

## National Young Unionists and Workers Conference

To register for the conference click here On the weekend of 2-4 October 2009 UnionsACT and YOUACT (the ACT young unionist group) are hosting the 2009 National Young Unionists and Workers Conference in the UnionsACT Canberra conference centre.

This is the third annual conference of its type with previous ones in:

2007 hosted by U-Who and SAUnions

2008 hosted by Victorian Young Unionist Network and VTHC

We will have 100 young unionists and workers from all over Australia in attendance to network and work together to create a strong engaged union/workers movement for the future. Over that weekend there will be opportunities for participants to attend workshops, have discussions with other young unionists and hear from fantastic guest speakers.

The key speakers are:

Richard Denniss - Director of The Australia Institute

Professor George Williams - Adjunct professor of Law at UNSW

Sally McManus - Secretary of Australian Services Union (NSW)

Paul Howes - National Secretary of the Australian Workers Union

Amanda Tattersal - Special Projects Officer at UnionsNSW

Rigoberto Montiera - General Secretary of Timor Leste Trade Union Confederation

Workshops will include:

How to make your campaign spread like swine flu - aka viral online campaigning

Presented by Alex Schlotzer from the Australian Council of Trade Unions

Obamarama- What was it really like to be part of the Obama Campaign?

Presented by James Booth

Be the next Michael Moore - Maritime Union of Australia Film Unit

Getting Active - Starting Union Activist Groups

Presented by Dan Archer - Victorian Young Unionist Network

See a more extensive list of the current workshops below

Make sure you RSVP to our facebook event and invite others to come. We still like to know if you have any particular skills, programs or experiences you would like to share at the conference. For more information about the conference contact William Mudford at UnionsACT on 02 6247 7844

So how do I register?

To register for the conference click here

### CURRENT LIST OF PROGRAM ITEMS

**Keynote Speeches**  
**Richard Denniss** Topic &ndash; The importance of young people being involved in the union movement. Description- Richard Denniss will inspire us to think about why we are at the conference and help us to think about what we will have out the other end.  
**Professor George Williams** Topic &ndash; &lsquo;The laws you have when you don&rsquo;t have a bill of rights!&rsquo; Description &ndash; -The laws that get passed when you don&rsquo;t have a bill of rights (such as that on the ABCC).-How a bill of rights would make a difference.-How we can fix this.  
**Panels**  
**Young Leaders Panel** Panel Members: Paul Howes, Secretary Australian Workers. Sally McManus, NSW Branch Secretary of Australian Services Union. Rigoberto Montiera, Secretary of the East Timor Trade Union Confederation. This session is designed to show young people in the movement the ways they can get involved in the leadership of the union movement. The panel members will each discuss how they got into their positions and then take questions and answers from the conference floor.  
**Panel: What roles can I take in the union movement?** Panel Members: A political organiser A Community Campaigner A Senior Delegate An Activist This is a panel of young people involved in the union movement in various capacities. It is designed to help conference participants to think of a variety of new roles they could be involved

in as a union member. Workshops School presentations about young people's rights at work, and the role of unions. Facilitator: Danielle Archer Speakers: Danielle Archer (YUN), William Mudford (UnionsACT), Scott Cowen (SAUnions) There is strong need for young people to hear about what their rights are at work and how they can enforce them. These programs are run by Will and Dan across the ACT and Victoria. They will help workshop participants to work out how they can create their own programs. Be the next Michael Moore: Maritime Union of Australia Film Unit. Facilitator: Cooper Silk Cooper Silk is an integral part of the MUA film unit. The MUA films and records union activity so it can be distributed worldwide to their members and other union activists. Cooper will talk about the success of the MUA film unit and help other unions to work out how they can share this technology. OH&S and Young Workers Facilitator: Kate Dunn, ACTU. Speakers: Kate Dunn. ACT OH&S Commissioner Mark McCabe. Kate Dunn and Mark McCabe will be part of a workshop to help Occupational Health and Safety messages to more effectively reach young people in their workplaces. Obamarama. Speaker: James Booth James Booth will talk about his role in community organising and the USA presidency campaign. Organising Young People to join unions- The New Zealand Experience Speaker: Omar Hamed &ndash; Unite Union, New Zealand Omar was part of the New Zealand Union campaign to end youth/junior rates of Pay. Omar is an organiser for the Unite Union in New Zealand, which organises young people in marginal industries such as fast food franchises and call centres. Omar will talk about the successful campaign and what techniques his union uses to organise and recruit young members. Unions and the Environmental Movement Facilitator: Holly Hammond, Inspire Activism Co-ordinator Unions have had a long history of involvement with the Environmental movement. This workshop will explore what has been successful in the past and work out strategies for future partnerships between the two movements with a particular focus on tackling climate change. Law - Young Workers Legal Service, SA. Facilitator- Nadine Levy. In response to the need for industrial and legal advice to young workers, SAUnions established the Young Workers Legal Centre. Nadine is the director of the legal service and she will explain how the service was established, what has been successful about it, and help other states to think about how to establish their own versions of the service. Young Unionist Councils and Activist Groups. Speakers: Scott Cowen, SAUnions. Danielle Archer, YUN. Scott and Danielle will talk about the two different methods of having young unionist groups. YUN is an activist group of any young unionist that wants to be active. SAUnions has a council of young unionists with representatives appointed from each of their affiliated unions. LGBTIQ workers and unions. Facilitators: Holly Hammond and James Higgins. Holly and James will discuss the issues of involving LGBTIQ (lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgender, intersex and queer) workers in unions and tackling the discrimination they face in the workplace. How to not get swine flu- aka: Online Campaigning Online campaigning can have a positive impact and compliment traditional forms of campaigning. And the ever changing Internet technologies available make online campaigns exciting. What does this mean for activists, delegates, organisers and unions? Join the workshop for your ride through the cyber space and get the basics about online activism and strategies; including how you can make a viral campaign. With special thanks to our sponsors: on Community Radio 2XXfm98.3