

GREEN CHEMISTRY AND WORKERS*

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ABSTRACT

What follows is a summary of remarks presented by panelists participating in a workshop entitled, “What Green Chemistry Means to Workers.” The session examined the connection between green jobs—including those connected to the emerging field of green chemistry—and occupational, public, and environmental health. It was coordinated by Paul Renner, associate director of the Labor Institute, in collaboration with the Tony Mazzocchi Center for Safety, Health and Environmental Education, a project of the United Steelworkers and The Labor Institute. It was moderated by Joseph “Chip” Hughes, Director, Worker Education and Training Program, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. Panelists included Julie Zimmerman, PhD, Assistant Professor of Environmental Engineering, Forestry and Environmental Studies, Yale School of Engineering and Applied Science and Assistant Director for Research, Green Chemistry and Green Engineering Center, Yale University; David LeGrande, Occupational Safety and Health Director, Communications Workers of America; Mike Wilson, PhD, MPH, Environmental Health Scientist, Program in Green Chemistry and Chemicals Policy, Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, Berkeley School of Public Health, University of California; and Sharon D. Beard, Industrial Hygienist, NIEHS Worker Education and Training Program.