EDITOR'S NOTE / NOTE DE LA RÉDACTRICE

Suzanne Dansereau

It gives me great pleasure to introduce this double Special Issue on *Globalization and the Challenges of Labour and Development*, Guest Edited by Devan Pillay, in collaboration with the Global Labour University (GLU), an initiative of the International Labour Organization and GLU's member universities in Germany, South Africa, Brazil, and India. The contributions in this issue originated as papers presented at the GLU conference on *Labour and the Challenges of Development* held at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg in April 2007.

Together the articles present a wide range of issues linked to the challenges posed by the changing relationship between labour, capital and the state and the impact on development. The increased flow of capital and goods has had a profound impact on the world of work and the organization of production. Topics range from environmental and energy issues, the contribution of cooperatives and the potential of economies of solidarity, changes in trade arrangements, the impact of regional free trade agreements, labour market reforms and labour movement response, and the move away from the welfare state. Case studies look more closely at conditions in South Africa, India, Brazil, and Colombia.

There are several organizations and people to thank for making this special issue possible. We especially thank the International Labour Organization and Frank Hoffer for facilitating our collaboration. We also thank Prof. Edward Webster, Chairperson of GLU at the University of the Witwatersrand. We look forward to future collaboration with this dynamic initiative.

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