

**Call for Papers, Workshops, and Presentations**  
**Pacific Northwest Labor History Association Annual Conference**  
**Portland, Oregon**  
**June 11-13, 2010**

**“The Union Makes Us Strong”:  
Inspiration, Guidance, and Hope During Hard Times**

The Pacific Northwest has been seriously affected by the current economic crisis, the worst since the Great Depression. This crisis has inflicted extreme hardship on workers, families, and communities throughout the region.

Although the Pacific Northwest has had many historical encounters with economic downturns and hard times, the region also has a rich tradition of unionism, community organizing, and independent political action. It is this context that shapes the theme of the 2010 PNLHA conference. In hard times we can draw on this history for inspiration, guidance, and hope in developing strategies that promote working-class needs and interests.

We invite proposals for papers, panels, workshops, and presentations related to this theme. We welcome a range of methods that contribute to historical understanding, including oral history, the arts, and more formal scholarly presentations. Proposals dealing with Canadian themes are strongly encouraged.

We especially encourage proposals that address the following issues:

- Analysis of economic crises, both previous and current
- The struggles of immigrant workers and Native Americans
- The struggle for racial and gender equity in the Northwest
- Organizing the unemployed
- Alternative institutions and worker organizations
- The growth, development, and current struggles of public sector unionism
- Efforts to provide workers with affordable, quality health care
- Independent political action and labor-community alliances

Proposals for workshops and panels should include a 1-2 page summary, a list of presenters and/or papers to be delivered, and a short biography or vitae for each participant. Individual paper proposals are also welcome.

The deadline for proposals is February 15, 2010. Submitters will be notified on the status of their proposals by March 15, 2010.

Please send proposals to:                      Bob Bussel, Labor Education and Research Center  
1289 University of Oregon  
Eugene, OR 97403

For further information, contact Bob Bussel at 541 346-2784 or [bussel@uoregon.edu](mailto:bussel@uoregon.edu)