The International Labour Process Conference is one of the longest established and best known forums for analysis of all aspects of work and employment. During its 27 year history it has earned its reputation as a cornerstone of empirical research and cutting edge theoretical debate within the labour process and work organisation tradition. It is hard to imagine contemporary radical research which is not influenced by labour process insights. Every year, the conference brings together academics and policy makers from the sociology of work and employment, business and management studies, human resource management, industrial relations, organisational analysis and a range of other disciplines to discuss and critically assess developments in the field. Noted publications have included edited collections on Workplaces of the Future, Global Trends in Flexible Labour, The Skills that Matter, and most recently Work Less – Live More? Critical Analysis of the Work-Life Boundary.

We invite you to join this vibrant forum in Edinburgh to discuss why work continues to matter.

The Apex Edinburgh: The day sessions will take place at the Apex – a luxury hotel with a great location near the castle and excellent facilities.

http://www.apexhotels.co.uk/hotels/edinburgh-international

Edinburgh is one of the oldest and most exciting cities in Europe. This year it won awards for the best city to live and visit in the UK. Our aim is to put on a conference that draws on Edinburgh’s strengths, offering academic debate and a social scene that combines culture and entertainment. We have arranged special deals in city centre hotels, a conference dinner and social event in a key Festival venue. To take full advantage of everything the city has to offer, the conference will be organised in a slightly different way in 2009.

Instead of being based at a single institution, the conference will be organised by a group of Edinburgh based academics drawn from a number of universities.

Conference Organisers:
Dr Abigail Marks
Heriot-Watt University
Prof Paul Thompson
Strathclyde University
Dr Vaughan Ellis
Napier University
Prof Alan McKinlay
University of St Andrews
Dr George Callaghan
Open University Scotland

Ilpc.org.uk Abstracts Submitted by 30 October 2008

All queries to ilpc2009@ilpc.org.uk
The primary focus of the ILPC conference is work and employment relations in the context of the broader political economy. ILPC particularly welcomes submissions on issues such as:

- labour process and other critical theories of work relations
- the meaning, value, quality and experience of work
- workplace and corporate restructuring
- changing forms of employment relations, outsourcing and the supply chain
- gender, ethnicity and class at work
- new technology and work organisation
- control strategies, power, consent and culture in organisations
- work-life boundaries
- emotional, aesthetic and other new forms of labour power
- changing skills, knowledge and occupations
- voice at work, employee participation and involvement
- industrial relations, representation, trade union strategies and organising
- resistance and misbehaviour
- labour markets and the distribution of jobs
- political economy, workplace regimes and varieties of capitalism

While the conference encourages a wide range of issues, perspectives and methodologies, preference is given to papers that promote critical understanding of workplace relations and integrate empirical material with theoretical argument. The 2009 conference will have a number of special streams:

Reclaiming Resistance:
Dr Henrietta Huzzell, University of Karlstad
henrietta.huzell@kau.se

Service Work in the Hospitality and Care Industries:
Dr Mary Gatta & Prof Eileen Appelbaum, Rutgers University
gatta@rci.rutgers.edu

Identity and the Workplace:
Dr Abigail Marks, Heriot-Watt University,
a.marks@hw.ac.uk; Professor Janette Webb, University of Edinburgh, Dr Jerry Hallier, University of Stirling

Work Relations & Restructuring in the Voluntary Sector:
Dr Ian Cunningham, Strathclyde University,
ian.cunningham@strath.ac.uk; Dr Donna Baines, McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada

Retail Work:
Professor Irena Grugulis, University of Bradford,
I.Grugulis@bradford.ac.uk; Dr Odül Bozkurt, University of Lancaster, O.Bozkurt@lancaster.ac.uk

For further details on each stream see ilpc.org.uk

To apply to be a contributor to ILPC 2009, please prepare an abstract of 500-700 words and follow the submission instructions on www.ilpc.org.uk. All abstracts are externally refereed and papers must not have been previously published or presented elsewhere. Abstract contents should enable the referees to determine what issue, development or problem is being investigated, how it is investigated, what any findings are and what contribution is being made to understanding in this field. The deadline for abstract submission is 30 October 2008, decisions on acceptance will be made by end of November 2008. For the first time, in 2009 the International Labour Process Conference will also be open to proposals for symposia on any of the above or other relevant themes. These should be submitted in the same way, outlining the objectives of the session and speakers in 350-500 words.

For the past few years ILPC has been organising a pre-conference workshop and dinner for doctoral students and Edinburgh 2009 will continue this tradition. This will be an ideal opportunity for newcomers and also anyone wishing to gain a foundational understanding of labour process analysis and get to know the conference community and its history and debates. Registration for this part of the conference will not open until January 2008.

The ILPC has a strong publications history and twenty one volumes of papers have been produced from or inspired by the conference. A publication committee brings forward proposals for new books and special issues of journals.

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