

DHLI Labor StEP Fall 2011 Pilot Events Report

East LA College

When: Thursday October 13, 2011. Attendance: 40 Students
What: The Farmworker Experience

Documentary showing followed by testimony of a tomato farmworker from Immokalee, Florida about farmworker working conditions. Joe Parker from the Farmworker Alliance translated and talked about the work of the Alliance.



Speakers:

- Joe Parker, Student Farmworker Alliance
- Oscar Otzoy, Farmworker from the Coalition of Immokalee Workers

When: Thursday October 20, 2011. Attendance: 40 Students
What: Work and Health Issues in the Food Chain Industry

Presentation and discussion from the Food Chain Worker's Alliance about the work and health-related issues in the food chain industry.



Speaker: Executive Director Joann Lo, Food Chain Worker's Alliance

LA Valley College

When: Tuesday November 15, 2011 Attendance: 90 Students
What: Debating the NBA Lockout

Students engaged in a philosophical debate about NBA contract negotiations from the perspective of owners and players. They investigated the basic issues at stake in the labor negotiations, defended the perspective of the players and owners, responded to questions from one another, and also responded to questions from the audience.



Speakers: Valley College students

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Pierce College

When: Wednesday November 16, 2011. Attendance: 100 Students
What: Perspectives of Labor: Unions, Unemployment, Welfare, and the Underground Economy

A panel of speakers talked about sexism among dock workers, race and Latina teachers, child labor within Latina/o family-owned business, single motherhood, welfare and underemployment and the recent attacks on union labor and what it means for workers. The event was accompanied by student poster displays about labor issues and a poster competition.



Speakers:

- Dr. Jake Alimahomed-Wilson, CSULB Depart. of Sociology
- Dr. Glenda Flores, UC Irvine, Depart. of Sociology and Chicano Studies
- Emir Loy, Graduate Student, USC Depart. of Sociology
- Dr. Rebecca Romo, Instructional Fellow, Occidental University, Depart. of Sociology
- Dr. Chuck O'Connell, Pierce College, Depart. of Philosophy/Sociology



LA Southwest College

When: Tuesday November 29, 2011 Attendance: 70 Students
What: S.O.S Save our Students

Students organized an event about media misrepresentation and mis-framing of their community. They presented the problem of how people of color are represented (as a "problem") by the owning class and media, followed by possible solutions such as entrepreneurship, community health, civic participation, etc. There was a campus-wide poster "show" of working class and labor poetry by students and published poets.



Speakers:

- Yusef Omowale, Director of the Southern California Library
- Atete Kwame (Grass Hoppa), of Sons and Daughters of Sankofa
- Ausef Ausar, from Woman, Spirit, Mind, Body
- AQEBI, from SMA Tau'i (Sacred Union)
- Nadra, A.C. Green and Bro Akili from Momentos
- Racha Lawler, from The Community Birth Center
- Rev. E. Jay Pierce, CERT (Community Emergency Response Team)

