Harvesting Dignity in Midwestern Fields and Factories: Understanding and Defending Immigrant Workers’ Rights on the Job
University of Iowa Campus, 1117 University Capitol Centre
Saturday November 13, 2010

9:00-9:15 Welcome and Introductions

9:15-10:30 Keynote: Globalization, Immigration, and Defense of Workers’ Rights – Ana Avendaño, Assistant to the President and Director of Immigration and Community Action, AFL-CIO

10:30-10:45 Break

10:45-11:00 Standing up for All Iowa’s Workers – Jan Laue, Secretary-Treasurer Iowa Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO

11:00-Noon Postville and Beyond: Recent Experiences in Midwestern Workplaces –
Panel discussion including:
• Elmer Herrera, United Food and Commercial Workers’ Union
• Carlos Rich, Center for New Community
• Misty Rebik, Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement
• Sonia Parras Konrad – ASISTA (Advanced Special Immigrant Survivors Technical Assistance) and Law Offices of Sonia Parras
• Mary Bellman – University of Minnesota Labor Education Service

Noon-12:30 Lunch (provided at no charge for all conference participants)

12:30-2:00 Tools for Educating Your Communities About Workers’ Basic Rights on the Job – University of Iowa Labor Center

2:00-2:15 Break

2:15-3:00 The I-9 Process and Anti-Discrimination Rights Under Federal Immigration Law – Byron Wong, U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Office of Special Counsel for Immigration-Related Unfair Employment Practices

3:00-3:55 Local Community Strategies for Asserting and Enforcing Workers’ Rights – Group Discussion, Moderated by University of Iowa Labor Center

3:55-4:00 Wrap-Up and Conclusion