

## FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the second issue of the *Journal of Workplace Rights*. The *Journal of Workplace Rights* is dedicated to the proposition that human rights should not be compromised by employers. It uses an expansive definition of human rights, based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as passed by the United Nations in 1948. A list of proposed topics is provided below. The *Journal* invites prospective authors to submit papers that are completely unrelated to these topics as long as their focus is on workplace rights:

How and where have employees managed to secure the right to just and favorable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment?

Why do sex and race discrimination in employment remain rampant, and what can employees do about it?

How have employees successfully countered the tendency of most employers to pay them as little as possible?

In recent years, how and where have employees succeeded in reducing their working hours without lowering their standards of living?

How can the right to form and to join trade unions be enabled despite a hostile political climate?

Are privacy rights violated by practices such as pre-employment drug testing and electronic monitoring of employees' Internet usage?

Under what circumstances should employees be able to exercise the right to freedom of thought, conscience, and religion by disobeying their supervisors?

How have employees created safe spaces in which they can exercise their right to freedom of opinion and expression as they honestly share their feelings about work and non-work issues?

“Degrading treatment” is a human rights violation. What constitutes degrading treatment in the workplace?

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that “everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country, directly or through freely chosen representatives.” How can this right be extended to the workplace?

The Universal Declaration grants ownership rights to authors of a “scientific, literary or artistic production.” What implications does this entail for workplace rights in academe?

Before I preview this issue’s articles, I wish to pay special thanks to the following Editorial Board members who did a terrific job of reviewing them in a timely yet thorough manner: Paul Adler, Teri Domagalski, Tom Keenoy, Mary Meisenhelter, Jean & Albert Mills, Leah Ritchie, and Maxim Voronov. In addition, Zara Mirmalek and Virginia Wallace-Curry took time from their very busy schedules to excellently serve as ad hoc reviewers for this issue. And as always, Ann O’Hear provided impeccable manuscript editing service.

The first article is by Marion Macalpine and Sheila Marsh, and it is entitled, “Unpicking the managerial stitches: Strengthening critical action in the public sector workplace.” Their paper discusses techniques for public servants to resist business-as-government brainwashing. The second paper, by Hilary Glow and Stella Minahan, is “‘I’m here to save you’: A case study of the arts and managerialism in Australia.” It chronicles the corrosive effects of the arts-as-business mentality. The third article, by Linda Twiname, is entitled, “Could action research provide the key to true workplace collaboration?” She demonstrates how her field research in New Zealand led to improved workplace rights.

The fourth paper, by Bernd Carsten Stahl, is “Forensic computing in the workplace: Hegemony, ideology, and the perfect Panopticon?” His paper critically analyzes the burgeoning academic discipline of forensic computing. The fifth paper, by Patricia Roos, is entitled “Together but unequal: Combating gender inequity in the academy.” This paper shows that discrimination by gender may increase with academic rank, but argues that corrective measures are feasible. The final paper in this issue constitutes the New Scholars section. Each issue of our journal will feature work by doctoral students and untenured faculty, as they have fewer rights than those of us who have completed the tenure and promotion process. Mitzi Baker wrote “Elusive but attainable: Justice for workers afflicted with fibromyalgia.” This article provides practical guidance to workers who suffer from this devastating syndrome.

If you have as much fun reading these papers as I did while editing them, you are in for a very good time indeed. Our plan is to retain the subscriber base that we inherited in our precious incarnation as the *Journal of Individual Employment Rights* while simultaneously reaching out to progressive thinkers throughout the world. Readers with any questions about this journal should contact me electronically at [jwr@rowan.edu](mailto:jwr@rowan.edu)

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Editor