

BULLETIN

of the

U.S. BRANCH

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY for LABOR and SOCIAL SECURITY LAW

EDWIN R. RENDER, *editor*

ALVIN GOLDMAN, *co-editor*

May 2011

[U.S. Branch's web site: law.unl.edu/islssl]

From The Chair, Steve Willborn

We would like to make the United States Branch of the International Society for Labor and Social Security Law a more vibrant and invigorating organization. But we're not quite sure how to do that. I thought it might make sense to ask you what you think we should do to change and improve the organization.

I've prepared a brief survey to seek your input. Five questions. It will take, at most, three minutes to complete (although you can spend more time on it, if you wish). You can find the survey here:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SKTPD9J>

Please take the time to complete the survey. We really do want to hear what you think we can do to improve the International Society. As you will see, most of the questions are open-ended. Please feel free to think broadly and creatively. The survey doesn't ask for your name, but if you want to talk about ideas you have, please contact me directly.

I hope to be able to report on the survey results in the next newsletter and, if you are creative and clever (more creative and clever than we've been able to be, which is not to set a very high bar!), maybe in that newsletter I'll have ideas to float about steps we might take to improve our organization. I hope so.

Member Activities

Ted St. Antoine will deliver the keynote address at an international conference on "Worlds of Work: Employment Dispute Resolution Systems Across the Globe" this July at Cambridge University. See conference announcement, below.

Up-Coming Conferences

-September 21-23, 2011, Seville, Spain. Xth European Regional Congress, ISLSSL. Primary Themes:

1. Labor Law and Industrial Relations in the Light of the Economic and Social Changes.
2. Collective Bargaining Rights in a Globalized Economy.
3. Social Protection of the Unemployed.

Round Tables:

1. Public and private employment services as intermediaries in the hiring of workers

2. Groups of people who risk labor and social protection

Workshops:

1. The role of the judiciary *vis-a-vis* the changes in labor law.
2. Interruptions and suspensions of the employment relationship.

The official languages for this conference are English, Spanish and French. U.S. participants are welcome and encouraged to attend. Because the registration fee increases substantially after June 1st, if you expect to attend, you are urged to register immediately. You can download an English versions of the program, registration, accommodations forms and other information at:

<http://www.aedtss.com/index.php?>

[option=com_content&view=article&id=2&Itemid=3](http://www.aedtss.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2&Itemid=3)

-September 25-28 2012, Santiago de Chile. XXth World Congress, ISLSSL. Official languages: English, Spanish, Portuguese and French.

Themes:

1. The effectiveness of the Labor Law and the Role of the Labor Inspectorate.
2. Sexual Harassment and Mobbing at the Workplace.
3. The Right to Strike and its Possible Conflict with Other Fundamental Rights.

Round Tables:

- Social Security: Its present and future.
- Labor Law: Its present and future.

Registration rates: Early Bird (through August 31, 2011)- \$ 390; through Feb. 28, 2012 \$ 450; thereafter \$ 510 through June 30, 2012. After June 30, 2012 it is \$570. Registration, accommodations and other information is available at:

<http://www.congresomundialtrabajo2012.com/informacion-general?lang=en> **Note**, although an entry visa is not currently required, those traveling on U.S. passports currently must pay, in US cash currency, a reciprocity fee of \$131 on entering Chile.

-June 6-8, 2011, Montréal, Canada. The Interuniversity research centre on globalization and work

(CRIMT) will host an international conference on multinational companies, their global production networks and emerging forms of labor regulation. Topic areas:

- 1) MNCs and National Business Systems.
- 2) Global Production Networks.
- 3) Emerging Architecture of Social Regulation.

For updates on the conference organization, check <http://www.crimt.org/>

-June 17, 2011, Melbourne, Australia. International Symposium on Regulating Occupational Health & Safety for Precarious Workers

The announcement states that the symposium will be of interest to regulators, researchers, unions and those with responsibilities for managing OHS for precarious workers. Speakers include experts from Canada, Chile, Britain and Sweden, as well as Australia and New Zealand.

A special discount registration rate for academics is available of AUD\$150.00 early bird (until 16th May) and AUD\$180 after 16th May.

For more information see:

<http://www.deakin.edu.au/buslaw/gsb/ohs-symposium/index.php>, or contact Elsa.Underhill@deakin.edu.au

-June 27-30, 2011, Cachan, France. Conference on "Democratic Participation in Employment and Societal Regulation" will be held at the Ecole Normale Supérieure de Cachan. For detailed information see the Call for Papers at:

<http://www.isa-sociology.org/pdfs/isa-rc10-conference-june-2011.pdf>

-July 6-8, 2011, Geneva, Switzerland. The Second Conference of the Regulating for Decent Work Network. organized by the International Labor Office in collaboration with the University of Manchester's Fairness at Work (FaW) Research Group and the University of Melbourne Centre for Employment and Labor Relations Law (CELRL) will explore the following tracks:

1. Fairness at the workplace after the crisis.
2. Decent working conditions: regulation's dispensable ideal?
3. Wages, inequality and economic growth.
4. Enforcing Decent Work.

More information is available from: rdw.law.unimelb.edu.au/ and

www.ilo.org/travail/whatwedo/projects/lang-en/WCMS-122341/index.htm

-July 20-22, 2011, Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, England. "Worlds of Work: Employment Dispute Resolution Systems Across the Globe". Sponsors: St. John's School of Law's Hugh L.

Carey Center for Dispute Resolution, N.Y.U. School of Law Center for Labor and Employment Law, Cornell University ILR School Labor and Employment Law Program and the American Arbitration Association.

Registration- \$1,200 (program attendance, three nights' at Fitzwilliam College, opening reception, two luncheons and closing banquet.) More information is available from: clcl@stjohns.edu, (718) 990-6653

-July 18-21, 2011, Athens, Greece. 8th Annual International Conference on Law. The registration fee of 250 euros covers access to all sessions, 2 lunches, coffee breaks and conference material. Special arrangements will be made with local hotels for a limited number of rooms at a special conference rate. In addition, a number of special events will be organized: A Greek night of entertainment, a special one-day cruise in the Greek islands and a half-day tour to archaeological site in the Prefecture of Attica.

The aim of the conference is to bring together scholars and students of law and other related disciplines. You may participate as a an observer of as a panel organizer, presenter of a paper or chair a session. Papers in English are welcome. For programs of previous conferences and other information visit the conference website:

www.atiner.gr/law.htm

-August 22-25, 2011, São Paulo, Brazil. 7th IL-ERA Regional Congress of the Americas, "Work in the Americas: Challenges and Opportunities" For further details and registration information see <http://www.acquaviva.com.br/siscone/index.asp?Codigo=102,2>

-September 7-10, 2011, Geneva, Switzerland. 10th European Sociological Association Conference, "Social Relations In Turbulent Times--Industrial Relations, Labour Market Institutions And Employment" The conference will focus on:

1. Work and employment in (turbulent) times of the crisis
2. Labor markets: segmentation and social inequalities. The role of trade unions
3. Macro concertation in Europe in times of the crisis: welfare and collective bargaining
4. Restructuring and workplace labor relations: re-organization processes and negotiations
5. The emergence of a European system of industrial relations: critical current debates
6. Perspectives for the European social model
7. New challenges to interest representation (RN17 and RC10)

8. The resurgence of conflicts: individual and collective forms of labor disputes

The sponsors state that cross-national papers are especially welcome. The Conference website is at: www.esa10thconference.com

-December 13-14, 2011, London School of Economics and Political Science. Anniversary Conference of the British Journal of Industrial Relations. "Across Boundaries: An Interdisciplinary Conference on the Global Challenges Facing Workers and Employment Research."

The conference organizers explain that it will have a dual focus on theory and policy and will explore how the dynamics of internationalization influence employment relations and the implications of these perspectives for developing new policy approaches to better address the global challenges facing workers today.

Topic areas include:

- Global inequality.
- Corporate social responsibility.
- Internationalization of labour unions and movements.
- Corporate governance and capital mobility.
- Labour and Employment under different political regimes.
- Impact of immigration.

Those interested in submitting papers are asked to submit an extended abstract of 2000 words or a complete paper to the BJIR by July 4, 2011 to Sylvia Roesch (bjir@lse.ac.uk). Accepted papers will be presented at the above announced anniversary conference.

-? , 2011, Philippines. The Philippine Society for Labor Law and Social Security plans to organize a regional conference sometime in 2011 on "Post-Crisis Labor Law--Reforms in the Asia Pacific." The tracks will be: 1. Social Dialogue; 2. Social Protection; 3. Job Contracting; 4. Informal sector. Registration and accommodation details will be emailed when and if they become available.

-January 25-27, 2012, Brussels, Belgium. Those fluent in French may be interested in exploring a meeting scheduled for Brussels from on the topic "Mesures et Démesures du Travail". Further information should be available at:

<http://metices.ulb.ac.be/spip.php?rubrique46>

- February, 8-10, 2012, Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia. 26th Conference of the Association of Industrial Relations Academics of Australia and New Zealand (AIRAANZ). "Re-organising work". The conference will be held at the Grand Chancellor Hotel, Surfers Paradise. (Room rates at AUD 125

per night for standard twin or queen room.) The Gold Coast has an international airport. Direct flights are available from most Australian capitals and a number of overseas countries. In addition, there is train line from Brisbane international Airport to the Gold Coast.

For details, contact candice@aomevents.com. Inquiries regarding papers can be directed to Dr Teresa Marchant, Griffith University,

t.marchant@griffith.edu.au

-July 2-5, 2012, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 16th World Congress of International Labor and Employment Relations Association (formerly IIRA). Registration and related information will be available in October at the conference web site:

<http://www.ilera2012.com/default.asp>

The U.S. Branch of ISLSSL will be co-sponsoring a one day program to be held in conjunction with the ILERA conference.

Study Opportunity

Sponsored by five European universities, a two week seminar will be held for doctorate and post doctorate level students, scholars, researchers and officials from June 27 to July 8, 2011 in Lyon, France. The theme is The Transformation of Collective Bargaining: The Role of Law. Lectures and discussion in English and French. Tuition: \$535, \$1,070 for lodging and some meals. For details see "Séminaire international" at:

<http://ietl.univ-lyon2.fr/> Applications are due May 29th.

Publications

Kadriye Bakirci and Graham Ritchie, INTERNATIONAL AND EUROPEAN DOCUMENTS ON CHILD AND YOUNG WORKERS AND MODERN FORMS OF CHILD SLAVERY. This collection is a compendium of international and European documents on child and young workers, modern forms of child slavery (child prostitution, pornography, sale and trafficking), child ombudsperson and labor. The compendium is a companion to Kadriye Bakirci's THE PROTECTION OF RIGHTS OF CHILD AND YOUNG WORKERS IN INTERNATIONAL REGIONAL AND TURKISH LAW published by Beta Publishing Company, Istanbul in 2004. For more information, see <http://www.unibook.com/unibook/site/bookdetail/?bookid=13424>

-An article that may be of interest to readers is Jeffrey Sack, "U.S. and Canadian Labour Law: Significant Distinctions" in vol. 25 ABA Journal of

Labor & Employment Law, issue 2 (2010). Jeff co-chairs the Canadian ISLSSL affiliate.

-*Global Labour Journal* is a multi-disciplinary journal focusing on non law disciplines including: anthropology; labor studies; social work; economic and industrial sociology; development studies; global studies; political economy; political science; international relations; international political economy; political sociology; labor economics. The latest issue of the Journal (GLJ 2.1, January 2011) is available for free download at :

<http://digitalcommons.mcmaster.ca/global-labour/>

-The January newsletter of the UCLA Globalization and Labor Standards (GALS) Project provides links to several useful international data sources as well as a summary of recent labor and employment law developments in China. The newsletter includes abstracts of recent articles discussing plights of domestic workers and of health care workers moving from under developed to developed nations.

You can subscribe to the GALS Newsletter by leaving the Subject blank with a first line message SUBSCRIBE and mailing it to:
gals-request@lists.ucla.edu

-A recently published European study may have implications for U.S. practices as well. Entitled "Public Employment Services, Employers and the Failure of Placement of Low-Skill Workers in Six European Countries". The abstract accompanying the announcement states: "The paper explains why across Europe very few job matches are facilitated by public employment services (PES), looking at the existence of a double-sided asymmetric information problem on the labour market. It is argued that although a PES potentially reduces search costs, both employers and employees have strong incentives not to use the PES. The reason is that employers try to avoid the 'worst' employees, and employees try to avoid the 'worst' employers. Therefore PES get caught in a low-end equilibrium that is almost impossible to escape. The mechanisms leading to this low-end equilibrium are illustrated by means of qualitative interviews with 40 private employers in six European countries." The study can be found at:

http://www.socialpolicy.ed.ac.uk/recwowejudisc/working_papers/rec-wp_02_11

-The ILO has a site designed to assist company managers and workers in complying with international labor standards and establishing good industrial relations. It is called the Business Helpdesk:
<http://www.ilo.org/empent/Areasofwork/business-helpdesk/lang--en/index.htm>

Networking

The Association for the Study of Comparative and International Labor Law and Industrial Relations (ADAPT) at the Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia is establishing an international network of researchers interested in the subject of young workers and age discrimination. The plan is to organize an international seminar/workshop later this year to agree on how to proceed. Anyone interested in joining this network should email their expression of interest to:

lisa.rustico@adapt.it or **m.sargeant@mdx.ac.uk**

DUES ARE DUE

An invoice should be enclosed with your Bulletin if you did not pay 2011 dues in advance. Please mail your dues as promptly as possible together with the invoice. Any questions concerning the amount dues should be directed to Alvin Goldman at:
goldmanalvin@me.com

Your dues include a subscription to *Comparative Labor Law and Policy Journal* and membership in the International Society as well as in the Society's U.S. Branch.