

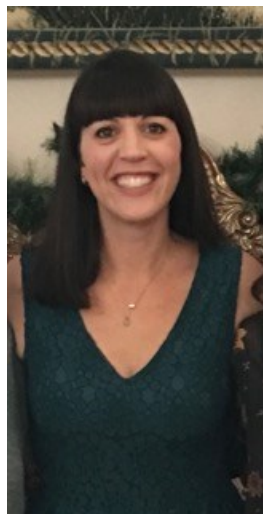
AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

SEATTLE BRANCH AAUW NEWSLETTER - COME JOIN US

Volume 66, Issue 6

February 1, 2018

www.aauw-seattle.org



Saturday, February 10th—9:30 am
Dr. Devon Atchison
on “A Crash Course on the History of Intersectionality:
When White Privilege and Sexism Collide”

Best Western Plus Executive Inn

200 Taylor Ave North

Seattle, WA 98109

Dr. Devon Atchison is an adjunct faculty member at Bellevue College, as well as the Board Chair of the University of Washington Women's Center's Making Connections Advisory Board. She also serves as a mentor for the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship Skills That Shine program, and gives talks around the Puget Sound region about Women's History and American History.

Through our strategic planning efforts, Seattle Branch is endeavoring to create a more inclusive environment to ensure a strong and stable future. AAUW at the national level has recently embarked on a strategic planning effort to ensure that it is relevant, effective, and efficient in its impact for all women and girls. AAUW being inclusive is key in charting the way forward. Please join us for this very timely conversation.

Come Join Us!

Location: Best Western Plus Executive Inn, 200 Taylor Ave North, Seattle, WA

Cost: \$15 inclusive - *No Charge for Students with ID (Reservations Required)*

Menu: - Greek scramble, sausage, roasted breakfast potatoes, breakfast breads, fruit juice, freshly brewed coffee, decaffeinated coffee, and tea.

Parking: Free in hotel garage. Members who park in the garage or hotel lot can sign the book at the front desk and give their name and license plate number. 10-hour curbside pay stations on Taylor and on Thomas at \$1.50 per hour. Bus: #8 on Denny.

Reservations required by Monday, February 5, 2018

Contact Pam Forsha at RSVP@aauw-seattle.org or check our web site at www.aauw-seattle.org to pay in advance via PayPal.

And Next Month...

**Barbara Spraker on “Where We
Are Now and How to Move
Forward”**

Saturday, March 17, 2016
AAUW-Seattle Meeting
9:30-noon

Best Western Plus
Executive Inn
200 Taylor Ave N, Seattle

Leadership Corner—Gay Armsden

A lot of us have given some thought to the organizational culture of our workplaces. But what about in nonprofits like AAUW-Seattle? Our branch's organizational culture is a source of our sense of unity as well as a source of creativity; it works like a social adhesive, or "glue", that not only enhances our commitment to AAUW's mission, but also fosters new ideas and ways of seeing, and enjoyment of each other.



Our recent branch survey made plainer than ever that spending time with like-minded women as well as working toward the AAUW mission is important to many of our members. As part of our branch's strategic planning initiative, a committee was tasked with developing ideas for new ways to help members engage with each other socially and to attract new members and welcome them in. Ann Dennis, Bev Fogle and I have proposed the following activities:

Small social gatherings: The goal of having occasional small gatherings in between our monthly meetings is to provide additional opportunities for new members to get acquainted and for "old" members to renew friendships. Smaller group gatherings are more conducive to conversation than the larger branch programs. These smaller gatherings can be neighborhood-based or not, depending on interest. Ideas for these gatherings are (1) "Coffee and Conversation" - gather in a comfortable coffee shop to chat, (2) "Cocktails and Conversation" or "Fourth Friday Wine Down" - possibly an after-work event or a weekend event for members, their partners and friends, and (3) Summer Picnic - To keep in touch over the summer hiatus. Member help will be needed in organizing and sustaining these gatherings.

Additional interest groups: In addition to being fun and educational, interest groups attract and draw in new members, building more "social glue" for the branch. A survey done at last December's branch meeting revealed that the most members expressed interest in walking/hiking, dining in/dining out, arts (drama, music), and gardens & nurseries. In our Jan. 12th email, we listed a number of new interest groups that will be formed if people step forward to let us know they're interested. The committee has also proposed a fall interest-group fair, where there will be informational tables for each interest group.

New-member welcoming events: We want to celebrate our new members so that they will immediately feel welcome and valuable, and quickly understand the branch and their potential role in it. In addition to welcoming them at our monthly meetings, the committee has proposed holding yearly gatherings for new members, during which they would be informed about aspects of our branch's and national's programs, given a new-member packet loaded with orientation materials, acquainted with volunteer opportunities, and given a chance to ask questions and to meet other new members and some existing members. Any member can host this event; the branch will budget for costs involved.

Our branch Program Committee is also working on some new ways of helping our members interact more with each other, such as meeting at a different venue on occasion, having a different format or new meeting activities. The committee also aims to encourage members to participate in planning and implementing programs that they are passionate about. We will be rolling out these new activities over the next year. Your input is very welcome.

This newsletter is a publication of the

Seattle Branch of the AAUW

Mission Statement

The Seattle Branch American Association of University Women advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

Value Promise

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

Diversity Statement

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership.

There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin or disability.

Strategy Steering Team Conducts First Meeting - *Barbara Sando*

On January 9th, the Strategy Steering Team met for the first time to review each of the Situation - Target - Proposal (STP) plans to ensure that, in aggregate, we have a cohesive, integrated approach to meeting our goals. The discussions were excellent, and despite how we might appear in this picture, the team left the meeting energized to continue with this endeavor. For the most part, the team was in agreement with what is being proposed, and we did not identify duplicative or conflicting actions. However, we do have a couple of 'big' questions that we still need to



address. Specifically, we need to define what we mean by diversity for Seattle Branch. We also need to determine who our target audience is for publicity and marketing. These topics will be addressed over the coming weeks, in parallel with activities continuing on many of the STPs. All STP activities are in effort to help us achieve our goals of ensuring a strong and stable future for the Branch as we carry out the AAUW mission. That future depends on attracting and retaining a more diverse membership as well creating visibility in our community. You'll read below and in the Leadership Corner about the activities of some of our teams, and how you can help them. If you'd like to be involved, please contact the authors or contact me at president@aauw-seattle.org.

Help AAUW Seattle Connect with Seattle Colleges and Universities - *Marianne North*

Do you have any personal contact with faculty, staff, or students at two- and four-year colleges and universities in Seattle? In the interest of diversifying our membership and programs, the Strategic Planning Team for College/University Relations needs your help in developing partnerships with more colleges and universities in Seattle. We already have a formal College/University Partnership with UW-Seattle.

AAUW opens doors to grants and fellowships, leadership training for students, professional development for faculty, and advocacy tools for institutions of higher education. Through AAUW, as a faculty member at a community college, for example, I brought prominent researchers Myra and David Sadker for a gender equity in-service workshop for the faculty at several colleges in my area. AAUW Seattle has sent numerous students at UW-Seattle for leadership training. We are hoping through such partnerships to diversify our membership. We would appreciate it if you would provide us contacts with faculty/staff you know at the local colleges where you attended or served in a professional capacity. Please contact Marianne North at mariannenorth@yahoo.com or Fiona Goodchild at fiona@cnsi.ucsb.edu.

Know a Good Marketing Firm? - *CJ Nash*

AAUW would like your help to find a marketing firm to work with us on a two-year plan to increase our visibility and grow our membership. This search is part of the strategic plan developed last summer after conversations with 89% of our members. Publicity and marketing was one of the top priorities and is now being worked by the team of CJ Nash, Tonna Kutner and Ellen Duernberger. Specifically, we're looking for a firm that has experience working with nonprofits and can advise us on public relations, awareness campaigns, use of social media, and graphic design to just get the word out. This could be a full service firm or an individual contractor. If you admire the marketing you're seeing at another nonprofit organization, or have a friend who's a marketer and might be interested, please pass along their contact information to CJ Nash at: CJNash@aauw-seattle.org.

January Board Meeting Summary—Fiona Goodchild

The board met by teleconference on January 15. The members discussed how to respond to the recent announcement that for the 2018-2019 membership year, National dues are increased from \$49 to \$59. This will affect anyone joining the organization beginning in March, as well as all renewals beginning in May. Assuming AAUW-WA state dues remain at \$10, and Seattle Branch dues remain at \$16, total annual dues would be \$85. The board discussed whether to reduce our branch dues to compensate for the increase in National dues, as has been done in the past; this would require a membership vote at our annual meeting in May. Per our bylaws, ***Section 4. Seattle Branch Affiliate Dues. The annual dues for individual members of this Affiliate shall be proposed by the Affiliate board of directors. Any change to this Affiliate's dues must be approved by members at a meeting of this Affiliate or annual meeting upon the recommendation of the board. Notice of the vote shall be provided to members at least 14 days before the vote is taken.*** The Board could also explore other ways to keep Seattle Branch affordable for members, like having some meetings without catered food, like many other branches do. Judy Waring commented that the Branch has in the past offered reductions or even paid dues for members who couldn't otherwise afford membership. She also mentioned that National has a program allowing new members to pay half the National dues if they join at a meeting. Lynn Dissinger put forward a motion that was approved that the branch will consider offering financial incentives to encourage renewal given that we agreed to pass on the \$10 raise in dues.

The board also discussed the changes that would be needed to announce the February meeting that will take place earlier than usual on Feb 10th. The next board meeting will be held on Monday, February 12. All members are invited to attend. Contact the Secretary, Fiona Goodchild (secretary@aauw-seattle.org) for location.

Summary of January Seattle Branch Meeting—Fiona Goodchild

The first breakfast meeting of 2018 proved to be a lively event. Professor Eve Riskin and Sonya Cunningham presented the background and motivation for the Washington State Academic RedShirt (STARS) program at the University of Washington. The concept borrows from the idea of college “red shirt” athletes, who spend their first year in training for competition before playing for an intercollegiate team. Sonya outlined how



Members Darlene and Arlene



the students in STARS take part in advising, tutoring and study skills workshops, which prepare them to take on the challenge of regular courses in Engineering. She also showed data to indicate that STARS students (170 to date) earn a higher GPA than their peers who take only the regular courses. Eve Riskin explained that STARS students are usually first-generation college students

from low income households who attended under-served high schools in Washington State. These students are much more diverse than the traditional student population. They have earned admission to the university, but are often less prepared to enter directly into the Engineering Department.



Fifty-one students were selected for the fourth year cohort in Fall 2018. A highlight of the program was the chance to meet three female students who are currently in STARS. They talked about their reasons for choosing the program, their appreciation for community and support and their satisfaction with their academic progress in Engineering. Branch members found their answers to informal questions to be thoughtful and provocative in terms of outlining the current challenges that these young women still face in choosing a STEM career.



Bills in the WA House and Senate You Might want to Contact Your Legislators About - Gay Armsden

This 2018 legislative session will be a short one (60 days) and there is a great deal to accomplish. The cut-off dates, by which bills must have been read into the record, are in the first week of February. With agreements having been reached on 1/18 on a \$4.3 billion capital construction budget, lawmakers can move ahead on other pressing issues. If you want to keep abreast of what's happening in Olympia, here are some ways:

1. Check out AAUW-WA's weekly legislative reports here: <http://aauw-wa.blogspot.com/>.
2. To watch hearings live, just click on <http://www.tvw.org> and look at the column on the right for the day's activities. Archives are available as well.

Here are some particulars on some of the bills that align with AAUW's public policy priorities.

Pay Equity

Until such time as Congress passes the Paycheck Fairness Act (and possibly even after that happens), states must step in and beef up existing equal pay laws.

- *Adding Workplace Practices to Achieve Gender Pay Equity* (2SHB 1506). As of 1/19, passed the House. First ever update of the 1943 State Equal Pay Act. Defines "similarly employed," and addresses disparities, employer discrimination, and retaliation practices. Related bill: *Concerning enforcement of the equal pay act and worker communications about wages and employment opportunities* (SB 5140).
- *Addressing wage and salary information* (SB 5555/HB 1533). In Senate Committee. Prohibits an employer from seeking the wage/salary history of an applicant.

Economic Security in the Workplace (including) Access to Comprehensive Reproductive Health Care

AAUW's position is that a woman's control over her reproductive life is part and parcel to achieving economic autonomy. Without it, women cannot attain equal pay or opportunity in the workforce.

- *The WA Reproductive Parity Act* (SB 6219/HB 2409). Re-introduced this session, the RPA was debated for a number of years in the legislature but died in the Senate in 2013, 2014 and 2015. The bill insures insurance companies provide birth control coverage without co-pays, and will require private insurance companies that provide coverage for maternity care to also cover abortion care. Related bill: SB 6105.
- *Employee Reproductive Choice Act* (SB 6102). Ensures that Washingtonians can access contraceptives through their insurance without cost sharing and that any federal interim regulations do not exempt employers and health plans from providing contraceptive coverage to their employees.
- *Improving Family and Medical Leave Insurance* (SB 5032/SHB 1116). Requires the employment security department to create a family and medical leave insurance program. Allows workers to care for family members with a serious health condition or to recover from their own serious health condition.

March's *Catalyst* will include a brief report on Lobby Day in Olympia and, no doubt, the fates of some of these bills.

Tech Trek Update — Tonna Kutner

An initial email has been sent to teachers at middle schools at Asa Mercer, Blaine, Denny, Hamilton, Jane Addams, Madison, McClure, Salmon Bay, and Seattle Girls School, requesting teacher nominations due Feb. 8th. So far, a few schools have responded and we hope more will be involved again in this great week long STEM summer camp for girls now in 7th grade. A few additional contacts are needed at Washington Middle School and TOPS or at other Seattle middle schools. Getting a good selection of girls is always about having good contacts in science, math and technology at Seattle middle schools. Please contact Tonna Kutner at: techtrek@aauw-seattle.org right away if you can help out.





Interest Group Corner

The Seattle Branch has three very active interest groups and hopes to add new ones in the near future. Stay tuned! Check this space each month to learn what's happening with each interest group and consider joining one or more. The more members who join in, the merrier. A contact person is listed with each group below.

Art Smart—Ann Dennis

The Art Smart interest group visited the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Discovery Center on Thursday, January 18 to see the exhibit “Women Hold up Half the Sky: Turning

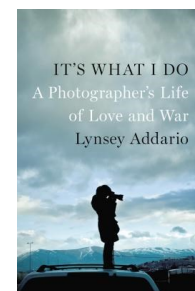


Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide.” It was an incredible visual experience with many interactive displays. Our next excursion will be to the Cascadia Art Museum in Edmonds <http://www.cascadiaartmuseum.org/?exhibition=northwest-design-at-mid-century> on February 15th. Details will be sent by email. If you would like to be added to the Art Smart's mailing list, please email Ann

Dennis at: ad@aauw-seattle.org.

Book Group—Bev Fogle

Come and learn what all the excitement is about! The February Book Group meeting will meet on February 22 at our usual place, the Stadler Room at the Lake Forest Park Town Center, 17171 Bothell Way NE, Seattle. The February book is *It's What I Do: Photographer's Life of Love and War* by Lynsey Addario. The author has covered wars in the Middle East and elsewhere since 9/11, and her photos are both stunning and realistically evocative of the horrors of war. See the directory to contact Bev Fogle with questions.



Writer's Group—Tonna Kutner

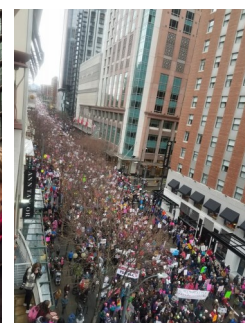
Writer's Group is a small group of women interested in writing. We share writings with each other and get feedback and encouragement. We meet the first or second Wednesday of the month at various member's homes. We will meet February 7th this month. Contact Tonna Kutner at: techtrek@aauw-seattle.org for more information.



Women's March 2018...

We missed Gay Armsden and Renée Agatsuma at our January meeting—they were both participating at the Women's March (representing AAUW!). Gay's comment: “The energy was great, the weather more or less cooperated, and the signs were as creative as they were last year. My group's sign encouraged

people to vote.” On the left is a decorated cupcake offered out by Cupcake Royale.

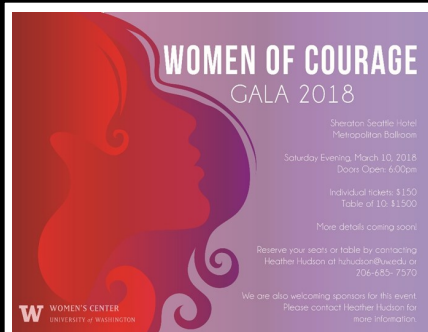


Save your place at the table!

UW Women's Center Women of Courage Gala

March 10th, 2018—6pm—Seattle Sheraton Hotel

AAUW Seattle Branch is again a proud sponsor of this annual event and will be hosting a table for 10 this year. The gala is inspirational and fun. The cost for our members to attend is \$50, which basically covers the cost of your dinner. If you're interested in attending the Gala this year, please contact Renée at: c-u@aauw-seattle.org.



Member News:

Maylin Fisher is slowly returning to mobility after fracturing her ankle on November 21st. With stairs to enter her home, she was confined inside except for ambulance rides to medical appointments. She is grateful for her community of friends and neighbors who helped with shopping, tasks like putting the trash out, visits, meetings held at her home so she could attend, and the needed support that was provided to her. Maylin graduated to wearing a boot on January 5th and using a walker but continues to use a knee scooter at home. She's still dependent on friends for transportation to church and concerts since she's not able to drive wearing the boot or strong enough to ride the bus. We hope Maylin will be back with us soon.

Our sympathy to **Ruth McFadden** in the loss of her friend Jeanne Medley who died on Dec. 31st. Jeanne, a national AAUW member, moved to the Pacific Northwest from Albuquerque, NM, when her daughter Jamie Foster studied voice at Cornish and later PLU. Jamie sang for us at one of our December Holiday meetings. Jeanne occasionally participated in our meetings—and she brought her friend Ruth to one of our meetings. The two had met at Caledonian and St. Andrew's Society meetings. Jeanne brought Ruth to AAUW and Ruth joined our branch and became an active member. Jeanne was hard to miss with her bright red hair.

Cynthia Sheridan has retired from her Friday volunteer job running the Thrift Store at University Methodist Temple. She is taking saxophone lessons—again—having played the saxophone from 5th grade through high school.

Arlene Spaulding and her twin **Darlene Langley** attended our January meeting. Arlene reports that her granddaughter is in her junior year at Mt. Holyoke and has just arrived in St. Andrews in Scotland for her semester abroad. Darlene's daughter Joy didn't get elected to the Mercer Island City Council in the November election—but she has a new job working for LimeBike which includes getting the bikes on college campuses. Meanwhile Darlene visits from Yakima and helps with childcare for her daughter's 3 children.

Penny Tetter has been traveling. In early December, Penny and her husband Jack enjoyed a trip to San Francisco with Norm Hollingshead and his Opera Plus Group. More than 50 enthusiastic opera lovers attended Manon by Jules Massenet, an evening at the symphony with Zukerman Plays Beethoven, and a fabulous production of Turandot by Giacomo Puccini! They also enjoyed the opportunity to shop and see fabulous Holiday Decorations. Then in January, Penny and Jack visited the Valley of the Sun and attended the Barrett Jackson Classic Car Show and Auction.



AAUW-Seattle Branch Officers 2017-2018

Elected

President:

Barbara Sando president@aauw-seattle.org

VP Finance:

Lynn Dissinger—finance@aauw-seattle.org

VP Programs:

Pamela Forsha & Sam Montgomery -
programs@aauw-seattle.org

VP Membership:

Judy Waring membership@aauw-seattle.org

Secretary:

Fiona Goodchild - secretary@aauw-seattle.org

Appointed

Web Site: Heather Dohan

website@aauw-seattle.org

Catalyst Newsletter Editor:

Heather Dohan - catalyst@aauw-seattle.org

Public Policy:

Gay Armsden - publicpolicy@aauw-seattle.org

AAUW Funds:

Barbara Sando - aauw-funds@aauw-seattle.org

College/University Relations:

Renée Agatsuma - c-u@aauw-seattle.org

Scholar Recognition:

Renée Agatsuma - scholars@aauw-seattle.org

Tech Trek:

Tonna Kutner - TechTrek@aauw-seattle.org

Board Members at Large

Penny Tetter—pt@aauw-seattle.org

CJ Nash—cjnash@aauw-seattle.org



Seattle Branch AAUW
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 Seattle, WA 98166-3207
 Address Service Requested

Upcoming Events...

Date	Day	Time	Location	Program
February 10, 2018 (new date)	Saturday	9:30 am	Best Western Plus Executive Inn	Dr. Devon Atchison— “A Crash Course on the History of Intersectionality: When White Privilege and Sexism Collide”
February 12, 2018	Monday	6:30pm	Contact Secretary— (secretary@aauw-seattle.org) for location	Branch Board Meeting
March 10, 2018	Saturday	6:00 pm	Seattle Sheraton Hotel	UW Women’s Center Annual Gala
March 17, 2018	Saturday	9:30 am	Best Western Plus Executive Inn	Branch Meeting—Barbara Spraker— “Where We Are Now and How to Move forward”
April 18, 2018	Wednesday	7:00 pm	Best Western Plus Executive Inn	Scholar Recognition Reception
April 27-29, 2018			Spokane, WA	AAUW WA State Convention
May 19, 2018	Saturday	9:30 am	Best Western Plus Executive Inn	Annual Meeting/Elections with Mary Lou Sanelli—”Among Friends”
June 18-23, 2018			University of Washington Women’s Center	NEW Leadership