

A Message from the Presidents

As the first Co-Presidents to serve AAUW California, we welcome you to a banner year of promoting equity in your community, the 125th birthday year of the American Association of University Women.



Donna Lilly

To continue our legacy of leadership at the state level, the board of directors participated in training sessions at a two day retreat in early June in San Jose. In mid July, the same directors were joined by their committee members to set goals and actions for the next year.

An action resulting from these sessions was the establishment of a task force to expand and carry forward the recommendations of the 21st Century Task Force Report of 2000. Sue Cochran (Petaluma) and Sandy Hansen (Visalia-Sequoia) have stepped forward to lead this Task Force.



Rita Wustner

Phyllis Gale (Berkeley) has accepted the off-board position of State Project Coordinator for the six Tech Trek Science Camps for Girls.

To further the legacy of our state program of promoting equity for girls, a research study of the 4000 Tech Trek alums is ongoing through the guidance of Marie Wolbach (Palo Alto). Marie was recently appointed Project Manager of the Tech Trek Study.



AAUW CA Web Site

Check the AAUW CA Web site at www.aauw-ca.org for the very latest news about such things as the public policy bill package, AAUW EF luncheons, and AAUW CA's celebration of the Association's 125th birthday.

While there, check for your branch listing at <http://www.aauw-ca.org/about/branches.htm>.

Does your branch have a site but you're not listed? Send us its URL. Your branch doesn't have a Web site? We'll create a virtual email address for you. Be sure to send us the email address that should receive your branch's email.

Of course, nothing's worse than an out-of-date Web site. If you see something on our Web site that needs fixing, let us know.

Now - Where should you send Web site updates, your branch URL, your designated email address? Send everything to communications@aauw-ca.org.

*Brought to you by the AAUW California
Communications Committee!*

AAUW California Convention

Ontario Airport Hilton
Ontario, California

April 27-29, 2007

Celebrating 125 Years of Advocacy

(Read the full convention article "Celebrating 125 Years of Advocacy" on page 4)

AAUW LAF Dollars at Work

Rozanne Child
AAUW LAF Vice President

Founded in 1981, the American Association of University Women Legal Advocacy Fund (AAUW LAF) provides funding and a support system for women challenging sex discrimination in higher education.

Since 1981 AAUW LAF has funded over 100 cases and donated over one million dollars. California continues to be the top fundraiser for AAUW LAF throughout the United States and received recognition at the June meeting for AAUW's state presidents in Washington D.C. Thanks to you and your generous contributions. Way to go, California!!

Although contributions in California are high, so are the costs of litigation. I contacted AAUW LAF attorney Dan Siegel, and he shared some interesting facts with me.

- An attorney's time for preparation and a full day of trial could cost \$3,500-\$5,000.
- Hiring a court reporter for one day of deposition is \$1,000.
- The cost to purchase transcripts of a plaintiff's deposition is \$500 per day and you can assume three to eight days.
- An expert witness to testify on economic damages can run up to \$5,000.
- The jury and court reporter fees for one day of trial are about \$500.

As you can see from these figures, the cost of litigation is high. So with this in mind, let's make it a banner year for AAUW LAF contributions.



We are a unique team here in California, and our efforts with fundraising do make a difference! AAUW LAF's mission, since its founding, has been to provide funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination in higher education.

**AAUW EF OPENS THE
DOORS OF OPPORTUNITY
FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS.**

**AAUW LAF KEEPS THE
DOORS OPEN BECAUSE
EQUITY IS STILL AN ISSUE.**

AAUW California Approves New Program: Speech Trek

The AAUW CA Board of Directors recently approved a new program proposed by the Program Development Committee – Speech Trek. It is designed to be an easy-to-implement turnkey speech contest for junior and senior high school girls.

Speech Trek begins with three or four girls giving five-minute speeches to local branch members on the new Association theme: *Education as the Gateway to Women's Economic Security*. Branch winners then compete within the district for the honor of being named district representative. From the eleven district winners, three girls will be selected to compete for cash and prizes at the annual convention in Ontario, April 27-29, 2007. What an exciting moment that will be!

A printed program packet has been mailed to branch presidents, but easy-to-reproduce digital files are available on CD from AAUW CA without charge via e-mail to:

office@aauw-ca.org or
programvp@aauw-ca.org

Later in the year, these files will also be available at www.aauw-ca.org/program. Remember our logon to the website is: username **member** password **aauwca**.

**The success of the *Speech Tech*
program depends on you.**

**Will you lead your branch on a
Speech Trek?**

A 1999 Tech Trekker: Where is She Now?

In 1999, Rebecca Perez, the daughter of a farm worker, was a Tech Trek camper at Stanford, sponsored by the Gilroy Branch. Now she's a scholarship student at Stanford, crediting Tech Trek with getting her to Stanford, maybe even to college.

Here's what she says about that experience:

"When I came to Stanford that summer, I fell in love with it. Little did I know that [when I stood for] the traditional picture in front of Encina Hall, [I was standing in front of the building] where the offices of my major, political science, are now located. That year that I came was amazing because I won an essay contest and came with my parents to check out the campus, and later that summer, I came [to Tech Trek] and decided that I would definitely apply here, and I love it! It's as if I was getting a warning of what was to come."

Rebecca hopes to finish her degree in 3+ years. She's just completing a summer job at Stanford, where she's been in charge of preparations for the new student orientation week.

AAUW California Connection

AAUW California has a great new service available to all its members! Now you can get AAUW California Connection, a short and sweet monthly email that keeps you up to date on all the goings-on in public policy, the AAUW Educational Foundation, the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund, and more. If you sign up, we'll send it straight to your inbox on the 15th of every month.

You'll only get one issue each month, and your email address is safe with us! Visit this web page to learn more and start getting AAUW California Connection, our new monthly email newsletter:

<http://www.aauw-ca.org/CaliforniaConnection>.

*Brought to you by the AAUW California
Communications Committee!*

California Perspective and "Snapshots"

There's no need to introduce you to *California Perspective*. Here it is!

This year you can expect to have three issues delivered to your "snail" mailbox. Submit articles for the spring issue of *California Perspective* to: communications@aauw-ca.org.

The middle issue of *California Perspective* will be packed with pre-convention material: news about workshop topics and special events, registration forms, and other surprises.

Let your inner writer out while at convention! Submit articles for the convention daily, "Snapshots," at the convention registration table.

*Brought to you by the AAUW California
Communications Committee!*

A 2006 Tech Trekker: Expresses Her Appreciation

A camper sponsored by the Palos Verdes Peninsula Branch has expressed her gratitude for the Tech Trek experience in a thank you note to the branch.

Yvette Robledo, who attended the 2006 camp at UC San Diego this July, has this to say about her experience:

"I have learned so much from this trip. I have learned personal as well as educational lessons. I have learned to be able to cope with homesickness. The educational part of lessons I can't even begin to explain. It would take PAGES! But thanks a lot! I have had so much fun! I wish I could repeat 7th grade so I could come back again! Thank you!"

We can all expect to hear future educational and career success stories from campers like Yvette because of their valuable Tech Trek experiences. Find out how you can help bring the Tech Trek experience to young women like Yvette.

Celebrating 125 Years of Advocacy

The 2007 AAUW California Convention will be held April 27th through April 29th at the Ontario Airport Hilton in Ontario. Add this date to your 2007 calendar now and don't miss out on the celebration.

Call for Sponsors

The American Association of University Women California is requesting your assistance in the recruitment of financial sponsors for the April 2007 State Convention to be held in Ontario.

Email us your contacts with companies and organizations that will benefit from exposure to our members, their influence and buying power. We want to reduce the overall cost of the convention, enabling more people to participate while showcasing supporting groups.

Call for Keynote Speakers

The convention theme for 2007 will be determined in mid-September, so we don't exactly know who or what we are looking for yet but - if you, a friend or acquaintance are a talented speaker with a message to tell, we would like to hear from you. These talents may determine the broad sweep of our next theme. Who do you know? Who are your contacts? We have a small budget but "gratis" is even better!

Call for Convention Exhibitors

By popular demand we will be doubling the size of our Market Place at convention. Who do you know that has something to sell or tell that our members will enjoy? You perhaps? Send us info!

Send any and all of the above requested information to the Program VP's Donna Erickson and Gloria Taylor at programvp@aauw-ca.org. We will follow up on your referral.

The 125th anniversary celebration of AAUW kicks-off at the Conference of State Leaders; continues through the official anniversary date, November 28, 2006; and culminates at the AAUW National Convention in June 2007.

To share local celebration plans or recommend ways AAUW can recognize the anniversary, send an e-mail to aauw125th@aauw.org.

Handling the Business of the Members

What does the State Office do for the members of the California AAUW? That is a question that is often asked of the office staff.

Besides being a central point for information for the State organization, the State Office, located at 2000 L Street in Sacramento, is in contact with members by phone and by email, providing answers to a myriad of questions that come up in the branches during the exercise of their responsibilities.

In addition to being a focal point for information about the California State organization, the office staff also:

- Receives and maintains records of membership dues;
- Maintains records of EF and LAF donations;
- Handles registration for annual state convention;
- Coordinates mailings to the branches;
- Develops and maintains the yearly Branch Officers directory; and,
- Keeps records of the ongoing business of the organization.

Another important function of the office staff is to educate and assist members in the access and use of the AAUW CA website. With the increased use of the web as a vehicle to communicate with members, the ability to navigate the website is more critical than ever in our technological world. The office staff is a source of assistance in learning how to access and use the website.

The office phone number for inquiries or for website assistance is 916-448-7795 and the e-mail address is office@aauw-ca.org. The mailing address for all reports and inquiries is: AAUW CA, PO Box 160067, Sacramento, CA 95814.

Branch Newsletters

Please e-mail an electronic copy of your branch newsletter to office@aauw-ca.org. An electric copy is preferred over receiving hard copies at the office.

Call for Candidates from Your AAUW CA Nominating Committee

As our 2006-2007 AAUW year gets into full swing, it is already time to be looking ahead to 2007-2008. Our vital, forward-looking organization needs dynamic, flexible, committed leaders with creative ideas. In other words, we need people like you!

For 2007-2008, we need candidates for the following offices:

- President-Elect
- Membership Vice-President
- Legal Advocacy Fund Vice-President
- Finance Vice-President
- District Directors for Districts #1 (Northern), #5B (South Central Coast), and #8 (Southern)

Job descriptions and qualifications for these positions are available on the AAUW CA website and in AAUW CA policies and procedures documents.

If you would like to be considered as a candidate for any of these offices, please submit the following documents by November 15, 2006:

Vita Form

This is available on the AAUW CA website (www.aauw-ca.org), from your branch president, or use the form provided on page 6 of this Perspective issue. You will need to provide information on your AAUW involvement, your employment, and your skills.

Statement of Goals

- a.) Fifty (50) word statement of your goals for the office you seek, to be published in the AAUW *California Perspective*.
- b.) One hundred (100) word *optional* statement for the "Election Update" to be distributed with the Convention materials. If you do not submit this statement, your fifty word statement will be used instead.

Recent 2"x3" photo, preferably black and white

We encourage you to submit these documents electronically. The vita form on the website can be filled out on line, or it can be downloaded and filled out as a Word document. It may then be attached to an email. The goals statements can also be sent as Word documents attached to an email, as can a digital photo. Please be sure that all documents are identified as yours so that your photo and goals statements don't get lost! Materials should be sent to the Nominating Committee chair Jenny Shumar at jwshumar@yahoo.com.

If you decide to submit your documents by regular US mail, please include two (2) copies of the vita and goals statements and be sure that your submission is postmarked by November 15, 2006. Documents should be mailed to Jenny Shumar.

While AAUW CA is made up of many individual members, we are truly more than the sum of our parts. When we work together, when we support each other, our strength is multiplied. To take advantage of that strength in order to have a significant impact on our communities and further our mission, we need a great leadership team.

If you don't quite feel ready yet for an elected position, please volunteer to be considered for an appointed position on a state committee. This is a great way to get your feet wet in the leadership pool, and maybe later you will want to dive right in! Contact our current Presidents, Rita Wustner and Donna Lilly at president@aauw-ca.org, about committee openings.

**Vita Form (limit to one page for publication)
Candidate for Office 2007-2008
AAUW CA**

Candidate for the office of:

Name:

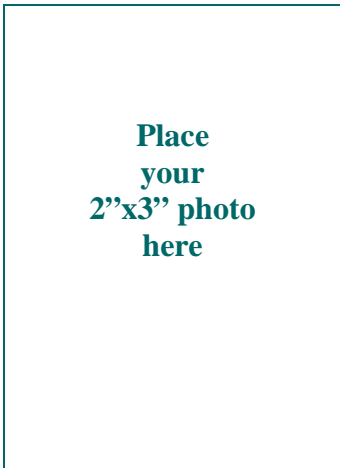
Branch:

Address:

Phone:

Fax:

E-mail:



AAUW Experience:

Branch Position(s) and years served:

State Position(s) and years served:

Association Conventions attended:

AAUW CA Conventions attended in the last five years:

Association Positions(s) and years served:

Pertinent Community activities/connections and dates:

Employment/Professional experience (including current employment):

Special Skills/Experience related to this position:

Are you available for visits to branches statewide?

Please write a brief (50-word maximum) goal statement for this position.

(Optional) You may write a 100-word goal statement for inclusion in the "Election Update" to be circulated at Convention



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

AAUW California

Presidents

Donna Lilly & Rita Wustner

Co -Program Vice Presidents

Donna Erickson & Gloria Taylor

Membership Vice President

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AAUW EF Vice President

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California Perspective

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Does Your Branch have Something to Brag About?

The Communications Committee is able to compose and issue news releases suitable for the general public's consumption. Send requests to communications@aauw-ca.org.

*Brought to you by the AAUW California
Communications Committee!*

AAUW California

Educational Foundation Luncheons

Northern California

October 22, 2006, 12noon -3:00 pm

Michaels at Shoreline

2960 Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View, CA 94043

Reservation deadline: October 9

Southern California

November 5, 2006, 1noon -3:00 pm

Doubletree Club Hotel

7 Hutton Centre Drive, Santa Ana, CA 92707

Reservation deadline: October 23

Send reservation check payable to "AAUW CA" by the deadline to:

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Contact: Marion Martelli, (310) 377-3729, vinmar@cox.net



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AAUW, founded in 1881, is open to all graduates who hold an associate or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university.

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, disability or class.

AAUW promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education and positive societal change.

AAUW is California's most active and diverse organization of women offering action for equity, personal and professional growth, community leadership, and friendships.