

We lament the loss of Dr. Charles Scontras, Professor and Researcher Emeritus, at the University of Maine's Bureau of Labor Education who passed away unexpectedly on March 7, 2021.

Dr. Scontras was a tireless advocate for workers and for the preservation of Maine's history of working class struggle. For more than half a century Dr. Scontras addressed the history and present condition of labor in Maine. His work appeared in the op-ed pages of Maine's newspapers, in six volumes of Maine labor history covering the period from 1636 to the present, in presentations at labor halls and in his determination to make the historical records of Maine labor unions available at the [University of Maine Fogler Library Labor Archives](#).

Dr. Scontras was the recipient of the 2014 Barbara Hikel award for exceptional voluntary service on behalf of the University. His efforts enriched our understanding of the contributions of working people and labor organizations to the democracy and welfare of Maine, created a body of knowledge that would not otherwise exist, and provided a framework for historians to peer deeply into Maine's past for guidance on the controversies of the present. Dr. Scontras' work brought much needed historical perspective to current policy debates and reflected positively on the Bureau of Labor Education where we were honored to sponsor him. His most recent books are a *Time-Line of Selected Highlights of Maine Labor History: 1636-2015* and *Maine Labor in the Age of Deindustrialization and Global Markets, 1955-2005* both available from the Bureau of Labor Education and the University of Maine Bookstore. He will not be forgotten.

While it is commonplace to ask that the deceased rest in peace, I prefer to imagine him haranguing us in his always-congenial manner about our progress, or lack thereof, in obtaining documents or other assistance for his numerous projects on behalf of workers, labor unions and the historical record.

Dr. Scontras' family requests privacy as they address their loss.