

Global Labour Journal: Editorial

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In 2015 we saw three strong issues of the *Global Labour Journal*, and there are a few new developments that are worth noting for the year to come.

As part of the Journal's commitment to expanding its global reach, the third issue of 2015 featured the Journal's first [review](#) of a non-English-language book relevant to contemporary labour studies. We look forward to continuing this practice of introducing our readers to viewpoints from non-Anglophone scholars, and welcome proposals for reviews of non-English books for future issues.

In addition, the Journal's Advisory Board was expanded in 2015 to include several new scholars, as well as more regions of the world. The new members are: Mark Anner (Penn State, United States), Andreas Bieler (Nottingham, United Kingdom), Jan Breman (Amsterdam, The Netherlands), Akua Britwum (Cape Coast, Ghana), Sakhela Buhlungu (Cape Town, South Africa), Michael Burawoy (UC Berkeley, United States), Jennifer Jihye Chun (Toronto, Canada), Enrique de la Garza Toledo (UAM, Mexico), Elena Gerasimova (National Research University – Higher School of Economics, Russia), Frank Hoffer (ILO), Richard Hyman (LSE, United Kingdom), Christian Lyhne Ibsen (Copenhagen, Denmark), Praveen Jha (Jawaharlal Nehru University, India), Bridget Kenny (Witwatersrand, South Africa), Ching Kwan Lee (UCLA, United States), Raquel Varela (Lisbon New University, Portugal) and Edward Webster (Witwatersrand, South Africa). We are delighted to welcome these new members to our already rich Advisory Board!

In line with the Journal's aim to provide a space for scholars and labour activists to interact with one another, the Journal and its [Special Issue on Transformative Unionism and Innovative Campaigns Challenging Inequality](#) were presented at a plenary session of the Global Labour University (GLU) Conference, held in Washington D.C. in October 2015. GLU co-hosts the Journal, and the conference brought together academics and trade unionists from around the world; many of the unionists are alumni of GLU academic programmes.

Several articles in 2015 turned a special spotlight on analysing current global events from a labour perspective. For example, Christos Boukalas and Julian Müller's piece, [Un-Doing Labour in Greece](#), looked at how Greece's economic crisis in the summer of 2015 affected labour. Similarly, Thembi Luckett and Deliwe Mzobe's Global Issues piece in this issue, [#OutsourcingMustFall](#), examines the role of workers in the wave of student-worker protests that swept South Africa towards the end of 2015. These unique articles addressing current events enable us to bring labour into contemporary analyses on finance and education. We look forward to continuing this focus in 2016 and beyond, and welcome articles that highlight the impact on labour of contemporary crises concerning the environment, refugees, the rise of right-wing parties, and gender (among others).

In 2016, the Journal has planned a range of new initiatives to deepen our discussions around

precarity and informality. In May, we look forward to publishing a special issue on “Guy Standing’s *A Precariat Charter*”. The issue will feature several critiques which emerged from an RC44 panel on Standing’s work at the 2014 International Sociological Association (ISA) meeting in Yokohama, as well as a rejoinder by Guy Standing. In July, at this year’s ISA meeting in Vienna, the Journal will host its first Author-Meets-Critics panel, featuring the newest, most exciting books on global labour. The ISA Research Committee on Labour and Labour Movements (RC44), which co-hosts the Journal, will sponsor the panel, which will feature two English-language books on China and a German-language book on precarity and class. The reviews from the panel will be published in the Journal later this year. In August 2016, the Journal is co-sponsoring a mini-conference just before the American Sociological Association’s Annual Meeting in Seattle. The conference’s theme is “Precarious Labor: Domination and Resistance in the US, China, and the World”.

We appreciate the support of those who read and contribute to the Journal, as well as those who share and “like” the Journal’s articles on social media. And of course our thanks go to all those who have assisted us by reviewing the many submissions that we receive. The GLJ serves as an important space in the growing field of global labour studies. Please continue to consider it as an outlet for the publication of your work, and encourage colleagues to do the same. In addition to original articles, we welcome suggestions for book reviews, topical inputs for our Global Issues pieces, and other ideas for ways to further the aims of the Journal.