

Optional Information

Are you a member of a Trade Union? If so, which one? Do you hold a position in this union?

Are you active in a mass movement or particular area of work? (peace and disarmament movement, women's movement, environmental movement, gay rights, etc.). Please list groups or organisations in which you are actively involved.

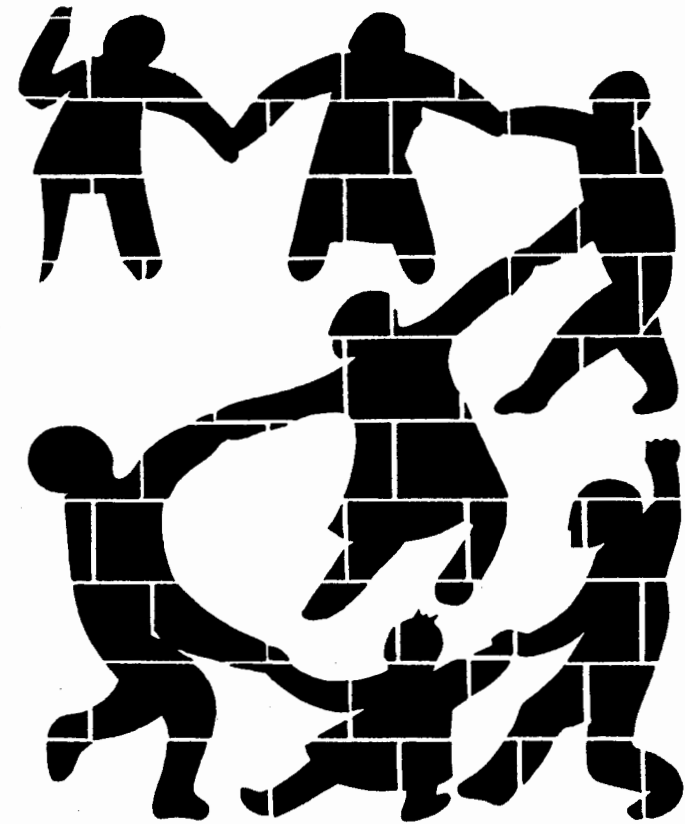
I am interested in presenting a seminar paper at the conference on _____

I am interested in giving a short workshop introduction on _____

I can help during the conference. (Please list areas of interest/skills, eg typing, facilitating, etc)

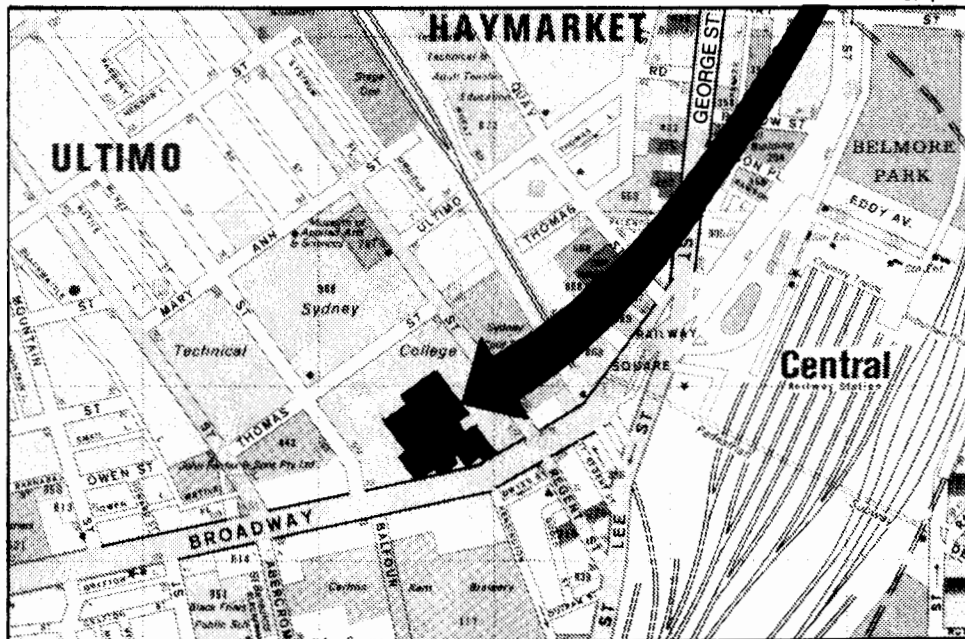
**Please send this Registration Form to:
Broad Left Conference, PO Box 17, Railway Square, Sydney 2000.**

THE BROAD LEFT CONFERENCE



EASTER WEEKEND 1986 28th-31st MARCH
NEW SOUTH WALES INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
Broadway, Sydney (just across from Central Station)

NSW Institute of Technology



Contacts for conference information:

NSW: PO Box 17, Railway Square, Sydney, 2000. (02) 264 3696

QLD: PO Box 650, South Brisbane, 4101. (07) 832 5587 (a/h)

Victoria: PO Box 223, World Trade Centre, 3005. (03) 497 2130

South Aust: PO Box 306, Prospect, 5082. (08) 267 3915 (a/h)

West Aust: PO Box J667, GPO Perth, 6001. (09) 328 5744

Tasmania: PO Box 135, North Hobart, 7000. (002) 34 3053

ACT: 35 Turner Place, Yarralumla, ACT, 2600. (062) 81 5584

BACKGROUND AND AIMS OF CONFERENCE

Pressing issues of current concern strongly suggest that broad left forces should meet in an open atmosphere to discuss perspectives for the left in Australia. Three hundred representative sponsors have called a left conference for Easter 1986, in Sydney.

The conference aims to provide a forum for the broad left to discuss effective responses to current Australian political developments and to the vital issues of the 1980s and 1990s.

The aim is to address general strategic questions for the left and to provide an opportunity to discuss a range of particular issues and concerns. The sponsors have nominated two strategic issues faced by the left at present:

- Firstly, the emergence of a more extreme and ideologically confident right wing, which has launched a new offensive against labor and progressive movements, designed to roll back the gains made by unions, Aboriginals, women, migrants, the gay community and other progressive social forces. This offensive sets the stage for the election of hardline conservative governments.
- Secondly, the challenge of building effective mass movements for progressive reforms and far reaching changes in a period of Labor governments, and the relationship of left and progressive forces to the existing Labor governments.

At federal, state and local government levels, Labor administrations are retreating in many important policy areas in the face of right wing pressure and economic and financial difficulties. In particular, the Hawke government's performance has raised serious concerns in several areas where it has failed to deliver on Labor's promises and its supporters' expectations. In some key instances it has bowed before local and foreign pressure from corporations and the money markets, whose aims are to destroy the government eventually and in the meantime get what they can by 'boring from within'.

The left should respond to this challenge with its own renewed offensive, working to build alliances and to develop a more coherent program for social and economic change.

The central focus of the conference will be to develop strategies, links and communications between issues and movements. Activists from different movements and groups will be encouraged to swap experiences and views.

PARTICIPATION

This will be a conference of individuals, not organisations. It will be based on workshops, seminars and panel discussions.

Participation is welcome from anyone in general agreement with the aims of the conference as expressed in this brochure.

However, attendance may be limited by availability of facilities. Should this happen, sponsors from main centres will try to ensure a fair regional distribution of participants and broad representation of left opinion and areas of work.

GETTING TOGETHER CONFERENCE

The Getting Together Conference of social movements will also be held in Sydney at Easter at a nearby venue. Good relations have been developed between the two organising committees. It has been agreed that speakers from each conference will attend some sessions of the other. Each conference will also provide a reportback to the other's final session, and it is hoped that opportunities can be arranged for participants from the two conferences to meet together socially.

PROGRAM

OVERVIEW

The Conference will comprise six half-day sessions. The four half-day sessions on Saturday and Sunday will each be divided into two 1 1/2 hour segments, the first taken up by several parallel panel sessions addressed by two or three speakers, the second consisting of a wide range of workshops on more detailed topics. There will also be the opportunity for self-initiated workshops, and parallel with some workshop sessions there may also be a general forum and/or seminars. The main conclusions and proposals from each workshop will be pinned on a central notice board and reported to a group of working committees who will collate and edit them for reporting back to the conference on Monday morning.

MAIN THEMES AND FORMAT

<i>Friday afternoon</i>	Registration Radical film festival.
<i>Friday evening</i>	Opening meeting and cultural night. <i>Theme: Towards 2000: the role of the left in the '80s and '90s.</i>
<i>Saturday morning</i>	Stocktake: What's left to do? Australian realities and the left.
<i>Saturday afternoon</i>	Strategic perspectives (I): Socialism in Australia and how to get there.
<i>Sunday morning</i>	Strategic perspectives (II): Building the base and setting the agenda.
<i>Sunday afternoon</i>	Immediate directions: Working to make the left politically effective.
<i>Monday morning</i>	Summary: Reportbacks & concluding remarks.

FRIDAY

- 12.00 noon *Registration opens*
Radical film festival
Preliminary meetings of organising and reportback committees
Meetings for panel speakers and workshop facilitators
- 5.30 p.m. *Dinner break*
Meeting for women only over dinner (venue to be announced)

- 7.00 p.m. *Opening session and cultural night*
Theme: **Towards 2000: The role of the left in the '80s and '90s**
Chair: **Jennie George** President NSW Teachers Federation
ACTU Executive member
Speakers: **Brian Howe** MP
Marcia Langton Co-ordinator Land Claims, Central Land Council
Jim Falk Author and activist

The speakers will take about one hour, followed by about 90 minutes of performing artists and groups.

SATURDAY MORNING

Theme **Stocktake: What's left to do? Australian realities and the left**

Panels 9.15 to 10.45 – Workshops 11.15 to 12.45

Panel 1 Conservatism and the contemporary right wing offensive

Workshop topics to cover the New Right's program and appeal, organisation of the right, ideologies of women's role and the family, anti-unionism, AIDS hysteria.

Panel 2 The economic context

Workshop topics to cover deregulation, privatisation, the debt crisis, the public sector, wealth redistribution, restructuring, and unemployment.

Panel 3 Australia & the world: foreign policy, the Pacific region, peace & disarmament.

Workshop topics to cover Australia's international record, immigration, peace and disarmament, nuclear-free and independent Pacific, the Philippines.

Panel 4 The Accord: successes and failures.

Workshops to cover the main sections/issues of the Accord.

Panel 5 Social movements, trade unions & Labor governments: how have they related?

Workshops to include connections and conflicts between class and social movements, and the impact of mass movements on Labor governments.

Forum Achievements and failures of the Australian left.

(This forum will be held parallel with the Workshops, at 11.15)

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Theme **Strategic perspectives (I): Socialism in Australia and how to get there.**

Panels 2.00 to 3.30 – Workshops 4.00 to 5.30.

Panel 1 Interventionism as a left strategy for the union movement: its benefits & pitfalls.

Industry policy and industrial democracy, occupational health and safety, lesson of the SEQEB and Mudginberri disputes, women in unions, unions and social responsibility.

Panel 2 The left and Labor governments.

Workshops to cover left strategies and Labor governments, and relations between progressive movements and Labor governments.

Panel 3 Asserting democratic control over the Australian economy and culture.

Workshops to include alternative economic strategies, taxation and social wage policies, extending the public sector, and re-regulating the finance sector.

Panel 4 The women's movement and its consequences for left strategies.

Women in the unions, feminism and socialism, gender politics and class politics.

Panel 5 The international movement for socialism – what can we learn; how do we contribute?

The Western European experience, liberation movements, existing socialist countries.

Panel 6 Work, unemployment and new technology: what does the left offer?

Workshops to cover technological change and social responsibility, quality of work and leisure, workers' cooperatives, and job-creating investment.

Panel 7 Peace and disarmament as socialist objectives.

Workshop topics to cover alternative foreign policy, disarmament proposals, transferring arms industries to socially useful production, the international peace movements.

Panel 8 Economy and ecology: creating a sustainable society.

Workshops to cover jobs and the environment, economic strategy for a sustainable Australia, regional strategies and sustainable agriculture.

SUNDAY MORNING

Theme **Strategic perspectives (II): Building the base and setting the agenda.**

Panel 1 Political options for the left: parties and movements.

Mass movements and social change, working for socialist change through the ALP, the role of a left party in Australia today, developing left policies, finding common objectives.

Panel 2 The Accord: building block or obstacle for the future?

Industry development, implementation of the Accord's social justice promises, rank and file involvement in Accord processes, alternative strategies to the Accord.

Panel 3 Unemployment, under-employment and unpaid work – strategies for down under the poverty line.

Organising the unemployed, job creation and the nature of work, guaranteed minimum income proposals, how to create useful and satisfying jobs.

Panel 4 Responding to racism and the far right: strategies for a multicultural left.

Workshops to cover ethnic community politics, immigration policy, migrant women's perspectives, migrant workers and unions.

Panel 5 The politics of gender.

Workshops are being developed by socialist feminist forums being held in major centres, to include ideologies of the family, gender, class, and race equality.

Panel 6 Sex, drugs and rock & roll? – young people and the left.

Workshops to include unions and young workers, youth culture, education and training, homelessness, the youth consumer market.

Panel 7 The Aboriginal movement and the left.

Workshops to include: the meaning of Aboriginal self-determination, Aboriginal health, education and employment, Aboriginal women and the women's movement.

Panel 8 Creating a left political culture.

Art and working life, Australian media, community arts, labour history, do we need left-wing "think-tanks"?

Panel 9 Socialist perspectives for education and training.

Forum: Left unity and coalition: forms, strategies and tactics.

(This forum will run concurrently with the workshops, at 11.15.)

SUNDAY AFTERNOON

Theme **Immediate directions: working to make the left politically effective.**

For this session, the conference will break up into about 20 working groups on particular issues. For the first hour, each group will hold a seminar with presentations of analyses of the issue, the current state of left work around it, and proposals for future work. After the break, each group will move into a 2-hour workshop format to come up with proposals for the reportback session next morning.

We already have about 25 suggested working groups but these will not be finalised until we have more views from conference participants about issues they would like to see covered. Examples of topics so far proposed are the equal pay and comparable worth campaign; taxation; international solidarity priorities; occupational health and safety; communication and co-operation across the left; possibilities for alternative and left media; gay community fightback. Participants are asked to send any proposals with their registration forms.

Summary

9.15 a.m. Reportbacks: "Bringing it all together, taking it all back home".

The working groups set up to process and collate the conclusions and proposals from workshops and discussions will each report to the conference under these headings: industrial; economic policy; social movements; international/peace; social policy; left political strategies; women. (This session will run from 9.15 a.m. till about 11.00 a.m.)

11.00 a.m. Coffee/Tea Break.

11.30 a.m. Closing addresses.

12.30 p.m. Conference ends.

Note: Those registering will receive a full detailed program just before or at the conference, with details of venues, speakers, etc. for panels and workshops.

NUTS AND BOLTS

Conference Bulletin Pre-conference discussion will be facilitated by the publication of two Bulletins. One has already appeared and the deadline for contributions to the second is March 1. Contributions to the Bulletin are welcome. Substantial papers should be no more than 1,000 words in length. Shorter articles and letters are also sought. Contributions should be sent to PO Box 17, Railway Square, Sydney 2000. The Bulletin will be sent to everyone registering for the conference and may also be obtained by payment of a \$10 subscription fee.

Pre-Conference activities Discussions on some of the issues to be covered at the conference are currently being organised in some centres. Details of these activities can be obtained by contacting the organisers in your state.

Help! There is a lot of work involved in this conference. We need your help before and during the conference. Contact the national conference office and/or your local organising group.

Fees and Donations Organising and running the conference is costly. Registration fees have been set as low as possible and we ask all who can afford it to make generous donations on top of these. People in close proximity to Sydney, with small travel costs, are especially asked to donate.

Accommodation Participants are requested to make their own accommodation arrangements if at all possible. However, the organisers will try to arrange billets for participants travelling from outside Sydney. Those requiring billets must inform the conference organisers of their requirements by March 22.

Travel Arrangements Organising committees in most centres are organising group travel to and from Sydney. Please contact the committee in your state as soon as possible for further information. If making your own arrangements, remember planes and trains will be heavily booked for Easter, so make your bookings early.

Food An inexpensive lunch will be available at the Institute on Saturday and Sunday. Morning and afternoon tea will also be available. In addition there are a number of cheap restaurants close to the Institute.

Childcare will be available free of charge, provided you let us know your requirements in advance. Please supply food, drinks, nappies and anything else your child is likely to need.

Bookstalls Groups and organisations wishing to sell books or other materials or distribute information at the conference are invited to apply for a book stall. Stalls will cost \$30 and will be in limited supply, so please let us know as soon as possible if you wish to hire one. Materials can only be sold or distributed from bookstalls.

Social Events We want opportunities for people to meet and talk in less formal settings. Various social and cultural events are planned.

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ (home) _____ (work)

I wish to register for the Broad Left Conference and enclose registration fee of:
 ● \$30.00 ● \$15.00 low income ● \$10.00 unemployed, pensioners, students.

I cannot attend, but would like to receive the Bulletins and any other conference literature. I have enclosed \$10 to cover costs.

I wish to make a donation of \$ _____, separate from registration, towards the cost of the conference.

Please organise accommodation for me on Friday/Saturday/ Sunday/Monday nights in Sydney.

_____ adults _____ children.

I can accommodate _____ people on Friday/Saturday/Sunday/Monday nights in Sydney.

I will require wheelchair access at the conference

I will require childcare for _____ children aged _____ on Friday/Saturday/Sunday/Monday.

I will require vegetarian food. (PTO)

Conference Sponsors: George Campbell, Peter Robson, Jennie George, Pat Clancy, Meredith Burgmann, Ken McLeod, Nando Lelli, Brian Aarons, Barbara Murphy, Ted Wheelwright, Fay Campbell, Pat Lee, Arthur Greig, Anna Kokkinos, Barry Carr, Bruce Hartnett, Betty Olle, Barbara Preston, Carmel Shute, David Bowler, Deidre Mason, David Robson, George Zangalis, Heather O'Connor, John Andrews, Jan Donovan, Joelle Champert, Jan Dillow, Jonathan Goodfield, John Halfpenny, Julius Roe, Joe Sibiras, Les Ayres, Linda Rubinstein, Mike Beale, Maurie Crow, Mark Taft, Noni Holmes, Neil Marshall, Peter Atkins, Anthony Albanese, Audrey McDonald, Ben Bartlett, Brian Beer, Bronwyn Brown, Bob Connell, Brian McGahan, Bev Symons, Caroline Alcorso, C.S. Bennett, Clare Burton, Craig Johnston, Carol Matthews, Dick Scott, Dick Shearman, Don Syme, Edna Ryan, Flo Cluff, Frank Hardy, Frank Panucci, Gary Foley, George Gotsis, Helen Spowart, Ian Peel, John Benson, Peter Berry, Phillip Carswell, Peter Gibbons, Percy Johnson, Peter Love, Ray Collins, Ruth Crow, Ron Hearn, Ray Hogan, Rina Reiss, Richard Tanter, Richard Wootton, Sheril Berkovitch, Sam Goldbloom, Sue Jackson, Stelios Kourbetis, Stuart MacIntyre, Sylvia Panayis, Sally Semmens, Trevor Blake, Tricia Caswell, Telmo Languillier, Therese McCarthy, Tony Papaconstantinos, Tricia Szilrom, V.G. Venturini, Wally Curran, Joyce Clarke, Joe Fisher, Janet Good, Jon Hawkes, Jack Kidd, James Levy, John McCarthy, Jack Munday, Jack O'Toole, Joe Owens, Jozefa Sobski, Joyce Stevens, Jacquie Widin, Kevin Cook, Kay Schofield, Laurie Carmichael, Lee O'Gorman, Louise Tarrant, Manuel Alonso, Mary Jerrem, Margaret Miller, Merleen Millson, Margaret Penson, Peter Davidson, Pat Gorman, Philippa Hall, Peter Lane, Peter Mason, Rick Divers, Ray Hart, Robyn Hopwood, Rick Mohr, Ric Sissons, Ralph Taylor, Sam Fadih, Stephen Knight, Stan Sharkey, Serge Zorino, Tas Bull, Tom McDonald, Tony Morrison, Terry Smith, Tom Supple, Tom Zubrycki, Vic Bauers, W.J. Brown, Wendy Caird, Winton Higgins, Warwick McDonald, Warwick Neilley, Max Taylor, Andy Alcock, Ashley Campbell, Barbara Pocock, Brian Turner, Don Atkinson, Doug Meek, E.N. Wyman, Forrest Holder, Graham Smith, George Young, Jill Chapman, Jim De Vries, Jim Moss, Jeff Richards, Kate Cooper, Karen Lane, Leonie Ebert, Margaret Hussen, Michael Luzecky, Mick Tumbers, Patrick Colmer, Peter McCusker, Ray Broomhill, Sally Biddle, Stephanie Key, Sue Noack, Trevor Smith, Allan Begg, Arthur Shertock, Cheryl Milburn, Deborah Baldassi, Don Sutherland, Frank Barbero, Geoff Richards, Gay Walsh, Howard Glenn, John Crossing, Jim Mitchell, Jan Powning, John Wishart, Kerry Donovan, Kathy Weekley, Mick Gallant, May Kivibiro, Nevin Greenwood, Pam Maitland, Ron Barklay, Randall Ewans, Suzanne Franzway, Sylvia Kinder, Tony MacHarper, Viv Colmer, Jules Davidson, Arthur Osborne, John Bourne, Mornica Chalmers, Mike Donaldson, Steve Quinn, Paul Matters, Colin Markham, Graham Roberts, Jim Falk, Mark Cole, Merv Nixon, Sally Bowen, Stan Woodbury, Dave Wedgwood, Humphrey McQueen, Peter Jones, Robyn Bromley, Steven Rix, Ian Fraser, Bill Leslie, Grahame McCulloch, Hugh Saddler, Manning Clark, Peter Summers, Sue Craven, Tim Rowse, Betsy Buchanan, Chuck Bonzas, Howard Smith, Ian Alexander, Keith Peckham, Leo Gatica, Rivo Gandini, Sharryn Jackson, Tom Henderson, Vic Slater, Bill Ethel, Bev Lauder, Dick Anear, Dave Ettershank, Dan O'Neill, Garret Pertill, Hugh Hamilton, Joy Ardill, Karen Prior, Peter Meggitt, Peter O'Brien, Tom Greenwood, Wilf Ardill, Wally Trohear, Colin Hardie, David Anthony, Dave Harrison, Di Zetlin, Howard Guille, Ian McLean, Jenny Prohaska, M.A. Smith, Peter Neilsen, Peter Reidlinger, Virginia Lees, Wendy Trembath, Dick Adams, Dee Alty, Dain Bolwell, Di Elliffe, John Devereux, Jack Lomax, Max Bound, Penny Sara, Pierre Slicer, Truda Gray, Barbara Curthors, Barry Johnson, David Ross, Geoff Anderson, Kay Jackson, Kay Wicks, Peter Barrack, Sid Harding, Terry Mawdsley, Birgitte Hansen, Carol Lawrence, Deirdre Wicks, Helen Richards, Mary McGill, Peter Hobbs, Therese Kenyon, Janet McLean, Warwick Eather, Brian Manning, Barbara Finch, Peter Hood, Vern Moffitt, Colin Sindall, R.J. Buchhorn, Bob Elkin, Steve Kelly, Paul Maddern.