June 8th               Day 1
8am                     Registration/Breakfast
9-9-15am                Welcome
  - Sarita Gupta, Executive Director, Jobs With Justice
  - Clarence Lusane, Professor, Howard University

9:15-10:45               Plenary Session I: Building Worker Power under a Trump Administration

Keynote speaker: Princess Moss, Secretary-Treasurer, National Education Association

  - Greg Carr, Professor, Howard University
  - Tanya Wallace-Goburn, Executive Director, National Black Workers Center Project
  - Moderator: Clarence Lusane, Professor, Howard University

11-12:30                Workshops Series I

1.1 The Intersections of Racial and Economic Justice in Washington D.C.

This panel is discussion of the challenges and organizing strategies related to racial and economic justice in the metropolitan DC area. The panel includes academics, representatives of local unions and the metro labor council. It looks at questions like: How does privatization impact Black workers in DC? What research is being used to challenge the schemes to privatize public transportation? How would the EITC policy change effect Black and Latino works in the district?

  - Jackie Jeter, President, Metro Washington Council AFL-CIO
  - Amira Al Ghumgham, Howard University.
  - Rep., Amalgamated Transit Union Local 689

1.2 Explaining & Transforming How We Talk About Collective Bargaining

Message framing is essential to being heard and understood by members and the general public so six years ago, John Kretzschmar developed a class called “How to Effectively Talk
Union.” The aim is to help leaders and activists rethink 1) how they “frame” their pro union messages, and 2) how they respond to attacks on organized labor. The class has small group work where participants get to practice “elevator speeches” for both realities. More recently, because of the attacks on public sector unions, John added a section of the class on “How to Explain the Role of Government in Everyday Life” again using “values-based” message framing. Jobs With Justice, the National Education Association, and the AFL-CIO commissioned research to develop clear and compelling messages that expand the climate for collective bargaining and collective action. During this session, you will hear key results from this research, explore how to make a compelling case for expanding the rights of working people to act collectively, and discuss and begin to practice ways to put these learnings into action.

- **John Kretzschmar**, Director, William Brennan Institute for Labor Studies, University of Nebraska at Omaha
- **Liz Cattaneo**, Communications Director, Jobs With Justice

### 1.3 Expanding the alliance between labor and lawyers: Creative litigation strategies as tools in labor campaigns

This panel examines how a deeper alliance between labor and lawyers—one that moves litigation from an option of last resort, to part of an advocacy agenda—can generate new weapons for our depleted arsenal. Public Justice is a nationwide, consumer-oriented public interest law firm, with a focus on using state and federal court litigation to bring about progressive change. Our attorneys have years of experience fighting corporate abuses, and have been using that experience to develop novel ways to protect workers. We hope that this panel will be an interactive discussion in which impact litigators present a new framework for how lawsuits can contribute to labor activism—and thus expand the types of litigation organizers and community groups may wish to consider—and attorneys can hear about the needs and challenges of those on the ground. In this manner, we hope to contribute to a paradigm in which labor and lawyers see each other as partners in campaigns and jointly strategize from the get-go regarding how they can collectively reform industry.

- **Jennifer Bennett**, Attorney, Public Justice
- **David Muraskin**, Attorney, Public Justice
- **Leah Nicholls**, Attorney Public Justice
- Rep., Partnership for Working Families

### 1.4 Federal Workers Fight Back Against Anti-Worker policies

This presentation will discuss how workers have and plan to challenge the anti-worker and privatization of the current administration. Questions that the session addresses are: What are new challenges presented by the administration? What are some of the ways federal employees are contributing to “the resistance?”

- Reps from American Federation of Government Employees

12:30-1:15 Lunch
1:30-2:45  Plenary Session II

**Featured speaker: Carmen Perez,** Executive Director, The Gathering for Justice

*Carmen Perez* is something of a Renaissance woman in modern-day activism. She has dedicated 20 years to advocating for many of today’s important civil rights issues, including mass incarceration, gender equity, violence prevention, racial healing and community policing. As the Executive Director of The Gathering for Justice, a nonprofit founded by legendary artist and activist Harry Belafonte, Carmen has crossed the globe promoting peace through civil and human rights, building alternatives to incarceration and violence, and providing commentary and guidance for state and federal policy creation. In 2011, Carmen helped develop Purple Gold, a young worker’s program that engages and cultivates the membership of 1199SEIU’s 35-and-under members, while setting the future for the Labor Movement. Carmen’s most recent work is her role as the National Co-Chair of the Women’s March on Washington, drew over 5 million people across the globe who marched in resistance of hatred and bigotry, affirming women of all identities’ rights as human beings.

3-4:30  Workshops Series II

**2.1 Recruitment and Retention of Black Union Researchers**

This panel is a discussion about the dearth of union researchers of color, particularly Black researchers. Black and Latinos are the two groups of people most likely to join a labor union but they are poorly represented in the ranks of researchers who work directly for unions. They have unique experiences and they bring those experiences when doing research on strategic campaigns. This panel is workshop to begin the process of strategizing different initiatives, including concrete ideas for LRAN to coordinate, to encourage unions, nonprofits and academic institutions to hire and retain researchers of color, particularly Black researchers. The panel will include three Black researchers and one labor organizer.

- **Ben Woods,** Researcher, Jobs With Justice
- **Marc Bayard,** Director, Black Workers Initiative, Institute for Policy Studies
- **Valerie Wilson,** Director, Program on Race, Ethnicity, and the Economy, Economic Policy Institute
- **Tanya Wallace-Goburn,** Executive Director, National Black Workers Center Project

**2.2 Using the Economic Development Process to Drive Union Growth & Understanding Inclusive Public Procurement**

Hundreds and millions of dollars are given out to developers by states and municipalities every year. Over the last decade, some unions have successfully harnessed this process to win for workers and to build high road practices permanently into the economic development process of their cities and states leading to union membership growth. This workshop will share compelling case studies and unpack challenges. An emphasis will be put on the importance of solid and deep analysis of past, current and future development and the potential for academic support in building development project and subsidy
tracking programs that are key to supporting a comprehensive and ultimately successful strategy. Inclusive Public Procurement (IPP) is a policy framework that can help catalyze local federal dollars for community investment by leveraging public purchasing to create economic opportunity, build sustainable cities, advance good government, and create manufacturing and infrastructure jobs. JMA is working towards a national campaign to re-incorporate the concept of inclusive public procurement into government and to challenge current assumptions about how the competition rule is applied. This workshop will help communities understand how they can engage IPP strategies within the current federal “competition” procurement rules and how to advocate for a new interpretation of “competition” in federal procurement to help spur the economy, increase equality, and promote environmental goals.

- Rep. from AFL-CIO
- Rep. from DC Metro CLC
- Katherine Hoff, Jobs to Move America
- Abhilasha Bholia, Jobs to Move America
- Linda Nguyen-Perez, Jobs to Move America

2.3 Mapping the Power for Labor and Community Campaigns

With escalating attacks on workers and looming federal budget cuts, organizers need tools to fight more effectively. This workshop will offer two: a database about powerful people and institutions; and new data revealing hidden costs of corporate welfare. The LittleSis database and Oligrapher help activists map power. LittleSis is a wiki database tracking key relationships of politicians, business leaders, lobbyists, financiers and affiliated institutions. Open source and user-propelled, LittleSis facilitates collaboration. Good Jobs First’s Subsidy Tracker provides company-specific data on tax breaks. Now a new government accounting rule requires most local and state governments to report much revenue they lose to corporate welfare—just in time to help organizers fight Trump-era spending cuts.

- Kevin Connor, Director, Public Accountability Initiative
- Derek Seidman, Research Analyst, Public Accountability Initiative
- Greg LeRoy, Executive Director, Good Jobs First

2.4 Worker-driven Social Responsibility: A New Model for Labor Rights Enforcement in Global Supply Chains

Independent mechanisms for protecting the rights of workers in corporate supply chains will become increasingly important as we enter an era in which labor law enforcement by the federal government is likely to deteriorate significantly. While corporations prefer to tout their own “corporate social responsibility” programs, with unenforceable pledge, workers and allies have developed and implemented "worker-driven social responsibility" programs built on accountability to workers. Such mechanisms must require implementation of labor standards through agreements that are legally binding and enforceable through market consequences. Under the Accord on Fire and Building Safety in Bangladesh, brands and trade unions have come together in a legally-binding
agreement in which buyers are obligated to make their supplier factories safe. Through a program of worker-to-worker education, independent audits, and swift consequences for zero tolerance violations, the CIW has transformed the Florida tomato industry, and is currently expanding its program up the East Coast. This panel will explore the lessons of the worker-driven social responsibility model, which can serve to protect workers’ rights when governments fail to do so.

- Jessica Champagne, Worker Rights Consortium
- Rep. Coalition of Immokalee Workers
- Rep. American Center for International Labor Solidarity

5-7pm Reception

June 9th Day 2
8-9am Breakfast
9-9:15 Welcome
9:15-10:45 Plenary Session III: Messaging To Win

- April Copes, Adjunct Professor, Howard University
- Christine Cordero, Executive Director, Center for Story-based Strategy
- Bhaskar Sunkara, Founder, Jacobin Magazine
- Moderator: Liz Cattaneo, Communication Director, Jobs With Justice

11-12:30 Workshops Series III

3.1 Women Workers and the Resistance: Harnessing Outrage and Building Power

The historic Women's March on Washington on January 21st made clear that women's issues will be a core platform for progressive resistance to a hostile Trump Administration. Since the inauguration, women's economic issues have been central to the developing tidal wave of protests. During a "A Day without Immigrants" on February 16 thousands of low-wage women workers participated in, and in many cases led, the largest U.S. general strike in recent memory. Women Rising protests on International Women's Day, March 8 united women workers across class and racial lines. Dignity and respect for women were even key to the downfall of Trump's first proposed U.S. Labor Secretary nominee, Andrew Puzder. In a nation in which women are the vast majority of low-wage workers, and in which women comprise 47 percent of union members, women's labor issues offer enormous potential as a potent organizing platform for the resistance. Yet how can the workers' movement harness the virulent outrage that women so colorfully displayed in the Women's March? Can working women build power within today's reformulated political landscape, even in the face of attacks on labor regulations and labor organizations? We propose a panel discussion to address women's labor issues in the resistance. It will include brief remarks from each of the panelists, and then a discussion with the audience.

- Lane Windham, Georgetown University
3.2 The Vicious Cycle of Austerity and Privatization & Social Impact Bonds

Inequality in the United States, which began its most recent rise in the late 1970s, is being fueled by a vicious cycle. Though state revenues are starting to inch closer to pre-Great Recession levels, recovery for state and local governments has been slow, uneven, and incomplete. This has decreased funding for public goods and services that more and more Americans, due to increasing economic inequality, have been forced to rely upon. Too often, the answer to this funding dilemma is privatization, which in turn increases political inequality by weakening democratic public control and expanding corporate power. This dynamic is perhaps most pronounced in public education, infrastructure, and the criminal justice system, where disparities often fall vividly along economic and racial lines. The panel will discuss the growth of the charter school, for-profit water, and private prison industries; specific impacts of that growth such as increased segregation and further disinvestment in public services; and strategies for fighting back. The implications of the financialisation of government and public service delivery are largely unknown. Social Impact Bonds (SIBs) or Pay for Success (PFS) Bonds represent another step to use social investment to deliver public services using private funds and for private corporations to access the public tax dollar. Dr. Huckfield will examine their impact.

- Jeremy Mohler, In the Public Interest
- Mary Grant, Food & Water Watch
- Leslie Huckfield, Lecturer, Glasgow Caledonian University

3.3 Future of Workers in the Logistics Industry

The logistics industry is the social infrastructure that makes global trade work. For the past forty years, jobs in the logistics industry have become increasingly precarious, for seafarers, longshoremen, truck drivers, warehouse workers and parcel delivery drivers. Recent developments - from the introduction of mega container ships to the rise of online retailing have accelerated the trend toward precariousness, and undermined the union status, collective bargaining agreements, and job security of workers in the logistics industry. This panel will examine how workers and their unions are fighting back against precarious work in logistics in the U.S. and through global labor action.

- Jeremy Anderson, Head of Strategic Research, International Transport Workers' Federation
- Cassandra Ogren, Deputy Director, Strategic Research and Campaigns Department, International Brotherhood of Teamsters
- Mark Meinster, Executive Director, Warehouse Workers for Justice
- David Bensman, Professor, Rutgers School of Management and Labor Relations

3.4 Beat Back the Broad/Walmart Attack: A Fight for the Soul of Public Schools
This workshop will focus on the major components of UTLA’s multi-faceted community-based campaign to push back on school privatization efforts while advancing a vision for equitability and Community Schools. Participants will explore how UTLA’s members and coalition partners have employed strategic research, data analytics and visualization, parent and community partnerships, paid media, and political action to organize resistance to the privatization agenda and advance policies that will ensure that all students in Los Angeles have access to the schools they deserve. In addition, participants will discuss ideas of how this model can be replicated in other coalition-based campaigns in their own communities, as well as discuss how UTLA’s Los Angeles-based efforts might be expanded on as the grip of education reform continues to tighten on the nation as a whole.

- Grace Regullano, Director, Strategic Research and Analytics, United Teachers Los Angeles
- Ed Gutierrez, Research Specialist, United Teachers Los Angeles

12:30-1:45 Lunch & Membership Meeting
2-3:30pm Workshops IV

4.1 21st Century Manufacturing and Public Transit

Jobs to Move America (JMA) is a national coalition uniting more than 30 community, labor, faith, civil rights, philanthropic, academic and environmental groups. JMA is a national project dedicated to ensuring that the billions of public dollars spent on public transit systems create better results for our communities: good jobs, cleaner equipment and more opportunity for low income people. American cities spend about $5.4 billion each year to buy buses and rail cars for public transportation systems. Much of this money goes to global companies who manufacture significant portions of our buses and trains overseas, bypassing millions of unemployed Americans and struggling communities. Air pollution from old, dirty buses and trains also disrupts our climate and harms public health. We need to replace these old vehicles with clean and efficient buses, trains and streetcars. JMA has a plan to make our transit dollars go the distance — to build cleaner public transit systems, create and retain good American jobs, and generate opportunities for unemployed Americans like veterans, single parents, and residents of low-income neighborhoods.

- Alex Tindal Wiesendanger, Jobs to Move America
- Erica Smiley, Organizing Director, Jobs With Justice
- Sebrina Owens-Wilson, Campaign Director, Partnership for Working Families

4.2 Renewing Labor and Building Alliances in the Time of Trump

In an environment of hostility to working people and immigrants, the labor and social justice movement faces the necessity to renew its approach to organizing, in order to offer more effective protection to the individuals/groups it seeks to defend. In this process, thinking of and forging new alliances is key. By looking at the work of the Taste of Justice Campaign, US Labor Against the War and the Street Vendor Project, we will explore the different modalities of coalition-building, the possibilities they offer, as well as the challenges organizers and workers may encounter in this process.

- Reece Chenault, National Coordinator of US Labor Against the War
• Melissa Hysing, Strategic Research Director, MN AFL-CIO
• Darakshan Raja, Exec Director, Washington Peace Center
• Sirine Mechbal, PhD Candidate at the Sorbonne University (Paris, France)/Visiting Scholar at Columbia University (New York City)

4.3 Medical Billing and Debt

This workshop will discuss how issues related to medical billing and debt can be used to build labor and community campaigns. Given recent efforts at the federal level to defund and dismantle public health insurance and safety net programs that would lead to a more people uninsured or underinsured, medical debt will pose a greater risk to the health and financial condition of working people—both union and nonunion. Participants will exit the session with an understanding of the scope of the problem, the current (inadequate) state of protections for patients and consumers, legislative approaches to shield people from abusive medical billing practices and debt, and ideas for tactics to use in a contract or organizing campaign.

• Michael Piccinelli, American Federation of Teachers
• Jake Williams, American Federation of Teachers
• Kyle Arnone, American Federation of Teachers

4.4 LRAN New Scholars Grant Finalists

This panel is composed of the winners of the LRAN New Scholars Research Grant competition. The grant is awarded to graduate students and untenured faculty for research on U.S. labor-focused projects, broadly defined. One of the core missions of the LRAN is to help develop the next generation of labor scholars while also linking these scholars to labor activists. Since the inception of Jobs with Justice, academics have played an important role in supporting workers' rights campaigns. Many of the previous awardees continue to be active with LRAN.