

In the Past 4 months...

The UMass Labor Extension Program Has Provided Trainings On These Topics...

- **Bargaining Strategy**
SEIU 211
- **Building Your Union**
Pride At Work
- **Early Education and Care**
AFSCME 1067
- **Labor Rights and Undocumented Workers**
UNITY House, UMass Dartmouth
- **Leadership Development**
MNA
- **Leadership Retreat**
Merrimack Valley Central Labor Council
- **Mobilizing to Build Power**
Massachusetts Nurses Association
- **Power Analysis for Community Groups**
Community Building Conference,
SE Mass
- **State of the Massachusetts Economy**
UFCW 1479
- **Stewards Training**
IUE/CWA Local 274
- **Strategic Internet Research for Union
Organizing (and Contract Campaigns)**
Various unions
- **Strategic Planning for Immigrant Rights
and Globalization**
Solidarity School

To Contact the UMass Labor Extension Program:

<p>■ UMASS AMHERST LABOR EXTENSION PROGRAM Labor Center, Gordon Hall 418 N. Pleasant St. Amherst, MA 01002-1735 413-545-6166 Fax: 413-545-0110 email: dmelcher@lrrc.umass.edu</p>	<p>■ UMASS DARTMOUTH LABOR EXTENSION PROGRAM Dubin Labor Education Center 285 Old Westport Road North Dartmouth, MA 02747 508-999-8781 Fax: 508-999-9168 email: kwilson@umassd.edu</p>
<p>■ UMASS BOSTON LABOR EXTENSION PROGRAM CPCS Labor Resource Center 100 Morrissey Blvd. Boston, MA 02125-3393 617-287-7352 Fax: 617-287-7404 email: tess.ewing@umb.edu</p>	<p>■ UMASS LOWELL LABOR EXTENSION PROGRAM 1 University Ave. Lowell, MA 01854 978-934-3127 Fax: 978-934-4033 email: susan_winning@uml.edu</p>



GLOBALIZATION, IMMIGRATION, AND WAR

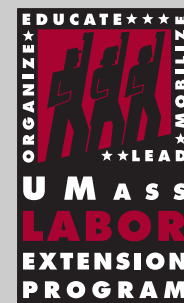
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

es in military spending. We must explore what will be the short and long-term consequences for working people in this country as a result of these policies.



1199 and USWA contingents at the Miami demonstration

We have a commitment to work with other labor education resources to offer programs on these topics. Look at the Spotlight and Resource sections of this issue of The Bulletin for more information.



Labor Extension Bulletin

A Publication of the University of Massachusetts Labor Extension Program

UMASS AMHERST ■ UMASS BOSTON ■ UMASS DARTMOUTH ■ UMASS LOWELL

VOLUME 5 ■ NUMBER 1 ■ SPRING 2004

Globalization, Immigration, and War: WHAT DO THEY MEAN FOR WORKERS?

As labor educators whose role it is to strengthen and help rebuild the labor movement, we recognize the need to help union members and leaders develop a better understanding of issues not directly related to fairness on the job but which have serious implications for labor and working people. Three of those issues are globalization, immigration and the war in Iraq.

Increased globalization has created a new economic reality for most workers in the U.S. Proposed trade agreements such as the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), and individual deals between individual countries and the U.S., go beyond the manufacturing sector. We live with the reality that over one million jobs, many of them good union jobs, have left the U.S. since NAFTA a decade ago. These new trade policies threaten to accelerate the loss of a wide variety of skilled jobs. With our economy increasingly dominated by low-paid jobs with few or no benefits and little or no union representation, rank and file members and labor leaders need more information to address these challenges. How can labor build coalitions and international solidarity around common issues? We need a sharper analysis of what is happening, and a plan to develop a strategic response.

Bush's proposed changes in immigration policy have sparked criticism from both labor and immigrants rights organizations. Immigration policy affects not only the lives of the large numbers of undocumented immigrant workers, but also the labor movement's ability to organize and represent all workers. As globalization has lowered the standard of living of workers in many countries, the number of workers who come to the United States for work without documentation has risen dramatically. We need to help our members understand how the low pay, poor working conditions and lack of labor rights for these undocumented workers affects their working conditions and pay, as well



The North Shore Labor Council sent a delegation to the anti-FTAA protest in Miami last November

as the ability of organized labor to grow.

Finally, let's look briefly at the war in Iraq. Regardless of how one feels about whether the U.S. was right or wrong to go to war, we need to examine the impact of these policies on working people – in Iraq and here. Accompanying the Bush administration's war in Iraq and the war against terrorism has been a war on working people. Many of the administration's attacks on U.S. unions have been justified as necessary for national security. The attacks include depriving federal employees of union representation, privatizing and outsourcing government jobs and attacking hard-won rights such as overtime. We need to have a better analysis of the policies which began under the Reagan administration that included huge tax cuts for the rich, deep cuts in job training and education spending and huge increas-

What can you find out about a corporation on the internet?



Participants in Strategic Research class practice finding information on all sorts of companies and other institutions.

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE



UMass Boston
Labor Extension Program
CPCS Labor Resource Center
100 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125-3393

Around THE STATE

Celebrating Women's Struggles

January 25 – March 31, 2004 9am - 4pm Daily

Cost: Free

Location: Boott Gallery in the Boott Cotton Mills Museum, 400 Foot of John St.

An international poster exhibit compiled by Stephen Lewis, SEIU Local 509, and offered in collaboration with UMass Lowell Labor Extension Program and the Patrick J. Mogan Cultural Center

Dora Bastarache Leadership Course

Five Saturday mornings starting Jan. 31, 2004

Cost: \$60 for course, free for SE Mass Labor Council delegates

Location: UNITE Hall, 867 State Rd., N. Dartmouth

Join us for this series to learn about labor history and to hone your skills in organizing, communication, and public speaking to build the union. For information call 508-999-8796.

Mass. Organizes

Second Tuesdays of every month, 9:30 - 11:30am

Cost: free

Location: IBEW Local 103

Roundtable meetings on topics related to union organizing. For information, contact Tess Ewing, 617-287-7352 or Kathy Casavant, 617-227-8260

The Real World of Work: What Does the New Economy Mean for Women's Employment Opportunities?

March 2, 2004. 1:00 - 2:30pm

Cost: Free

Location: UMass Lowell, South Campus, O'Leary Library Room 222
Keynote speaker Ellen Bravo, National Director of 9 to5, National Association of Working Women will lead discussion on the impact of the new economic reality for many workers—more and more low-paid jobs with no benefits, increased temp work, and skilled jobs going to other countries.

Fighting for Economic Justice in the Global Economy: How Will Women Face the Challenge?

March 2, 2004. 6:00 - 6:30pm

Cost: Free

Location: Boott Mill, Lowell National Historic Park. 400 Foot of John St.
Ellen Bravo, National Director of 9 to5, National Association of Working Women will lead a discussion on how labor and community organizations can address the impact of the new economic reality for many workers. Light refreshments, presentation and discussion

Both Ellen Bravo events co-sponsored by the Patrick J. Mogan Cultural Center. For more info, contact Susan Winning 978-934-3127.

WILD in the Winter East

March 20, 2004, 8:30-2:00

Cost: TBA

Location: TBA

Topic: TBA

For more information contact Tess Ewing 617-287-7352 or tess.ewing@umb.edu

WILD in the Winter West

March 20, 2004, 8:30-2:00

Cost: TBA

Location: TBA

The theme for this year's WILD in the Winter West is "Election 2004: What's A Working Woman's Agenda?" Women legislators and elected leaders will join us for a discussion of what are our issues and what does it take to bring them to the attention of political decision-makers. Workshops and a lunchtime discussion on talking to our members about our issues in the context of the presidential campaign will round out the program. For more information contact: Dale Melcher, 413-545-6166 or dmelcher@lrrc.umass.edu.

Health and Safety Conference

Saturday, April 3

Cost: TBA, will be minimal

Location: UMass Dartmouth, Group I

Join labor activists and health and safety experts from around the state in order to deepen our knowledge and skills in fighting for a safe and healthy workplace. For more information call 508-999-8781

Worker Memorial Day 5K Race and Walk

April 17, 2004

Cost: \$12.00 pre-registered, \$15.00 day of race

Location: UMass Dartmouth Ring Rd.

Come as an individual or make a team with your union to participate in our annual race, which serves as an important fundraiser for the Labor Center.

Program Notes

■ UMASS AMHERST

This Fall UMass Amherst LEP focused on developing a leadership development curriculum with the statewide extension program for the Mass Nurses Association (MNA) and teaching Labor Education in the UMass Amherst residential masters program. We worked with the PVCLC Women's Committee to host a meeting of the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women. Women from eight different unions spoke with the commissioners about their concerns as women workers and union members and asked for assistance in making their workplaces safer, addressing childcare concerns, and removing obstacles to organizing. We offered workshops on Early Education and Care for AFSCME 1067, The Massachusetts Budget Crisis for the UFCW 1459 Stewards Assembly, Leadership Development for the MNA and Bargaining Strategy for the SEIU 211 Negotiating Committee.

■ UMASS BOSTON

The UMass Boston Labor Resource Center has been weathering the crisis of losing its director, Pat Reeve, and research coordinator, Mary Jo Connelly, and it is now firmly moving forward again. Karen Courtney and Jill Alexander, of K. Courtney and Associates, have hit the ground running as interim co-directors, providing needed expertise and stability until permanent replacements are found for Pat and Mary Jo. Luckily, the Labor Extension Program has been able to continue to function smoothly through this transition period. In November and December, we hosted two very successful 3-day internet workshops on "Strategic Research for Union Organizers", co-sponsored by Dartmouth and Lowell Labor Extension Programs. This year, we look forward to working on a host of new and continuing projects, including the AFL-CIO's Voice@Work campaign, WILD in the Winter, leadership development projects with SEIU Local 615 and IUE/CWA Local 274, and more.

■ UMASS DARTMOUTH

In Fall of 2003 at the UMass Dartmouth Arnold M. Dubin Labor Education Center we continued our work helping build the new SE Massachusetts Labor Council. We have provided extensive technical assistance to the education and economic development committees of the Council. It has been exciting to be a part of the growing strength of this recently merged Labor Council. October marked the final installment of the Labor History Mural Project as two very talented Irish artists created two banners to be used by area union members. Also in October, we were proud to co-sponsor the third Community Building Conference which reached 15 area community groups. Labor Extension contributed by leading a workshop on analyzing power relationships in the community to win a campaign. Next we are heading up two new programs this Spring - a five Saturday leadership development course and a one day Health and Safety Conference. Please call us for more information or to sign up at 508-999-8781.

■ UMASS LOWELL

Our work in the fall focused on Globalization and defeating the FTAA. As a co-sponsor of "Globalization, the FTAA, and the Future of Manufacturing in New England", we facilitated organizing sessions to help union members talk with co-workers. We joined the North Shore CLC and Steelworkers to march in Miami to Stop the FTAA. Continuing the work to support labor councils, we led a leadership retreat for the Merrimack Valley CLC. We led a strategic planning session with the Economic Development Committee of the North Shore CLC to help develop a campaign for economic justice for workers associated with a TIF (tax cut) received by a hotel. In coalition with Lowell Women's Week, we are organizing events around how the new and increasingly global economy impacts women's fight for economic justice. Helping the Merrimack Valley Project's Workers Center move to a new phase, we will offer Workers Rights Training in collaboration with Legal Services in Lawrence.

The Resource Corner

There's a wealth of video resources on the Iraq war and globalization.

Uncovered: The Whole Truth About the Iraq War. This controversial and arresting film takes you behind the walls of government, as CIA, Pentagon and Foreign Service experts speak out, on the lies, misstatements and exaggerations that served as pretexts for a "preemptive" war. For more info go to www.truthuncovered.com.

Danger Ahead: The FTAA is Coming Your Way (17 min.)

\$15 from Jobs with Justice at 3353 Washington St., Boston MA 02130 (617-524-8778).

American Friends Service Committee has a large video lending library, including:

It Pays to Advertise video Oct. 2002 (15 min.) A "must see" after Colin Powell's presentation to the U.N. in February 2003. This 60 Minutes segment exposes some of the biggest lies used to sell the 1991 Gulf War and the "need" for war in 2003.

Global Village or Global Pillage? video 1999 (27 min.) An easy to understand overview of what the global corporate economy does to real people and how we can unite to change it. Very positive (full of success stories) and motivating in the face of a vast and daunting problem.

For info and rental go to www.afsc.org/resources/video-film.htm, or call coordinator Paul Shannon at 617-497-5273.

Some brand-new videos are not yet up on the web site, but are available at AFSC's Cambridge, office. Among them are:

Downward Mobility: the "Walmartization of the US.

Foreign Service: the outsourcing of tech jobs to India

All in the Family: (15 minute) Halliburton's lucrative contracts in Iraq

S P O T L I G H T

New Education Committee of Boston Labor for Justice with Peace and U.S. Labor Against the War



This working group is dedicated to creating opportunities for union members to talk to each other about the connection between Bush's foreign policy and current domestic politics. The group, which consists of union activists and educators, sprang out of the national meeting last October of US Labor Against the War and its local counterpart, Boston Labor for Justice with Peace.

Mike Prokosch of United for a Fair Economy is heading up the effort and can be reached at 617-423-2148. Curriculum which addresses economic issues in the context of war is available for anyone to download through the UFE website. It can be downloaded from <http://www.ufenet.org/>, click on Economics Education, then download, finally pick War and the Economy.