

December, 2007

Dear Branch Presidents,

May this holiday season bring you peace and joy and the warmth of family and friends.

As you enter the new year, please do keep a few key items from AAUW in mind:

1. Plan now to bring a delegation of your branch members to the **AAUW NC Convention in Greensboro**, April 18-19. You'll see more information in January and February.
2. Review Carol Newnam's column on page 4 of the winter newsletter. Her challenge to engage your branch and its members in **National Conference for College Women Student Leaders** and the **National Girls Collaborative Project** and to continue your branch's **mission-based programming** are key to AAUW's "phoenix rising" strategy to expand our capacity to increase equity for women and girls.
3. Tell your branch about the **January 22 visit to North Carolina by Legal Advocacy Fund Director Lauren Kamnik**. She'll be speaking at 4:00 at NC Central University, and we're hoping to arrange an event for members as well. Branches and individuals who make special gifts to LAF by April 1 will be honored at Convention as sponsors of this event.
4. Remember that AAUW NC, just like your branch, is an all-volunteer organization. At convention we'll be electing a membership vice president, a secretary and five members of the nominating committee. To recommend anyone for those positions, please contact Pat Tilley. On Sunday morning, April 20, president-elect Millie Hoffler-Foushee will discuss plans for 2008-2009 – anyone interested in being part of AAUW NC leadership is welcome to attend that breakfast to hear more. **The future of AAUW NC depends on you and your branch members** – if it's been awhile since someone in your branch has participated at the state level, do encourage one or two people to volunteer for specific teams to help us make progress on equity for women and girls.

Thanks for all you've done in the past year, and I look forward to working with you in the future. If you have comments on how AAUW NC can better support the branches, please do speak up!

All the best for 2008,