

Join us at the Summer Institute for Union Women, Reed College in Portland, Oregon, June 23-27, 2015.

An exciting program of in-depth classes to hone skills and deepen knowledge. Workshops and plenary session to examine current issues. Cultural events and a solidarity action to add richness to the Institute and inspire us in our work.

Spend a few days with more than one hundred union and community sisters, learning, sharing and building leadership for the future.

Sponsored by

- United Association for Labor Education

Hosted by

- University of Oregon, Labor Education and Research Center
- Washington State Labor Education and Research Center, South Seattle College



Registration

NAME

UNION OR COMMUNITY AFFILIATION

LOCAL UNION NUMBER

POSITION IN UNION OR ORGANIZATION

ADDRESS

CITYSTATE / PROVINCEZIP / POSTAL CODE

DAY PHONE (INCLUDE AREA CODE)EVENING PHONE

E-MAIL ADDRESS

Payment in U.S. Dollars:

☐ \$425 commuter

☐ \$550 double

☐ \$700 single

Roommate preference (if signing up for a double room)

Amount enclosed \$

(Make check payable to LERC or provide authorization to bill your union.)

BILLING NAME AND ADDRESS

☐ Disability related assistance requested

☐ Vegetarian meals or special dietary needs

T-shirt Size choice S M L XL 2XL 3XL

Please send me a scholarship application form.

Registration & cancellation deadline: May 29th, 2015, by 5:00 P.M. No refunds will be made after deadline. Cancellations after deadline will be billed the full amount.

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Organization
U.S. Postage
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UNIVERSITY OF OREGON
LABOR EDUCATION AND RESEARCH CENTER
1289 University of Oregon, Eugene OR 97403-1289

June 23-27, 2015
Annual Western Region
Summer Institute for
Union Women

The University of Oregon is an equal-opportunity, affirmative-action institution committed to cultural diversity and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. This publication will be made available in accessible formats upon request. Accommodations for people with disabilities will be provided if requested in advance.

Choose 1 Core Class (meets 3-hours each morning) & one afternoon Workshop for each day.

- CORE Classes**—Mark 1st and 2nd choices
- ☐ From Activist to Leader: Our Organizations Grow When We Do!
 - ☐ Reaching Higher: Advanced Leadership Skills
 - ☐ Internal Organizing for Tough Times
 - ☐ Problem-Solving & Conflict Resolution in the Workplace
 - ☐ We’re Gonna Turn This Economy Around: Women, Work, And Rebuilding Power for Working Families
 - ☐ Say It Loud, Say It Proud: Public Speaking & Story-Telling
 - ☐ Bargaining to Win

- Workshops**—Choose One Workshop for Each Day
- Wednesday** (Choose only if not taking two-part workshops)
- ☐ Dealing with Stress & Creating a Healthy Work-Life Balance
 - ☐ Knowledge is Power! How to Use Research to Win
 - ☐ Combatting Bullying in the Workplace
 - ☐ Tweet Your Way to Victory! Unions & Social Media
 - ☐ One World for Justice

- Thursday** (Choose only if not taking two-part workshops)
- ☐ Creative Theater: Culture and Fun in Action
 - ☐ We Held Up the Sky: Women in Labor History
 - ☐ Many Voices, One Union: Building Inclusive Organizations
 - ☐ Unions 101: The US & Canada

- Two-part Workshops**—(If selected Must take Both Part 1: Wednesday and Part 2: Thursday)
- ☐ Organizing & Coalition-Building: Finding Allies in Our Struggles (Part 1: Wednesday & Part 2: Thursday)
 - ☐ Running for Office (Part 1: Wednesday & Part 2: Thursday)

PLEASE MARK 1st & 2nd CHOICES



Women Lead the Way
2015 Western Region
Summer Institute for Union Women

June 23-27, 2015

Reed College
Portland, Oregon

LABOREGON
LERC



Plenary Sessions

- **Fighting for A Fair Future: Women Lead the Way**
Women are using political power, community labor organizing and women-centered leadership to rebuild our economy from the ground up. This panel includes women who are elected officials, leaders, advocates and workers from both union and community circles who are fighting to raise standards for working communities.
- **What We’re Up Against: Overcoming Barriers**
Explore with women leaders the barriers of discrimination, sexism and double standards that still remain, well into the 21st century. Reflect with others on your own leaders path and how we can be allies to each other.

Mail Registration to:
LERC-SIUW Registration
1289 University of Oregon
Eugene, Oregon 97203

Or Fax to: (503) 412-3720
Or Register on-line: lerc.uoregon.edu

Cancellations and Refunds

Payment in full is due by Friday, May 29, 2015. Cancellations received by May 29th will be refunded in full. Deadline for receipt of registration & fee is May 29, 2015. Cancellations received by May 29 will be refunded in full.

For Additional Information

Call the Labor Education and Research Center at the University of Oregon in Portland, 503.412.3721, or email nrudiger@uoregon.edu.

Choose one Core Class (meets 3 hours each morning) and one afternoon Workshop for each day

Core Classes

From Activist to Leader: Our Organizations Grow When We Do!

A class for newly emerging leaders! You'll assess your leadership style and current skill set, and you'll focus on improving essential leadership tools, including one-on-one communications, assertiveness, and problem-solving. You'll work with others in a safe space to explore the challenges that get in the way when women activists attempt to move ahead as leaders. The goal is to help you feel confident about your skills and ability to lead—because let's face it—if we don't step up, who will?!

Reaching Higher: Advanced Leadership Skills

This workshop is designed for experienced leaders looking to enhance their personal leadership, strengthen and transform their organizations, and help build a broader movement. We'll challenge you to become more critically self-aware and resilient. We'll encourage you to think about moving a change agenda in your organization that will make it more inclusive, powerful and effective. And we'll provide a space for you to reflect on the larger challenges of building a workers' movement that will grow to meet the needs of the 21st century economic, social and political environment. Recommended for those with at least 3 years experience as staff or elected officers.

Internal Organizing for Tough Times

Concerned about member apathy? Worried about right-to-work measures (and the pending US Supreme Court decision that might eliminate fair share agreements)? Now more than ever, we need to build an educated and empowered membership to achieve social and workplace justice. Building power means signing up new members, uniting them to solve problems at work, and engaging them to fight for fair contracts and economic policies. This class will provide the basic skills to organize your co-workers one-on-one, including using modern communications techniques and reaching out to community allies.

Problem-Solving and Conflict Resolution in the Workplace

Workplace conflicts are a fact of life for union stewards and activists. While we might prefer to avoid them, problems and conflicts can be a learning opportunity. In this class we'll evaluate different approaches to problem-solving, whether during the formal grievance process or in informal settings (power approach, rights approach, mutual interests). We'll practice having an effective dialogue (even when tempers are hot), and explore and practice key group behaviors for problem-solving and resolving grievances.

We're Gonna Turn This Economy Around: Women, Work, And Rebuilding Power for Working Families

This class focuses on the plight of women workers in our current economy and how we're fighting to turn things around. We'll dig into the reasons for women's poverty, low wages, erratic work schedules and exploitation. And we'll explore how, in spite of the high hurdles, women workers in all sectors are fighting back. From the strikes of Walmart moms and fast food workers to nurses fighting for their patients to the groundbreaking policy successes of domestic workers--women are building new forms of strength and power. We'll learn first-hand from exciting, women-led campaigns that are using new playbooks and refreshing old ones to craft a 21st century strategy to raise the floor for all workers. And we'll think about how to take these struggles back home and build on them.

Say It Loud, Say It Proud: Public Speaking and Story-Telling

Stepping up to leadership means learning to speak effectively in a variety of contexts. This class will help you develop your own story and provide helpful techniques for communicating that story to larger groups in ways that inspire them to action. You'll learn social media tools to amplify your story. All of our stories will be linked to broader challenges, so that you can translate your personal experience into a vision for our organizations and the labor movement, whether to members, the public or the press.

Bargaining to Win

Success in negotiating your contract requires knowing what your members want, organizing them to show their determination, researching and preparing persuasive arguments on the issues, using the labor laws effectively, and bargaining skillfully at the table. This class introduces all these aspects of the collective bargaining process. It is especially designed for women activists who want to develop or improve their skills as negotiators.

Wednesday P.M. Workshops

(CHOOSE ONLY IF NOT TAKING TWO-PART WORKSHOPS)

Dealing with Stress & Creating a Healthy Work-Life Balance

Given the demands of their jobs, their unions and their personal lives, many women run the risk of stress-related illness and burnout. This workshop will generate ideas for creating a sustainable, healthy lifestyle. We'll talk about ways to set priorities, manage our time more effectively, combat stress, stay healthy physically, and say "no" without guilt.

Knowledge is Power! How to Use Research to Win

Research is critical in building a successful campaign, whether the goal is to organize a union, bargain a contract, or advocate for issues important to our communities. And you don't have to be a Pulitzer prize-winner or Ph.D. economist to get the goods! We will demonstrate how good research can help to develop effective campaign strategy and smart tactics. This is a hands-on class! *Participants are encouraged to bring their own laptop computer, if possible.*

Combatting Bullying in the Workplace

Participants who take this course will learn how to deal effectively with bullying in the workplace, how to challenge oppression without challenging people, and how to manage conflict. You'll learn more about what makes bullies tick, and you'll learn strategies for dealing with bully bosses and co-workers. There's no silver bullet, but we can give you tools to build more respectful and safe work environments!

Tweet Your Way to Victory! Unions & Social Media

Facebook...Twitter...Instagram...videos going viral... The explosion of social media in recent years has opened up new opportunities to engage our members and attract a new generation of union activists. Find out how these tools can increase two-way communications between leaders and members and bring excitement and creativity to union actions. Join us to learn more. *Bring your laptop if possible.*

One World for Justice

How are our contracts and working conditions connected to trade policy, immigration, organizing and contract campaigns around the world? This workshop will provide a clear, worker-friendly account of how the global economy ties us all together. We'll share stories of union and community actions that support workers' struggles around the world, and hear examples of cross-border organizing. Come learn how to engage in global solidarity!

Thursday P.M. Workshops

(CHOOSE ONLY IF NOT TAKING TWO-PART WORKSHOPS)

Creative Theater: Culture and Fun in Action

This workshop will get your creative energy flowing. Learn how art can energize campaign actions and education. Drawing on lessons from theater of the oppressed and other popular education strategies, this workshop will also show how we can use theater to open up dialogue on controversial topics. This class is fun, interactive and will get you moving!

We Held Up the Sky: Women in Labor History

Hear the rich and inspirational stories about women who have fought for justice on the job in the U.S. and Canada. See how struggles for racial justice and immigrant rights that enriched the struggles of women workers. Learn lessons from "her-story" that can inspire our fights today!

Many Voices, One Union: Building Inclusive Organizations

Our differences can either divide or strengthen us! Join us in this workshop to discuss strategies for inclusion, and ideas for using our differences to build strength. Whether it's race, age, gender, sexual orientation, or physical ability, unions need to wrestle with historic injustices, current discrimination, and differences in culture and communication styles. This workshop will help us think about how we can help build a diverse and inclusive labor movement that can represent the workforce of the future.

Unions 101: The US & Canada

The Western Regional SIUW is a great opportunity to learn more about each other! What are the similarities and differences between the political systems of Canada and the US? The legal and political framework of our unions? Our history and culture and attitudes within the labor movement? Join us in this workshop and find out "everything you've always wanted to know" about your sisters and brothers across the border!

Western Region Summer Institute for Union Women



June 23-27, 2015

Schedule

Registration and check-in takes place at Reed College campus on Tuesday, June 23, starting at 2:00 P.M. The opening session begins at 6:30 P.M. The conference will conclude by 2:00 P.M. after the graduation lunch on Saturday, June 27.

Registration

To register, complete the attached form, including workshop choices, and return by Friday, May 29, 2015. Early registration ensures your choice of workshops. For late registration or other information, call 503.412.3721, or email nrudiger@uoregon.edu.

Residential — Fee U.S. Dollars

The registration fee includes lodging, meals, classes, special events, and class materials.

Single room fee: \$700

Double room per person fee: \$550

Information about rooms, recreation, and what to bring with you will be sent with your confirmation letter. Sorry, no rooms are available for nonconference partners or friends.

Commuter — Fee U.S. Dollars

Commuter fee: \$425

Fee covers classes, special events, course materials, five lunches, and three dinners. Your confirmation letter will include additional information about meals and other services.

For Additional Information

Call the Labor Education and Research Center at the University of Oregon in Portland, 503.412.3721, or email nrudiger@uoregon.edu.

Two-part P.M. Workshops

(MUST TAKE BOTH DAYS:
PART 1: WEDNESDAY AND PART 2: THURSDAY)

Organizing and Coalition-Building: Finding Allies in Our Struggles

Declining union density, the growing gap between rich and poor and right-wing attacks — the need to grow our movement has never been more urgent! And labor can't do it alone. This class will focus on the importance of developing coalitions that can organize workers and build power. We'll hear about community-based worker organizing and explore the "nuts and bolts" of building effective, diverse and sustainable labor-community coalitions. Join us to share your ideas and to become inspired by good work going on in the U.S. and Canada! (MUST TAKE BOTH DAYS: WEDNESDAY PART 1 AND THURSDAY PART 2)

Running for Office

Are you an activist or experienced leader who's thinking of taking that next step? This class will provide an in depth understanding of what it means to run your own campaign for leadership, whether inside your union or in the larger political realm. Learn about building a base and a leadership team and the kinds of skills you'll need to perfect. Hear from both US and Canadian women office-holders, and craft your own plan to move forward. (MUST TAKE BOTH DAYS: WEDNESDAY PART 1 AND THURSDAY PART 2)

