Working in the Big Easy: The History and Politics of Labor in New Orleans

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Working in the Big Easy: The History and Politics of Labor in New Orleans

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Working in the Big Easy: The History and Politics of Labor in New Orleans, From Slavery to Post-Katrina. The University of New Orleans and Tulane University invite proposals for papers on the history, culture, and politics of labor in New Orleans. Despite a wealth of historical, anthropological, and sociological studies that consciously seek to address questions of inequality, racism, slavery, and urban politics in one of the United States' oldest, most important, and distinct metropolitan areas, scholars have rarely explicitly integrated studies of work and labor into their analyses of the broader New Orleans area. This two-day workshop style conference will bring together scholars from diverse disciplines and methodological perspectives who share a commitment to understanding the history, politics, and culture of work and ground themselves in the context of New Orleans. We invite proposals on any topic that analyzes labor in New Orleans, including, but not limited to: urban slavery; seafaring; dock work and stevedoring labor; service and tourism; post-disaster construction and rebuilding; the work of musicians and entertainers; public sector work and organizing; immigration and labor; and fishing and seafood labor. Preliminary discussions for an edited volume have begun, and to that end we seek chapter length papers for a workshop style conference. Additionally, we expect to secure some funding for travel and lodging for out of town participants. Please send a 2 page abstract and brief c.v. to tadams@tulane.edu by February 15th. Questions may be addressed to Steve Striffler at sstriffl@uno.edu or Thomas Adams at tadams@tulane.edu. Thomas J. Adams, Ph.D., Department of History, Tulane University, (504) 862-8608, tadams@tulane.edu.