



Wednesday, April 18—7:00pm

**Dr. Saadia Pekkanen, Professor and Associate Director -
Jackson School of International Studies at the
University of Washington**

"The Prospects of Peace in Outer Space"

Best Western Plus Executive Inn

200 Taylor Ave North

Seattle, WA 98109

Our 18th annual Scholar Recognition reception will honor young women scholars from Seattle area high schools nominated by their teachers for their achievements in math, science, and technology.

Dr. Pekkanen is the founding Director of the Jackson School Ph.D. Program and the Job and Gertrud Tamaki Professor at the Jackson School of International Studies. She is Adjunct Professor in the Department of Political Science and Adjunct Professor at the School of Law where she also teaches courses. Her areas of research interest include international political economy, international law, space security and policy, and the international relations of Japan/Asia. Dr. Pekkanen earned Master's degrees from Columbia University and Yale Law School, and a doctorate from Harvard University in political science. She has published a half-dozen books on space technology and geopolitics, and is working now on *The Age of Newspace*.

Special thanks to the branch volunteers who helped make this evening possible: Ann Dennis (Chief Sealth), Joan Peterson (Ballard), Heather Dohan (Roosevelt), Senait Habte (Making Connections), Marilyn Mears (West Seattle), Sam Montgomery (Holy Names), Renee Agatsuma (Garfield, Rainier Beach), Barbara Sando (Cleveland, Franklin), Cynthia Sheridan (Nathan Hale), and Judy Waring (Ingraham).

Please join us for an evening to meet and honor high school women and their families!

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

Cost: \$10 inclusive - *No charge for students with ID (reservations required)*

Menu: Sweet and savory refreshments, soft drinks, freshly brewed coffee, decaf coffee, and tea.

Parking: Free in hotel garage. 10-hour curbside pay stations on Taylor and on Thomas at \$1.50 per hour (free after 6pm). Bus: #8 on Denny.

Reservations required by Wednesday, April 11, 2018.

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

And Next Month...

**Mary Lou Sanelli
"Among Friends"**

**Saturday, May 19, 2018
Seattle Branch Annual Meeting
9:30-noon**

**Best Western Plus
Executive Inn
200 Taylor Ave N, Seattle**

Leadership Corner—Sam Montgomery

Over the last few years, I have learned that there are so many different ways we can help, educate and support women in our area. Also, each individual brings different ideas and passions to the table.



Sam (2nd from left)

I have enjoyed the monthly AAUW meetings, but have learned that my heart is really into the “hands on” helping of others. I am so thankful there are powerful individuals in AAUW who are passionate about supporting women through politics, speaking, marches, etc., because not everyone is driven to do that, which is extremely important. The Dress for Success volunteer opportunity was a welcome new direction for me.

My hope is that the AAUW Seattle Branch will have more volunteering opportunities in the future. As your co-Vice President of the Programs Committee, I need your ideas and suggestions for volunteer opportunities we could pursue as a Branch. Please contact me at: programs@aauw-seattle.org.



Watch your e-mail for your voting instructions soon!

The AAUW National Board of Directors has voted to put three proposals for bylaws amendments before the membership for a vote this spring. The National Board

strongly supports the proposed amendments that they believe will help keep AAUW vital as an organization and enable AAUW to increase our impact in advancing equity for women and girls.

The proposed amendments address creating three-year staggered National Board terms, opening National Board service to those outside of the AAUW membership, and eliminating the degree requirement for membership. Rationale and details for each proposed amendment can be found on the [AAUW website \(https://svc.aauw.org/recore/docu/aauw-bylaws-2017.pdf\)](https://svc.aauw.org/recore/docu/aauw-bylaws-2017.pdf). The National Board states that the overarching motivation for these changes at this time is to uphold and advance AAUW’s mission and ensure optimal execution at the national board level.

As AAUW members, we each have a chance to agree or disagree with these proposals. Voting will open on April 25, 2018 and close June 9, 2018. You will receive an e-mail prior to April 25th giving you voting instructions. Please take the time to vote on these proposed amendments, which could result in significant changes for AAUW.

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.

Scholarship Program

The Scholarship Program committee (Gay Armsden, Fiona Goodchild, Marianne North and Joan Peterson) had its first meeting on March 14th. Various kinds of eligibility requirements were discussed. The next meeting will be in June. The plan is to advertise branch scholarships starting in December 2017.

Contact Gay at: publicpolicy@aauw-seattle.org if you would like to join the committee.

Equal Pay Day is the symbolic day when women’s earnings “catch up” to men’s earnings from the previous year. Did you know there are actually 6 Equal Pay Days? To learn more, and for ideas on how to celebrate Equal Pay Day go here: <https://www.aauw.org/resource/how-to-equal-pay-day/>.



A Report from the Women's Center Gala - *Renée Agatsuma*



AAUW Seattle members at the Gala.

Last month AAUW-Seattle sponsored a table at the fundraiser dinner for our College/University partner the UW Women's Center. We had a great time hearing about the intersectional work that the Women's Center is doing. The keynote speaker was Dawn Trudeau, former Microsoft executive and president of the Seattle Storm. Trudeau spoke about reducing structural inequality and social injustice, by acknowledging their presence, and fighting it with programs such as ones at the UW Women's Center—for example, the Making Connections program focusing on high school girls. The Making Connections alumni student speaker, Tsewone Melaku, talked about her life as a daughter of Ethiopian immigrants, and the difficulties of navigating the educational system. The programs at the Women's Center helped her believe in herself as a science and math student, and encouraged her in persistence when she had to face advisers who said engineering was *not* the career for her. As a result, she will be graduating in Human Centered Design & Engineering this year. The Gala always has a diversity of people with an emphasis on social justice by all of the speakers and honorees. We are fortunate to have such a strong partner that we can learn from, and that can help further move us towards inclusion and diversity to better our changing society.

March Board Meeting Summary— *Fiona Goodchild*

Fiona Goodchild has resigned from her position as Secretary as of May. (Since the board meeting on March 12th, Marianne North has accepted the board's invitation to finish out the term.) The board discussed proposed Amendments to AAUW bylaws from National. Voting will be held April 25th-June 9th. The next Strategy Steering Committee meeting will be Tuesday, April 3rd at the Best Western. All STP plans will be discussed in more detail, including reviewing the original approach for STPs, recommended by facilitator Sandy Sperry, as there are some gray areas that need to be resolved. It is time to pay your dues for the July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019 membership year. You should be receiving email invoices soon. Seattle Branch membership dues are now \$85 (National \$59; State dues \$10; and Branch dues \$16). All who pay dues by July 1st can attend the September meeting free of charge.

Summary of March Seattle Branch Meeting with Barbara Spraker - *Pam Forsha*

Our March meeting was a chance to dialogue on a topic that impacts every woman - gender equity. Barbara Spraker, our program leader and discussion facilitator, had placed colorful table décor that fit the theme of the



Barbara Spraker

Barbara Spraker



meeting and was visually striking upon entering the room. The meeting room was quickly a-buzz with greetings and social interactions. Barbara made introductions of the eight women she had invited to participate in the program dialogue. It quickly became evident that they were all women of amazing breadth and depth in many fields. What a perfect group of women to add to the conversation! The room broke up into small groups.

Their first topic was to share experiences as to "what changes or accomplishments have you experienced that have brought us closer to gender equity?"; the second topic, "what needs to happen next/what will be different a few years from now?"; and the final topic, "what am I drawn/called to do to facilitate

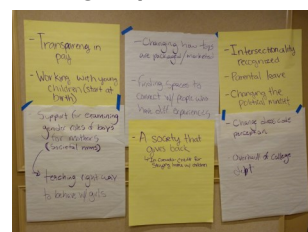


Barbara Spraker and Guests

change?" Every table engaged in lively conversation for each topic and, when time was up, they each shared their results with the entire group. The results were documented on large sheets of paper and post-its and hung on the walls around the room. Conversations on the topics and their results were being held even after the meeting ended!



Small group conversation



Ideas bringing women closer to gender equity.

Scholar Recognition—Our 2018 High School Scholars

Ballard High School—Joan Peterson

Sarah Hudson (Math) plans to attend a four-year university to study Mathematics. She played soccer, receiving three varsity letters and was captain her Senior year, as well as lettering in gymnastics. Sarah is a National Honor Society, DECA, and the Academy of Finance member. She received the Above and Beyond Service Award for over 240 hours of community service and was named Student of the Month at Ballard High School for February.



Sophia Drezner (Science) plans to attend a Liberal Arts college to study medicine or health sciences and play college soccer. She enjoys volunteering with the Nick of Time Foundation, where this year she championed to organize a heart screening event at her school. Sophia is in her last year in the Biotechnology Academy, participated in Unified Basketball, Track and Field, and is a member of National Honors Society and DECA.

Alexandra Frederick (Technology) plans to attend Western Washington University to study Chemistry and then plans to go into public service. She is an avid artist and enjoys painting and illustrating. Her subjects include subjects from science fiction with a theme of identity and how science and the universe can change people.

Chief Sealth High School—Ann Dennis

Jailene Ramirez (Mathematics) plans to attend South Seattle Community College for two years and then transfer to a university in Washington. She enjoys math and science and looks forward to going further in those subjects. Her ultimate goal is to open a veterinary clinic in her parents' home country Guatemala.



Miya Spry (Science) will graduate with a full International Baccalaureate diploma. She has been recognized as an Honor Roll student, "Best Defense" and "Most Well Rounded" on her basketball team, and she won an Outstanding Academic Award given by the Seattle Freemasons. Miya plans to go to a university in California to study social sciences, law, or art.

Samra Tino (Technology) plans on majoring in Education in college. Her volunteer work includes tutoring elementary children after school, watching babies in the nursery at her church, and coaching Little League cheer leaders. Samra has placed on the second team All-Metro in volleyball and won back-to-back Seahawk awards for cheer and volleyball, as well as being an honor roll student.

Cleveland High School—Barbara Sando

Ruth Mulugeta (Math) participates in the Math Science Upward Bound program, in which she has received awards. She received the Rising Writer award from Cleveland Publications, and is a member Link Crew, NHS, College Success Foundation, and Key Club. She plays softball and volleyball, and is captain of both Varsity teams. Ruth plans to study microbiology/immunology and ultimately pursue a PhD to find more effective ways to treat diseases like cancer.



Karlee Wong (Science) is a member of the National Honor Society, Key Club, and tennis team. She has volunteered over 700 hours at her community center and other community events. Karlee has challenged herself by taking advanced science courses and loves using technology to create things. Karlee plans to pursue a career in STEM.

Quyen Le (Technology) participates in The Service Board program, where she learns about the community and society, as well as learning to snowboard. Quyen volunteers at a parish helping teachers and children. She plans to pursue a bachelor's degree in either computer science or forensic science, with the goal of becoming an autopsy technician.

Franklin High School—Barbara Sando

Xue Xin Xu (Math) went to Washington, D.C. as a sophomore to participate in the Advancing Women in Transportation (WTS) conference, where she discovered her passion in environmental engineering. She is the recipient of the WTS scholarship and plans to study environment engineering in college so that she can help improve the environment in her community and surrounds. Xue Xin Xu also played Ultimate Frisbee throughout high school.



Kennadi Hairston (Science) served as class vice-president for two years and has been class president for the past two years. She serves on the Seattle Foundation Youth Grantmaking Board, is president of the Pacific Island Dance Club, and is a nanny to teen moms through Young Life. Kennadi has traveled to Guatemala to volunteer and work with coffee farmers. She has played Ultimate Frisbee for seven years, winning one state title and three national titles. Kennadi plans to attend Carleton College and pursue a double major in environmental studies and anthropology or cognitive science.

Esther Rose Angeles (Technology) was a summer intern at Foundry10, where she learned that she wanted to pursue a technology major. Esther Rose is an active member of NHS and is on the cross-country team. Esther Rose plans to attend a 4-year college and major in computer science.

Garfield High School—Reneé Agatsuma

Sarah Day (Math) has been a cellist for over 10 years and hopes to double major in music and math or literature in college. She participated in orchestra, chamber orchestra, and chamber groups, as well as successfully competed as a soloist. Sarah also hopes to explore other areas of interest including calculus, literature, Spanish, developmental psychology, physics, and politics.



Holy Names Academy—Sam Montgomery

Sara Livingston (Math) participated in Varsity track and field, plays both classical and jazz piano, and has been a central midfielder for both club and recreational soccer. She is a regular volunteer at the West Seattle Food Bank and Shirts across America, as well as a National Honor Society Officer. Sara has been named a Junior Academic Award Nominee, AP Scholar with Honor, and Salutatorian. She plans to study Health Science in hopes of pursuing a career in nutrition and physical rehabilitation for those affected by breast cancer and other medical challenges.



Georgia Jellen (Science) Georgia interned at the Institute for Systems Biology and was a member on her school's all-girls first robotics team for three years, and this year she is the team's engineering captain. She volunteers weekly at the Little Bit Therapeutic Riding Center. Georgia is a National Honor Society member and a National Merit Commended Scholar, as well as a semi-finalist for the First Robotics Dean's list and won a Saint Michael's college Book award. Georgia plans to study in the STEM fields, either engineering or biology.

Haley Welliver (Technology) Haley hopes to study software programming and electrical engineering with an interest in artificial intelligence and robotics. She held leadership positions in her school's computer science department and outreach, robotics team competitions, and a summer internship at Microsoft. She has volunteered over 300 service hours teaching programming and supporting science outreach. Haley has received national and local awards with the National Center for Women and Information Technology Aspirations in Computing program, her high school's Service Award, and the Presidential Volunteer Service Award - Gold Level.

Ingraham High School—Judy Waring

Morgan Graham (Math) completed the International Baccalaureate program last year as a Junior. As a Senior she is taking all of her classes through the Running Start program at North Seattle College, where she also participates in the Computer Science Club. Morgan returns to Ingraham for Girls Who Code Club and Varsity Tennis. She was an intern at Microsoft last summer and participated in CodeDay Seattle, where her team won Best in Class for their Chrome extension. Morgan plans to major in Computer Science in college.



Jordan Sims (Science) completed the International Baccalaureate Diploma program, which sparked her love of science. She participates in cross-country and lacrosse and is captain for both teams. Jordan has dedicated many hours to volunteering at Ballinger Homes, tutoring underprivileged students, and integrating science projects to make learning fun. She is interested in learning ASL. Jordan plans to attend college and major in neuroscience.

Annie Joss (Technology) is in the second year of the International Baccalaureate program. She participates in the Girls Who Code Club and is an advocate for encouraging girls to pursue STEM fields. She received an honorable mention for the NCWIT Aspirations in Computing (Western Washington University) Award and is the treasurer of Ingraham's Environmental Club. Annie plays varsity girls and co-ed Ultimate Frisbee, was a co-ed team captain this season, and her team recently won the state championship. She has been a volunteer coach of a middle school Ultimate Frisbee team in the past. Annie plans to major in computer engineering or computer science in college.

Making Connections at UW Women's Center—*Senait Habte*

Feven Yared (Math) attends Garfield High School and volunteers with groups that empower young, underprivileged youth. She enjoys math and participating in Making Connections, which has inspired her interest in math. Feven plans to attend a university to study math and hopes to work with young women to cultivate their interest in STEM.

Samrawit Bereket (Science) attends Shorewood High School, where her favorite activities include cheerleading, Black Student Union, and UW's Young Executives of Color. She plans to be involved in more programs at college and hopes to give back to underrepresented communities and be involved in non-profit organizations. Samrawit plans to attend a 4-year university and major in a medical laboratory science, fulfilling her dream of being a nurse/dermatologist.

Seble Hailu (Technology) attends Nathan Hale High School where she is involved in their radio station as a volunteer. She also participates in the Girls Who Code Program at the University of Washington Women's Center. Seble plans to attend the University of Washington and major in Computer Science and Software Engineering.



Nathan Hale High School—*Cynthia Sheridan*

Sydney Thomas (Technology) is the chief editor of the yearbook, president of FCCLA, and a member of varsity tennis. She volunteers at UW Medicine, works as a video editor for Reality Check Mystery Shoppers, and also runs a self-confidence workshop for fifth grade girls. Sydney enjoys travel, hiking, writing, fashion, and photography.

Hanna Moon (Technology) plays tennis and is an editor for the school yearbook. She was on the cheer team and FCCLA. Hanna plans to take a gap year and travel to Korea and other parts of the world before likely attending the University of Washington to study bioengineering.



Rainier Beach High School—*Reneé Agatsuma*

Gabriela Lopez (Math) will attend a four-year college after high school to study business, specifically accounting. She is an honor roll student every year and has won first place in two business competitions. Gabriela enjoys reading, listening to music, and dancing.

Amanda Dela Cruz (Science) plans to go to college and study chemical engineering. In her junior year, she found a new love for science and math. Amanda enjoys playing Ultimate Frisbee and crafting.



Roosevelt High School—*Heather Dohan*

Zoe Nussbaum (Math) is a National Merit Commended Student, a member of National Honor Society, and captain of the RHS lacrosse team. She enjoys skiing, photography, and volunteers with Teen Feed and Northwest Bloodworks. Zoe will attend Occidental College and will play Division III lacrosse.

Julia Tanner (Science) is excited to study biomechanical engineering. She enjoys playing tennis on the varsity tennis team and plays guitar in the Roosevelt's Jazz Band I that performs and competes on a national platform.

Julia Bailey (Technology) will attend the University of Washington to study aerospace engineering and physics. She participates in the RHS robotics club and enjoys ice skating and gaming, in addition to volunteering with the local parks department. Julia is a National Latin Exam Silver Medalist, AP Scholar, and NASA High School Aerospace Scholar.



West Seattle High School—*Marilyn Mears*

Hailey Hirano (Math) was recognized last year as a Top Eight junior in her class. She's also an Earth Club leader and member, a member of the National Honor Society, and a Link Crew leader. Hailey volunteers with her licensed therapy dog and has played soccer for 7 years. She will attend New York University's Stern School of Business and play soccer for NYU.

Iris Siegmund (Science) enjoys music and plays clarinet in both the West Seattle High School band and community orchestra. Iris enjoys working out and figure skating. She will study engineering at the University of Washington.

Claudia Coulibaly (Technology) is the ASB Vice President and a member of the National Honor Society. She won an award for the Most Improved Golfer of 2017. Claudia plans on majoring in Computer Science at the University of Washington. "Coding is so incredible and I'm excited for my future!"



2018 WA Legislative Wrap-up - Gay Armsden

There is a lot of very positive news out of Olympia. Legislation was signed into law that will better protect women's right to **equal pay**, promote access to **reproductive care**, and protect victims of **domestic violence or sexual assault/harassment** in the workplace. Five bills aimed at increasing **voting access**, representative government, and exposing hidden money in elections have been signed into law. And a **Supplemental Budget** was passed.

Some not-so-wonderful legislative news is that several bills concerning **sexual assault** failed this year, including ones that would have eliminated the statute of limitations for felony sex offenses and removed the requirement for evidence that the victim clearly expressed their lack of consent. The Society of Professional Journalists has awarded the WA State Legislature a dishonorable mention **Black Hole Award** (for "egregious and heinous violations of the public's right to know") for their attempt to remove themselves from the Public Records Act.

In this year's legislature report card by lobbyists, A's and B's outnumber D's and F's (although the overall grade is only a C+ - an actual improvement over a number of years). Survey details here: <https://tinyurl.com/ybqlynw5>. Next year, AAUW members might continue to lobby for bills protecting sexual assault survivors, supporting women's reproductive health, and promoting stricter gun control, to further advance AAUW's public policy priorities.



Interest Group Corner

The Seattle Branch has three very active interest groups. Check this space each month to learn what's happening with each interest group and consider joining one or more.

Art Smart—Ann Dennis—ad@aauw-seattle.org

Plans to visit the Seattle Art Museum on Thursday, April 19th at 10am to see the current exhibit, "Figuring History: Robert Colescott, Kerry James Marshall, Mickalene Thomas, which brings together three generations of contemporary American artists. Afterwards, the group will eat at Taste, the restaurant at the SAM.

Book Group—Bev Fogle—books@aauw-seattle.org

The book group will meet at 1:00 p.m. on April 24 in the Stadler Room at the Lake Forest Park Towne Center, 17171 Bothell Way, NE, Seattle. We will be discussing *News of the World* by Paulette Jiles.

Writer's Group—Tonna Kutner—TechTrek@aauw-seattle.org

Writer's Group is a small group of women interested in writing. The next Writer's Group is on April 4th at 11:30am. Contact Tonna for location.

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

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AAUW - Seattle
Non-Profit Organization

Timeline About Photos Likes More ▾

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 Seattle, WA 98166-3207
 Address Service Requested

Upcoming Events...

Date	Day	Time	Location	Program
April 3, 2018	Tuesday	10am-1pm	Best Western Plus Executive Inn	Strategy Steering Team Meeting
April 9, 2018	Monday	7:00 pm	Contact Secretary (secretary@aauw-seattle.org) for details.	Seattle Branch Board Meeting teleconference
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 14, 2018	Monday	6:30 pm	Contact Secretary (secretary@aauw-seattle.org) for details.	Seattle Branch Board Meeting
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	Monday—Saturday		University of Washington Women's Center	Alene Morris NEW Leadership
July 8-14, 2018 & July 15-21, 2018			Tech Trek	Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, WA
July 29-August 4, 2018			Tech Trek	Eastern Washington University, Cheney, WA