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SRIC ANNUAL EVENT
April 27, 2022
Whitley Theological Center
San Antonio, Texas

SRIC @ 40: (Still) Looking for the Promised Land
Welcome - Sr. Patricia Regan, CDP

Arc of our History
Banking and Finance
Fr. Séamus Finn, OMI
Chief of Faith Consistent Investing at the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate

Political Contributions and Lobbying
Timothy Smith
Senior ESG Advisor Boston Trust Walden Company

Health Equity
Donna Meyer
PhD from University of Texas School of Public Health
Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives

Climate and Environmental Justice
Sr. Susan Mika, OSB
Benedictine Sister of Boerne, TX,
Director of the Benedictine Coalition for Responsible Investment (CRI)

Featured Speakers on Worker Rights
Becky Moeller
Former President of Texas AFL-CIO

Arturo Rodriguez
Former President of United Farm Workers

Nadira Narine
Senior Program Director, Strategic Initiatives
Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR)
Becky Moeller is the retired president of the Texas AFL-CIO, a state labor federation whose 235,000 members speak up together for working people in Texas. Moeller is the first woman to hold statewide elected office in the Texas AFL-CIO, having broken that barrier in 2003 when she became Secretary-Treasurer. During her four-year term in that office, she brought efficiencies and oversight to the state federation budget that kept programs going even in difficult economic times. She also worked with President Emmett Sheppard to build new revenue sources, including the Walter Umphrey Texas AFL-CIO Golf Tournament.

Moeller was elected Texas AFL-CIO President by acclamation in 2007 and was reelected to a second four-year term, again by acclamation, in 2011.

Before coming to the Texas AFL-CIO, Moeller was president of the Communications Workers of America Local 6137, the Corpus Christi local representing workers at SBC (now AT&T).

Moeller also served as President of the Coastal Bend Labor Council and as a member of the Texas AFL-CIO Executive Board. For several years, Moeller chaired the Texas AFL-CIO Scholarship Committee, whose fund has risen dramatically during her tenure as President.

Since her retirement in 2015, Moeller has volunteered with labor on hurricane relief, humanitarian issues, civil rights projects, and organizing drives. She continues her volunteer efforts in politics, incubating New Democratic clubs at both Texas A&MCC And Del Mar College. She is co-chair of Nueces County Democratic Party – GOTV program and looks forward to the 2020 elections.

Becky is the proud mother of Kristie Moeller Veit, and her activist granddaughters Taylor and Taryn.

Arturo S. Rodriguez retired as president of the United Farm Workers of America in late 2018, after 45 years with the UFW, the last 25 leading the union and helping it survive and make meaningful progress for farm workers following Cesar Chavez’s death in 1993.

Among his achievements was helping the UFW pull farm worker pay above the minimum wage in California’s largest agricultural regions through pressure on non-union employers from union organizing and contract gains. UFW legislative and regulatory victories under Rodriguez protect both union and non-union farm workers. With Rodriguez, the UFW became a leader in the national movement for immigration reform.

The UFW pioneered bold new initiatives under Rodriguez, notably the UFW Foundation, a sister organization that is now the largest provider of immigration legal services in rural California, and the Equitable Food Initiative (EFI) the UFW helped found in 2008, addressing how globalization is transforming agriculture.

The veteran farm labor organizer was first introduced to Cesar Chavez through his parish priest in his hometown of San Antonio, Texas. He became active with the UFW grape boycott as a student at St. Mary’s University in 1969. At the University of Michigan in 1971, where he earned an M.A. degree in social work, Rodriguez organized support for farm worker boycotts. He began serving full time with the UFW in 1973, when he first met Chavez, who became his mentor for 20 years.

Most recently, Rodriguez led negotiations with national grower associations and union employers on worker rights, with a focus on US frontline workers.

Rev. Séamus P. Finn, OMI is an international leader in faith consistent and socially responsible investing and is responsible for Faith Consistent Investing (FCI) at the Oblate Investment Pastoral Trust. He previously served in leadership positions for a number of the Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation offices of the Missionary Oblate of Mary Immaculate, a congregation that has a missionary presence in over 60 countries.

He serves as Chair of the Board of ICCR Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR), and was instrumental in the formation of the International Interfaith Investment Group. Séamus actively engages corporations that are in the OIP portfolio on the issues of sustainability, economic justice and human rights. He follows closely those in the financial, extractives and pharmaceutical sectors and other multinationals on their labor and supply chain issues.

He also serves on the boards of a number of organizations that are focused on domestic and global justice priorities in the public policy arena especially those that relate to the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the US government. He blogs occasionally on Religion and Corporate Social Responsibility for the Huffingtonpost.com.

Nadira Narine is Senior Program Director of Strategic Initiatives, primarily responsible for research and analysis, coordination and support of program work on worker rights, with a focus on US frontline workers.

She has been a staff member at ICCR since 2004, and prior to this assignment served the organization as a Program Assistant and Associate Program Director. Nadira provides a strategic approach and thinking across ICCR’s worker rights area, and has a global view that enhances both individual and collective efforts of the organization.

Nadira was born in Trinidad. She obtained a BA and MA in Political Science from The Graduate Center, The City University of New York. For her master’s thesis, she traveled to Kerala, India, researching the ways women, Dalits and Adivasis change society and government in Kerala by continuously challenging their status as marginalized populations. She has also traveled to Brazil researching Brazil’s Landless Workers Movement, and as it is referred to in Portuguese, Movimento dos Trabalhadores Rurais Sem Terra (MST).

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**Program Description**

For 40 years SRIC has advocated for worker’s rights and safety, forming the Coalition for Justice in the Maquiladoras, working globally in places like Bangladesh for worker’s safety and fair treatment and recently as ICCR members now focused on amplifying the voices of frontline domestic workers.

Tonight’s featured speakers are long time advocates for labor rights working through the Texas AFL CIO and the United Farmworkers of America who will share their lived experience of promoting worker’s rights and consider what can be done to change employer’s behavior on this issue.