

Sponsored by
**William Brennan Institute
for Labor Studies**

This conference is **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.**

Who Can Benefit?

- Local union members and their leaders
- Members and leaders of community and faith-based organizations.
- Faculty and students interested in expanding the boundaries of our democracy

Conference Location

Classes are held in the Community Engagement Center (CEC), University of Nebraska at Omaha Dodge Campus, 6001 Dodge Street. Parking instructions will be emailed to participants one week prior to the conference.

Call the William Brennan Institute for Labor Studies with questions at 402-554-5901.



Please contact us with address updates!

UNO is an AA/EEO institution. For questions, accommodations or assistance please call/contact Charlotte Russell, ADA/504 coordinator (phone: 402.554.3490 or TTY 402.554.2978) or Anne Hiemann, interim director, Disability Services (phone: 402.554.2872).

Promoting the General Welfare Conference

**PLEASE...
Register to Vote!**

You can register online using the Nebraska Online Voter Registration portal at <http://www.unomaha.edu/wbils>; or contact your county election official.



College of Public Affairs and Community Service
6001 Dodge Street -115 CEC
Omaha, Nebraska 68182

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Omaha, Ne

Register online at
www.unomaha.edu/wbils

Scan this QR code to register from your smart phone.



This conference is limited to the first 120 participants.

The University of Nebraska at Omaha shall not discriminate based upon age, race, ethnicity, color, national origin, gender-identity, sex, pregnancy, disability, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran's status, marital status, religion, or political affiliation.

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COLLEGE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND COMMUNITY SERVICE
WILLIAM BRENNAN INSTITUTE FOR LABOR STUDIES

17th ANNUAL
**PROMOTING THE
GENERAL WELFARE
CONFERENCE**

April 16, 2016
University of Nebraska at Omaha
6001 Dodge Street
CEC Building
8:00-5:00 p.m.

✓ **Approved for 6 Social Work CEUs**



Register online at <http://www.unomaha.edu/wbils>

PROMOTING THE GENERAL WELFARE CONFERENCE

REGISTRATION

8:00-9:00 a.m.

OPENING REMARKS

9:00-9:15 a.m.

MORNING PLENARY

Public Education is a Public Good

9:15-10:30 a.m.

LILY ESKELSEN GARCÍA | President National Education Association (NEA)

The NEA is the nation's largest union representing 3 million educators. All levels of government in our democratic republic have an obligation to use our commonwealth in ways that protect and empower all of us equally. The public school system plays an important part in that governmental mission. It exists to prepare our children to fully participate in ways that add to the national quality of life. Our public schools truly are a public good.

REPEATING WORKSHOPS

10:55-12:00 p.m. | 1:15-2:30 p.m. | 2:45-4:00 p.m.

Each 70 minute workshop will repeat three times.

Moving toward a Nation with Liberty and Justice for All

STEVEN PITTS | Associate Chair University of California Berkeley Labor Center and AFL-CIO Commission on Racial and Economic Justice member

Samuel Gompers, the first president of the American Federation of Labor, famously noted that organized labor wants to create a society in which all of us can "cultivate our better natures." More than a century later, AFL-CIO president, Rich Trumka noted that "There's no evil that's inflicted more pain and more suffering than racism - and it's something that we in the Labor Movement have a special responsibility to challenge." This workshop will examine the current push of the AFL-CIO's Commission on Racial and Economic Justice to find ways to level playing fields and make President Gompers' words a reality.

The Politics of Taxes

FRED GLASS | Communications Director for the California Federation of Teachers

For nearly four decades, talking about taxes in any way other than to lower them has been deemed the "third rail" of politics by pundits and other Very Knowledgeable People. And yet, in some places across the nation taxes are being reframed in ways that have been surprisingly positive. The strategy and tactics behind California's Proposition 30, passed by the state's electorate in 2012, focused on the need, in a context of growing economic inequality, for the wealthy to pay their fair share of income taxes to support schools and vital public services. In its successful effort, the labor-community coalition behind the ballot measure began to restore the commonwealth lost to the Great Recession, and reshape California's future for the better.

Working in Coalitions as a Way to Support Economic and Social Justice

RICK SMITH | Chief of Staff at the Florida Public Service Union (FPSU - SEIU)

It's been argued that the American labor movement has been one of our nation's oldest, largest and most successful institutions promoting economic and social justice. Today, the labor movement is a shadow of its former self. Union density is too small for unions to lift up the standard of all wage earners as they did in the 25 year period following WWII. But even in its heyday, organized labor partnered with like-minded groups to advocate for legislation that created workplace rights and safeguards. This workshop will examine the "dos" and "don'ts" of working in coalitions and alliances.

CLOSING PLENARY

Putting Your Knowledge to Work

4:00-5:00 p.m.

DAVID ALEXANDER | Former faculty at the George Meany Center and National Labor College

Knowledge is power...but it's most powerful when put to work. David Alexander has been a labor activist nearly all of his adult life. He has taught classes to thousands of trade unionists helping them to become more effective in promoting and defending meaningful workplace democracy. He brings a wealth of knowledge to helping conference participants find ways to use the knowledge they have gained in making a difference in their communities.

It's Easy to Register!

Online: <https://unomaha.edu/wbils> ✓

Mail: William Brennan Institute for Labor Studies
University of Nebraska at Omaha
6001 Dodge Street | 115E CEC
Omaha, Nebraska 68182

Phone:
402.554.5901

Email:
unowbils@unomaha.edu

The conference Admission fee includes class materials, lunch and free parking.

The registration/cancellation deadline is one week prior to the day of a class.

Participants wishing to cancel a registration, arrange for special physical or dietary needs or who need additional information should contact Susan Hayes at 402.554.5901 or unowbils@unomaha.edu.

YES!

I want to Enroll in the 17th Annual Promoting the General Welfare Conference

Conference Code: B16-0416-O

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____

Email _____

Union Name/Address _____

Union Phone _____

- General Admission: \$45
- Student: \$35, I am a student at: _____
- I am requesting Social Work CEUs for attending this conference.
- I have dietary restrictions. (Call 402-554-5901 if not registering online.)

PAYMENT

- Bill my Union
- Cash
- Check (Payable to University of Nebraska at Omaha)
- Credit Card - To pay by credit card, please register online at <https://unomaha.edu/wbils> or phone Susan Hayes at 402.554.5901