line. Students taking STPEC 497P will not be able to take STPEC 494PI at a later date. To register for STPEC 494PI please speak with Katherine.

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.

Internship Fair with Local Employers

Wed, November 5, 11am – 1pm
Cape Cod Lounge, Student Union

Meet local area employers who are seeking UMass Amherst intern students for the spring or summer. Resumes are optional, but not required. All majors are invited! Companies include: MassLive, NCTV, Daily Hampshire Gazette, Amherst Media, Counterfeit Cow Productions, ArtsPromo, GoNomad & many more!

Jobs with The Fund for the Public Interest!

The Fund for the Public Interest is hiring graduating seniors for full-time, Citizen Outreach Director positions, and will be holding interviews on the University of Massachusetts Amherst campus on Thursday, November 13th.

“The Fund” partners with leading nonprofit groups from around the country, providing the kind of people power it takes to build organizations for the long-term, win hard-fought campaigns, and make real change on some of the most important issues of our day. Specifically, we’re hiring Citizen Outreach Directors to run our grassroots campaign offices across the country next fall — working on behalf of groups like Environment America and US PIRG. We are looking for smart, motivated students who want to get their hands dirty and make a real impact on some of the most critical issues facing our society. You can learn more, and submit an application on www.fundjobs.org.

CUNY PROGRAMS ON SOCIAL CHANGE AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE

CUNY’s Murphy Institute offers two unique programs that provide students with tools for leadership, scholarship, and advocacy: New York Union Semester and the Masters of Arts Degree in Labor Studies. NY Union Semester offers a mentored internship at a union or worker organization, in addition to 4 outstanding classes. In the MA in Labor Studies, students examine the history, debates and challenges affecting workers and unions, from an interdisciplinary perspective. More info available at: www.sps.cuny.edu/institutes/jsmi.
Want to help us

**RUN THE STPEC PROGRAM??**

Do you...
- ★ want to have a voice in your major?
- ★ yearn for democracy?
- ★ want something GOOD to put on your resume?

In addition to being a unique academic program in terms of critical focus, we have one of the few consensus-run majors in the nation, where staff and students create the program along side one another. Interning with the STPEC office staff is one way students can help create a participatory major, supporting a community conducive to critical thought and social change, as well as contributing to continually rethinking and revising our major.

Office staff duties and projects reflect the needs of the program and the interests of the students and include attending weekly staff meetings, assisting with STPEC office work, working on program publications like the STPEC newsletter, organizing student events, and making weekly program decisions. STPEC office staff members also learn useful skills like consensus decision-making, meeting facilitation, peer-advising and mentoring, and negotiating bureaucracy.

If you would like to participate in creating the present and future of your STPEC major please come see Deborah or Tyler in the STPEC Office.

### 17th Annual Eqbal Ahmad Lecture

**International Human Rights and the Need for Global Education**

*Randall Robinson, internationally respected social justice advocate and author*

**November 6 at 4 p.m**

**Hampshire College Robert Crown Center**

*free and open to the public*

Robinson established TransAfrica in 1979 to promote enlightened, progressive U.S. policies toward Africa and the Caribbean. As the head of TransAfrica, he led the Free South Africa Movement, a nationwide campaign to end apartheid in South Africa. His 1994 campaign to end military rule in Haiti included a 27-day hunger strike that caused the U.S. government to lead the successful multinational operation that returned power to Haiti’s first democratically elected, but violently overthrown, government.

Robinson is a graduate of Harvard Law School and is a Professor of Law at Penn State University.

### Civil Liberties and Public Policy (CLPP) Program

**upcoming events and student opportunities**

The Civil Liberties and Public Policy (CLPP) Program is a national reproductive rights and justice organization dedicated to educating, mentoring, and inspiring new generations of advocates, leaders, and supporters. Combining activism, organizing, leadership training, and reproductive rights movement building, CLPP promotes an inclusive agenda that advances reproductive rights and health, and social and economic justice. CLPP is based at Hampshire College.

**Annual Conference:**

*From Abortion Rights to Social Justice: Building the Movement for Reproductive Freedom*  
April 10-12, 2014

This conference, featuring reproductive rights and social justice speakers from across the country, workshops, panels, plenaries and trainings, is geared towards student and community activists. Conference registration is free for students and sliding-scale registration is offered for all attendees. Registration opens in January 2015.

Throughout the academic year, the CLPP Student Group creates and educates student activists knowledgeable in all aspects of reproductive justice. The Student Group also coordinates many parts of the annual conference. The Student Group is open to students from all of the Five Colleges and meets every other Wednesday, with upcoming meetings this semester on October 8, October 22 and November 5 from 6-7:30 in the Prescott Tavern at Hampshire.

**What’s missing from this space??**

**Your Artwork!!!**

STPEC students, if you have artwork and/or comics which you have created and think would be appropriate for the STPEC newsletter, please submit it/them for consideration to Deborah in the STPEC Office!