

**Colombia Support Network National Conference  
June 2-3, 2017  
Edgewood College  
Predolin Hall, Room 306  
Madison, Wisconsin**

**Program:**

**Friday, June 2**

**8:00 a.m. -9:00 a.m. Breakfast in Predolin Hall meeting room (catered)**

**Morning and Afternoon Programs at Predolin Hall, Room 306**

**9:00 a.m.-9:15 a.m. Welcome, Introductions, and Review of Program (Jack Laun, Colombia Support Network President).**

**9:15 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Will the Peace Agreement between the FARC and the Colombian government really achieve a lasting, just peace? A discussion of the pros and cons in implementation of the Agreement (Attorney and Colombia Specialist Carlos Arenas; Eunice Gibson, Secretary of the Colombia Support Network; and Professor Bruce Bagley of the University of Miami)**

**10:30-10:45 a.m. Coffee Break**

**10:45 a.m.-12:00 noon Mining threats to indigenous communities and their responses (Presentation by Professor Al Gedicks; commentary by Guy Reiter of the Menominee Nation)**

**12:00 noon-1 p.m. Lunch in Predolin Hall, Room 306 (catered)**

**1:00 p.m.-2:45 p.m. The “War on Drugs”: Its causes and results. How can Colombia arrive at a lasting peace with high drug trade volume and profits? (Professor Bruce Bagley, Colombian Labor Attorney Francisco Ramirez)**

**2:45 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Break**

**3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. U.S. government policy toward Colombia: What can we expect from the Trump Administration? What should our government’s policy be? (Congressman Mark Pocan (invited), Matt Rothschild, Norm Stockwell)**

**4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m. The Labor Action plan, Workers' rights and repression in Colombia. (David Newby, President of the Wisconsin Fair Trade Coalition and President Emeritus of the Wisconsin AFL-CIO; Paige Shell-Sterling of Portland Central America Solidarity Committee with General Motors Colombia (Colmotores) Worker, and Francisco Ramirez)**

**5:45 p.m.-6:45 p.m. Dinner at Regina Hall**

**7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Words of Recognition of Cecilia Zarate-Laun, CSN Co-founder and Program Director who passed away on February 5, 2017.(Jack Laun and Flora Csontos, U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin's Southcentral Regional Representative).**

**Keynote Panel (Buddy Bell, Co-Coordinator of Voices for Constructive Nonviolence), Professor Bruce Bagley (University of Miami Political Science Professor and Colombia Specialist) and Francisco Ramirez (Colombian Labor and Human Rights Attorney). Topic: "Models for Peaceful Development in our War-Torn World: Lessons for and from Colombia" (Anderson Auditorium in Predolin Hall, First Floor)**

**Saturday, June 3**

**8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m. Breakfast at Regina Hall**

**Morning and Afternoon Programs at Predolin Hall, Room 306**

**9:00 a.m.-10:45 a.m. Threats to the Environment and Reactions Thereto: Colombian Cases (the San Francisco to Mocoa Highway in Putumayo Department; the Guajira Peninsula, Mining and Displacement; Coca Crop-Spraying with Glyphosate; Damming the Magdalena River; Multinational Gold-mining plans for Santurban and Marmato). (Francisco Ramirez, Carmenza Tez of the Kamentsa Indigenous Community of Sibundoy, Steven Bray, Al Gedicks, and Jack Laun)**

**10:45 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Break**

**11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon. The Peace Community of San Jose de Apartado: A Model for Post-Conflict Development? (Eunice Gibson, Buddy Bell, Haley Olig, Norm Stockwell)**

**12:00 noon-1:00 p.m. Lunch at Regina Hall**

**1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. Corruption in Government: How can it be reduced or eliminated? The Colombian case and the Case of the United States. (Senator Russ Feingold (invited), Matt Rothschild, Francisco Ramirez)**

**2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. How can the Colombia Support Network collaborate with other organizations to advance program objectives and to speak with a louder voice? (Jack Laun of CSN; Barbara Olson and Kathy Walsh of the Madison Rafah Sister City Project (MRSCP); Karen Pope, President of WILPF-Madison; Sue Pastor, Representative of Witness for Peace in Madison; Representative of Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice)**

**3:00 p.m.-3:15 p.m. Break**

**3:15 p.m.-3:45 p.m. Discussion of plans for collaboration with sister communities and setting of goals for CSN for the next year (Jack Laun, Craig Wehrle)**

**3:45 p.m.-4:45 p.m. Business Meeting:**

- 1. Deciding on program initiatives for the coming year**
- 2. Review of financial records**
- 3. Election of Board Members and Officers**

**4:45 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Remembrance of CSN leader Cecilia Zarate-Laun (Jack Laun and others)**

**5:00 p.m.-5:45 p.m. Comments and suggestions by Conference participants**

**6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Cookout and discussion at the CSN office and Bellevue building garden at 29 East Wilson Street, Suite 202, in Madison.**