Snapshots of Local Labor Activities in 2004

1 & 2. “The Human Face Behind the Global Economy: Bangladeshi Workers’ Tour” drew an overflow crowd at Hofstra on Oct. 26th, 2004. This major national human rights tour of Bangladeshi women workers was led by Charles Kernaghan, Director of the Manhattan-based National Labor Committee (speaking in photo 1). Ms. Sk Nazma, president of the Bangladesh Center for Worker Solidarity (seated in photo), spoke of her own factory work, starting at age 10, and her organization’s training and advocacy for today’s young workers. Two of those workers, Robina, age 18, and Maksuda, 19, (seated in photo 2, next to Rafiq, their translator) spoke of their 12 to 14-hour workdays in Bangladesh producing clothing for major U.S. retailers in sweatshop factories paying sub-poverty wages as low as 14 cents/hour. They described their efforts in the international campaign to win basic human rights and labor protections. The event was organized by the Labor Studies Program and CLD, and was cosponsored by Honors College, Asian Studies, Anthropology Dept., Economics Dept., Sociology Dept., Women's Studies and Students Against Injustice. [photos by Andrew Dellimore]
3. Dr. Adriana Marshall, an internationally known expert on employment and migration issues in developing countries, spoke on October 6, 2004 to a large audience at Hofstra on “Politics, Institutions & Labor Market Trends in Latin America.” Dr. Marshall, the President of the Buenos Aires-based Institute for Social and Development Studies, was a Visiting Scholar at Hofstra’s Center for the Study of Labor & Democracy during the Fall 2004 semester. [photo by Andrew Dellimore]

4. “The Health Care Crisis of American Workers” was the subject of a forum of academic and union experts on March 22, 2004 at Hofstra. The speakers (left to right) were: Pearl Granete, Vice-President, 1199/SEIU Health Workers Union; Niev Duffy, Research Director, JFK, Jr. Worker Education Institute, C.U.N.Y.; and Jennifer Klein, Yale University & Author of new book For All These Rights; Rachel Kreier, (standing), a Hofstra Health Economist, was moderator. Organized by the Labor Studies Program and CLD, the events cosponsors were: Economics Dept., Health Administration Dept., and Health Policy Center. [photo by Kerry Lloyd]