

Global Labour Research Centre | GLRC

Newsletter. September 2024.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear GLRC Community,

With the Fall/Winter 2024-25 term upon us, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of you new and returning to the Centre. I am honoured to serve as the Interim Director of the Global Labour Research Centre (GLRC) during Director Adrian Smith's sabbatical.



Carlo Fanelli, GLRC Interim Director

> Welcome

I would like to formally extend a warm welcome to **Carmen Ponce** as new Coordinator of the GLRC. Carmen has a PhD in Economics from the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru. Her dissertation focused on the role of increasing climate variability on household livelihood diversification in the Peruvian Andes. Her other areas of interest include climate change, poverty and inequality, rural development and child work. Carmen brings a wealth of experience, and we are thrilled to have her join us in her new role.

We are also happy to welcome Assistant Professors **Asmita Bhutani** (Work & Labour Studies) and **Ling Jiang** (School of Information Technology) to the Executive Committee at the GLRC. Professor Bhutani completed a PhD at the University of Toronto. Her current research examines the role of gender, race and class in the automation industry and data production platforms. Professor Jiang received her PhD from City University of Hong Kong. Her research interests focus on user behaviors in online labor markets and user-generated content platforms. We are also pleased to welcome Associate Professor **Macarena Bonhomme** from the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Universidad Autónoma de Chile, who will be visiting the GLRC and the Sociology Department at LA&PS during the month of September. Please join me in welcoming them all to the GLRC community.

> New Initiatives

It has been a busy summer at the GLRC. We are slowly rolling out our [revised website](#) and would encourage all of you to share your thoughts and comments as it undergoes changes. Let us know what you like, would like to see more of, and how it can be improved. I am also please to announce our inaugural *Perspectives*, and *GLRC Snapshots* Series. [Perspectives](#) are concise opinion pieces meant to spark public dialogue and encourage new ways of thinking on a range of work and labour related issues. [GLRC Snapshots](#) are plain-language reports and summaries that consider “what the research found” and “how it can be used” to identify and communicate real-world impacts from academic research to the wider labour and stakeholder communities. We hope you will join us in sharing the word about these new initiatives and consider submitting something yourselves.

Our [GLRC Speaker Series](#) is also in full swing, with a number of in-person, virtual and hybrid events scheduled. Kicking the series off on Thursday September 26th from 2:30-4:30pm is the “[Past, Present and Future of Im/Migrant Labour in Canada.](#)” We hope you will join us. Work is also underway on our annual [Graduate Student Symposium](#), which will take place on February 20-21, 2025 in-person and online. The Symposium will feature the GLRC’s annual [John Eleen Lecture](#), which will feature writer and activist [Arun Kundnani](#) whose presentation is titled, *What is Antiracism? And Why it Means Anticapitalism.*

> Get Involved

There are many ways to get involved with the activities at the GLRC. One way is as a faculty, student, labour or community [GLRC Associate](#). It takes just a few minutes to complete the member application form. If you are preparing applications for grants or are interested in associating your current projects with the GLRC, please get in touch to explore opportunities for collaboration. As always, we welcome and encourage your feedback for all things GLRC. If you have any suggestions, tips, or topics you would like to explore, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Wishing you all a restful and solidaristic Labour Day from the GLRC!

[Carlo Fanelli](#), PhD

Interim Director, Global Labour Research Centre
Associate Professor, Work and Labour Studies Program,
Department of Social Science, York University

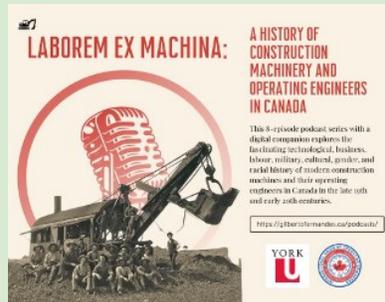
GLRC SPOTLIGHT



Congratulations to GLRC Faculty Associate and Executive Committee member, Leah Vosko, who was honoured by York University as Distinguished Research Professor!

A Professor and Canada Research Chair (Tier 1) in the Political Economy of Gender and Work, Leah Vosko has become a leader in the study of gender and politics, citizenship, migration and labour markets. Her research has a frequent focus on part-time, seasonal and contract workers, and the question, “What can be done to mitigate labour market insecurity?” An author and editor of numerous scholarly books, volumes and articles, her work has been driven by the aim of protecting precarious workers by shaping better policies and understanding around the labour market. Read the full announcement on [YFile](#).

GLRC RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS



The GLRC presents [Laborem Ex Machina](#), a podcast series with a digital companion developed by our associate Dr. Gilberto Fernandes.

This 8-episode series explores the fascinating technological, business, labour, military, cultural, gender, racial, children, youth, and environmental history of modern construction machines and their operating engineers in Canada in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Its digital companion includes photos, artwork, videos, interactive maps, infographics, historical records, and other illustrations meant to be browsed through while listening. This project was sponsored by the International Union of Operating Engineers' Local 793 in partnership with the Global Labour Research Centre and Department of History at York University.



New GLRC Library

The GLRC is in the process of creating a library with publications that were donated by members of our community throughout the years. This was possible thanks to Cory Di Lena, a recent York University graduate, diligent efforts. The library, located in the GLRC Lounge (N816 Ross Building), will be available for use in September 2024.

GLRC UPCOMING EVENTS

Check our [website](#) for updates on registration and further details

Sept 26, 2:30 – 4:30pm | Past, Present and Future of Im/Migrant Labour in Canada

Panelists:

- Soma Chaterjee, Associate Professor, Social Work, York University
- Sultana R. Jahangir, South Asian Women and Immigrants' Services
- Mostafa Henaway, Immigrant Workers' Centre
- Christopher Sorio, Migrante Canada

Location: Kaneff Tower - Room 626, York University

Please [Click Here to Register for this Event](#).

Oct 24, 1:00 – 3:00pm | Building Worker Power in Latin America: Possibilities and Challenges

Panelists:

- Viviana Patroni, Professor Emerita, International Development Studies and Work & Labour Studies, York University

Additional discussants to be confirmed

Location: Ross building - Room S802, York University (Keele campus)

Nov 21, 2:30 – 4:30pm | Labour Unions, Climate Action and Just Transition

Speaker: Seth Klein, author of *A Good War: Mobilizing Canada for the Climate Emergency*. Director of Climate Emergency Strategy, Climate Emergency Unit.

Panelists:

- Rebecca Keetch, Green Jobs Oshawa

Additional discussants to be confirmed

Format: Virtual (Zoom)

Dec 4, 12:00 – 2:00pm | GLRC's Meet & Greet

Location: Ross building – Room N816, York University (Keele campus)

Jan 21, 10:00am – 12:00pm | Work, Platforms and Industrial Change in Italy

Speakers:

- Valeria Cirillo, University of Bari Aldo Moro
- Lidia Greco, University of Bari Aldo Moro
- Claudio Cozza, University of Naples Parthenope
- Marco Marrone, University of Salento

Format: Virtual (Zoom)

Feb 20, 9:00 – 10:30am | John Eleen Lecture - *What is Antiracism? And Why it Means Anticapitalism*

Speaker: Arun Kundnani

Commentary: Abigail Bakan, Professor, Social Justice Education Department at OISE, University of Toronto

Location: Kaneff Tower – Room 519, York University (Keele campus)

This lecture will take place as part of the GLRC Graduate Student Symposium.

Feb 20, 8:00am – 4:30pm | GLRC Graduate Student Symposium

Student Panels, John Eleen Lecture, Networking & Social Events.

Location: Kaneff Tower – Room 519, York University

Feb 21, 9:00am - 6.20pm | GLRC Graduate Student Symposium

Student Panels and Workshops (Life Inside and Outside of Academia).

Format: Virtual (Zoom)

Mar 20, 2:30 - 4:30pm | Book launch: Against the People: How Ford Nation is Dismantling Ontario. Evans, B. and C. Fanelli, eds.

Speakers: Carlo Fanelli and Bryan Evans

Additional discussants to be confirmed

Location: (to be confirmed)

EXTERNAL EVENTS

Upcoming book launch

***Shifting Gears: Canadian Autoworkers and the Changing Landscape of Labour Politics*, by Stephanie Ross and Larry Savage, published by University of British Columbia Press.**

[Shifting Gears](#) tells the story of how Canada's largest private-sector union shifted its political strategy from an emphasis on transformative activism to transactional partnerships. Journalist Luke Savage will moderate both the online and in-person book launches. Both events are free and open to the public.

- **(Online) Monday, September 9 at 7pm EST**, on Zoom. UBC Press will be offering a discount code for the hardcover version of the book for attendees. Advance registration is required (click [here](#)).
- **(In person) Friday September 20, 2024**: Workers' Action Centre, 720 Spadina Ave. 2nd floor, Suite 223. Another Story Bookshop will be selling advance copies of the paperback version at the event.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Conference - Starting Over: Mass Politics and the Future of the Left

(May 27-30, 2025, at the University of Naples Federico II, Italy)

Alternate Routes: A Journal of Critical Social Research and the University of Naples Federico II invite individual paper and panel submissions for the conference and special issue to be held at the University of Naples. Topics may include but are not limited to: Inequality and (De)Democratization; Left Economic Policy and Labour Market Restructuring; War, Imperialism and Colonialism; Race, Gender and Other Disparities; Austerity and the State; Climate Change; Digital Labour and Platforms; Unions and Social Movements; Populism and Political Realignment; Global Governance.

To submit your proposal, please [click here](#). To find out more about the conference and the call for papers [click here](#). A selection of papers will be considered as part of a special issue publication of *Alternate Routes*. Inquiries can be sent to: editor@alternateroutes.ca

> **Deadline for conference submissions: December 1st, 2024**

> **Deadline for (Special Issue) paper submissions: September 1st, 2025**

If you would like to submit any announcement items (events, research or job opportunities), contact us at glrc@yorku.ca.



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