

## **Laura Dresser**

Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work and  
COWS (formerly *Center on Wisconsin Strategy*)

University of Wisconsin-Madison

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### **Current Positions**

Clinical Associate Professor, Rosenbaum School of Social Work, 2022- present

Clinical Assistant Professor, Rosenbaum School of Social Work 2016 – 2022,

Associate Director, COWS, 2006 – present

Research Director, COWS, 1995 – 2006

### **Education**

Ph.D., Social Work and Economics, University of Michigan, 1994.

Master of Social Work, University of Michigan, 1991.

B.A., Economics and Public Policy, with Honors, Rice University, 1988.

### **Professional Positions and Affiliations**

Affiliate, Institute for Research on Poverty (IRP), UW-Madison (2003-present)

Faculty Leadership Team, DreamUp at IRP, UW-Madison, (2018-2020)

Technical Advisor to Worker Education Resource Center on LA County workforce  
development (2017-2020)

Advisor to State of California Workforce Development Board on High Road Regional  
Training Partnership initiative, (2016- 2019)

Member Poverty and Geography Network, Institute for Research on Poverty, UW-  
Madison (2016-2018)

Technical Advisor on workforce strategy, New York State Energy Research and  
Development Authority (2015-16)

Member, academic advisory council for the research/report on domestic workers *Home  
Economics: Invisible and Unregulated World of Domestic Work*; National Domestic  
Workers Alliance, UIC-CUED, and DataWorks (2011-2012).

Advisor and Team Member, Wisconsin Industry Partnership Project and Wisconsin RISE,  
Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development and Wisconsin Technical College  
System (2008-2012)

Member, Leadership Caucus, Southcentral/Southwest Wisconsin WIRED (2008-10)

Member and staff chair, Dane County Collaboration Council Workforce Team (2005-06)

Member and sub-committee co-chair, Wisconsin Select Committee on Health Care  
Workforce Development (2003-2009)

Member, Wisconsin Governor's Minimum Wage Advisory Council (2004)  
Technical Advisor, State of Wisconsin Task Force on Transitional Jobs (2003)  
Associate, *Dollars and Sense Magazine* (1994-2004)  
Participating Faculty, Industrial Relations Research Institute, UW- Madison (1998-2003)  
Adjunct Faculty, George Meany Center, and research consultant to National AFL-CIO,  
Working for America Institute (1999-2000)  
Research Fellow, Center on Work and Family, Boston University (1994-95)

### **Classroom Teaching**

Social Work 840: *Advanced Macro Practice*  
Social Work 800/801: *Field Practice and Integrative Seminar I and II*  
Social Work 375: *Special Problems in Social Welfare: Power, Possibility, Social Justice and the Practice of Social Change*  
Guest Lectures in various classes at UW including Introduction to Social Policy (Social Work 206); Public Management in Complex Times (Social Work 861); Challenges and Solutions in Business Sustainability; and others.  
Race, Gender and Ethnicity: Inequality in US Labor Markets, UW-Madison (1998)  
Introductory Microeconomics and Macroeconomics, Section Leader, Harvard (1994-95)  
Tutorial Advisor for Sophomore Women's Studies Concentrators, Harvard (1995)

### **Publications**

Laura Dresser, 2021. "Using Just Practice to Structure Learning in Field" in Janet Finn, ed., *The Just Practice Framework in Action*. Oxford University Press, Oxford, UK.

Julia Henly, Susan Lambert and Laura Dresser, 2021. "The New Realities of Working-Class Jobs: Employer Practices, Worker Protections, and Employee Voice to Improve Job Quality" in *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, Vol.695 (1), p.208-224.

Laura Dresser, 2017. "Human Capital in Context: Policies that Shape Urban Labor Markets" in Michael A. Pagano, ed., *Jobs and the Labor Force of Tomorrow: Migration, Education*. University of Illinois Press: Champaign, IL.

Laura Dresser, 2015. "Valuing Care by Valuing Care Workers: The Big Cost of a Worthy Standard and Some Steps Toward it" Report in the *Reimagining the Rules* series for the Work and Labor Project, Roosevelt Institute, New York, NY.

Earl Buford and Laura Dresser, 2014. "The Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership: The Evolution of an Intermediary, the Shifting Target of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Manufacturing, and the Continuing Relevance of Unions in Labor Markets" in Bob Giloth and Maureen Conway, eds. *Connecting People to Work: Workforce Intermediaries and Sector Strategies*.

Debra Bragg, Laura Dresser, and Whitney Smith, 2012. "Leveraging Workforce Development and Postsecondary Education for Low-Skilled, Low-Income Workers: Lessons from the Shifting Gears Initiative" in *New Directions for Community Colleges*, Number 157 (Spring 2012), Josey Boss.

Laura Dresser and Joel Rogers, 2012. *Wisconsin One Year Later: What Happened, What is Happening, and What it Means for Progressives*, Social Policy, 42,1, Spring 2012.

Joel Rogers and Laura Dresser, 2011. "ALEC Exposed: Business Domination, Inc." in *The Nation Magazine*, August 8 2011. New York.

Achim Vanselow, Chris Warhurst, Annette Bernhardt, and Laura Dresser, 2010. "Working at the Wage Floor: Hotel Room Attendants and Labor Market Institutions in Europe and the United States" in J. Gautie and J. Schmitt, eds. *Low-Wage Work in the Wealthy World*, Russell Sage Foundation.

Annette Bernhardt, Heather Boushey, Laura Dresser and Chis Tilly, editors. 2008. *The Gloves Off Economy: Problems and Possibilities at the Bottom of America's Labor Market*. Labor and Employment Relations Association 2008 Research volume.

Laura Dresser, 2008. "Cleaning and Caring in the Home: Shared Problems? Shared Possibilities?" in *The Gloves Off Economy: Problems and Possibilities at the Bottom of America's Labor Market*. Labor and Employment Relations Association 2008 Research volume.

Laura Dresser and Annette Bernhardt, 2006. "Bad Service Jobs: Can Unions Save Them? Can They Save Unions?" In R. N. Block, S. Friedman, A. Levin, and M. Kaminski, eds., *Justice on the Job: Perspectives on the Erosion of Collective Bargaining in the United States*. Kalamazoo, MI: Upjohn Institute.

Annette Bernhardt, Laura Dresser, and Joel Rogers, 2004. "Taking the High Road in Milwaukee: The Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership." In D. Reynolds, ed. *Partnering for Change: How Unions and Community Groups Build Coalitions for Economic Justice*. Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe.

Annette Bernhardt, Laura Dresser, and Erin Hatton. 2003. "The Coffee Pot Wars: Unions and Firm Restructuring in the Hotel Industry." In E. Appelbaum, A. Bernhardt, and R. Murnane, eds., *Low-Wage America: How Employers are Reshaping Opportunity in the Workplace*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

Laura Dresser and Joel Rogers, 2003. "Part of the Solution: Emerging Workforce Intermediaries in the US." In J. Zeitlin and D. Trubek, eds., *Governing Working and Welfare in the New Economy: European and American Experiments*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Annette Bernhardt, Laura Dresser, and Joel Rogers. 2002. "Taking the High Road in

Milwaukee." *WorkingUSA* 5(4):109-30.

Chris Benner, Bob Brownstein, Laura Dresser, and Laura Leete. 2001. "Staircases and Treadmills: The Role of Labor Market Intermediaries in Placing Workers and Fostering Upward Mobility." in Voos, Paula, ed. *Proceedings of the 53rd Annual Meeting of the Industrial Relations Research Association*, January 5-7, 2001, New Orleans (Champaign, IL: IRRA).

Laura Dresser. 2000. "Building Jobs With a Future in Wisconsin: Lessons from Dane County," In *Nonstandard Work: The Nature and Challenges of Changing Employment Arrangements*, edited by Francoise Carre, Marianne A. Ferber, Lonnie Golden, and Steve Herzenberg, pp. 21-40. Champaign, IL: Industrial Relations Research Association.

Michael Kline, Corey Dolgon, and Laura Dresser. 2000. "The Politics of Knowledge in Theory and Practice: Collective Research and Political Action in a Grassroots Community Organization," *Journal of Community Practice* 8(2).

Laura Dresser and Joel Rogers. 1999. "Sectoral Strategies of Labor Market Reform." In, F. van Wieringen and G. Attwell, eds., *Vocational and Adult Education in Europe*, Kluwer Academic Publishers.

John Bound and Laura Dresser. 1998. "The Relative Erosion of African American Women's Wages, 1973-1991." In, Irene Browne, ed., *Race, Gender and Economic Inequality: African American and Latina Women in the U.S. Labor Market*, Russell Sage, 1998.

Laura Dresser and Joel Rogers. 1998. "Networks, Sectors, and Workforce Learning." In B. Giloth, ed., *Jobs and Economic Development*, Russell Sage, 1998.

Laura Dresser. 1996. "To Be Young Black and Female: Falling Further Behind in the Shifting Economy," *Real World Micro*, Dollars&Sense, Cambridge MA.

Corey Dolgon, Michael Kline, and Laura Dresser. 1994. "House People, Not Cars!" Common Sense in the City of Intellect, *Comparative Urban and Community Research: An Annual Review*.

Sherrie Kossoudji and Laura Dresser. 1992. "Working Class Rosies: Women Industrial Workers during World War II." *The Journal of Economic History*, Vol. 52, No. 2 (June 1992).

Sherrie Kossoudji and Laura Dresser. 1992. "The End of a Riveting Experience: Occupational Shifts at Ford After World War II." *American Economic Association Papers and Proceedings*, Vol. 82, No. 2 (May 1992).

### **Book Reviews**

*Good Jobs, Bad Jobs* (by Arne Kalleberg). Reviewed in *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*, 65, 2 (June 2012).

*A Future of Good Jobs? America's Challenge in the Global Economy* (by Timothy J. Bartik and Susan N. Houseman, editors). Reviewed in *The Journal of Regional Science*, 50, 3 (August 2010).

*Lost Ground: Welfare Reform, Poverty, and Beyond* (by Randy Albelda and Ann Withorn, editors). Reviewed in *Social Service Review*, 78, 4 (2004).

*The State of Working America, 1998-99* (by Lawrence Mishel, Jared Bernstein, and John Schmitt). Reviewed in *Relations Industrielles/Industrial Relations*, 54, 7 (1999).

*Saving our Children from Poverty: What the United States Can Learn from France* (by Barbara R. Bergmann). Reviewed in *Children and Youth Services Review* 20, 7: 660-663 (1998).

### **Policy Reports**

Co-author of all editions of COWS signature annual report, **The State of Working Wisconsin**, 1996 to present available [workingwi.org](http://workingwi.org).

Laura Dresser, Pablo Aquiles-Sanchez, 2023. [Facts from the Frontline, Getting by in Milwaukee's Abundant Low Wage Service Jobs](#), COWS, Madison, WI.

Laura Dresser, Pablo Aquiles-Sanchez, 2022. [Worker Power Levels the Playing Field](#), COWS, Madison, WI.

Laura Dresser, Pablo Aquiles-Sanchez, 2022. [Playing with Public Money](#), COWS, Madison, WI.

Laura Dresser, Pablo Aquiles-Sanchez, and Adam Kanter, 2022. [The Crisis in Milwaukee's Service Industry](#), COWS, Madison, WI.

Walker Kahn and Laura Dresser, 2021. [Toward a New Tradition in "Nontraditional Occupations"](#) COWS, Madison, WI.

Leah Awkward-Rich, Ceri Jenkins, and Laura Dresser, 2021. Wisconsin Early Care and Education Workforce Study, [Report on the Survey of Program Directors](#) and [Report on the Survey of Family Providers](#). For Wisconsin's Department on Children and Families Preschool Development Grant needs assessment.

Laura Dresser, Colin Gordon and Hannah Halbert, 2020. "[Weak labor protections have put Midwestern food processing workers at risk for coronavirus](#)," Working Economics Blog, Economic Policy Institute, Washington DC.

Laura Dresser and Marybeth McGinnis, 2019. [Race in the Heartland: Wisconsin's Extreme Racial Disparity](#), COWS, Madison, WI.

Laura Dresser, Matthew Braunginn and Emanuel Ubert (2019), *Investing in Wisconsin's Future: Closing Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Wisconsin's Public Higher Education*, COWS, Madison, WI.

Equity in Apprenticeship Series and [website](#) (2018)

1. *Health Care Pathways in LA: New Apprenticeship Opportunities as an Industry Changes*
2. *Manufacturing Pathways in Milwaukee: Bringing Skills and Equity to Manufacturing's Future*
3. *Equity from the Frontline: Workers' Insight and Leadership Supports a Network of Apprenticeships in Transit*
4. *Principles for Equity in Apprenticeship*

Sarah Thomason, Lea Austin, Annette Bernhardt, Laura Dresser, Ken Jacobs and Marcy Whitebook, 2018, [At the Wage Floor: Covering Homecare and Early Care and Education Workers in the New Generation of Minimum Wage Laws](#), COWS, Madison, WI. COWS, 2017. *The Economic Contributions of Wisconsin Immigrants - Fact Sheet*, COWS, Madison, WI.

Wisconsin Budget Project and COWS, 2017. *Pulling Apart 2017: Focus on Wisconsin's 1%*, COWS, Madison, WI.

Laura Dresser, Javier Rodriguez, and Mel Meder, 2017. *When Work is Not Enough: Toward Better Policy to Support Wisconsin's Working Families*, COWS, Madison, WI.

Laura Dresser, Rhandi Berth, and Emanuel Ubert, 2017. *Moving Apprenticeship Into Manufacturing's Future: Industrial Manufacturing Technician*, COWS, Madison, WI.

Laura Dresser, Mary C. King, and Raahi Reddy, 2017. *Oregon's Care Economy: The Case for Public Investment*, COWS, Madison, WI.

*Human Capital in Context: Policies that Shape Urban Labor Markets*, 2016. University of Illinois-Chicago Urban Forum 2016, "Jobs and the Labor Force of Tomorrow: Migration, Training, Education," Chicago, IL.

Laura Dresser, Javier Rodriguez S., and Mel Meder, 2016. *Wisconsin's Child Care Workforce: Wages Benefits, Education and Turnover of the Professionals Working with Wisconsin's Youngest Children*, Wisconsin Early Childhood Association, Madison WI.

*Increasing Skills & Opportunity for Wisconsin's Immigrants*, 2016. COWS, Madison WI.

*High Road WIOA: Building Higher Job Quality into Workforce Development*, 2015. COWS, Keystone Research Institute, and Policy Matter Ohio. Released by EARN, Washington DC.

Laura Dresser and Chris Reynolds, 2015. *Putting Families First: Analyzing the Costs of Paid Leave in Wisconsin*, COWS, Madison WI.

Laura Dresser and Jody Knauss, 2015. *The US Child Care Industry*, COWS, Madison WI.

Winnie Karanja, Laura Dresser, and Michele Mackey, 2015. *Wisconsin Career Pathways: Post-*

*Secondary Education for Low-Income, Low-Skill Adults*, COWS, Madison, WI.

Samira Salem, Laura Dresser, and Michele Mackey, 2015. *Wisconsin Fast Forward: How Skills Training is Working and Extending the Opportunity to Low-wage Workers*, COWS, Madison WI.

Laura Chenven and Laura Dresser, 2014. *Turn up the HEET! Reflections on Washington's Six Years of Investment and Innovation in the Health Care Workforce*. COWS, Madison WI.

Laura Dresser, Jody Knauss, and Matias Cocina, 2014. *Raise the Floor Wisconsin: Minimum Wage Edition*, COWS, Madison WI.

Laura Dresser, 2014. *Impact of Minimum Wage Increase on Wisconsin Families*, COWS, Madison WI.

Michele Mackey, Laura Dresser, Matias Cocina, 2014. *Wisconsin's Extreme Racial Disparity*, COWS, Madison WI.

*Building the Middle Class with Better Skills and Wages: Who Would be Helped by Stronger Pathways?* (a data resource for state advocates), 2013. COWS and CLASP, Madison WI and Washington DC.

Laura Dresser, *Raise the Floor Milwaukee: Toward Better Wages and Labor Standards for Low-Wage Workers*, 2013, COWS, Madison WI.

*Employers Take the Lead: A Report on Wisconsin's Industry Partnership Project*, 2013, COWS, Madison WI.

*Manufacturing Better Opportunity and a Stronger Economy*, 2013, a report on the Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership. By COWS and the Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership, Madison and Milwaukee WI.

*Pathways to Competitiveness: Some Guidelines for Successful Workforce Investment in Wisconsin*, 2013. COWS, Madison WI.

Jayson Chung, Matias Cocina, and Laura Dresser, 2012. *Toward College Success for Working Adults: The Pipeline to Credentials in the Wisconsin Technical College System*, COWS, Madison WI.

Sarah White with Laura Dresser and Joel Rogers, 2012. *Greener Reality: Jobs, Skills, and Equity in a Cleaner US Economy*. COWS, Madison WI.

*Under Attack, Wisconsin's Middle Class and the Jobs Crisis*, 2011. Demos and COWS, Madison WI.

*Wisconsin Jobs: Don't Credit (or Blame) Walker where he has No Real Influence*, 2011. COWS,

Madison WI.

*Wisconsin Public Employees: A Foundation for Quality of Life in the State*, 2011. COWS, Madison WI.

Sarah White with Laura Dresser and Joel Rogers, 2010. *Greener Skills: How Credentials Create Value in the Clean Energy Economy*. COWS, Madison WI.

Annette Bernhardt, Heather Boushey, Laura Dresser, and Chris Tilly, 2009. *Confronting the Gloves Off Economy: America's Broken Labor Standards and How to Fix Them*. Institute for Research on Labor and Employment (UCLA), Center for Economic Policy Research, National Employment Law Project, and Center on Wisconsin Strategy, Madison, WI.

Laura Dresser. *Stronger Ladders, Stronger Floors: The Need for Both Supply and Demand Strategies to Improve Workers' Opportunities*. 2007. COWS, Madison WI.

Laura Dresser. *When Work Doesn't Pay: The Hidden Cost of Low-Wage Jobs in Wisconsin*. 2006. COWS, Madison WI.

*Pulling Apart: Wisconsin's Growing Income Inequality*. 2006. COWS, Madison WI.

*Effective Workforce Training on the Frontline: Observations from the Industry Partnerships Project*. 2005. COWS, Madison WI.

*Skilled Workers, Strong Economy: Preparing for Jobs with a Future in South Central Wisconsin*. 2005. COWS, Madison WI.

*Evaluation of the Industry Partnership Incumbent Worker Training Program*, 2005. Report to the Workforce Development Board of South Central Wisconsin and the Department of Labor.

*Working Hard, Falling Short: Wisconsin Working Families in Search of Economic Security*. 2004. COWS, Madison WI.

*Declining Federal Support for Wisconsin Workforce Development*. 2004. COWS, Madison WI.

*The Impact of Budget Cuts on Wisconsin Job Centers*. 2004. COWS, Madison WI.

Annette Bernhardt, Laura Dresser, and Erin Hatton. 2003. *Moving Hotels to the High Road: Strategies That Help Workers and Firms Succeed*. COWS, Madison, WI.

*Raising the Floor: Who Would Benefit from a Minimum Wage Increase in Wisconsin*. 2003. COWS, Madison WI.

*Caring about Caregivers: Reducing Turnover of Frontline Health Care Workers in South*

- Central Wisconsin*. 2003. COWS, Madison WI.
- Honoring Work in Wisconsin: State Policies to Promote Self-Sufficiency for Working Families*. 2003. COWS, Madison WI.
- Better Wages, Better Care: The Link between Job Quality and Child Care Quality in Dane County*. 2002. COWS, Madison WI.
- Annette Bernhardt and Laura Dresser. 2002. *Why Privatizing Government Services Would Hurt Women Workers*. Institute for Women's Policy Research, Washington, DC.
- Can't Afford to Lose a Bad Job: Latino Workers in Dane County*. 2001. Joint report of Latino Workers Project/Interfaith Coalition for Worker Justice, and COWS. Madison, WI.
- Barely Getting By: Wisconsin's Working Poor Families*. 2000. A Joint Report of the Center on Wisconsin Strategy, the Institute for Wisconsin's Future, and the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families. Center on Wisconsin Strategy, Madison, WI.
- Laura Dresser. 1999. "Clearing the Air: The Effect of Smokefree Ordinances on Restaurant Revenues in Dane County," Tobacco-Free Wisconsin Coalition, Madison WI.
- Laura Dresser, Dori Lange, and Alison Sirkus. 1999. "Improving Retention of Frontline Caregivers in Dane County." COWS, Madison WI.
- High Performance Partnerships: Winning Solutions for Employers and Workers*, prepared by Laura Dresser, Joel Rogers, Robyn Richards and Danielle Salus of the Center on Wisconsin Strategy for the State of Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, Madison Wisconsin, 1999.
- Laura Dresser and Peggi Koenecke. 1997 "Training and Skill Needs in the Dane County Health Care Industry: Challenges and Opportunities," COWS, Madison, WI.
- Laura Dresser and Joel Rogers. 1997. "Rebuilding Job Access and Career Advancement Systems in the New Economy," for W.T. Grant Foundation and Institute on Education and the Economy.
- The Displaced Family: Job Loss, Family Supportiveness, and the Role of Outplacement Services*, with Neil Colin, Leon Litchfield, et al, Boston University Center on Work and Family, 1995.
- Laura Dresser. 1994. "Did Federal War Contracts Make a Difference? Labor Market Opportunities of White and African-American Women Five Years after WWII." Summer Institute on the Development of the American Economy, National Bureau of Economic Research, Cambridge.
- Laura Dresser. 1988. *The Intergenerational Transmission of Welfare Dependency: A Study of Houston Recipients*. Rice Institute for Policy Analysis Working Paper, Houston TX.

## Presentations

“What’s going on in the economy? What does this mean for workers? And for equity”  
Plenary presentation at the Madison Region Economic Development and Diversity Summit, May 10, 2023.

“Working Wisconsin and the Labor Market” presentation for IRP/DCF Learning Exchange, December 9, 2022.

“Stronger Labor Markets for Working Wisconsin” keynote presentation to annual conference of the Wisconsin Council of Annuity, May 19, 2022.

“Working Wisconsin and Labor Markets” keynote presentation to La Crosse Area Development Corporation annual meeting, May 17, 2022.

“Issues in the economy and why aspiring nurses should care” presentation to UW Madison Aspiring Nurses Association, March 2, 2022.

“Women, Work, and the Covid Economy” Democratic labor issues caucus, Wisconsin Legislature, online, February 7, 2022.

“Workers in the Covid Economy,” Sheboygan County Labor Council Annual Banquet, Sheboygan, WI. January 22, 2022. Keynote

“What’s Causing Our Labor Shortage?” UW NOW, Wisconsin Alumni Association, Livestream, October 12, 2021. Speaker. Permanent [Link](#).

“The Wisconsin Early Childhood Workforce – How do we Recruit, Retain & Support Them?,” 2021 WECA (Wisconsin Early Childhood Association) Virtual Conference, Madison, WI. September 30, 2021. Presenter.

“Wisconsin Early Childhood Educators: Results from the Survey of Directors and Family Providers Surveys” Department of Children and Families Learning Exchange, hosted by IRP, September 16, 2021. Presenter.

“Wisconsin Workers and the Economy,” AFSCME Retirees, Subchapter 52, Madison, WI. May 18, 2021. “Funding Economic Empowerment and Equity for Women in the Context of the Covid Economy,” A Fund for Women Retreat, Madison, WI. April 9, 2021. Presenter.

“Policy Ideas for the Pandemic and Beyond,” Wisconsin Foundation & Alumni Association, February 16, 2021. Panelist.

"Unequal Impacts of COVID-19 on Wisconsin's Communities," Wisconsin League of Women Voters, 2020 Virtual Issues Briefing Meeting, November 2020. Presenter.

"The State of Working Wisconsin in the Covid Economy," Wisconsin State AFL-CIO 31st Biennial Convention, September 30, 2020. Keynote speaker

"Food on the Table, Workers at the Table," Milwaukee Area Service & Hospitality Workers Organization, Roundtable Discussion, September 2, 2020.

"Engaging on Race: How EARN groups and EPI are Documenting Racial Inequality, Calling out Systemic Racism, and What More We Can Do," EARN Talks, National Webinar, February 2020, Panelist.

"Wisconsin's Extreme Racial Disparity," Wisconsin Public Education Network Partners Winter Meeting, Madison, WI, December 2019, Speaker.

"Equity in Apprenticeship," Wisconsin Youth Apprenticeship Learning Tour, Workforce Matters, A Funders' Network, Milwaukee, WI, May 2019, Speaker.

"Just a Vowel: Micro and Macro Aren't So Very Far Apart," Agency Supervisor Workshop and Student Symposium, University of Wisconsin-Madison, School of Social Work, Madison, WI, April 2019. Keynote.

"Putting CA on the High Road: A State Agenda for Equity, Climate and Jobs," Building Workforce Partnerships Conference, San Diego, CA. March 2019. Panelist

"2018 Election Wrap Up: Analysis & Implications," MadLITS, Oakwood Village, Madison, WI. October 2018. Speaker.

"State and Local Policies to Expand Access to Care Services and Improve Care Workers' Wages," EARNcon 2018, October 2018. Chicago, IL. Panelist.

"How Can Wisconsin Businesses Get The Workers They Need?," Capital Times Idea Fest 2018, Madison, WI, September 2018. Panelist.

"State of Working Wisconsin," Wisconsin State AFL-CIO 30th Biennial Convention, Milwaukee, WI, September 2018. Speaker.

"Wisconsin's Changing Demographics and Underrepresented Populations in Higher Education," WISCAPE (Wisconsin Center for the Advancement of Postsecondary Education) Summit "Educating a Diverse Wisconsin," Madison, WI, April 2018. Featured Speaker.

"Leadership: Solving Society's Issues Together. How Do You Partner with Others?" Presented

by The Women's Philanthropy Council of the Wisconsin Foundation and Alumni Association, "Women. Philanthropy. Democracy. What Now?", Madison, WI, April 2018. Panelist.

"Advancing Racial and Social Justice through Radical Social Work," Social Workers Confronting Racial Injustice, Madison, WI, January 2018. Workshop co-organizer/presenter.

"Round Table Discussion on North American Workforce Development," The Woodrow Wilson Center Mexico Institute, December 2017. Invited participant.

"Reach a Better State," Skills Gap Symposium, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, September 2017. Panelist.

"How can we build a diverse middle class?" Cap Times Idea Fest, Madison, WI, September 2017. Panelist.

"What Happened in Wisconsin? Economic, Cultural, and Political Change in the Heartland," University of Wisconsin-Madison Roundtable Session for U.S. Congressional Delegation on the Future of Work, Wages, and Labor," University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, April 2017. Organizer, facilitator and discussant.

"What Social Workers Can Do to Respond to the Current Challenging Political Environment on a State and National Level," Celebrate Social Work Month at University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, March 2017. Panelist.

"Using Our Voice to Build Better Systems: Management and Labor Convening to Build a Skilled Workforce for Quality Healthcare," H-CAP/COWS Conference, Crystal City, VA, March 2017. Conference organizer and presenter.

"Oregon Care Economy: The Case for Public Care Investment," Legislator Briefings, Oregon State Capitol, Salem, OR, February 2017.

"A Way Out of No Way: Women, Labor, and Justice Today," Faith Labor Breakfast, ICWF (Interfaith Coalition for Worker Justice of South Central Wisconsin), Madison, WI, February 13, 2017. Panelist.

"State of Working Wisconsin," IAM (International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers) Federal Lodge 276, Madison, WI, February 13, 2017.

Wisconsin Women's Network Policy Institute, Madison, WI, February 2017. Leadership Panelist.

"Discussion of Labor-Management Partnerships as Sector Intermediaries with guests from the Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership," California Workforce Development Board, Oakland, CA, January 2017.

“Promoting Job Quality in Workforce Development” and “State and Federal-State Agendas for Rebuilding Manufacturing in 2017,” EARN 18th Annual Conference, St. Louis, MO, December 2016.

“Professionalizing the Field of Early Education: Improved Compensation is Key,” WECA (Wisconsin Early Childhood Association) Annual Conference “2016 Connections,” Green Bay, WI, October 13, 2016.

“Human Capital in Context: Policies that Shape Urban Labor Markets,” University of Illinois-Chicago Urban Forum 2016, “Jobs and the Labor Force of Tomorrow: Migration, Training, Education,” Chicago, IL, September 15, 2016.

“The State of Working Wisconsin,” WI State AFL-CIO Biennial Convention, Madison, WI, August 29, 2016.

*Luncheon Plenary*, WISCAP: A Home for Everyone: Housing Creates Community, Appleton, WI, July 13, 2016.

“Apprenticeships in the Building Trades and Health Care: Promise and Challenge of a Remaking the Model for Stronger Unions,” *Panel Participant*, LRAN (Labor Research & Action Network) 2016 National Conference, Chicago, IL, June 24-25, 2016.

“Using Data to Inform Community Strategies: Data 101,” InCourage, Wisconsin Rapids, WI, June 7, 2016.

Invited participant in one-day conversation on *Jobs & Race*, Annie E Casey Foundation, Baltimore, MD, June 3, 2016.

“\$15 Minimum Wages: What Can the Research Tell Us?,” LERA 68th Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, May 27, 2016. Discussant.

“Child Care Workers in Wisconsin: Wages, Turnover, and Working Conditions,” Industry Studies Conference, Minneapolis, MN, May 26, 2016. Panelist.

“What’s Going on for Working Wisconsin and What Can We Do?,” League of Women Voters (LWV) of Ashland & Bayfield Counties Wisconsin, Ashland, WI, April 29, 2016.

“Labor Market Dynamics, Employers’ Needs, and Bridges from Work to Skills,” Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, Milwaukee, WI, February 26, 2016.

*Opening Plenary Panel on Skills and National Policy*, National Skills Coalition Skills Summit, Alexandria, VA, February 17-18, 2016. Panelist.

“Poverty and the 2016 Elections,” Poverty Matters! Conference, Pewaukee, WI, November 18, 2015. Lunch keynote panel.

“Our Region’s Demographics,” United Way Leadership Development for Nonprofit Board Members Annual Fall Conference, Madison, WI, November 7, 2015.

“State of Working Wisconsin,” Plato Discussion Group, Lakeview Public Library, Madison, WI, November 2, 2015.

“The Importance of Organized Labor to Working Families and Our State and National Economies,” State Senator Mark Pocan Town Hall, Madison, WI, October 19, 2015. Panelist.

“Skills in the States,” National Skills Coalition State Advocate Meeting, Columbus, OH, September 24-25, 2015. Participant.

“The Regional Economy and State Policy,” 21st Annual Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, August 22, 2015.

Participant in small expert discussion on *Job Skills and the U.S. Labor Force*, sponsored by the Russell Sage & W.K. Kellogg’s Foundation on Economic Security, Ann Arbor, MI, May 15, 2015. Participant.

“Income Inequality in Wisconsin,” League of Women Voters of Dane County Annual Meeting, Madison, WI, May 13, 2015.

“Economic Snapshot: Unions and Labor Standards,” Fox Valley Area Labor Council AFL-CIO 66th Annual Labor/Management Dinner, Appleton, WI, May 7, 2015. Speaker.

“The Robots are Coming?! Update on a Joint EARN Project on the Future of Work”, EARN Annual Conference, Los Angeles, CA, April 17, 2015. Conference organizer, panelist.

“Valuing Care by Valuing Care Workers,” The Roosevelt Institute’s Future of Work Initiative and the Columbia Program on Labor Law and Policy, *Convening on the Future of Work in America*, New York, New York, March 13-14, 2015.

“Politics, Economics and Fast Food Strikes: What Raising the Minimum Wage Floor Means,” LERA (Labor and Employment Relations Association) Wisconsin Chapter, Wauwatosa, WI, February 13, 2015.

Keynote speaker on the Wisconsin economy, WI AFL-CIO Biennial Convention, La Crosse, WI, September 22, 2014. Speaker.

Participant in small expert discussion on “*Next Generation Employer Engagement Strategies*,” Annie E Casey Foundation, Baltimore, MD, September 12, 2014. Participant.

Keynote speaker on career pathways and bridges, Oregon Pathways Alliance, Salem, OR, July 22, 2014.

Workforce Investment Discussion Meeting, Annie E Casey Foundation, Baltimore, MD, June 20, 2014. Participant.

“Washington State’s Six Years of HEET – Impact and Outcomes,” 2014 Hospital Employee Education Training (HEET) Conference, *Trends & Innovations in Healthcare Education!*, Seattle, WA, June 6, 2014.

“Jobs & Wage Equality Roundtable,” WISCAP’S 40th Anniversary Commemoration: *The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Community Action*, Madison, WI, May 8, 2016. Roundtable leader.

Lunch keynote panel (“Distinguished Panel on Poverty in Wisconsin”) WISCAP’S 40th Anniversary Commemoration: *The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Community Action*, Madison, WI, May 8, 2014. Panelist.

“The Wisconsin Economy: What's Going On, What's Coming, and What Can be Done?,” 2014 WI State AFL-CIO Community Services Conference, Madison, WI, March 21, 2014.

“The Future of Health Care,” *The Future of Work: An EARN Network Forum*, Washington, DC, March 17-18, 2014. Panelist.

“Pathways to Resilience Strategy Lab,” Pescadero, CA, February 11-13, 2014. Participant.

“Moving Forward Together, Part 2: Overcoming Disparities,” MPTV's *4th Street Forum*, Milwaukee, WI, October 17, 2013. Panelist.

“The Great Recession, the Great Divergence, Skills Gaps, and Innovation” National Council of Workforce Education (NCWE) Annual Conference, *Innovation is Brewing*, Milwaukee, WI, October 16, 2013. Keynote.

“Low-Wage Worker and Community Organizing: Can Research Help?,” EARN 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA, October 8, 2013. Conference organizer, panel moderator.

“Promoting Employment, Financial Security and Economic Inclusion,” YWCA Madison and the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families *Racial Justice Summit: Race to Equity*, Madison, WI, October 2, 2013. Panelist.

“Manufacturing Better Opportunity & A Stronger Economy,” The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago COWS, Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership/BIG STEP Economic Development Forum, Madison, WI, October 1, 2013. Moderator and Panelist.

“Meltdown: Unemployment, Poverty and America’s Race to the Bottom,” Presented by The Madison Institute, Madison, WI, September 27, 2013. Panelist.

“Manufacturing Better Opportunity & A Stronger Economy,” The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago COWS, Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership/BIG STEP *Economic Development*

*Forum*, Milwaukee, WI, September 25, 2013. Moderator and Panelist.

“Employers Take the Lead,” *Get Ready for EARN! Forum*, Maryland Job Opportunities Task Force, Prince George’s Chamber of Commerce, and Human Services Coalition of Prince George’s County, Baltimore, Maryland, September 19, 2013.

“State of Working Wisconsin,” Big Brothers Big Sisters of Wisconsin State Association Conference, Milwaukee, WI, July 29, 2013.

“Narrowing the Income and Racial Gap: FDR’s New Deal, LBJ’s Great Society and Beyond,” *Fighting Inequality: A Wisconsin Tradition*, 32nd Annual Conference of the Wisconsin Labor History Society, Waukesha, WI, April 20, 2013.

“The State of Working Wisconsin: What’s Going on with Jobs and Skills,” Wisconsin Chapter of IARP (International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals) Spring 2013 Presentation, Johnson Creek, WI, April 19, 2013.

“State of Working Wisconsin 2012,” US Senator Tammy Baldwin Staff Retreat, Milwaukee, WI, April 4, 2013.

“Wisconsin and Women in it: Progress, Exclusion, and Clouds on the Horizon,” American Association of University Women, Wausau Chapter & UW Center for Civic Engagement, University of Wisconsin-Marathon County, Wausau, WI, March 14, 2013.

“From K12 to Technical College Degrees: Toward Stronger Connections and Better Student Success,” *ED TALKS WISCONSIN: Renewing Public Education in Wisconsin*, Madison, WI, March 12, 2013. Panel organizer.

“The State of the Regional Economy” Madison Area Business Consultants Monthly Meeting, Madison, WI, March 12, 2013. Invited speaker.

“Workforce Intermediaries and Sector Strategies in an Uncertain Economy: A Decade of Research and Practice,” The Aspen Institute, Washington, DC, February 2013. Participant.

“Careers in Poverty Research, Policy, and Practice,” IRP Webinar on Poverty Related Careers, Madison, WI, February 21, 2013. Panelist.

Various presentations on The State of Working Wisconsin 2012, including the WI AFL-CIO convention (Appleton, WI), the statewide Big Brothers Big Sisters of Wisconsin annual conference, forums on non-profits and the economy (Madison, Milwaukee, and Appleton), staff retreat for Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin (Madison, WI), and other professional, union, human service and community organizations.

Plenary panelist on *Economic Democracy: Theoretical Underpinnings* at the Economic Democracy Conference, Madison, WI, October 12, 2012.

“The War on Workers in Wisconsin” Keynote at the Annual Conference of the Union for Radical Political Economics, Brooklyn, NY, October 1, 2011.

Various presentations on The State of Working Wisconsin 2010, including Wisconsin professional employees (Madison, WI), staff retreat for Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin (Madison, WI), and annual meeting of Adult Basic Educators (Appleton, WI).

Participant in the Low-Wage Jobs Working Group discussion at Hastings College of Law, San Francisco, CA, July 27-28, 2010.

“Building a More Decent Labor Market” panelist at the 100th Anniversary Conference for The Progressive Magazine. Madison, WI, May 1, 2009.

Various presentations on the State of Working Wisconsin, 2008, including Lakeshore Technical College workforce development breakfast (Cleveland, WI), Wisconsin Manufacturing Skills Standards Conference keynote (Waukesha, WI), Dane County Job Center staff training (Madison, WI), Wisconsin professional employees (Madison, WI).

“Caring and Cleaning in the Home: Intimate and Isolated but not Immutable,” paper presented at 2008 LERA meeting, New Orleans, LA, January 6, 2008.

“Universal vs. Targeted Work Supports” panelist, Bridging the Gaps National Conference, Washington D.C., October 18, 2007.

“Sustaining Employer Engagement in Workplace Change,” guest speaker at strategic planning session for Boston SkillWorks, Boston, MA, May 24, 2007.

“Going for the Gold: Scaling up and Sustaining High Road Partnerships,” moderator, and “Creating Pathways to Good Jobs: Career Ladders, Lattices and Paths,” moderator, Building Workforce Partnerships Conference, San Jose, CA, May 9-11, 2007.

“Strategic approaches to workforce development,” keynote speaker, Job Service District Directors and Supervisors Meeting, Madison, WI, April 25, 2007.

“Technical Colleges’ Role in the Changing Wisconsin Economy,” keynote speaker, Gateway Technical College Faculty In-Service Training, Kenosha, WI, April 4, 2007.

“Getting the job quality picture right” panelist, Center on Law and Social Policy audio conference, February 8, 2007.

“Apprenticeship in the United States: An Unnoticed Training Program,” panelist. APPAM Research Conference, Madison, WI, November 3, 2006.

Various presentations on The State of Working Wisconsin, 2006. Including Community Action Agencies Planners Roundtable (May 2, 2007); Waukesha County Democrats (April 19, 2007); Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen, exec council meeting (April 3,

2007); Women and Poverty Conference (lunch keynote speaker, September 14, 2006); Department of Revenue Secretary's Speaker Series (September 8, 2006).

"Regional Sector Strategies Featuring the Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership" presenter, NGA summer meeting of the State Liaisons for Workforce Development Partnerships, Milwaukee, WI, August 1, 2006.

Various presentations on *Seeds of Workforce Change: A Regional Approach to Improving our Economic Landscape in Southwest & South Central Wisconsin*. Including Jefferson County Economic Summit (March 21, 2007); Small Business Development Center Economic Breakfast (October 5, 2006); Dane County Planning Forum (September 29, 2006); Sauk County Development Corporation Board of Directors (September 25, 2006); Columbia County Labor Forum (April 4, 2006).

"Wages and the Cost of Low Wage Jobs in Wisconsin" State Employees Council, AFSCME, Professional Development Day, Madison, WI, April 28, 2006.

"Careers in Poverty Research and Policy" panelist, Institute for Research on Poverty, Madison, WI, April 6, 2006.

"Pink Collar Poverty," Panelist, Edgewood College Women's History Month, Madison, WI, March 23, 2006.

"Lessons Learned Building Industry Partnerships in Wisconsin" keynote presentation, Pennsylvania Sector Academy, Morgantown, PA, March 14, 2005.

"Key Data on Job Quality" Keynote presentation, Job Service Liaison Training, State of Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, Madison, WI, October 27, 2005.

"Accountable and Equitable Community Development" Panelist, Advancing Racial Justice: A Midwest Conference on Race, Equity, and Policy, Chicago, IL, Oct 21, 2005.

"The State of Working Wisconsin" Presentation, Dane County Job Center/Regional Job Service roundtable, Madison, WI, October 20, 2005.

"Limits of Career Ladder Strategies," Panelist. EARN Conference, Cleveland OH, October 1, 2005.

"The Public Cost of Low Wage Jobs," Panelist. EARN Conference, Cleveland OH, September 30, 2005.

"Improving Care Work: Lessons from Wisconsin" for EARN Conference panel on Research and Policy Reform in Wages and Employment in Human Services Industries, Oakland, CA, Dec 4, 2004.

Planning and participation in one day conference on research strategies for understanding

- WalMart. Hosted by Economic Policy Institute, Washington, DC, July 7, 2005.
- “The Wisconsin Economy, Jobs, and Public Sector,” State Employees Council, AFSCME, Professional Development Day, Madison, WI, April 1, 2005.
- “The State of Working Wisconsin and Technical Colleges in the State,” Northeast Wisconsin Technical College All College In-Service Training, Green Bay, WI, January 4, 2005.
- “Improving Care Work: Lessons from Wisconsin” for EARN Conference panel on Research and Policy Reform in Wages and Employment in Human Services Industries, Oakland, CA, Dec 4, 2004.
- “How are Working Families in the Badger State Doing?” Hunger Prevention Council of Dane County, Madison, WI, November 16, 2004.
- “The Economic Context for CAP Agencies in Wisconsin,” Wisconsin Community Action Agencies annual meeting, Planners’ Roundtable, Green Lake, WI, November 3, 2004.
- “Threats to Public Services,” SEIU-UP 1199, 2004 Annual Meeting, Middleton, WI, October 28, 2004.
- “Working Wisconsin and Economic Development,” Sauk County Development Corporation, Reedsburg WI, October 18, 2004.
- “Work Attachment and Advancement Models,” Midwest Welfare Peer Assistance Network (WELPAN), Chicago IL, September 30, 2004.
- “Challenges Confronting Wisconsin Job Centers,” the System Reform Committee of the Governor’s Council on Workforce Investment, Milwaukee, WI, September 10, 2004.
- “The Future of Jobs in Wisconsin,” Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers Executive Council, Madison, WI, April 6, 2004.
- “The Economy, Jobs, and Public Sector Work in Wisconsin,” State Employees Council, AFSCME, Professional Development Day, Madison, WI, April 2, 2004.
- “Dane County and Workforce Development,” Dane County Housing and Economic Development Workgroup, Madison, WI, March 10, 2004.
- Panel chair, Industrial Relations Research Association Symposium, Careers at the Bottom of the Labor Market: Chaos or Structure?, San Diego, CA, January 2-5, 2004.
- Workshop respondent, Industrial Relations Research Association Symposium, Collective Bargaining and the Level of Wages and Benefits in the Era of the Mega Retailers. San Diego, CA, January 2-5, 2004.

- “Caring About Caregivers: Strategies to Retain the Long-Term Care Workforce,” Annual Meeting of the Long-Term Care Workforce Alliance. Madison, WI, October, 2003.
- “The State of Working Wisconsin,” PLATO (Participatory Learning and Teaching Organization) Group. Madison WI, October, 2003.
- Resource expert on “Access and Opportunity for Working Adults” for the annual meeting of the Trans-Atlantic Technology and Training Alliance. Green Bay, WI, June 2003.
- “Social Justice, Economics, and Child Care,” workshop co-leader at Worthy Wage Day Conference, Madison, WI, May 2003.
- “Using Data: Making the Numbers Work for Us,” workshop for the Public Information Roundtable at the annual conference of the Wisconsin Community Action Program Association (WISCAP), Madison, WI, April 2003.
- “The State of Working Wisconsin and the Status of Women in It,” American Association of University Women, Wausau Chapter. Wausau, WI, March 2003.
- “The State of Working Wisconsin,” Presented to the Wisconsin Education Association Council SW Regional Bargaining Conference. Baraboo, WI, January 25, 2003.
- “Labor Market Trends and What they Mean for Prospective Students,” General session presentation for Wisconsin Education Approval Board Fall Conference. Madison, WI, November 14, 2002.
- “What to Do When Existing Data Can’t Tell You What You Need to Know: Strategies for Developing New Relevant Data.” Presented at the 2002 Annual Conference of the Economic Analysis & Research Network. Chicago, IL, October 2002.
- “Bad Service Jobs: Can Unions Save Them? Can They Save Unions?” Presented at the 2002 AFL- CIO’s Workers’ Rights Conference, School of Labor and Industrial Relations, Michigan State University. East Lansing, MI, October 2002.
- “Responding to Needs of Low Income Working Wisconsin” Presented to Winnebago Interfaith Needs Response, Inc. Oshkosh, WI, October 2002.
- “Regional Strategies for Building Jobs with a Future.” Presented to United States Conference of Mayor’s Workforce Development Council. Madison, WI, June 2002.
- “Hotel Workers, Hotel Restructuring, and the Effects of Unions and Union Density” and participant in researcher/activist dialogue. Rockefeller/Russell Sage Low Wage Work Case Studies Conference. New York, NY, May 2002.
- “Sectoral Strategies for Systems Change: Experience from Wisconsin” Presentation to the Boston Workforce Development Convening. Boston, MA, March 2002.

- “The Child Care Staffing Crisis: Looking for Solutions,” Racine County Community Health Providers Annual Legislative Breakfast. Racine, WI, June 18, 2001.
- “Moving a Quality Child Care Agenda Forward in the State of Wisconsin,” keynote for the 11th Annual Conf., The Business of Taking Care of Kids. Oconomowoc, WI, April 20, 2001.
- “Health Care Workforce Strategies Verified by Research,” workshop for the annual conference of Wisconsin Bureau of Aging and Long Term Care Resources on Aging, Disabilities, and Long Term Support, Madison, WI, April 5, 2001.
- “Putting Child Care at the Center of Wisconsin Strategies,” keynote speech at the annual meeting of the Wisconsin Child Care Improvement Project, Madison, WI, December 2, 2000.
- “A Worker Perspective on the Wisconsin Labor Shortage,” presentation to Wisconsin Legislature’s Joint Study Committee on the Wisconsin Labor Shortage, Madison, WI, November 20, 2000.
- “TANF Reauthorization: Research and Advocacy Strategies,” panelist at the annual conference of the Economic Analysis and Research Network, November 18, 2000.
- “The Wisconsin Idea: University and Community Connections for Good Jobs,” University of Texas, San Antonio Campus Lecture Series on Communities and Institutions of Higher Education, San Antonio, TX, June 20, 2000.
- “Multi-Firm Career Ladders: Can They Rebuild Pathways to Advancement?” panel moderator/presenter, Conference Low Wage Workers and the New Economy, Washington DC, May 24, 2000.
- “Developing High Performance Partnerships between Companies,” Governor’s Employment and Training Conference, Madison, WI. May 9, 2000.
- “Retention of Frontline Caregivers: Benchmarking and Strategies for Success,” Long Term Care Summit on the Staffing Crisis, Madison, WI, April 4, 2000.
- “Europeanization through Multilevel Governance: Local Labor Market Strategies and Regional Economic Development in the U.S.,” UW-Madison European Union Center *Work, Welfare, and Governance in Europe and the U.S.: A Transatlantic Dialogue*, Madison, WI, April 1999.
- “Partnership Strategies for Improving Workforce Development,” Workforce Development Board of Southcentral Wisconsin, Madison, WI, January 25, 2000.
- “The Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership,” Real Utopias Conference V: Experiments in Empowered Deliberative Democracy, Madison, WI, January 14-16, 2000.

- “New Labor Market Intermediaries in Low-Wage Service Industries,” workshop co-chair, Annual Meeting of IRRA, Boston, MA, Jan 7-9, 2000.
- “New Strategies for Old Industrial Cities,” Cornell University Department of City and Regional Planning, Professional Planning Colloquia, October 15, 1999.
- “Improving Work in Regions: Industrial Reconversion and Labor Market Connections,” panelist, COWS/Eurexcter Conference Regional Governance that Works, Madison, WI, October 8, 1999.
- “Building Career Ladders in Technical Fields,” best practices panelist for BankBoston Conference Building a Skilled Workforce for the New Millennium: The Bottom Line Benefits of Career Ladders, Boston, MA, October 6, 1999.
- “The Working Poor and Using the TANF Subsidies,” panelist, and “State Data Sources, Statistics, and Social Indicators: Secrets Revealed by the Experts,” workshop organizer, Annual Conference of the Economic Analysis and Research Network, October 1-3, 1999.
- “Sectoral Projects in Wisconsin: Improving Connections to Job Centers,” briefing for the Wisconsin DWD Job Center team meeting, August 5, 1999.
- “It’s Going to Work: Milwaukee Union Programs for New Workforce Entrants,” AFL-CIO Working For American Institute, National Conference, Las Vegas, NE, June 14, 1999.
- “Trade Unions and Training: Experience from the United States,” Third Annual Conference of the Labour Education and Training Research Network, Quebec City, Canada, May 28, 1999.
- “High Performance Partnerships: Winning Solutions for Employers and Workers,” Governor’s Statewide Employment and Training Conference, Middleton, WI, May 25, 1999.
- “Improving Retention for Front-Line Caregivers” and “High Performance Partnerships: Winning Solutions for Employers and Workers,” Fourth Annual Workplace Learning Conference, Milwaukee, WI, May 17, 1999.
- “Sectoral Approaches to Upgrading Low-Wage Workers,” panelist, Urban Institute Conference Helping Low-Wage Workers: Policies for the Future, sponsored by the US Department of Labor, Washington DC, May 6, 1999.
- “The State of Working Wisconsin,” Union Counselor Training, Racine Area United Way, Racine, WI, March 15, 1999.
- “Sectoral Strategies: How to Train, Place, and Advance Quality Employees for Quality Jobs” and “Building Sectoral Strategies: Experience from Wisconsin,” Seminar and workshop sponsored by the Workforce Development Network, Portland, OR, February 22-23, 1999.

- Member of advisory panel for “Economic Opportunity in a Volatile Economy: Understanding the Role of Labor Market Intermediaries in Silicon Valley.” Working Partnerships USA, San Jose, CA. February, 1999.
- “Labor/Management Partnerships: Experience from Wisconsin,” Winter Symposium of the Peoria Area Labor Management Council and Tri-County Construction Labor-Management Council, Peoria, IL, February 12, 1999.
- “Expanding Union-Academic Dialogue: Research on Employee Voice, Representation, Partnership and Governance,” panelist, Industrial Relations Research Association 51st Annual Meeting, New York, NY January 5, 1999.
- “Profits, Poverty, and Privatization: The Data on W-2,” Annual Conference of Wisconsin Citizen Action, Milwaukee, WI, December 5, 1998.
- “Solutions to Finding and Keeping a Quality Workforce” (general session) and “Retaining Front-Line Workers: Experience from Dane County to the Bronx” (workshop), Community Options Program/Long Term Support Annual Conference, Appleton, WI, October, 1998.
- “Dane County Labor Market Survey and Career Ladders,” Family Impact Seminar on Moving Families Out of Poverty: Employment Strategies, Madison, WI, October 3, 1998.
- “The State of Working Wisconsin: Challenges for Wisconsin’s Families,” Wisconsin State AFL-CIO conference, La Crosse, WI, September 29, 1998.
- “Community Building vs. Serving Labor Market Needs,” MIT Task Force on Reconstructing America’s Labor Market Institutions, Cambridge, MA, June 18, 1998.
- “Welfare Reform: Implementing Best Practices,” National Conference of the Human Resource Development Institute, AFL-CIO, Atlanta, GA, June 29, 1998.
- “Comprehensive Strategies for Family Supporting Jobs” (plenary session) and “Statistics as an Ally” (workshop), Sustainable America General Assembly, Portland, OR, May 27-30, 1998.
- “Building Community Career Ladders,” Spring Meeting of the Boston Workforce Development Coalition, Boston, MA, May 15, 1998.
- “W-2: How Is It Working?” Unitarian Forum, Madison, WI, May 3, 1998.
- “Adapting the Workforce Development System to New Economic Realities” and “Creating Career Ladders,” National Governors’ Association Policy Forum, Riverside, WI, December 12, 1997.
- “Extending the Partnership,” Fifth Annual Wisconsin State Labor-Management Conference, Milwaukee, WI, November 5, 1997.

“The Impact of Welfare Reform on Women and Children,” National Conference on Women and Substance Abuse, Madison, WI. November 4, 1997.

“Career Ladder Concepts,” Wisconsin Conference on Alternative Schools & Education, Madison, WI, October 10, 1997.

“The Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership,” 12th Annual Midwest Regional Labor Management Conference, Lake of the Ozarks, MO, July 2, 1997.

“Connecting Central City Residents to Family Supporting Jobs,” Institute for Research on Poverty Brown Bag Seminar, Madison, WI, April 3, 1997.

“Living Wages for Wisconsin Workers: Strategies for Action,” Forum on the Job Gap: Where are the Living Wages? Sponsored by Jobs for the Future, Washington D.C., March 1997.

“Statistics as an Ally: The Basics of Economic Analysis for Organizing,” Sustainable America, General Assembly, Atlanta, GA, February 28, 1997.

“Welfare Reform and the Dane County Labor Market,” Briefing for County Supervisors and W2 Implementation Committee, Madison, WI, February 19, 1997.

“The Milwaukee Jobs Initiative,” Industrial Relations Research Association, Milwaukee, WI, January 10, 1997.

“Building Community Career Ladders,” Workshop sponsored by Bay State Manufacturing Networks and Regional Technology Strategies, Cambridge, Massachusetts, December 11, 1996.

“The State of Working Wisconsin,” Wisconsin AFL-CIO conference key note, Green Bay, WI, October 2, 1996.

“Community Based Career Ladders,” Keystone Research Center Conference, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, September 7, 1996.

“Flat Wages versus Increasing Productivity,” Economic Education for the Clergy, Sheboygan, WI, June 10, 1996.

“The State of Jobs in Wisconsin’s Economy,” Wisconsin Impact Legislative Briefing Day, Madison, WI, April 24, 1996.

“Wisconsin’s Wages and Workers,” Wisconsin Council on Children and Families Annual Conference, Madison, WI, March 26, 1996.

## **Research Grants**

Principal Investigator, “Research, Policy, and Rank-and-File Leadership to Transform Service Work in Milwaukee” Economic Analysis Research Network. 8/1/2021-7/31/2023

(\$150,000).

Principal Investigator, "Capture, Advance, and Disseminate California's High Road Framework" California Workforce Development Board. Contract series over 1/1/16 – 7/30/19 (\$195,000)

Principal Investigator, "Support the Expansion of Apprenticeships" 9/1/16 –12/31/17 (\$100,000) and "Outreach on Equity in Apprenticeship" 8/1/2018 – 12/31/2018 (\$15,000). Annie E. Casey Foundation.

Principal Investigator, "Working Poor Families Project," Brandon Roberts & Associates, 1/1/2017 – 12/31/2018 (\$25,000)

Principal Investigator, Sub-award from H-CAP "Advance policy, partnerships, and practice in healthcare workforce development" Joyce Foundation. 9/1/17 – 8/31/18 (\$45,000)

Principal Investigator, "Advice to LA County on improving workforce development systems," Worker Education and Resource Center. 10/1/17 – 3/31/18 (\$12,500)

Principal Investigator, Sub-award from H-CAP "Advance policy, partnerships, and practice in healthcare workforce development" Joyce Foundation. 9/1/15 – 8/31/17 (\$130,718)

Principal Investigator, "National Survey of Impact of Worker Ownership for Low and Modest Income Workers" Democracy and Work Institute. 9/1/16 – 8/31/17 (\$39,601)

Principal Investigator, "Minimum Wage" University of California, Berkeley. 1/1/17 – 8/31/17 (\$10,000)

Principal Investigator, "Oregon CareWorks" Family Forward. 7/1/16 – 12/31/16 (\$17,000)

Principal Investigator, "Industry Manufacturing Technician reports" Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership. 7/1/16 – 2/28/17 (\$9,998)

Principal Investigator, "Industry Engagement Strategy Development" New York State Energy Research and Development Authority. 11/1/14 – 12/31/16 (\$244,700)

Principal Investigator, "Status of Wisconsin's Child Care Workforce" Wisconsin Early Childhood Association. 05/15/15 – 12/31/15 (\$43,000).

Principal Investigator, "Better Policy for Pathways and Partnership in Health Care Workforce Development" Joyce Foundation. 09/01/13 – 08/31/15 (\$300,000).

Principal Investigator, "Stronger Training for Wisconsin Low-Wage Workers" Joyce Foundation. 02/01/11 – 01/31/13 (\$330,000).

Principal Investigator, "Technical Assistance for Wisconsin Industry partnerships" WI Department of Workforce Development, 09/01/10 – 08/31/11 (\$162,000).

Principal Investigator, "Regional Industry Strategic Enterprise (RISE)" WI Department of Workforce Development, 05/01/09 – 03/31/11 (\$130,000).

Principal Investigator, “Technical Assistance for Wisconsin Industry partnerships” WI Department of Workforce Development, 09/01/09 – 08/31/10 (\$125,000).

Principal Investigator, “Stronger Training for Wisconsin Low-Wage Workers” Joyce Foundation. 01/01/09 – 01/31/11 (\$360,000).

Co-principal Investigator, “Stronger Training for Wisconsin Low-Wage Workers” Joyce Foundation. 01/01/07 – 12/31/08 (\$340,000).

Co-principal Investigator, “Toward Workforce Development System Reform in Wisconsin” Joyce Foundation. 01/01/05 – 12/31/06 (\$300,000).

Co-principal Investigator, “Rebuilding Career Ladders.” Joyce Foundation. 01/01/03 – 12/31/04 (\$200,000).

Co-principal Investigator, “More Servants or a Better Society: America’s Choice on Service Work.” Annie E. Casey Foundation. 1/01/02 – 12/31/03 (\$200,000).

Principal Investigator, “Evaluation of the Local Child Care Wage Initiative.” City of Madison. 9/1/01 – 8/31/04 (\$130,000).

Co-Principal Investigator, “The Restructuring of Hotel Jobs and the Role of Institutions.” Russell Sage Foundation and Rockefeller Foundation. 9/1/00 – 2/28/02 (\$146,658).

Co-Principal Investigator, “Economic Opportunity in a Volatile Economy.” Russell Sage Foundation and Rockefeller Foundation. 1/1/00 – 9/30/02 (\$121,000).

### **Media Outreach & Interviews (2022 to current)**

[“Wisconsin sees increased child labor complaints as violations rise nationally”](#) Wisconsin Public Radio, March 6, 2023.

[“Evers renews call for minimum wage hikes in Wisconsin”](#) The Morning Show, Wisconsin Public Radio, February 21, 2023.

[“The economic possibilities for Milwaukee’s downtown Iron District”](#) WUWM Lake Effect, December 12, 2022.

[“Report: Public development subsidy deals should guarantee better jobs, working conditions”](#) Wisconsin Examiner, November 29, 2022.

[“Rash of illnesses among Wisconsin kids keeping caregivers home from work”](#) Wisconsin Public Radio, November 28, 2022.

[“Wisconsin-based company under investigation for allegedly using child labor”](#) Wisconsin Public Radio, November 16, 2022.

[“Amidst organizing surge, Wisconsin unions still face an uphill climb”](#) CapTimes, November 4, 2022.

[“More Wisconsin workers are organizing. How much leverage do they have?”](#) CapTimes, November 2, 2022.

[“Workers lost ground on wages in wake of Wisconsin’s anti-labor laws”](#) Wisconsin Watch, October 19, 2022.

[Strike continues at Racine Case tractor factory with no clear end in sight](#)” Wisconsin Public Radio, October 18, 2022.

[The Conservative Astroturf Organization Rolling Back Child Labor Protections](#), WorkDay Magazine, October 11, 2022.

[Wisconsin workers show renewed energy after decade of anti-union laws](#), Wisconsin Watch, October 6, 2022.

[“WisBusiness: the Podcast with Laura Dresser of COWS”](#) WisBusiness Podcast, September 16, 2022.

[“New Report Shows Improved Employee Power in Wisconsin”](#) The Morning Show, Wisconsin Public Radio, September 13, 2022.

[“From Cooks to Nurses, Wisconsinites are Organizing for Better Work”](#), Capital Times, September 9, 2022.

[“Union Organizers Share their Experiences as the Economy Shows Workers their Power”](#), Wisconsin Examiner, September 8, 2022.

[“Report: Wages, Union Organizing Rise in Wisconsin as Workers Demand Better Conditions”](#) Wisconsin State Journal, September 2, 2022

[“Editorial | The State of Working Wisconsin is Actually Quite Good”](#) CapTimes, August 31, 2022.

[“Inflation Sends the Cost of Raising Children Soaring”](#) WKOW, August 24, 2022.

[“Job Fair Targets a Rarity in the Tech Industry: Women”](#) Wisconsin State Journal, August 19, 2022

[“As demand rises, wages for Wisconsin home care workers stagnate.”](#) CapTimes, April 13, 2022.

[“Workers want to see respect. A look into Milwaukee’s service industry crisis.”](#) WUWM Lake Effect, March 4, 2022.

[“What does record low unemployment mean for workers? Experts weigh in.”](#) The Capital Times, February 15, 2022.

[“The Great Female Resignation: Why So Many Women Left the Labor Market when the Covid 19 Pandemic Hit”](#) WKOW Madison, February 9, 2022.

[“Surplus another golden opportunity that Republicans are determined to miss.”](#) Wisconsin Examiner, =]/

### **Service to the University and Community**

- United Way Vision Council, Labor Representative (2023-present)
- Labor Advisory Committee, UW School for Workers, Member (2019- present)
- Leadership team for IRP’s DreamUp, funded by Schmidt Futures *Alliance for the American Dream* (2018-2021)
- Steering Committee for the UW Madison Center for Research on College-Workforce Transition (CCWT) (2018-2021)
- Co-chair, Social Workers Confronting Racial Injustice Conference Planning Committee (9/20 – present)
- Faculty co-advisor to Radical Social Work student group (2020-present)
- Awards Committee, School of Social Work, (2017-2019)
- MSW Admissions Committee, full-time and part-time programs, School of Social Work, (2017-2020)
- We Care for Kids Steering Committee (2018-2020)

### **Service to the Profession**

Social Service Administration Review (2022)

WECA/WEESN Innovation Council, Member (2022-present)

Madison Guaranteed Income Pilot Program Advisory Task Force. Member (2021-present)

U.S. Department of Education's *Rethink Adult Ed Challenge*. Review Panelist. (2021)

*Labor Studies Journal*. Reviewer. (2021)

*Journal of Economics, Race, and Policy*. Reviewer (2018)

### **Honors and Awards**

Co-winner of the September 2011 Sydney Award from the Sydney Hillman Foundation for article in *The Nation Magazine*.

German Marshall Fund Economic Development Fellow, 1999.

Certificate for Excellence in Teaching, Harvard College, 1994.

Dissertation Grant, School of Social Work, Univ. of Mich., 1993.

Rackham Research Partnership Grant, Univ. of Mich., 1991-1992.

University of Michigan Regents Fellowship, 1988-1991.

Omicron Delta Epsilon Award (outstanding undergrad. paper in econ.), Rice Univ., 1988.

Shell Policy Scholars Grant, Rice University, 1987.

**March 14, 2023**