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Texas Center for Working-Class Studies  
Conference

2023

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Feb 16th, 8:00 AM

## Registration/Coffee

Lisa Kirby Dr.

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## Special Thanks

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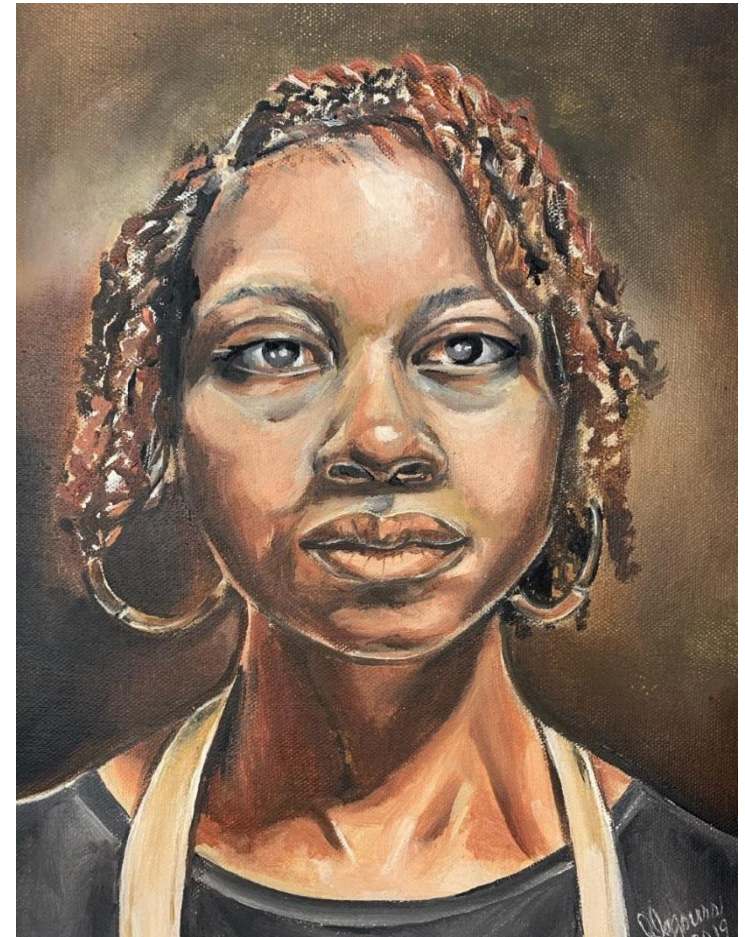
Murillo Tinnen, Dr. Mark Popowski, Dr. Michael

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Wilkison



## The Texas Center for Working-Class Studies Ninth Annual Conference



**Thursday, February 16, 2023**

Collin College, Plano Campus  
Living Legends Conference Center  
2800 East Spring Creek Parkway  
Plano, Texas 75074

## Luncheon Session: 11:30-12:45

### Dr. Jillian Yarbrough, West Texas A&M University



Dr. Yarbrough is a Clinical Assistant & Virginia Engler Professor of Business Management at West Texas A&M University. She has over 20 years of experience in higher education and management. In addition to research, writing, and presenting, Dr. Yarbrough has taught numerous undergraduate, graduate, and corporate courses. Based on decades of experience, Dr. Yarbrough believes organizational leaders should be centered in management theory and offer ongoing support to their employees for lifelong learning and meaningful work.

### Dr. Pamela Gaiter, Collin College—Wylie



Pamela Gaiter has been a Professor of Sociology at Collin College for almost 30 years and teaches a variety of courses, including Introduction to Sociology, Minority Studies, and Social Problems. Professor Gaiter has been recognized as Professor of the Year, Outstanding Faculty in the Social Sciences division, Engaged Faculty, and received a medallion for Faculty Scholarly Achievement. Professor Gaiter seeks to engage her students with service opportunities where students can enhance their course content while addressing a community need. She serves as the Service-Learning Faculty Coordinator for the Wylie Campus, assisting other faculty with workshops and learning opportunities for their students. Professor Gaiter is also a member of the Wylie Community Resource Team, helping to address issues of food insecurity, homelessness, and affordable housing in Wylie and surrounding communities.

## Session 3: 1:00-2:15

### 3.1: Student Writing Contest, Room A

- **Moderator: Dr. Melody M. Miyamoto Walters, Collin College—Allen Technical**
- “Impacts of Suburban Sprawl in America (and Solutions),” Caleb Crist, Collin College
- “Rising Demand and Rising Hunger,” Ellis Jarvis, Collin College
- “Money Morals,” Haneen Aurahma, Collin College

### 3.2: Ruth A. Allen Award Panel, Room B

- **Moderator: Dr. Kyle Wilkison, Collin College—Plano**
- A discussion of the work of Dr. Rebecca Sharpless, featuring students and faculty

### 3.3: Work and “Play,” Room D

- **Moderator: Dr. Laura Hicks, Collin College—Frisco**
- “Choctaw Bingo: Economic Impacts on Native Identity,” Dr. Hannah Blackwell, Collin College—Plano
- “Play Ball! – With the UAW’: Unionism and the Development of a ‘Sporting Culture’ in Detroit, 1935-1943,” Dr. Ryan Pettengill, Collin College—Wylie
- “Curt Flood: Racism, the Reserve Clause, and Redemption,” Dr. Sam Tullock, Collin College—Plano

## Session 2: 10:00-11:15

### 2.1: "Capital's Terrorists: Klansmen, Lawmen and Employers in the Long Nineteenth Century, a Conversation," Room A

- **Moderator: Dr. Ryan Pettengill, Collin College—Wylie**
- Dr. Chad Pearson, University of North Texas
- Dr. Krystal Humphreys, Collin College—Wylie
- Dr. Nathaniel Means, Dallas College—North Lake
- Dr. Ryan Pettengill, Collin College—Wylie

### 2.2: "Native Americans and the Working Class: Historical, Social, and Cultural Factors," Room B

- **Moderator: Professor Linda Kapocsi, Collin College—Plano**
- Elizabeth Camacho—Independent Scholar
- Professor Linda Kapocsi, Collin College—Plano
- Dr. Scott Langston—Texas Christian University
- Dr. Rosalinda Maria Valenzuela—Collin College—Plano

### 2.3: Working-Class Issues, Room D

- **Moderator: Dr. Cathleen Brooks, Collin College--McKinney**
- "Telehealth: One Step Towards Equality of Care for Rural Residents," Dr. Jillian Yarbrough, West Texas A&M University
- "Autóphagos, or a Modern Erysichthon: A World at War with Itself in Karel Čapek's War with the Newts," Dr. Ryan Farrar, Collin College—Frisco
- "Empowering Working-Class Women in the Classroom," Dr. Linda Deaver, Collin College—Plano

## Conference Schedule

### 8:00-8:30—Registration/Coffee

Living Legends Conference Center, Room C

### 8:30-9:45—Session 1

(see detailed session information)

### 10:00-11:15—Session 2

(see detailed session information)

### 11:30-12:45—Luncheon Session

Living Legends Conference Center, Room C

- Welcome, Dr. Kelly Andrews, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Workforce, Collin College, Plano
- Announcement of Student Writing Contest Winners, Dr. Melody M. Miyamoto Walters, Collin College—Allen Technical, and Dr. Michael Schueth, Collin College—Plano
- Announcement of Ruth A. Allen Pioneer in Texas Working-Class History Award, Dr. Kyle Wilkison, Collin College—Plano
- Welcome and Introduction of Luncheon Speakers, Dr. Lisa A. Kirby, Collin College—Plano
- Luncheon Session, "Working-Class Studies in Action: Making a Difference in the Community"
- Professor Pamela Gaiter, Collin College—Wylie
- Dr. Jillian Yarbrough, West Texas A&M University

### 1:00-2:15—Session 3

(see detailed session information)

## Session 1: 8:30–9:45

### 1.1: Texas Labor Issues, Room A

- **Moderator: Dr. Mark Popowski, Collin College—Frisco**
- “‘Fighting for Justice’: Teamsters, Human Rights, and a Renewal of Working-Class Activism, 1992-2000,” Dr. Ryan Pettengill, Collin College—Wylie
- “The Resiliency of Texas’s Economy,” Dr. Lishan Desta, Collin College—McKinney
- “The Grange, the Greenback Party, and Lawlessness in 1870s Texas,” Lucius Seger, Texas Christian University

### 1.2: Race and Class, Room D

- **Moderator: Dr. Michael Schueth, Collin College—Plano**
- “Reconciling Patriotism and Cosmopolitanism as a Mexican-American Daughter,” Angelica Vences, University of Houston
- “Francisco ‘Pancho’ Medrano: A Texan Labor and Civil Rights Leader,” Professor Andrew Galloway, Collin College—Plano

## The 2023 Ruth A. Allen Pioneer in Texas Working-Class History Award

### Dr. Rebecca Sharpless



Rebecca Sharpless is a Professor of History at Texas Christian University. She is the author of *Fertile Ground, Narrow Choices: Women on Texas Cotton Farms, 1900-1940* (1999) and *Cooking in Other Women's Kitchens: Domestic Workers in the South, 1865-1960* (2010). Her most recent book is *Grain and Fire: A History of Baking in the American South* (2022).

Dr. Sharpless is the 2023 Ruth A. Allen Pioneer in Texas Working-Class History award winner and is recognized for her important contributions to the fields of Texas, rural, and women’s history.