Salvation for a race, nation or class must come from within. Freedom is never granted; it is won. Justice is never given; it is exacted. Freedom and justice must be struggled for by the oppressed of all lands and races, and the struggle must be continuous, for freedom is never a final act, but a continuing evolving process to higher and higher levels of human, social, economic, political, and religious relationships.

A. PHILIP RANDOLPH

Perhaps the obvious needs to be repeated; what frightens U.S. ruling-class circles is the linking of issues, strategies and, above all, people in struggle.

ELIZABETH “BETITA” MARTÍNEZ
Thursday, August 6
Meet and Greet Reception
6:30 – 7:30 p.m.  AFL–CIO

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Friday, August 7
Location: George Meany Room, 8th Floor, AFL-CIO Headquarters
8 – 11 a.m.  On-site Registration
8:45 – 9:15 a.m.  Continental Breakfast
9:15 a.m.  Welcome

9:30 – 10:45 a.m.
Session I: Policy Challenges

*New Immigrants to the U.S. – the Data*
Joseph M. Guzman, School of Human Resources & Labor Relations, Michigan State University
Mark Hugo Lopez, Director of Hispanic Research, Pew Research Center Hispanic Trends Project

*The Federal Legal Services Program Influence on Riots and Voter Turnout in the 1960s*
Jamein P. Cunningham, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Portland State University

*Do Work Visas Reduce Opportunities for US Minorities in STEM?*
Joseph M. Guzman, Assistant Professor, School of Human Resources & Labor Relations, Michigan State University
Gregory White, Doctoral Candidate, School of Education, Education Policy, Michigan State University
Session II: American Indians and the Voting Rights Act at 50

The Voting Rights Act’s Impact on Native Americans’ Ability to be Elected to Political Office
Jean Reith Schroedel, Claremont Graduate University
Artour Aslanian, Claremont Graduate University

Election Administration Resource Distribution Interacts with Poverty and Race to Exacerbate Unequal Access to Political Participation for American Indians in Montana
Andrea Walters, Claremont Graduate University
Ashley Shew, University of Texas, Austin
Moana Vercoe, Success in Challenges

Native American Registration and Voting: The Impact of Barriers on Turnout
Jean Reith Schroedel, Claremont Graduate University
Joey Torres, Claremont Graduate University

Unequal Access as an Unintended Consequence of the National Voter Registration Act in Rural Communities
Moana Vercoe, Success in Challenges
Andrea Walters, Claremont Graduate University

1 – 2 p.m. Lunch, AFL-CIO

Session III: Employment, Earnings and Poverty

The Impact of Full Employment on Black Employment, Wages and Income
Valerie R. Wilson, Director, Program on Race, Ethnicity and the Economy, Economic Policy Institute

Poverty and Unemployment in Minority Communities: Causes, Consequences and Public Policy
Michael J. Murray, Bemidji State University
Mathew Forstater, University of Missouri – Kansas City

The Impact of a Changing Labor Market on the Low-Wage Careers of Black and Latino Workers
Jeannette Wicks-Lim, Assistant Research Professor, Political Economy Research Institute, University of Massachusetts Amherst
KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Dr. Bárbara Robles *

Saturday, August 8
Location: Howard University, Carnegie Building
8 – 9 a.m. Registration
8:15 – 8:45 a.m. Continental Breakfast
9 – 10:15 a.m.
Session IV: Black Women and Girls, the Dynamics of Gender and Race

Hair Raising: The Substantive Impact of Style
Chasya Hoagland, Doctoral Candidate in Economics, University of Washington

Black Women on the Verge: Revolutionary Transformation or Super-exploitation?
Missing Black Men and Its Impact on Black Women
Nina Banks and Marcellus Andrews, Bucknell University

Can Free Primary Education Achieve Universal Primary Education? A Study of the Intersections of Social Exclusion, Gender and Education in Kenya
Judith Obiero, University of Massachusetts Amherst

10:30 – 11:45 a.m.
Session V: Criminalization and Incarceration

Criminalization and Racemaking
Geert Dhondt and Michelle Holder, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY

Local Immigration Enforcement and Arrest Rates of the Hispanic Population
Michael Coon, Assistant Professor of Economics, Hood College

Why Mass Incarceration Matters: Economics, Private Enterprise, and Politics
tonya thames taylor, Associate Professor of History, West Chester University
12 – 1:15 p.m.
Session VI: The Economics of Public Procurement and Contracting

Anticipating Our Future: Measuring Overconcentration in DBE Compliance
Samuel L. Myers, Jr. The Roy Wilkins Center for Human Relations and Social Justice, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota

Self-employment and Immigration in Areas Funding by Transit Agencies and Departments of Transportation: New Jersey Case Study
Mónica I. García-Pérez, Assistant Professor of Economics – St. Cloud State University

Do Strong, Positive Relationships Matter? Active Establishments in the Longitudinal Business Database and Their Implications for Public Procurement and Contracting
Jan Christopher, Associate Professor, Delaware State University, College of Business

1:30 - 2:30 p.m.
Lunch and Closing Plenary Conversation and Reflections
Facilitator: Lisa Cook, Ph.D.
President, National Economic Association (NEA)
Associate Professor, International Relations and Economics
Michigan State University

* Bárbara Robles, is Senior Research Liaison, Division of Consumer and Community Affairs, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. She received her PhD in Economics with fields in Money and Banking and Econometrics from the University of Maryland-College Park. She is the author of Historical and Policy Dimensions of Inequity in Income and Wealth (chapter in, Justice for All: Promoting Social Equity in Public Administration (2011)); U.S. Latino Families, Heads of Households, and the Elderly: Emerging Trends in Financial Services and Asset-Building Behaviors (2009), and a co-author of the 2006 Gustavus-Meyers Human Rights award book, The Color of Wealth: The Story Behind the U.S. Racial Wealth Divide (2006). She has taught at Arizona State University, the University of Texas-Austin and the University of Colorado-Boulder and was a visiting professor at Notre Dame University. She has held the position of Revenue Estimator/Economist for the Congressional Joint Committee on Taxation scoring tax legislation for the House Ways and Means and Senate Finance Committees. Her research focuses on wealth inequality, community asset-building, community economic development, economic inclusion, tax and economic education, micro-businesses and entrepreneurship with special focus on low-to-moderate income populations.