

BINATIONAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM



**Dec. 2-3, 2017
Calif. State Univ.
@ Dominguez Hills
Carson, Calif.**

**Building Unity
Among U.S. and
Mexican workers
To Beat Back the
Corporate Assault**

- **CANCEL NAFTA, NO WALL!**
- **Not One More Deportation!**
- **Full Labor Rights in U.S. & Mexico!**
- **Support the Driscoll's Boycott!**
- **Support the RJ Reynolds "Vuse" Boycott!**

BINATIONAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

• RECEPTION FOR INTERNATIONAL GUEST SPEAKERS / Meet and Greet (7 pm to 9 pm)

[Doubletree Hotel, 2 Civic Plaza Dr. Carson, CA]

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

[Saturday plenary sessions and workshops all at California State University-Dominguez Hills, Loker Student Union, 3rd Floor, 1000 E. Victoria St., Carson, CA]

• REGISTRATION & SIGN-UP FOR WORKSHOPS (9 am to 9:30 am)

• MORNING PLENARY SESSION (9:30 am to 11 am)

* Chairpersons opening session:

- **Nativo Lopez**, Senior Adviser, Hermandad Mexicana-La Original
- **Ivonne Heinze Balcazar**, Director, Department of Modern Languages, CSU-Dominguez Hills; Women's Caucus Rep., Dominguez Hills chapter of the California Faculty Association, Carson, CA

* Welcoming remarks

- **Claudia Mendoza**, Executive Board, Dominguez Hills chapter of the California Faculty Association, Carson, CA

* Keynote Speakers

- * **Rusty Hicks**, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO (On the fight against NAFTA and for labor rights)
- * **Baldemar Velasquez**, President, Farm Labor Organizing Committee, FLOC, AFL-CIO, Toledo, OH (On the fight against union-busting of FLOC in North Carolina and the JR Reynolds "Vuse" Boycott)
- * **Ivonne Heinze Balcazar**, Director, Department of Modern Languages, CSU-Dominguez Hills; Exec. Bd., CFA CSUDH, Carson, CA (On language & culture in the era of NAFTA)
- * **Al Rojas**, Second Vice Pres., Sacramento LCLAA, AFL-CIO; Founding member and organizer, United Farm Workers (In support of Conference's main demands)
- * **Carmen Mata**, Representative, Alianza de Organizaciones and SINDJA farmworkers' union, San Quintin, Baja California, Mexico (On the struggle of the San Quintin farmworkers)
- * **Victor Enrique Favela Rocha**, International Representative, National Telephone Workers Union of

the Mexican Republic and UNT, Mexico (On the fight against NAFTA and Privatizations in Mexico)

* **Luis Angel Reyes Savalza**, Immigration attorney; Director, Community Empowerment (On the fight against deportations and the Wall of Shame, and for Papers for All and a Clean DREAM act)

* **Maria Rivera**, Asamblea Popular de Tijuana, Mexico (On behalf of the Mexican Binational Conference Mexico Organizing Committee)

* **Scott Houldieson**, Vice President, UAW 551, Chicago; Convener, Workers Solidarity Action Network (On the struggle against NAFTA and for trade union rights in the US)

PLUS

- **Greetings from San Quintin**, Baja California, Mexico, farmworker leaders via skype, and
- **Greetings from Binational Conference Organizing Committee, Tuxtla Gutierrez**, Chiapas, via skype

• FIRST SESSION OF WORKSHOPS (11:15 am to 12:45 pm)

Three concurrent workshops

1) The Fight to Cancel NAFTA, CAFTA and all bilateral "free trade" agreements — and cross-border organizing: Next steps

- * **Luis Carlos Haro**, OPT Tijuana; Binat'l Committee
- * **William I. Robinson**, Professor of Sociology, University of California at Santa Barbara
- * **Alan Benjamin**, Representation, San Francisco Labor Council (AFL-CIO)
- * **Yesenia Portillo**, LA CISPES
- * **Juan José Bocanegra**, El Comité, Seattle, WA

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2) The Fight Against the Privatization of Public Education in the U.S. and Mexico

- * **Rosemary Lee**, Tri-National Coalition Against Privatization of Education, United Teachers of Los Angeles
- * **Leonor Marisela Ortega Domínguez**, Professor, UABC, Mexicali, Mexico
- * **Michael Dominguez**, UTLA Substitute Teacher, DPEN
- * **Junnie Verceles**, Chair, UTLA Unjustly Fired Teachers' Committee
- * **Dean Murakami**, President, Los Rios College Federation of Teachers AFT 2279; Vice President, Sacramento Central Labor Council

3) The Fight Against the Wall of Shame & Deportations, for a Clean Dream Act, and in Defense of Temporary Protective Status for Central American and Caribbean Refugees

- * **Melina Juarez**, PhD candidate Political Science; Raza Graduate Student Association, University of New Mexico
- * **Angela Sanbrano**, CARECEN; Central American refugee and anti-CAFTA organizer
- * **Xochilt Sanchez**, LA CISPES
- * **Sergio Trujillo**, DACA recipient, Hermandad Mexicana
- * **Carlos Arango**, CASA Aztlan, Chicago

• LUNCH (12:45 pm to 2 pm)

• SECOND SESSION OF WORKSHOPS (2 pm to 3:30 pm)

Three concurrent workshops

4) The Struggle for Women’s Rights in the Era of NAFTA

- * **Maria Rosa Ibarra**, UFCW, Los Angeles
- * **María Rivera**, Asamblea Popular de Tijuana, Mexico
- * **Rose Rangel Vergara**, Exec. Bd., National LCLAA; President, California State LCLAA (AFL-CIO)
- Millie Phillips**, Steering Committee, Labor Fightback Network
- * **Carmen Mata**, Alianza de Organizaciones, San Quintin, Baja California, Mexico

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5) The Struggle for Labor Rights and Unionization on Both Sides of the Border (fight against the labor “reform” and union-busting in Mexico; & the fight to stop “right to work”, Janus and ICE in the U.S.)

- * **Carlos Taboada**, Retired UTR Teacher, Richmond, CA
- * **David Huerta**, SEIU, Justice for Janitors
- * **Chloe Osmer**, Organizing Director, LA County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO
- * **Fátima García**, Secretary, Sacramento LCLAA; member, SEIU USWW
- * **Maquiladora worker**, Cd. Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico

6) The Fight for Quality Public Healthcare on both sides of the border (halting and reversing the privatization of IMSS and ISSSTE in Mexico; defense of Medicaid and fight for single payer in the U.S.)

- * **Karen Bernal**, Chair, Progressive Caucus, California Democratic Party; community activist, Sacramento, CA
- * **Desiree Rojas**, President, Sacramento LCLAA (AFL-CIO)
- * **Jerry Levinsky**, member, SEIU 509; Steering Committee, Labor Fightback Network, Amherst, MA
- * **Rosario Ramirez**, SEIU United Service Workers West, Sacramento, CA

• THIRD SESSION OF WORKSHOPS (3:45 pm to 5:15 pm)

Three concurrent workshops

7) The Nuts and Bolts of Organizing Boycotts, Nationally and Internationally: The Driscoll’s Boycott and the “Vuse” JR Reynolds Boycott

- * **Baldemar Velasquez**, President, FLOC, AFL-CIO
- * **Al Rojas**, Vice President, LCLAA Sacramento chapter
- * **María Cervantes**, Rep., Fresno Boycott Committee
- * **Francisco Chavez Romero**, Unión del Barrio, San Diego, CA
- * **Juan Martinez**, Farmworker, San Quintin, México

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8) The Youth Struggle in the Era of NAFTA & “Free Trade”

- * **Erick Campana**, Student, UABC - Mexicali, Mexico
- * **Fernando Buitimea**, Students in Defense of Public Education, Tijuana, Mexico
- * **Emiliano Raya Aguilar** - MIR, México
- * **Student activists from CSU Fullerton**

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9) NAFTA, the Environment, & Workers’ Health and Safety

- * **Roman Ortiz** - Movimiento en Defensa del Parque Benito Juárez - Tijuana
- * **Susana Prieto Terrazas**, Attorney, organizer, Maquiladora Workers, Ciudad Juarez, México
- * **Diana Arangure**, Mexicali Resiste!
- * **Steve Zeltzer**, CWA Pacific Media Workers Guild, Chair, Human Rights Committee

Acknowledgements

Conference Organizing Committee: Nativo López, Ivonne Heinze Balcazar, Al Rojas, Fátima García, Alan Benjamin, Desiree Rojas, Steve Zeltzer. **Special thanks to:** Hermandad Mexicana-La Original; Modern Languages Department, CSUDH; CFA Chapter at CSUDH; Sacramento LCLAA; Sacramento Labor Council; San Francisco Labor Council — and to Xel’ha López, Director, Hermandad Mexicana-La Original; Luis Arritola, Editor, HermandadMX; and Luis Carlos Haro, Mexico Organizing Committee. **Also thanks to** the many individuals and organizations that donated to our conference fund.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2 (Ctd.)

● EVENING PLENARY SESSION (5:30 pm to 7 pm)

[Second set of keynote speakers, interspersed with Reports from the 9 Workshops, focused on action proposals emanating from workshops. Each workshop will select a note-taker who will present the conclusions of the workshop; Discussion and Implementation of Workshop Decisions will be Sunday, Dec. 3]

* Second Plenary Session chairpersons

- * **Desiree Rojas**, President, Sacramento LCLAA, AFL-CIO
- * **Alan Benjamin**, Representative, San Francisco Labor Council, AFL-CIO

* Keynote Speakers:

- * **Stan Santos**, Exec. Bd and representative, Fresno Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO
- * **Olga Miranda**, President, SEIU Local 87, San Francisco
- * **Dean Murakami**, President, Los Rios College Federation of Teachers AFT 2279; Vice President, Sacramento Central Labor Council

* **William I. Robinson**, Professor of Sociology and Global and International Studies, University of California-Santa Barbara

* **Susana Prieto Terrazas**, Attorney, organizer, maquiladora workers, Ciudad Juarez, Mexico

* **Steve Zeltzer**, United Public Workers for Action; Workers Solidarity Action Network, San Francisco

* **Jim Lafferty**, Executive Director, National Lawyers Guild-Los Angeles

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

* Action Plan Plenary Session (9:30 am to 1 pm)

[Union Hall of United Steelworkers of America, 1200 E. 220th Street - Carson, Calif.]

— Implementation of Action Campaigns from 9 Workshops: Next steps — and excerpts from written messages to conference from:

- **Argentina**
- **Canada**
- **Haiti**
- **Peru**
- **Chile**
- **Brazil**

* Closing Comments by Conference Co-Chairpersons

Initial Conference Call issued by 100 prominent unionists & activists in Mexico and the U.S. (for full list, go to www.binationalcampaign.org)

Organizational endorsements (partial list): Hermandad Mexicana-La Original; Sacramento LCLAA (AFL-CIO); Asociaciones de Organizaciones por la Justicia Social (San Quintin); Farm Labor Organizing Committee, (FLOC, AFL-CIO); Sindicato Nacional de Jornaleros Agrícolas (SINDJA), México; Sacramento Labor Council (AFL-CIO); San Francisco Labor Council (AFL-CIO); Sindicato Mexicano de Electricistas (SME); Frente Auténtico del Trabajo (FAT); Sindicato Nacional de Telefonistas de la República Mexicana; California Faculty Association CSU Dominguez Hills; Comité Promotor Mexicano de la Conferencia Binacional (sede Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas); Department of Modern Languages, CSU Dominguez Hills; UAW Local 551; Labor Fightback Network; OPT Tijuana; The Organizer; SEIU 1000; Fresno Central Labor Council; Haiti Liberté; Asociación de Padres por una Educación de Calidad, Tijuana; Comisión de Derechos Humanos del Noroeste de México; Workers Solidarity Action Network; Coordinadora Nacional de Petroleros Mexicanos, Villahermosa, Tabasco; Comisión Promotora de la Nueva Central de Trabajadores Sur Sureste de México; California State Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCLAA-AFL-CIO).

