



Building Worker Power in the Pacific Rim:

Vietnam Solidarity Network Report-Back

@ UCLA Labor Center

675 S Park View St Los Angeles CA 90057

Saturday, October 25th

11am-1pm

Speakers:

- Kent Wong JD, *Director, UCLA Labor Center*
- Leanna Noble & Hollis Stewart, *Lecturers, Ton Duc Thang University, Vietnam, 2013-2014*
- Natalie Newton PhD, *So Cal Viet Gathering and Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance (Los Angeles)*

The center of world's economic power is quickly moving to the Asian Pacific region, especially in China, Japan, Korea, and Southeast Asia. Since the Vietnam War ended in 1975, few Americans know that Vietnam's rush out of poverty has led to the country to become the world's #1 exporter of coffee, rice, and cashews in 2014. However, in this rush, Microsoft, Burger King, Nike, Reebok, North Face, and many other global corporations also exploit Vietnamese workers for corporate profit. Vietnam and ten other countries in the Pacific Rim have recently signed a free trade agreement (the TransPacific Partnership agreement) that will negatively affect workers, intellectual property rights, and agriculture.

How are workers and labor activists organizing in response to globalization? For the past ten years, the UCLA Labor Center and Kent Wong have organized the Vietnam Solidarity Network (VSN) to promote labor solidarity between Vietnam and the U.S. In 2013-2014, union activists Leanna Noble and Hollis Stewart lectured at Ton Duc Thang University in Saigon / Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, the first university in Vietnam to offer a degree in labor relations. Noble and Stewart will report back on their experiences and comparisons between our countries.

Join us for a discussion and presentation:

- Learn about the Vietnam Solidarity Network's 10-year history in the labor movement.
- Discuss U.S.-Vietnam relations and diasporic politics with activists and researchers.
- Learn about the Transpacific Partnership (TPP) and its affect on Vietnam and the Pacific Rim.
- Learn about the 2013-2014 exchanges between Vietnamese and U.S.-based labor activists.
- Learn about how Vietnamese labor unions do work in response to globalization.

FREE and open to the public. Light snacks will be provided. Free Parking @ UCLA Labor Center.

Sponsored by:

UCLA Labor Center, Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance (Los Angeles), and So Cal Viet Gathering

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