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national network. States; and continues to build a diverse and dynamic of real people; strengthens the intellectual underpin- vitality of such a vision and its importance for the lives of real people; educates lawyers, law students, deci- sion-makers and the public about the historic basis and promotes a progressive vision of the Constitution, law and projects at both the national and local level. ACS: lawyer chapters all across the country, and programs tive hearing rooms and the media. Through student and school classrooms, federal and state courts, legisla- transform the legal and policy debates occurring in law equal, and access to justice enjoy their rightful, cen- human dignity, individual rights and liberties, genuine Its mission is to ensure that fundamental principles of judges, policymakers and other concerned individuals. growing network of lawyers, law students, scholars, legal organizations. Founded in 2001, ACS is a rapidly **Policy (ACS)** is one of the nation's leading progressive **The American Constitution Society for Law and**

[www.law.unc.edu/centers/poverty](http://www.law.unc.edu/centers/poverty)

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improve the circumstances of working people. to combat the causes and effects of poverty and to work and poverty; and fourth, to train a new generation third, to raise public awareness of issues related to cal ideas to move more Americans out of poverty; second, to sponsor and examine innovative and practi- the obstacles confronted by low-income Americans; Center is guided by four goals: first, to seek solutions to economic equality and engaged civic participation. The Center's focus is on the working poor and on the people living at or below the poverty level. The research center dedicated to addressing the needs of **Opportunity** is a nonpartisan, interdisciplinary **The UNC Center on Poverty, Work and**

## ABOUT THE CONFERENCE SPONSORS

## ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

## WEALTH INEQUALITY AND THE ERODING MIDDLE CLASS

NOVEMBER 4 & 5, 2007

CAROLINA CLUB  
GEORGE WATTS HILL ALUMNI CENTER  
CHAPEL HILL, NORTH CAROLINA

### SPONSORED BY:

THE UNC CENTER ON POVERTY, WORK AND OPPORTUNITY &  
THE AMERICAN CONSTITUTION SOCIETY FOR LAW AND POLICY

### WHEN:

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2007  
2:00 – 6:30 p.m.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2007  
8:30 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.

### WHERE:

CAROLINA CLUB – GEORGE WATTS HILL ALUMNI CENTER  
CHAPEL HILL, NC

### WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

Scholars, researchers, students, nonprofit and advocacy organizations, policymakers, attorneys, public officials, community leaders, journalists, and members of the public interested in these issues.

### PROGRAM COSTS:

The program fee includes a reception on Sunday, lunch on Monday, all conference materials, as well as snacks and drinks throughout the day. Regular registration is \$40; for North Carolina CLE credit seeking attendees, the program fee is \$100 (credit hours to be determined). The cost for students is \$20.

## CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

**Frances Ansley**  
College of Law Distinguished Professor of Law, University of Tennessee

**Ana Avendaño**  
Associate General Counsel and Director of the Immigrant Worker Program, AFL-CIO

**Melody Barnes**  
Executive Vice President for Policy, Center for American Progress

**Stephen Berzon**  
Partner, Alshuler Berzon LLP

**Ron Bloom**  
Special Assistant to the President, United Steelworkers

**Catherine Fisk**  
Douglas Blount Maggs Professor of Law, Duke University

**Jonathan Forman**  
Alfred P. Murrah Professor of Law, University of Oklahoma

**Kent Greenfield**  
Professor of Law and Law Fund Research Scholar, Boston College

**Joel Handler**  
Richard C. Maxwell Professor of Law and Professor of Policy Studies, UCLA

**Lingxin Hao**  
Professor, Department of Sociology, Johns Hopkins University

**Ira Keiser**  
Professor, Department of Sociology, Duke University

**Robert Kutner**  
Senior Distinguished Fellow, Demos

**Mary Beth Maxwell**  
Executive Director, American Rights at Work

**Patricia McCoy**  
George J. & Helen M. England Professor of Law, University of Connecticut

**Ann O'Leary**  
Deputy City Attorney, San Francisco

**John Quintero**  
Research Associate, Budget and Tax Center, NC Justice Center

**Mark Rank**  
Herbert S. Hadley Professor of Social Welfare, George Warren Brown School of Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis

**Alan Reynolds**  
Senior Fellow, Caro Institute

**John Schmitt**  
Senior Economist, Center for Economic and Policy Research

**Judy Scott**  
General Counsel, Service Employees International Union

**Michael Selmi**  
Professor of Law, George Washington University

**Harley Shaiken**  
Professor, Departments of Education and Geography and Chair, Center for Latin American Studies, University of California, Berkeley

**Louis Uchitelle**  
Business Reporter, *The New York Times*

**Michael Zweig**  
Professor, Department of Economics and Director, Center for the Study of Working Class Life, Stony Brook University

## WEALTH INEQUALITY AND THE ERODING MIDDLE CLASS



CO-SPONSORED BY THE UNC CENTER ON  
POVERTY, WORK AND OPPORTUNITY

&

THE AMERICAN CONSTITUTION SOCIETY  
FOR LAW AND POLICY

ALUMNI CENTER – CHAPEL HILL, NC

## CONFERENCE LOCATION

“Wealth Inequality and the Eroding Middle Class”

will be held at the George Watts Hill Alumni Center

on the campus of UNC Chapel Hill. The Alumni

Center is located on Stadium Drive and parking is

available in the Rams Head parking deck on Ridge

Road, at a rate of \$1.25 per hour. The UNC Chapel

Hill campus is located approximately 20 miles from

Raleigh/Durham International Airport.

## REGISTRATION FEE

To register for “Wealth Inequality and the Eroding

Middle Class,” please fill out and return the registra-

tion form included in this brochure to the Center on

Poverty, Work and Opportunity. The program fee

includes a reception on Sunday, lunch on Monday, all

conference materials, as well as snacks and drinks

throughout the day. Regular registration is \$40; for

North Carolina CLE credit seeking attendees, the

program fee is \$100 (credit hours to be determined).

The cost for students is \$20. If paying by check,

please make the check payable to “UNC School of

Law.” VISA and MasterCard are accepted. If paying

by credit card, please include your card number and

expiration date. The last day to register is October

22, 2007.

## CANCELLATIONS

Cancellations received on or before October 22,

2007 will be honored. Cancellations received after

that date and confirmed participants who do not

attend the program may be liable for the entire fee

unless other arrangements are made.

## QUESTIONS

If you have any questions, please contact the

Center on Poverty, Work and Opportunity at

919-843-8796 or [poverty\\_center@unc.edu](mailto:poverty_center@unc.edu).

2:00 – 2:15 p.m. **Welcome and Introduction**

2:15 – 3:15 p.m. **Keynote Address**  
Robert Kuttner

Robert Kuttner is the founding co-editor of *The American Prospect*, co-founder of the Economic Policy Institute and is currently a Senior Distinguished Fellow at Demos. His latest book, *The Squandering of America: How the Failure of Our Politics Undermines Our Prosperity*, will be published in November 2007. He is the author of six previous books including *Everything for Sale: The Virtues and Limits of Markets* (1997) (winner of the 1997 Sidney Hillman Award) and *The End of Laissez-Faire* (1991). Among many other positions, he has contributed to numerous journals and magazines, served as economics editor of *The New Republic* and was chief investigator for the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs.

3:15 – 3:30 p.m. **Break**

3:30 – 5:30 p.m. **Panel I.**

*Rising Wealth Inequality: Why We Should Care*

Recent increases in the gap between rich and poor have brought renewed attention to disparities in wealth. How much wealth inequality is “too much”? What are the consequences of rising economic inequality? Panelists will discuss domestic and global inequality patterns and their implications.

**Moderator:**

Lisa Keister, Professor, Department of Sociology, Duke University

**Panelists:**

Joel Handler, Richard C. Maxwell Professor of Law and Professor of Policy Studies, UCLA

Lingxin Hao, Professor, Department of Sociology, Johns Hopkins University

Mark Rank, Herbert S. Hadley Professor of Social Welfare, George Warren Brown School of Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis

Alan Reynolds, Senior Fellow, Cato Institute

John Schmitt, Senior Economist, Center for Economic and Policy Research

5:30 – 6:30 p.m. **Reception**



8:30 – 10:30 a.m. **Panel II.**

*Labor Markets, Income Inequality and Globalization*

In an increasingly globalized marketplace, both labor markets and wealth inequality know no geopolitical boundaries. Is it possible to address problems of income and wealth inequality in one nation in isolation? How do undocumented immigrant workers and guest workers affect the U.S. labor market? Who is harmed, who benefits? What are the potential strategies for change?

**Moderator:**

Catherine Fisk, Douglas Blount Maggs Professor of Law, Duke University

**Panelists:**

Frances Ansley, College of Law Distinguished Professor of Law, University of Tennessee

Ron Bloom, Special Assistant to the President, United Steelworkers

Judy Scott, General Counsel, Service Employees International Union

Harley Shaiken, Professor, Departments of Education and Geography and Chair, Center for Latin American Studies, University of California, Berkeley

Louis Uchitelle, Business Reporter, *The New York Times*

10:30 – 10:45 a.m. **Break**

10:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. **Panel III.**

*How Law Constructs Wealth Patterns*

Wealth inequality is not a natural phenomenon – it is a product of social and public policy choices, often encoded in law. How does the law function to entrench wealth inequality? How can certain areas of the law (labor, employment, health, education, housing, and bankruptcy, for instance) function in a more progressive manner as tools for alleviating entrenched wealth inequality?

**Moderator:**

Stephen Berzon, Partner, Altshuler Berzon LLP

**Panelists:**

Ana Avendaño, Associate General Counsel and Director of the Immigrant Worker Program, AFL-CIO

Jonathan Forman, Alfred P. Murrah Professor of Law, University of Oklahoma

Kent Greenfield, Professor of Law and Law Fund Research Scholar, Boston College

Patricia McCoy, George J. & Helen M. England Professor of Law, University of Connecticut

Ann O’Leary, Deputy City Attorney, San Francisco

12:45 – 2:00 p.m. **Lunch**

2:00 – 3:45 p.m. **Panel IV.**

*Charting our Next Steps: Removing Obstacles to Change*

Wrap up and call to action: who is the “middle” class? Where might the impetus for progressive wealth and income redistribution originate?

**Moderator:**

Melody Barnes, Executive Vice President for Policy, Center for American Progress

**Panelists:**

Mary Beth Maxwell, Executive Director, American Rights at Work

John Quintero, Research Associate, Budget and Tax Center, NC Justice Center

Michael Selmi, Professor of Law, George Washington University

Michael Zweig, Professor, Department of Economics and Director, Center for the Study of Working Class Life, Stony Brook University

**ACCOMMODATIONS:**

The following hotels are located in Chapel Hill, within a few miles of the George Watts Hill Alumni Center. Reservations should be made directly with the hotel.

The Carolina Inn  
211 Pittsboro Street  
919.933.2001 or 800.962.8519  
www.carolinainn.com

Courtyard Chapel Hill  
100 Marriott Way  
919.883.0700 or 800.321.2211  
www.courtyardchapelhill.com

Days Inn  
1312 N. Fordham Blvd.  
919.929.3090 or 800.329.7466  
www.daysinn.com

The Franklin Hotel  
311 West Franklin Street  
919.442.9000  
www.franklinhotelncc.com

Hampton Inn  
1740 US Highway 15-501  
919.968.3000 or 800.426.7866  
www.hamptoninn.com

Holiday Inn  
1301 N. Fordham Blvd.  
919.929.2171 or 888.452.5765  
www.hichapelhill.com

Holiday Inn Express  
6119 Farrington Road  
919.489.7555 or 800.465.4329  
www.hotelsgroup.com

Paul J. Rizzo Conference Center  
150 DuBoise Home Lane  
919.913.2098 or 866.831.5999  
www.ahl-rizzo.com

Sheraton Chapel Hill  
1 Europa Drive  
919.968.4900 or 800.325.3535  
www.sheratonchapelhill.com

The Siena Hotel  
1505 East Franklin Street  
919.929.4000 or 800.223.7379  
www.sienahotel.com

**REGISTRATION**

**PLEASE PRINT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
COMPANY/ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME AS YOU WANT IT TO APPEAR ON NAME TAG \_\_\_\_\_

- I AM A STUDENT.
- I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE CLE CREDIT IN NORTH CAROLINA.\*

MY NC BAR # IS \_\_\_\_\_

- I PREFER A VEGETARIAN LUNCH

**PROGRAM FEE**  
\$40 FOR GENERAL PUBLIC  
\$20 FOR STUDENTS  
\*\$100 FOR LAWYERS REQUESTING NC CLE CREDIT (CREDIT HOURS TO BE DETERMINED)

**PAYMENT INFORMATION (due by October 22, 2007)**

**TO PAY BY CHECK**  
Please send your registration form and a check for the appropriate amount.

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: UNC SCHOOL OF LAW

MAIL FORM AND CHECK TO:

Center on Poverty, Work and Opportunity  
Campus Box 3380  
Van Hecke-Wettach Hall  
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3380

**TO PAY BY CREDIT CARD**  MasterCard  VISA

NAME ON CARD \_\_\_\_\_

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SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

TO REGISTER BY FAX WITH CREDIT CARD NUMBER 919-962-1277

TO REGISTER BY PHONE WITH CREDIT CARD NUMBER 919-843-8796

**UNC CENTER ON POVERTY, WORK AND OPPORTUNITY CONTACT INFORMATION**

PHONE: (919) 843-8796  
FAX: (919) 962-1277  
EMAIL: POVERTY\_CENTER@UNC.EDU  
WEBSITE: WWW.LAW.UNC.EDU/CENTERS/POVERTY

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