Educational Justice
Teaching and Organizing against the Corporate Juggernaut
Howard Ryan

That education should instill and nurture democracy is an American truism. Yet organizations such as the Business Roundtable, together with conservative philanthropists such as Bill Gates and Walmart’s owners, the Waltons, have been turning public schools into corporate mills. Their top-down programs track, judge, and homogenize the minds of millions of students from kindergarten through high school. But corporate funders would not be able to implement this educational control without the de facto partnership of government at all levels, channeling public moneys into privatization initiatives, school closings, and high-stakes testing that discourages independent thinking.

Educational Justice offers hope that there’s still time to take on corporatized schools and build democratic alternatives. The book deconstructs the corporate assault on schools, assesses the prevailing teachers union responses, and documents best practices in teaching and organizing. Reports from various educational fronts include innovative union strategies against charter school expansion, as well as teaching visions drawn from the social justice and whole language traditions. Bold, informative, clearly reasoned, this book is an education in itself.

HOWARD RYAN has taught college English and worked for many years in union organizing and representation in higher education, as well as in labor journalism. Now retired, he writes and organizes for quality public schools and social justice.

“The beginnings of a vision for the schools our communities deserve that emerges from the struggle against corporate assault.”—BARBARA MADELONI, PRESIDENT, MASSACHUSETTS TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

"This is a manifesto to nail to the heavy oak doors of power."—WILLIAM AYERS
If you’re lucky enough to be employed today in the United States, there’s about a one-in-ten chance that you’re in a labor union. And even if you’re part of that 10 percent, chances are your union doesn’t carry much clout. But this was not always the case, as historian and activist James Young shows in this vibrant story of the United Electrical Workers Union. The UE, built by hundreds of rank-and-file worker-activists in the quintessentially industrial town of Erie, Pennsylvania, was able to transform the conditions of the working class largely because it went beyond the standard call for living wages to demand quantum leaps in worker control over workplaces, community institutions, and the policies of the federal government itself.

Showing that the collective efforts of the many can challenge the supremacy of the few, Erie’s two UE locals confronted the corporate superpower General Electric; ferocious red-baiting; and later, the debilitating impact of globalization. Yet, by working through and across ethnic, gender, and racial divides, communities of people built a viable working-class base powered by real democracy. Union Power is an exuberant and eloquent testament to this fight.

**JAMES YOUNG** is Professor of History Emeritus at Edinboro University, Pennsylvania. He has been a union member all his life and a worker in several unions, including the SEIU and USWA. He is a contributing author to Fear Itself: Enemies Real and Imagined in American Culture and Advocates and Activists, 1919-1941: Men and Women Who Shaped the Period Between the Wars.

“In this wonderfully detailed account of human courage and solidarity, based on dozens of interviews with participants, Jim Young uncovers the secret behind that miracle. A must-read for labor activists and students of labor history.”

—ALAN HART, MANAGING EDITOR, UE NEWS, FORMER ERIE GE WORKER
The Syriza Wave
Surging and Crashing with the Greek Left
Helena Sheehan

Utterly corrupt corporate and government elites bankrupted Greece twice over. First, by profligate deficit spending benefitting only themselves; second, by agreeing to an IMF “bailout” of the Greek economy, devastating ordinary Greek citizens who were already enduring government-induced poverty, unemployment, and hunger. Finally, in response to dire austerity measures, the people of Greece stood up, forming, from their own historic roots of resistance, Syriza—the Coalition of the Radical Left. For those who caught the Syriza wave, there was, writes Helena Sheehan, a minute of “precarious hope.”

A seasoned activist and participant-observer, Helena Sheehan adroitly places us at the center of the whirlwind beginnings of Syriza, its jubilant victory at the polls, and finally at Syriza’s surrender to the very austerity measures it once vowed to annihilate. Along the way, she takes time to meet many Greeks in tavernas, on the street, and in government offices; engage in debates; and compare Greece to her own economically blighted country, Ireland. Beginning as a strong Syriza supporter, Sheehan sees Syriza transformed from a horizon of hope to a vortex of despair. But out of the dust of defeat, she draws questions radiating optimism. The Syriza Wave is a page-turning blend of political reportage, personal reflection, and astute analysis.

HELENA SHEEHAN is Professor Emerita at Dublin City University, where she taught history of ideas and media studies. She is also the author of several books, including Marxism and the Philosophy of Science: A Critical History, as well as magazine articles on politics, culture, and philosophy.

“Brings the dramatic rollercoaster of Syriza’s growth, election, and capitulation to vivid life.”—PAUL MURPHY TD, MEMBER OF IRISH PARLIAMENT
Rethinking Revolution
Socialist Register 2017
Edited by Leo Panitch and Greg Albo

One hundred years ago, “October 1917” galvanized leftists and oppressed peoples around the globe, and became the lodestar for 20th century politics. Rethinking Revolution reappraises the historical effects of the Russian Revolution on political, intellectual, and cultural life, and looks forward to what might happen next.

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LEO PANITCH and GREG ALBO are professors in the Department of Political Science at York University, Toronto.
Creating an Ecological Society
Toward a Revolutionary Transformation
Fred Magdoff and Chris Williams
Foreword by John Bellamy Foster

Sickened by the relentless contamination of the environment, people are coming to realize that capitalism, quite literally, is killing them. Capitalism’s imperative—to make profits at all costs and expand without end—is destabilizing the Earth’s climate, while increasing human misery and inequality. The need to organize for social and environmental reforms has never been greater. But crucial as they are, reforms alone cannot solve our intertwined ecological and social crises. Creating an Ecological Society reveals an overwhelmingly simple truth: Fighting for reforms is vital, but revolution is essential.

Fred Magdoff and Chris Williams, who have devoted their lives to activism, Marxist analysis, and ecological science, provide informed, fascinating accounts of how a new world can be created from the ashes of the old. Their book shows that it is possible to envision and create a society that is genuinely democratic, equitable, and ecologically sustainable.

FRED MAGDOFF is Professor Emeritus of Plant and Soil Science at the University of Vermont. His most recent books include Agriculture and Food in Crisis (edited with Brian Tokar) and The Great Financial Crisis (with John Bellamy Foster).

CHRIS WILLIAMS is an environmental activist, teacher, and author of Ecology and Socialism: Solutions to Capitalist Ecological Crisis.

“Magdoff and Williams have revived the hard work of imagining what an eco-socialist future might actually involve. Regardless of what the future holds, our present struggles will benefit from the optimism of their political imagination.”
—CHRISTIAN PARENTI, AUTHOR, TROPIC OF CHAOS: CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE NEW GEOGRAPHY OF VIOLENCE
Science tells us that a new and dangerous stage in planetary evolution has begun—the Anthropocene—a time of rising temperatures, extreme weather, rising oceans, and mass species extinctions. If business as usual continues, this century will be marked by rapid deterioration of our physical, social, and economic environment. Facing the Anthropocene shows what has caused this planetary emergency, and what we must do to meet the challenge.

Bridging the gap between Earth System science and ecological Marxism, Angus examines not only the latest scientific findings about the physical causes and consequences of the Anthropocene transition, but also the social and economic trends that underlie the crisis. Facing the Anthropocene offers a unique synthesis of natural and social science that illustrates how capitalism’s drive for growth, powered by the rapid burning of fossil fuels that took millions of years to form, has driven our world to the brink of disaster. Survival, Angus argues, requires radical social change, replacing fossil capitalism with a new, ecosocialist civilization.

IAN ANGUS is editor of the online ecosocialist journal Climate and Capitalism, and co-author of the Belém Ecosocialist Declaration. His previous books include Too Many People? Population, Immigration, and the Environmental Crisis (with Simon Butler) and The Global Fight for Climate Justice.

“Crisp, eloquent, and deeply informed.”—MIKE DAVIS

“The science on which the Anthropocene concept is based—and this book does an excellent job of describing that science—is crystal clear. We urgently need a societal discussion about where we are going, and this book makes a hard-hitting, provocative contribution.”—WILL STEFFEN, FORMER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL GEOPHYSICAL-BIOPHYSICAL PROGRAM
A Redder Shade of Green

Intersections of Science and Socialism

Ian Angus

As the Anthropocene advances, people across the red-green political spectrum seek to understand and halt our deepening ecological crisis. Environmentalists, scientists, and ecosocialists share concerns about the misuse and overuse of natural resources, but often differ on explanations and solutions. Some blame environmental disasters on overpopulation. Others wonder if Darwin’s evolutionary theories disprove Marx’s revolutionary views, or if capitalist history contradicts Anthropocene science. Some ask if all this worry about climate change and the ecosystem might lead to a “catastrophism” that weakens efforts to heal the planet.

Ian Angus responds to these concerns in *A Redder Shade of Green*, with a fresh, insightful clarity, bringing socialist values to science and scientific rigor to socialism. He challenges not only mainstream green thought, but also radicals who misuse or misrepresent environmental science. Angus’s argument that confronting environmental destruction requires both cutting-edge scientific research and a Marxist understanding of capitalism makes this book an essential resource in the fight to prevent environmental destruction in the 21st century.

IAN ANGUS is editor of the online ecosocialist journal *Climate and Capitalism*, and co-author of the *Belém Ecosocialist Declaration*. His previous books include *Too Many People? Population, Immigration, and the Environmental Crisis* (with Simon Butler) and *The Global Fight for Climate Justice*.

“This book is for everyone who wants to build a broad-based, unified, revolutionary and worldwide struggle on behalf of humanity and the Earth, putting people and the planet before profits.”—JOHN BELLAMY FOSTER
Miroslav Krleža was a giant of Yugoslav literature, yet remarkably little of his writing has appeared in English. In a body of work that spans more than five dozen books, including novels, short stories, plays, poetry, and essays, Krleža focused on a steadfast pursuit of radical humanism and artistic integrity. Harbors Rich in Ships gives English-speaking readers an unprecedented opportunity to appreciate the astonishing breadth of Krleža’s literary creations. Beautifully translated by Željko Cipriš, this collection of seven representative early texts introduces a new audience to three stories from Krleža’s renowned antimilitarist book, The Croatian God Mars; an autobiographical sketch; a one-act play; a story from his collection of short stories, One Thousand and One Deaths; and his signature drama, The Glembays, a satirical account of the crime-ridden origins of one of Zageb’s most aristocratic families.

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MIROSLAV KRLEŽA was born in 1893 in Zagreb, then a city in the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and died there in 1981, after it had become part of Croatia, a republic in socialist Yugoslavia. He was educated in military academies that served the Hapsburg monarchy. However, after fighting on the Eastern Front during the First World War, he was sickened by the War’s lethal nationalism and became a fervent anti-militarist. Krleža joined the Communist Party of Yugoslavia in 1918, but his opposition to Stalin’s artistic dictum of social realism, as well as his refusal to support Stalin’s purges, led to his expulsion from the Party in 1939. He nevertheless helped found several literary and political journals, and became a driving force in Yugoslavia’s literature.

ŽELJKO CIPRIŠ was born in Zagreb, Croatia, and obtained a doctorate in East Asian Languages and Cultures from the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Columbia University. He is professor of Modern Languages and Literature at the University of the Pacific, and translator of several classic Japanese leftist novels.
The Politics of Immigration
Questions and Answers
SECOND EDITION

Jane Guskin and David L. Wilson

Immigration in the United States has been the subject of furious debates for decades. On one side, politicians and the media talk about aliens and criminals, with calls to “deport them all.” On the other side, some advocates idealize immigrants and gloss over problems associated with immigration. Dialogue only becomes possible when we dig deeper and ask tough questions.

First published in 2007, this updated and expanded edition is an effective tool to confront stereotypes and disinformation. Those who believe immigrants take jobs from citizens, don’t pay taxes, strain public services, and threaten the dominant culture will find their assumptions challenged with compelling arguments and hard data. Ideal for classroom use, The Politics of Immigration provides those who are undecided about immigration with the facts and clear reasoning they need to develop an informed opinion.

JANE GUSKIN and DAVID L. WILSON have been writing since 1990 about immigration, labor, and Latin America and the Caribbean. Their articles have appeared in Truthout, NACLA Report on the Americas, MRZine, The Huffington Post, and other publications. For over twenty years, they co-edited Weekly News Update on the Americas, an English-language bulletin covering grassroots news from Latin America. Guskin also edited a companion publication, Immigration News Briefs. Guskin and Wilson are both based in New York City, where they work for immigrant and labor rights.

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“We desperately need to put aside false information about immigrants, to see them as we see ourselves, with honesty and compassion. This book gives powerful meaning to the slogan ‘No Human Being is Illegal.’ I hope it will be widely read.”
—HOWARD ZINN, AUTHOR, A PEOPLE’S HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES
Paul A. Baran and Paul M. Sweezy were two of the leading Marxist economists of the twentieth century. Their seminal work, *Monopoly Capital: An Essay on the American Economic and Social Order*, published two years after Baran’s death in 1966, was in many respects the culmination of fifteen years of correspondence between the two. From 1949 to 1964, the intellectual collaboration between Baran, a professor of economics at Stanford, and Sweezy, a former professor of economics at Harvard, then co-editing *Monthly Review* in New York City, required frequent letter writing, which became almost daily in the years closer to 1964. Their surviving correspondence consists of some one thousand letters.

This selection illuminates not only the development of the political economy that was to form the basis of *Monopoly Capital*, but also the historical context—the McCarthy Era, the Cold War, the Cuban Missile Crisis. Not since Marx and Engels carried on their epistolary correspondence has there has been a collection of letters offering such a detailed look at the making of a remarkably prescient critique of political economy—and at the historical conditions from which that critique was formed.

**NICHOLAS BARAN** is the son of Paul A. Baran. He is an attorney, former computer technology journalist, and author of *Inside the Information Highway Revolution*.

**JOHN BELLAMY FOSTER** is editor of *Monthly Review* and Professor of Sociology at the University of Oregon. He has written widely on political economy and ecology, including, most recently, *The Endless Crisis* (with Robert W. McChesney) and *The Ecological Rift* (with Brett Clark and Richard York).
Karl Marx's Ecosocialism
Capital, Nature, and the Unfinished Critique of Political Economy

Kohei Saito

According to critics, Marx held an inherent belief in the necessity of humans to dominate the natural world, in order to end material want and create a new world of fulfillment and abundance—a world where nature is mastered, not by anarchic capitalism, but by a planned socialist economy. This perspective has come under sharp attack, not only from mainstream environmentalists but also from ecosocialists.

*Karl Marx’s Ecosocialism* repudiates the accusations of Marx’s ecological shortcomings. Delving into Karl Marx’s central works, as well as Marx’s natural scientific notebooks—published only recently and still being translated—Saito argues that Marx actually saw the environmental crisis embedded in capitalism. “It is not possible to comprehend the full scope of [Marx’s] critique of political economy,” Saito writes, “if one ignores its ecological dimension.”

Karl Marx’s very concept of alienation, in its multiple forms, can, in fact, now be seen as having its roots in capitalism’s ecological crisis.

*Karl Marx’s Ecosocialism* shows us that Marx has given us more than we once thought, that we can now come closer to finishing Marx’s critique, and to building a sustainable ecosocialist world.

**KOHEI SAITO** received his Ph.D. from Humboldt University in Berlin. He is currently a JSPS Postdoctoral Fellow and visiting scholar at the University of California, Santa Barbara. He is editing the complete works of Marx and Engels, *Marx-Engels-Gesamtausgabe* (MEGA) Volume IV/18, which includes a number of Marx’s natural scientific notebooks.

“Saito’s book is marked by a deep knowledge of Marxist theory, especially the debate over Marxism and ecology. Saito also brings a major new source into the debate, Marx’s forthcoming notebooks on ecology.” —KEVIN B. ANDERSON, AUTHOR, *MARX AT THE MARGINS*
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JOHN SMITH received his Ph.D. from the University of Sheffield and is currently self-employed as a researcher and writer.

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A devastating follow-up to Marciano’s 1979 classic Teaching the Vietnam War (written with William L. Griffen), this book seeks not to commemorate the Vietnam War, but to stop the ongoing U.S. war on actual history. Marciano reveals the grandiose flag-waving that stems from the “Noble Cause Principle,” the notion that America is “chosen by God” to bring democracy to the world.

JOHN MARCIANO is Professor Emeritus at SUNY, Cortland. He has been an antiwar and social justice activist, author, scholar, teacher, and trade unionist.
**STEVE CUSHION** is a retired university lecturer. For twenty years, he worked as a bus driver in London, and has been an active socialist and trade unionist all his adult life.

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**JANE FRANKLIN** has been an internationally acclaimed historian and peace and justice activist since 1960. Some of her work is available at janefranklin.info.
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ROB WALLACE received a Ph.D. in biology at the CUNY Graduate Center, New York City, and did post-doctorate work at UC Irvine. He is a Visiting Scholar at the Institute for Global Studies, University of Minnesota.

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ALAN WIEDER is an oral historian who lives in Portland, Oregon. He is Distinguished Professor Emeritus at the University of South Carolina and has taught at the University of the Western Cape and Stellenbosch University, in South Africa.
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SAMIR AMIN was born in Egypt in 1931 and received his Ph.D. in economics in Paris in 1957. He is director of the Third World Forum in Dakar, Senegal.

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