



AAUW

of North Carolina

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Annual Meeting in High Point

Two motions grew out of our discussion in Greensboro in late September 2010: AAUW NC will host an annual meeting in 2011 and the AAUW NC structure will be reorganized to reflect a leaner, lighter and more flexible organization. The two committees which were responsible for acting on these motions have completed their work.

The AAUW NC annual meeting will be held March 25-26 in High Point, NC at the Best Western Hotel. Highlights of the meeting are noted on the back page of this newsletter.

A significant item on the agenda will be the discussion of the proposed reorganization. Any member in good standing who attends the annual meeting may vote on this proposal. A detailed agenda for the High Point meeting is available on line at www.aauwnc.org. Registration forms can be downloaded from the web site.

Branch presidents have also received the agenda information and directions to High Point Best Western, as well as copies of a registration form for those who do not wish to download the registration form from the web site.

One Member - One Vote Opportunity

Two years ago, at the national convention in St. Louis, delegates voted to develop the one member-one vote system. All AAUW members now have a first opportunity to cast votes for Board of Director slots and proposed Bylaw amendments.

The most recent issue of Outlook presents more detail on bylaw changes, resolutions, Public Policy Program amendments and candidates. This information is also available online at www.aauw.org

Given the distance that some AAUW members may feel between their local branch and national operations in Washington, it is important to take the initiative to be an informed voter.

What concerns you most about AAUW's future? What pleases (or displeases) you about the national organization? What issues are central to your branch's mission?

Every member surveys have periodically offered a collective glimpse of all members' priorities but the upcoming election offers YOU a chance -- for the first time -- to directly affect the election through a vote.

Take time to contact the candidates via email; ask questions; compare notes; vote with purpose this June.

Editorial Note

Some of the information in this issue of the Tar Heel News is particularly timely. For that reason the format and design of the newsletter has been condensed; the issue is being mailed first class.

Education Reform Efforts Begin

Legislators in Raleigh have already turned their attention to education issues in an effort to pass reforms which some believe will strengthen the quality of public schools in North Carolina. Here's a sample:

HB 7 would allow community colleges' trustees to opt their schools out of having a counselor inform students about federal loan programs.

HB 11 would prohibit undocumented immigrants from attending community colleges in NC.

SB 8 would eliminate the current cap of 100 charter schools in the state.

HB 41 would allow tax credits for parents who choose not to send their children to public schools and would authorize counties to provide funds to children in nonpublic schools.

The first principle of AAUW's 2009-2011 Public Policy Program addresses education and underscores the importance of "a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity, and diversity."

We advocate adequate and equitable funding for quality public education for all students.

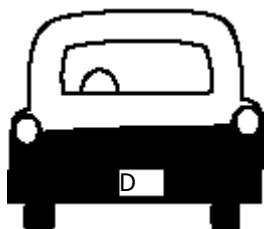
We oppose the use of public funds for non - public elementary and secondary education.

We believe in increasing support for and access to higher education for women and disadvantaged populations, especially programs that break through barriers for women and girls in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields.

The work of AAUW builds upon more than 125 years of responsible public advocacy on issues that affect girls and women. Branch members' comments, directed especially to state legislative educational reform issues, are part of that heritage.

In this age of technology, it takes less than five minutes to contact your Representatives and Senators in the capital to voice your opinion on proposed legislation. Go to www.ncga.state.nc.us to find contact information for your elected officials...including their email.

Thanks to Mary Peterson (Twin Rivers/New Bern) and Roberta Madden (Tar Heel Branch) for continuing to keep on top of these issues.



We're heading to Convention!

At least seven branches will be represented at the AAUW National convention on June 16-19 in Washington, DC. Members from the Brevard, Hendersonville, Greensboro, New Bern, Raleigh/Wake County, Tar Heel and Wilmington branches will be attending. Doris Bernlohr (Tar Heel Branch) is maintaining a list of attendees and can put you in touch with someone if you are interested in having a traveling partner or roommate at convention. Contact Doris at dbernlrohr@bellsouth.net or 336-586-7001 for more information.

Campus Initiatives Reach Out to Impact the Work Force and Political Pipeline

\$tart \$mart, an AAUW and WAGE Project partnership, continues to be an effective bridge for branches to approach colleges and universities as potential AAUW partners. \$tart \$mart Campus Negotiation Workshops train college women to identify and negotiate an equitable salary at entry level positions. AAUW and WAGE are well on their way to reaching over 500 campuses with this dynamic program by the end of 2012. The Wilmington Branch collaborated with UNC Wilmington and other partners to host a \$tart \$mart workshop last fall.

A new initiative, Elect Her - Campus Women Win, is a collaboration between AAUW and Running Start that trains more young women to run for elected offices. Running Start focuses at the high school level. Training programs in the Elect Her initiative are aimed at preparing college level women to run for campus-based elective office.

In 2011, Elect Her - Campus Women Win will be held on 20 campuses around the nation, more than doubling its reach from last year. In early February of this year, Duke University in Durham, NC was a site for the

Elect Her - Campus Women Win training program.

Elect Her campaigns are part of AAUW's efforts to build a greater pipeline of women running for office in order to diminish the long-standing gender gap in political leadership at all levels of government.

\$tart \$mart training is designed to eliminate the gender wage gap. (Over her working life, a woman will earn 1 million less than a man simply because she is a woman.)

Both initiatives acknowledge that efforts to increase membership in AAUW depend on reaching out to an audience of younger women. These training programs provide practical training, are based on experiential modules and provide a network of partnering organizations whose members offer personal and professional advice as women move on career tracks and stand for elected public office.

If your branch is looking for an avenue to approach a community college, college or university in your area as a potential AAUW partner, these two programs are proving to be well respected topics to begin that conversation.

AAUW NC Annual Meeting

March 25-26 (end at 3 pm)

Best Western in High Point

A select number of rooms are being held for AAUW NC at \$69 per night + tax **until February 23**. After that time, these rates may not be available.

Mention the AAUW NC Annual Meeting when making your reservation.

You must telephone the hotel directly at

336-889-8888

Agenda details and registration forms will be sent soon to all branch presidents. This information is also available on line at www.aauwnc.org.

- Speakers Nora Hanagan AAUW Fellow & David Kirkwood from AAUW National Bd.
 - Branch Recognition of Promising Practices
 - Friday "Fun Night"
- Workshop/Discussion
- AAUW NC Board Meeting (branch presidents attend)

Please make a point to attend to hear the conclusions from our Greensboro meeting and plan to vote on

- Proposal for New State Structure for AAUW NC