The Centre for Work, Organisation and Wellbeing

invites you to a seminar:

“Developments in Collective Workplace Bargaining and Gender Equality: Evidence from the Bargaining Table”

by

Dr Sue Williamson

When: Monday 8th August, 2011 - 12:30pm to 2:00pm
Where: Room 2.02, Building N54 (Bray Centre), Nathan campus
Food: Lunch will be served upon arrival; please RSVP by Wed 3rd August

Abstract: While a great deal of research has been conducted on collective bargaining in Australia and internationally, less research has been conducted on how parties bargain for claims which progress gender equality in the workplace. Most of the existing research does not track the emergence and influence of different factors and the dynamics of bargaining as the negotiations occurred. This seminar presents the findings of Sue Williamson’s PhD thesis, which uncovers the dynamics of negotiating for collective workplace agreements in six workplaces. The focus is on how union officials negotiated for family provisions, particularly paid maternity leave. The case studies show the significant impacts of various factors at the national, industry and organisational levels, revealing both facilitative and inhibitive factors for bargaining for family provisions and other gender equality claims.

Speaker: Sue Williamson has worked on women and industrial relations policy issues for unions and government departments for the last 10 years or so. She has worked on a range of policy issues, including the development of the paid parental leave scheme. Sue also has an academic background in women and work issues, specialising in work and family. Sue has published widely, including examining relevant policy developments over the last few years and their impact on women. She has also published and given many conference papers on equality bargaining, on how unions negotiate for improved family provisions for employees. Sue was awarded her PhD earlier this year and is currently working on an international collaborative anthology on equality bargaining.

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