

EdSource: Changing the Status Quo in High School



**28TH
ANNUAL
EDSOURCE
FORUM ON
CALIFORNIA
EDUCATION
POLICY**

Calls to change the status quo in high schools and improve student achievement are becoming more urgent in California. Given the increased knowledge demands of today's economy, too many students leave school unprepared for college, work, or adult success. But the state faces multiple challenges in making sure that all students have access to a rigorous high school curriculum, receive the support they need to master it, and are motivated to do so.

Attend this EdSource Forum to learn about the economic and social forces that are driving the need to improve the instruction and opportunities that high schools provide their students. Hear about the barriers to implementing more rigorous standards-based teaching and learning in the state's high schools and what state policy strategies could make a difference. And find out how some innovators are breaking new ground in their approaches to high school reform. Sign up today to attend this Forum and participate in this important discussion!

Visit www.edsource.org for more details, including links to articles and resources on this important topic!

**Southern California • March 17, 2005
Manhattan Beach Marriott**

**Northern California • March 18, 2005
Westin Santa Clara**

Check-in begins at 8:00 a.m., and the program is from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Just \$60 for AAUW members. **Register by February 18 and pay only \$50!** The Registration/Cancellation deadline is March 7, 2005 with a \$10 non-refundable processing charge for cancellations.

— FORUM AGENDA —

**Keynote: Closing the Graduation Gap:
Toward High Schools that Prepare All Students
for College, Work, and Citizenship**

Tom Vander Ark, Executive Director for Education
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

**Making State Academic Standards Count in
California's High Schools**

Jack O'Connell

California Superintendent of Public Instruction

**The Case for Multiple High School Pathways —
and How to Get There**

Robert Schwartz, Director
Education Policy & Management Program,
Harvard Graduate School of Education;
Former President of Achieve, Inc.,
and former California high school teacher

**New Challenges + New Generation =
Need for New Solutions**

Presenter and Moderator: Nancy Hoffman
Vice President for Transitions, Jobs for the Future

A group of outstanding discussants and panelists will share the stage with and respond to the last two speakers. As always, an audience Q&A session will follow each presentation.

2005 EDSOURCE FORUM REGISTRATION FORM

Please photocopy this form for each attendee registering and indicate conference location.

Manhattan Beach Santa Clara Check here for e-mail confirmation Check here for vegetarian lunch
Amount \$ _____ Please make checks payable to EdSource. PO# _____

MasterCard Visa Credit Card# _____ Expires _____

Signature _____

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(Note: Your name, title, and organization will appear on your name tag as listed above.)
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Views of Women in History

Our branches teach their communities about the impact of women in history. Many branches have developed events that are taken to their local communities raising the level of awareness of empowered women throughout time. Some of the branches' events are showcased below.



Camarillo, Inc. Branch's signature event "Women In History" takes more than 100 women into 18 schools and classrooms throughout the area. Branch members have developed scripts, props and activities for the presenters; approximately half are adults and the remainder middle school students. The characters developed are in direct response to the requests from the teachers. With many thanks to the **Thousand Oaks Branch** for the original concept, Camarillo has taken this event and made modifications each year to better fit the schools' demands. Contact Kathy Van Slyke at nkvanslyke@verizon.net for information about implementing this program in your area.



Palos Verde Peninsula Branch wrote and performed "The Select Sorority" to showcase America's First Ladies from Martha Washington to Edith Wilson. The first public performance as a Readers Theater benefited the Educational Foundation. No sooner than the show was over, requests for performances were rolling in. The PVP Readers Theater group has given over two dozen performances throughout southern California. The script is available for a contribution of \$50 to the Educational Foundation. If you need more information or would like to order the script, please contact Jacqueline Mason at jackyandbill@yahoo.com.



The **Los Altos Mountain View Branch** was part of an exciting project with the Los Altos History Museum. The museum presented a traveling exhibit "Votes for Women: Unfinished Business." The exhibit tells the story of how the women's movement spread west leading to the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment in 1920. The exhibit included the importance of AAUW and the League of Women Voters. An interview of three women eloquently sharing their recollections of their youth, political activities and their current impressions of the status of women today were videotaped. The interview ran during the exhibition and was also broadcast on AAUW Connection, the branch cable television program. For information about this program, please contact Eileen Eng at emeng2000@aol.com.

Diamonds and Gold

The year 2004 marked Diamonds for the **Napa County Branch** and Gold for the **San Carlos Branch** of AAUW. The Napa County Branch, established in 1929, celebrated 75 years of active community involvement at a special luncheon at the River Terrace Hotel in Napa. The Napa County Branch is active in maintaining and contributing to the local "Table" which provides a hot meal daily to anyone in need, sponsoring scholarships at the high school and college levels, supporting a highway clean-up endeavor and sending girls to Tech Trek. With Napa's high level of area visibility, it continues to grow offering to all its members an outlet for social activism as well as the opportunity to participate in 25 interest sections offering everything from antiques to current issues and events. The Napa Branch looks forward to the 21st century and will continue to have a positive impact on the women and girls of Napa County.

Gold was sprinkled on the members of the San Carlos Branch at a gala dinner held at the historic Ralston Hall Ballroom on the campus of Notre Dame de Namur University in Belmont. University president, John B. Oblak, spoke about their new Center for Social Justice whose mission closely parallels AAUW's mission and goals. He also announced the university has recently joined AAUW's Partnership Program. In addition, Kathleen Cha, AAUW-CA State President, presented Branch President Eloise Mayo an award "in recognition of 50 years of community achievement and service." Each attendee received a rolled scroll featuring branch historical highlights as well as a special bookmark naming eleven still active charter members, six of whom were in attendance!



Gala at the Bridge

Redding is the home of one of California's newest tourist stops – the Santiago Calatrava designed Sundial pedestrian bridge that crosses the Sacramento River. The bridge's inaugural crossing called for a community gala sponsored by the **Redding Branch** and Turtle Bay Exploration. The gala drew bridge enthusiasts from as far away as Florida. The attendees at the black tie affair christened the gently swaying bridge crossing to the musical strains of a harp and Spanish guitar. As tokens to remember the event, guests received a commemorative bottle of wine and a limited edition watercolor print of the bridge. The hard work by the branch members brought a new level of visibility along with a successful fundraiser! If you would like more information about this event, contact Gail O'Brien (President) at gobrien@snowcrest.net.

San Francisco Mentors

The **San Francisco Branch** is beginning the fifth year of its 16-week middle school mentoring program. The program began with one student in need of mentoring. The branch program has won many area awards, and they are planning to expand into another school.

The branch is applying to the Educational Foundation for a grant to expand into one of the city's lowest performing schools. The targeted school is a designated dream school, and its test scores are among the lowest in California. The EF funding will allow the inclusion of more visuals along with more food for the children's bodies and souls. Contact Andrea Laudate for more information at mamalaudate@yahoo.com.



Empowering Women's Conferences

Branches throughout California have sponsored women's conferences that have focused on a wide variety of issues. The **Lodi Branch** formed a coalition with the local Soroptomist chapter and the Lodi Women's Club to sponsor the first "Women in Today's World" conference. The purpose was to show local women what service opportunities were available to participate in and the impact they could have on the community. The Lodi Women's Center of San Joaquin, a safe haven for victims of domestic violence, established by the Lodi branch, is a shining example of empowered women! For information, please contact Patricia Drouin (President) at cortina12@lodinet.net.



Women's Health

The **Placerville Branch**, working with its local coalition partners, sponsored a forum focused on Women's Health. The branch and its partners planned a day-long event discussing health from the point of adolescents, women in the middle and mature women. Topics of the conference included public health care, sexuality education and its implementation in county schools, rape prevention, domestic violence and the challenges of aging that face seniors and their caregivers.

All of the co-sponsors agreed to conduct follow-up meetings to develop community action plans, support groups and work toward other solutions to local health care and education issues. For information about this event, contact Nancy Campbell (President) at nancy.campbell@comcast.net.

Protection from Theft

The **Poway-Penasquitos** and **Rancho Bernardo Branches** offered area women the opportunity to learn how to protect themselves. The speakers educated those in attendance about protecting themselves from identity theft, scams and fraudulent practices that are directed toward women. If you are interested in learning more about this event, please contact Kris Downey (Poway-Penasquitos President) at rdowney978@aol.com.

Farewell to WIALD: Legacy of California

Sue Cochran, Past AAUW-CA President, WIALD Liason

After much deliberation the Steering Committee of WIALD (Women in Action Lobby Day) has made the decision to dissolve the coalition. WIALD Lobby Days have come to an end.



The increased need for a separate financial entity for WIALD and separate insurance coverage meant that WIALD would need to be organized as a freestanding organization. Since its inception AAUW California has served as the financial and insurance umbrella for WIALD. After much thought and discussion, the partnering organizations realized they did not have the resources (time, people and financial) required for a separate WIALD organization to thrive. It was felt the time had come to move on to new endeavors. Most of the partnering organizations will continue to work in coalition to support critical legislative positions on women's issues in California.

WIALD was formed as an informal coalition of women's organizations in 1992 for the purpose of planning and holding an annual public policy advocacy day in Sacramento that brought together members of all the partnering organizations to lobby for women's issues of common interest. During the 11 years of WIALD events the members developed and honed their advocacy skills. It is the phenomenal success of these trainings that has enabled many of the sister organizations to offer lobby days to their own members.

"It was felt the time had come to move on to new endeavors."

Value of IFUW

Kathleen Laurila and Karen McKee (excerpts)

Origins: IFUW was established in 1919 as a federation of national organizations, not an individual membership organization

What does IFUW bring to its members?

International advocacy: IFUW's advocacy work and its representation at international forums are at the core of its purpose. Representatives are at the UN at least one day a week from September through mid-June.

Representation: IFUW has built a highly respected reputation over the years, both within the UN and its specialized agencies and within the NGO world. It frequently is asked to be on advisory and executive groups and also to act as facilitators. It has representation at other UN sites where AAUW cannot be represented directly which allows AAUW's voice to be heard in far-off forums where the status of the world's women and girls are being debated.

International Connections: IFUW gives members the opportunity to establish links and close friendships worldwide. These connections may be personal or at a branch level.

Perhaps most importantly, as part of IFUW, AAUW members are a part of an international network that provides solidarity, inspiration and hope to women in parts of the world where the human rights of women and girls are either ignored or severely restricted.

IFUW and AAUW: What Are Our Next Steps?

Excerpts by Kathleen Laurila, IFUW Vice President, Minneapolis Branch Member

In late June 2004 the Association Board of Directors made a reluctant, but necessary, decision to suspend payment of 2005 IFUW dues. This decision set off a firestorm across the United States and around the world. What has since emerged is a healthy intense discussion about IFUW, its role and effectiveness, AAUW's role and responsibility and an examination of dues driven financial structures. Many have stepped forward with potential solutions from both sides and AAUW's membership in IFUW will be a major discussion topic at the AAUW Convention in June 2005. Closer to California, we will have the opportunity to discuss IFUW while considering resolutions that will come before our state convention body.

Since the late 1970s there have been ongoing discussions about how to determine fees from the member National Federations and Associations (NFA) of IFUW. Most of this has centered on how much of the IFUW income should come from AAUW, by far the largest of the now 78 nation federation. The current dues formula was established in 1980 when the determined amount for each NFA was based upon a per capita amount stated in the bylaws. Included was a sliding scale formula to cover the largest members of IFUW, the United States and Canada. The per capita rate equaled slightly less than \$2 per member.

AAUW does not add on \$2 to your dues as a separate fee, but incorporates the dues into the operating budget. Since IFUW is a federation of organizations, not individuals, this made sense to past AAUW leadership. Since the early 1990s the line item for these dues has been placed under Program where it is appropriate for the Board of AAUW to determine amounts – as they have done for the 2005 budget where in no amount was designated. The question to be addressed at the AAUW Convention is whether this budget decision violates the bylaws of AAUW. Article XX, Sec 1 says “The Association shall be a constituent dues-paying member of the IFUW and as such its members who qualify (women only) shall be IFUW members.” This will be studied prior to convention. Another issue being discussed is whether it would be desirable and possible to add onto the AAUW dues an amount (\$2 - \$3) designated for IFUW that we would pay with our annual dues.

The immediate problem for IFUW is that with only 6 months notice, decisions about cutbacks must be made immediately. Alternatively, it has been asked, “could there be a cushion of time to reassess the entire work of IFUW?” The latter is preferable to allow all NFA members time to comment. Many AAUW members started a “look forward” strategy. The first formal effort is being coordinated by the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund to raise contributions directly for IFUW to provide that cushion of time. This is not a contribution against the dues of AAUW but to add to the time cushion needed.

**Flying to
Convention?
Be sure to use
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SAVE THESE DATES!
AAUW National Convention — Washington, D.C.

“Purpose, Power, Progress”

June 24 – 27, 2005

Omni Shoreham Hotel

Early Registration Deadline May 2, 2005

Influences on IFUW Dues Decision

- ▼ Financial commitment to IFUW has been a challenge discussed for decades by both organizations
- ▼ 1997 agreement included sliding scale and cap for AAUW as well as agreement to work on long term solutions (latter never happened)
- ▼ Paid 2003 IFUW dues from reserves, paid 2004 dues in four payments to match cash flow
- ▼ Revenue shortfalls in 2004 due to membership decline led to substantial expense reduction measures, including staff reductions
- ▼ AAUW leadership shared financial information with IFUW beginning Spring 2004
- ▼ AAUW Association Board committed to 2005 budget with current financial reality in mind
- ▼ AAUW Association Board's primary fiduciary responsibility is to AAUW members
- ▼ AAUW's commitment to the international arena on behalf of women and girls continues

Additional Resources:

AAUW International Affairs Committee

Linda Hiebert Sekiguchi (chair)
lindas4@juno.com

Carolyn Donovan (AAUW UN Representative)
acdonovan@optonline.net

Camille Macdonald Polski
jandcpolski@webtv.net

Carrie Gallagher Sussman
csussman@erols.com

Shaila Mistry (AAUW-CA International Interests Chair)
shailam@yahoo.com

With Apologies to Our Members...

Kathleen Cha, AAUW-CA President (president@aauw-ca.org)

On behalf of past and current AAUW California Board of Directors, I wish to apologize for an unfortunate scheduling problem. During our 2004 Convention it was brought to our attention that AAUW California had scheduled our 2005 State Convention during Passover. Immediately efforts were made to see if we could change the dates. This involved weeks of negotiations with the hotels in Riverside, but there were no openings in the weekends before or after in April or May 2005. The initial contract and scheduling with the Riverside hotels had been made five years ago with a series of other convention contracts. We had to face the fact that, according to contract stipulations, if we cancelled we would lose close to \$50,000, which we cannot afford.

This scheduling error was a significant mistake. It was definitely unintended, but we have put our members in an unnecessary and awkward position. Dedicated longtime members are faced with having to make a choice about how they celebrate Passover, which is a high holy day and one that is meant to be celebrated with family, as are Easter and Christmas. Understandably many members who are an important part of convention proceedings will not be able to attend. That will be our loss and it did not have to happen.

Under the leadership of Program Vice President Lisa Newhall, the Program Development-Convention Planning committee members and Board of Directors will work to reconfigure the convention so it is respectful of Passover proceedings. A separate Convention/Conference Task Force has been formed to examine format and logistics for future conventions and conference for the coming years to prevent a reoccurrence.

We value your understanding and patience with our mistake and this unfortunate dilemma. Please don't hesitate to share with us your thoughts and insights about this. Out of this we hope to reinforce the efforts of our AAUW family working together to heighten our awareness, understanding and respect for each other's culture and religion. It is at the heart of our mission of equity and education for all women and girls.

Electronic Etiquette

We receive so much electronic information from every source possible. Many of us have multiple email addresses and are also on many listservs. These listservs provide us with information about issues of importance. The idea of a listserv is to distribute information to a large number of people quickly, efficiently and with minimal cost.

Rules of etiquette are important to know as we manage our electronic communication. Here are a few pointers to help you better utilize the listservs.

- ▼ If you have a question for the specific person who has posted a message, you should direct your question(s) directly to that person with a new email addressed directly to the "speaker." If you hit the reply button, your question/comment will go to the entire membership of the listserv. This is useful if you want to "speak" to the whole list – but can become a nuisance to others if a personal dialogue continues.
- ▼ Also, in this day of virus problems, it would be a great courtesy to the recipients of your messages if you put AAUW in the subject line. This will keep your important message from being deleted as an unknown email.

If you have any questions about the use of the listservs, please feel free to contact the office at office@aauw-ca.org.

CA State Program is about Purpose, Power and Progress

Lisa Newhall, Program Vice President AAUW-CA, programvp@aauw-ca.org

This year *Program Notes*, a monthly program newsletter, is being sent to all branch program vice presidents and branch presidents by email. Each month outstanding branch programs are highlighted; it is important to recognize all of your efforts since great programs help to bring in new members and retain existing members! *Program Notes* also includes information on the Program Development Committee's activities, Tech Trek updates, programming tips, and the Adelanté Book of the Month selection. This information can also be found at the AAUW CA website, www.aauw-ca.org, in the program section. Be sure to log in each month to see if your branch is acknowledged!

Each month, from branch newsletters, information on programs and their locations is being compiled into a list. This information will be sent to branches after convention to use as tool for program planning next year. It is our hope that seeing what other branches are doing will inspire different programs for your branch, with contacts to assist in speaker names, ideas and/or processes.

Association has retired the 21st Century Recognition Program for branches. The AAUW CA Program Development Committee has designed a new state-wide recognition program that will closely match key areas of the AAUW CA Strategic Plan. Using the "Guiding Principles," recognized programs will address membership outreach and retention, Educational Foundation education and fundraising, Legal Advocacy Fund education and fundraising, public policy education, and visibility within the community.

Program "Outcomes" should develop an outreach and retention effort that is infused into every activity and communication of the organization; implement a marketing and media

strategy to frame public recognition of the organization, its mission and its accomplishments; expand public policy education and advocacy; and collaborate with like-minded groups, especially to co-sponsor events.

Applications were sent to branches in early January with a submission due date in March; pictures are required as part of the application. Recognition for outstanding branch programs will be announced at convention (April 22–24 in Riverside). For now, document your programs, projects, events and meetings and be sure to take lots of pictures!

Wildflower Run

The Morgan Hill Branch of AAUW is proud to announce its 22nd annual WILDFLOWER RUN. The run is a fundraiser for the Educational Foundation and Tech Trek. It will be held on Sunday, April 17, 2005 at Live Oak High School, 1505 East Main Ave, Morgan Hill.

Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. The 2K kids' run (12 and under) begins at 8:30 a.m. The 10K run (USATF certified) begins at 9:00 a.m. The 5K run/walk begins at 9:15 a.m. The course is set in the country around Morgan Hill on flat, paved roads. There will be medals, door prizes, and designer T-shirts.

For more information, go to www.aauw-morganhill.org, or phone Wendy at (408) 778-3924. Online registration is also available on active.com.

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