

THEMATIC AND EXTRA-THEMATIC CALLS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Employee Representation in the New World of Work: The Dynamics of Rights, Voice, Performance and Power

**47th Annual CIRA Conference / International CRIMT Conference
June 16 – 18 2010, Université Laval, Québec, Canada**

In a special collaboration between the Interuniversity Research Centre on Globalization and Work (CRIMT) and the Canadian Industrial Relations Association (CIRA-ACRI), the annual 2010 CIRA conference, which will take place from June 16th to 18th 2010 in the beautiful setting of Québec City, will focus on the current and future dynamics of employee representation. This international “open architecture” conference features both a thematic and an extra-thematic Call for Contributions.

Deadline: November 15th 2009 Thematic Call for Contributions

The world of work is changing and this challenges traditional notions of employee representation in most countries. Crafted for the most part in the decades leading to the zenith of the industrial era (and 2010 will mark the 75th anniversary of the Wagner Act, which established some of the core tenets of employee representation in the United States and Canada), there are increasing questions about the access to and efficacy of existing forms of workplace representation, about the nature and affinity of the groups to be represented, about the possibility and coherence of grafting new rights onto older systems of representation, about disparities in voice regimes between public services and the private sector, about achieving both social and economic performance, and about the capacity of existing and emerging collective actors to negotiate these transitions, to deal with the challenges they face and to reconstruct systems of employee representation for this new world of work. This diagnostic raises four important sets of questions for our understanding of the transformations of employee representation in comparative perspective:

1. What are the founding principles that contributed to the construction of different representative systems? Are the conditions that gave rise to them still relevant?
2. How do different types of employee representation regimes deal with key issues facing the contemporary workplace? What are the results for workers and their families, firms and their managers, governments and other societal stakeholders?
3. What are the emerging models and actors for employee rights, voice and representation? What are the coherence, efficacy and potential power of these contending sources and systems? What are the actor strategies for dealing with them?
4. What kinds of public policy, actors, experimentation, strategies, capabilities, and research are necessary to rethink employee representation for this new world of work?

This first thematic call (deadline November 15th 2009) asks for contributions (papers, workshops and symposia) to the main themes of the conference as outlined in the detailed Call for Thematic Contributions (see the detailed identification of themes and questions at : www.crimt.org/CIRA-CRIMT-2010_Thematic_Call_for_papers.pdf)

Deadline January 15th 2010 Extra-Thematic Call for Contributions

As in other years, CIRA also welcomes proposals that address other themes and issues related to the world of work, employment and industrial relations broadly defined. We consider our annual event as a setting in which researchers, practitioners and public policy makers exchange on all issues related to work and employment and want it to be a venue for the best contemporary research.

The second call for contributions (deadline January 15th 2010) is open to all such contributions (papers and workshops) on other themes. These other contributions (papers and workshops) will be fully integrated into the conference program extending over three entire days.

Submitting Proposals

Scholars interested in either of these Calls for contributions are invited to submit an original paper proposal in English or French. The papers can be theoretical, analytical, empirical or policy-oriented and can either be national or comparative in orientation. We also encourage proposals for workshops (four papers or three papers and a discussant) for both calls for contributions and symposiums (two linked workshops) for the thematic call for papers.

All proposals for both the thematic and the extra-thematic calls for contributions will be subject to a competitive review by the Scientific Committee. We will do our utmost to provide a timely response to your proposals after their submission in order that you can secure financing to attend the conference. All participants must cover their registration fees and other expenses.

Thematic Call: The deadline is **November 15th 2009**. The authors selected for the Thematic Call should submit a first draft of the full version of their paper by **May 1, 2010**, which will be made available at the time of the conference on a special conference Website for participants.

Extra-Thematic Call: The deadline is **January 15th 2010**. Summaries of accepted contributions will be made available on the conference and CIRA Websites. For authors who wish to eventually publish their paper in a scholarly journal but would like to communicate their research in the mean time, there will also be space to upload full versions of papers on both Websites.

Individual paper proposals should be a maximum of 2 pages and should outline the nature of the study, the methodological approach, and the main lines of analysis to be developed.

Workshop and Symposium proposals should be 3-5 pages in length and include details on the contribution as a whole, on each contribution (see details on papers proposals above) and on the institutional affiliations of the participants.

All proposals should be sent by electronic mail to: Nicolas Roby, CRIMT Scientific Coordinator at the following address: Nicolas.Roby@umontreal.ca. Please specify if your contribution is thematic or extra-thematic. For further updates on the conference organization, check www.crimt.org or <http://www.cira-acri.ca/>.

The CIRA executive committee and its members in collaboration with the Inter-University Research Centre on Globalization and Work (CRIMT) look forward to interesting and rich debates. We hope that this conference will bring together academics and practitioners, from all perspectives and from many countries, in order to better our understanding of the challenges of a changing world of work and employment. This conference will provide an exciting forum for this exchange.

For the Organizing Committee: Christian Brunelle (Université Laval), Jean-Noël Grenier (Université Laval), Francine Jacques (CRIMT), Gregor Murray (Université de Montréal), Claude Rioux (CRIMT), Nicolas Roby (CRIMT) et Pierre Verge (Université Laval).