

# International & Interdisciplinary Research Network

## LABOUR IN TRANSITION

### MEMBERS

**Dr Ana Cecilia Dinerstein (Network Convenor)** is Associate Professor (SL) of Sociology in the Department of Social and Policy Sciences. She has written books, journal articles and book sections for academic and non-academic audiences on issues of labour, urban, rural and indigenous movements, protest, Marxist theory, autonomy, labour subjectivity, Argentine and Latin American politics and the uses of Bloch's philosophy for contemporary understandings of utopia. She is member of associate and advisory boards of *Historical Materialism* (London), *Sociology of Work* (Madrid), Research Partner of the *New Politics* Project (2016-2020), Transnational Institute (Amsterdam), and member of the Committee of the Society for Latin American Studies (SLAS, UK). Her publications include *The Labour Debate* (2002; 2006; 2009); *The Politics of Autonomy in Latin America: The Art of Organising Hope* (2015); and *Social Sciences for An Other Politics: Women Theorising without Parachutes* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2016).



Email: [A.C.Dinerstein@bath.ac.uk](mailto:A.C.Dinerstein@bath.ac.uk)

**Dr Sávio Machado Cavalcante** is Assistant Professor of Sociology (Department of



Sociology) at the State University of Campinas, Sao Paulo, Brazil. He obtained his BSc, MSc and PhD at Campinas. He worked as a lecturer in State University of Londrina (UEL) and State University of São Paulo (Unesp). His teaching and research experiences are focus on Sociology and Political Science. His main research interests include the sociology of work/labour, social classes, middle classes, ruling classes, sociological theory, labour and unionism in telecommunication sector.

<http://www.ifch.unicamp.br/ifch/colaboradores/sociologia/647/s%C3%A1vio-machado-cavalcante>

Email: [saviomc@unicamp.br](mailto:saviomc@unicamp.br)

**Professor Andréia Galvão** is professor of Political Science at the State University of



Campinas. Her research focuses on unionism, labour relations and social movements. She is author of *Neoliberalismo e reforma trabalhista no Brasil (2007)* and co-editor of *Política e classes sociais no Brasil dos anos 2000 (2012)*, *Capitalismo: crises e resistências (2012)* and *As bases sociais das novas centrais sindicais brasileiras (forthcoming)*.

E-mail: [agalvao@unicamp.br](mailto:agalvao@unicamp.br)



**Professor José Marcos Novelli** graduated in Social Sciences and holds master and doctorate degrees in Political Science from State University of Campinas. He is professor of Political Science at Federal University of São Carlos (UFSCar), campus Sorocaba. His research analyses the relationship between politics and the economy from Political Science and Political Sociology approaches emphasizing the power of economic ideas and the formation of social coalitions that support economic policies.

E-Mail: [novelli@ufscar.br](mailto:novelli@ufscar.br)

**Dr Maurizio Atzeni** is a researcher based in Buenos Aires at the Center for Labour



Relation, National Research Council of Argentina. He has written extensively on work and labour issues in articles and has published books internationally. Among his recent publications is the book

*Workers and Labour in a Globalised Capitalism: theoretical themes and contemporary issues*, in which work is analysed from the broader perspective of political economy.

E-mail: [matzeniwork@gmail.com](mailto:matzeniwork@gmail.com)



**Hernán Ouviaña** is a political scientist, PhD Social Sciences (UBA) He teaches politics at the University of Buenos Aires and is a research fellow of the Institute of Latin American and Caribbean Studies (IEALC, UBA). He is a popular educator, a social activist, workshop and training coordinator by social movements and grassroots trade unions in Argentina & Latin America. He is author and editor of several books, including *Zapatismo for beginners*.

Email: [hernanou@yahoo.com.ar](mailto:hernanou@yahoo.com.ar)

**Nicky Stubbs** (MRes) is a PhD candidate in the Department of Social & Policy Sciences,



at the University of Bath, Global Political Economy Interdisciplinary Pathway, South West Doctoral Training Centre, funded by the Economic & Social research Council, UK.

Email : [ns674@bath.ac.uk](mailto:ns674@bath.ac.uk)

**Dr Theodoros Karyotis** is an independent researcher, translator and social activist. He



was trained in sociology and social anthropology and he is active in grassroots movements related to direct democracy, solidarity economy and defence and self-management of the commons. He has translated many relevant books and articles, and he is a regular op-ed contributor

to [roarmag.org](http://roarmag.org) in English and [diagonalperiodico.net](http://diagonalperiodico.net) in Spanish. He is the coordinator of [workerscontrol.net](http://workerscontrol.net), a multilingual resource on workers' self-management and he sits on the administrative board of the Transnational Institute of Social Ecology (<http://trise.org/>).

E-mail: [tkaryotis@gmail.com](mailto:tkaryotis@gmail.com)

**Dr Karolos Iosif Kavoulakos** is Assistant Professor in the School of Political Sciences at



Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. He studied at the Panteion University, Athens, Freie Universität, Berlin and The National and Kapodistrian University, Athens, from which he received his PhD. He has worked as researcher at the National Center of Social Research, Research Center for Gender Equality and at the University of Thessaly. In 2012 he took up the position of lecturer at the School of Political Sciences, Aristotle University Thessaloniki. From 2008 he teaches at the Hellenic Open University. His research interests include: social and solidarity economy, social movements, civil society, collective mobilisation, urban policy and urban sociology. He has participated in a number of research projects and published in Greek and International journals as well as edited volumes.

Email: [kkavoula@gmail.com](mailto:kkavoula@gmail.com)

**Dr Theo Papadopoulos** is a Lecturer in Social Policy in the Department of Social and



Policy Sciences, University of Bath (UK). His research interests include: critical approaches to EU economic governance and its implications on labour rights and social welfare; the dynamics of democracy, austerity, labour commodification and welfare in Southern European and Latin American countries; and theorizing the political economy of familistic welfare regimes. Recent publications include co-editing a special issue and an article on

Conditional Cash Transfers in Latin America (*Journal of Social Policy and Society*), articles and book chapters on austerity-driven reforms and its impact of welfare in Greece and an article on the UK's Relationship with EU Social Policy. He is co-editor (with Emma Carmel and Alfio Cerami) of the book 'Migration and Welfare in the New Europe', Bristol: Policy Press, 2011.

Email: [T.Papadopoulos@bath.ac.uk](mailto:T.Papadopoulos@bath.ac.uk)

**Dr F. Harry Pitts** joins the University of Bristol as a Lecturer in Management in August



2017. He holds an PhD in Global Political Economy from the University of Bath, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council. He is currently writing a monograph on the critique of political economy in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Email: [frederickharrypitts@gmail.com](mailto:frederickharrypitts@gmail.com)

**Nora Fernández** is an Economist working at the University of Guayaquil (Ecuador). She

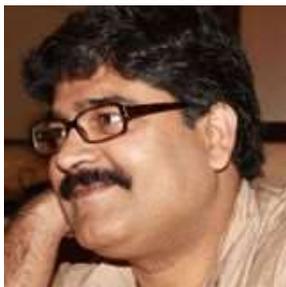


has a Master in Economics from FLACSO-Sede Ecuador. He has experience in analysing the political economy of the impacts of the development model on economic, social and cultural rights, as well as on nationalities and indigenous peoples. She has been Director of the Center for Economic and Social Rights (CDES) and

member of the research team of the National Strategy Center for the Right to Territory (CENEDET), founded in 2013 by David Harvey and Miguel Robles-Durán within the *Instituto de Altos Estudios Nacionales* (IAEN). She is an Associate Researcher at the Institute of Ecuadorian Studies and a member of the Knowledge Network of Popular Markets. At the regional level, she has participated in social advocacy processes around regional integration initiatives, analysis of investment, trade and debt flows to Latin America as well as tax evasion / avoidance of transnational corporations.

Email: [norafernandezm@gmail.com](mailto:norafernandezm@gmail.com)

**Dr Ravi Kumar** is Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology, at the South



Asian University. He was Chairperson of the Department from 2014-16. He co-edits of a book series on 'Social Movements, Dissent and Transformative Action' (Routledge: Delhi); 'Conversations on/for South Asia' (Aakar Books); and 'Sociology/Anthropology Across Borders' (Sage: Delhi). His

research and teaching is heavily influenced by the belief that if social science is to transcend mere reproduction of what has already been done then one needs to instil perspective into whatever work one does. His area of research includes political economy of identity politics, social movements, neoliberal impact on education and processes of knowledge production. I am Associate Editor of 'Society and Culture in South Asia' (Sage) and Editor (South Asia) of Journal of Critical Education Policy Studies ([www.jceps.com](http://www.jceps.com)). Email: [ravi@soc.sau.ac.in](mailto:ravi@soc.sau.ac.in)

**Dr Greig Charnock** is Senior Lecturer at The University of Manchester, where he



teaches international political economy and Marxism. He is co-author of *The Limits to Capital in Spain* (Palgrave, 2014), co-editor of *The New International Division of Labour* (Palgrave, 2016) and is currently writing a book on *Karl Marx and the Critique of Political Economy Today* (Rowman & Littlefield International, 2016). He has

authored a series of journal articles on international political economy, the politics of crisis and austerity, and critical social and socio-spatial theory (on the work of Henri Lefebvre, in particular).

Email: [Greig.Charnock@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:Greig.Charnock@manchester.ac.uk)

**Dr Graham Jeffery** is Reader in Music and Performance and Director of the Creative



Futures Institute at the University of the West of Scotland. His work spans arts education, creative pedagogy, cultural policy and urban regeneration and he has developed and led numerous participatory arts and media projects with young people and diverse communities,

alongside research projects which explore the value(s) and pedagogies of these practices and the forms of inter-professional identity that they develop and construct. More recently he has led and developed a large-scale consortium proposal within the AHRC's Connected Communities programme entitled '*Challenging Elites: rethinking disconnection and recovering urban space*' which is designed to address the gaps and disconnections between financial, policy and community elites and residents/workers in three UK urban zones undergoing significant change. He keeps a blog at [www.generalpraxis.org.uk](http://www.generalpraxis.org.uk)

Email: [graham.jeffery@uws.ac.uk](mailto:graham.jeffery@uws.ac.uk)

**Dr Ben Parry** is an artist, curator and researcher. He edited *Cultural Hijack: Rethinking Intervention* (Liverpool University Press 2012) and curated the international survey show



of urban interventionism and art activism at the Architectural Association, London (2013) as part of his PhD, which he recently completed at the University of the West of Scotland. He is a director of Jump Ship Rat, a UK based group of artists who develop their own public art works, exhibitions, publications and interventions.

E-mail: [b.parry@bathspa.ac.uk](mailto:b.parry@bathspa.ac.uk)

**Dr. Ricard Morén-Alegret** holds a PhD (University of Warwick), and a MA in Human Geography, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, UAB. He was awarded by the ERC DG-XII Marie Curie Research Fellow (1996-1999) and the Spanish Government Science and Technology Ministry as Investigador Ramón y Cajal (2001-2006). Since 2002 Ricard Morén coordinates the Migration Research Gallery, GRM, and the GRM Annual Seminar Series on Migration. Currently, he is Tenured Assistant Professor at UAB



Geography Department, where he was Coordinator of the Migration Research Group, GRM (SGR Program 2009-2014, AGAUR, Catalan Government). Since October 2014, Ricard coordinates the Interfase Migration Research Programme of (2014-2017). See: <http://geografia.uab.es/migracions/eng/index.htm>

Email: [Ricard.Moren@uab.cat](mailto:Ricard.Moren@uab.cat)

**Jeanne Van Heeswijk** is a visual artist in Rotterdam, Netherlands, who facilitates the



creation of dynamic and diversified public spaces in order to “radicalize the local”. Van Heeswijk embeds herself as an active citizen in communities, often working for years at a time. These long-scale projects, which have occurred in many different countries, transcend

the traditional boundaries of art in duration, space and media and questions art’s autonomy by combining performative actions, meetings, discussions, seminars and other forms of organizing and pedagogy. Inspired by a particular current event, cultural context or intractable social problem, she dynamically involves neighbors and community members in the planning and realization of a given project. As an “urban curator”, van Heeswijk’s work often unravels invisible legislation, governmental codes and social institutions, in order to enable communities to take control over their own futures.

Email: [jeanne@jeannetworks.net](mailto:jeanne@jeannetworks.net)

Links [www.freehouse.nl](http://www.freehouse.nl) and [www.wijkcooperatie.org](http://www.wijkcooperatie.org)

# **Main Research Project (work in progress)**

## ***BEYOND INFORMALITY***

### **Organising Work, Life and Space**

#### **In the North and South**

#### **Description & Case Studies**

Decades of neo-liberal restructuring followed by the 2008 global economic crisis has resulted in a marked increase in precarious and insecure employment. Where this has developed most intensely, it has challenged the sustainability of formal waged employment and associated forms of citizenship and welfare as the principal means by which the individual survival and social reproduction of urban communities is achieved. Consequently, informal employment in many places has become apparently 'normalized' and can be related to a range of activities undertaken by social actors that are attempting to address this crisis of social reproduction. In the cities of the Global South, the organization of new productive activities beyond the formal workplace have become linked with issues such as poverty, hardship and exclusion and have resulted in collective actions and mobilizations related to issues such as housing, food, land, education and health. These 'survival strategies' are increasingly spreading to areas of the Global North as formal employment opportunities have been undermined by the impacts of the global crisis and subsequent varied austerity policies across countries.

Our work aims to capture the affirmative and proactive collective strategies that are attempting to reorganize work beyond employment, cooperative activities are crisscrossing urban spaces in creative and innovative ways to become permanent features of the city and are leading to alternative forms of organizing work and working. The dominant tendency in both academic and state policy discourse has been to define

these developments in terms of the 'problem' of informal work and workers. This, however, tends to downplay the transformatory role of the social actors involved in these projects and initiatives and the ways in which these emerging forms of 'work' outside employment, including cultural production, contributes to the social reproduction and re-imagination of communities.

In this context, the boundaries between work and non-work space, and production and social reproduction are becoming increasingly permeable and fluid, including a blurring between work space and the private spaces of home and family. Work is increasingly intertwined with the urban fabric of the city in ways that conflate questions of urban development, place attachment or detachment and policy with the politics of work, employment and culture.

The project will draw on nine case studies (see below) that will explore a diverse range of collective actions that highlight how grassroots initiatives are mediated and framed by specific political, legal and economic contexts. The cases will be investigated using a common methodological framework developed by the team based on participatory action research methods to capture the meaning, framing and experience of these examples of work outside employment in ways that link production and social reproduction. We will also use cultural interventions and visualization methods will be designed locally through a situated curatorial approach, bringing artist-led cultural responses made in collaboration with social actors into the scope of the study, leading to the creation of public exhibitions and associated online archives. This method, incorporating participatory and public arts practices facilitates exchange and dialogue between researchers, communities, and non-academic publics.

Our research will highlight how these new initiatives are challenging the boundaries between work and non-work forms of identity, organization and politics. The project will explore how can our empirical findings be integrated into a critique of informality and a broader theoretical framework that contributes to a reconceptualization of work that emphasises the significance of social reproduction. Our empirical and conceptual insights have important policy applications such as the better articulation of 'labour' and 'social' policy and the potential for a more holistic approach to work for the improvement in the relationship between work, life/culture and community in the city places.

TITLE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	JUSTIFICATION
<b>The Harbour</b>	Afrikaanderwijk, South Rotterdam, Netherlands.	Sustainable and cooperative work among migrants.	Unique case of a neighbourhood cooperative and entrepreneurship organized by artists and immigrants.
<b>The District</b>	The Eixample, Barcelona, Spain.	Transforming space into place: Self-organized activity and belonging among migrants.	Illustrates how this district of Barcelona has been transformed from space to place and how this is related to the formation of new migrant identities.
<b>The Street</b>	Sao Paulo, Brazil.	The connections between trade unions and social movements of the homeless, landless and unemployed.	Establishes the process of formation of a broad movement representing both labour and social movements (jobless, homeless, landless).
<b>The Territory</b>	Greater Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina.	Workers of the popular economy and the creation of a new labour confederation.	Exemplifies the process of mobilisation, organisation and cooperation among 'informal workers' highlighting importance of territory, young people and women.
<b>The New Factory</b>	Thessaloniki, Greece.	Reconnecting the factory and the community through self-management at VIO.me.	Illustrates organization of new work practices and forms of management and the (re)connection between work, community and social reproductive activities beyond the factory.
<b>The Indigenous Market</b>	San Roque Market, Quito, Ecuador.	Work, trade and social reproduction/cultural activities in the colonial city.	Demonstrates the historical role of the market in the city's social metabolism and its role in the struggle against informality, the decolonisation of work and the respect for indigenous culture.
<b>The Urban Garden</b>	Detroit, USA	Solidarity economy initiatives by African-American women organizing around food security and justice.	Illustrates how creative efforts to address the crisis of social reproduction in Detroit are transforming labor identities and economic justice frameworks beyond the industrial worker model.
<b>The global slum household</b>	New Delhi, India.	Boundary between workplace and life space: Women and the twofold meaning of 'house-work'.	Illustrates slum home as site for housework and home-work and how this blurs the boundary between production and social reproduction and highlights the reproduction of patriarchal and colonial forms of work.
<b>The Common</b>	Bristol, UK.	Community organization, cooperation and the 'commons'.	Highlights the process of reinventing production, consumption and social reproduction by means of the formation of cooperative initiatives around issues such as sustainability, housing, food, roads, education and media
<b>Curatorial/ Artistic methods and exhibitions</b>	Bristol and Quito	Translation / presentation / dissemination of critical, participatory research through curatorial methods of exhibition, productive framing through artistic methods and production	Addresses accessibility - Facilitates exchange, modes of (re)presentation, engagement, dialogue and visibility. Demonstrates research impact through engagement with range of audiences