IOWA INITIATIVE

OUR MISSION ; ADVANCING EQUITY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS THROUGH ADVOCACY, EDUCATION, PHILANTHROPY, AND RESEARCH.

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… and justice for all–Dev Kiedaish–Program Vice-President

In true AAUW form, the topic for the AAUW Iowa Spring Conference on April 16 and 17 digs deep and looks at inequities, complex interconnections, and how to begin working on a solution to mass incarceration and inequities in the criminal justice system. A group of intelligent, compassionate, and hard working experts will shed light on the issues including mass incarceration, the causes, and the resulting problems. We'll also look at how incarceration rates are affecting women and families, first through the eyes of Grinnell College students in their video about women's issues in the criminal justice system and then from the perspective of rehabilitating women. Saturday will close with keynote speaker, Judge Karen Romano, who says, "The criminal justice system and incarceration are not a separate "problem" but are inextricably intertwined with all of our societal ills – poverty, education, mental health, homelessness, etc. and it will take efforts in all of those areas to have an impact on the numbers of people in the criminal justice system."

Sunday focuses on AAUW, in Iowa and nationally. Traci Jensen, AAUW board of directors, will provide an AAUW update and we'll be inspired by a panel of 2015 attendees of the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL).

Join fellow AAUW members at the 2016 AAUW Iowa Conference to be educated, enlightened, and inspired. If you haven't already, take a look at the article about the conference in the last edition of the Iowa Initiative

Passages–Membership in the Ottumwa AAUW branch had dwindled to a small number over the past several years, so the branch made the decision to disband. We thank past and current AAUW members in Ottumwa for their membership, advocacy, and their work on behalf of women and girls for so many years.

Maureen White, President of AAUW Iowa

Remember that you can still belong to AAUW and AAUW Iowa even if there is not a branch in your community. In addition, you may wish to join the eNetwork or those in the 20-40 age range can join the Younger Women's Task Force.

STEM–The AAUW National STEM Task Force asked that each state organization name a STEM chair who would provide guidance for branches that wish to develop STEM programs for girls, provide information about STEM resources, encourage application for Teck Trek or Teck Savvy grants, collaborate with other STEM chairs, and

Share and Learn Seminars–This is the second year that AAUW Iowa has offered on-line Share and Learn Seminars. The Seminars are designed to be a short, convenient way for members across the state to learn about an aspect of AAUW and to help each other. In addition to the January Seminar about the Iowa caucus process, a conversation about membership recruitment and retention is scheduled for February 22, 7-8 PM. On March 31 (7-8 PM) Diane Patton, Maxine Lampe, and Nancy Magnall will lead a discussion about AAUW fundraising and philanthropy policies and opportunities, including the Charting the Course campaign and Legacy Circle. It's very important that branch leaders be familiar with AAUW Policies for fundraising, so join this conversation if you need to know more.

To participate in a Share and Learn Seminar, go to the AAUW Iowa website (aauw-ia.aauw.net). Under the "Links" section, click on "AAUW Iowa Web Meetings". Follow the instructions provided.

….continued on next page

participate in national webinars. Our state board approved the appointment of Marcy Seavey, STEM Coordinator at the University of Northern Iowa, as the STEM chair for AAUW Iowa. Marcy can be reached at marcene.seavey@uni.edu.

Photo of Elect Her organizers Kerri Robinson and Rachel Gregory with speaker Senator Joni Ernst. The event took place 1/23/16 at UNI & ISU.

Proposed AAUW Iowa Public Policy Program 2016-2018

The Mission of AAUW is to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. AAUW Iowa endorses the AAUW Public Policy Program, Principles for Action and Biennial Action Priorities, which can be found on-line at www.aauw.org.

Iowa's Public Policy Program is intended to *complement* that of AAUW and be a focus of active educational and advocacy efforts for our members. The program can be found on-line at http://aauw-ia.aauw.net/publicpolicy/public-policy-program

To support a strong system of public education and lifelong learning that promotes gender fairness, equity, and diversity, AAUW of Iowa advocates:

Adequate and equitable funding of public education, preschool through post secondary; including full funding of mandated programs.Affordable public community college, college and university tuition.
Vigorous enforcement of Title IX and other civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination at all levels of education.
State financial support for and access to quality preschool programs with licensed teachers.
Maintaining high licensure standards for educators and administrators
Standards for home, charter and private schools that are consistent with standards for public schools.
Promotion of enrollment of girls in programs in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).
Comprehensive and medically accurate health and human sexuality instruction.
Programs which insure that schools are safe for all students, regardless of gender, race, religious affiliation, disability, sexual orientation, and gender identity or expression.
Teaching tolerance, conflict resolution, and the value of diversity in our state's public schools.

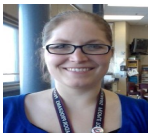
To achieve economic self-sufficiency for all women, AAUW of Iowa advocates:

Pay equity in public and private employment.
Access to quality, affordable dependent care and adequate family and medical leave.
Protection of collective bargaining rights for public employees and the right of private sector workers to unionize without employer intimidation or reprisal.
Legislation providing protection from predatory lending practices.
Funding for facilities and programs designed to transition women from the criminal justice system and provide employment training and education.
"Women friendly" work policies including flexible hours, lactating rooms, etc.

To guarantee gender equality, individual rights, and social justice for a diverse society, AAUW of Iowa advocates:

Strengthening the Iowa Civil Rights Act in order to prevent sex/gender discrimination in employment.
Preservation of voting laws that expand rather than restrict the opportunity to vote, such as early voting and same day voter registration.
Reasonable opportunities for restoration of voting rights for those convicted of a felony.
Monitoring compliance with the law requiring gender balance on appointed city and county boards and commissions.
An increase in the number of women and minorities appointed to judicial and policy making positions.
Support for programs designed to increase the number of women in elected public office.
Adequate funding for programs to prevent violence against women and children and to address the needs of victims of violence.
Promote legislation to eliminate parental rights for convicted rapists.
Rigorous enforcement of laws against human trafficking and support for programs to aid trafficking victims.
Access to public education and basic health and safety programs without unreasonable requirements for proof of citizenship or other provisions beyond those included in Federal law.
Access to affordable physical and mental health care within a reasonable distance and prescription coverage for all.
Provision of mental health treatment for incarcerated women in Iowa, 79% of whom have mental illness. (She Matters, 2012)
The right of a woman to make decisions regarding her reproductive life without intrusive or restrictive government regulations, including the targeted regulation of abortion providers.
Increase access to quality, affordable health care, and family planning services, including expansion of patient rights.
Strict enforcement of nursing home regulations and stiff fines for violators.
Enforcement of laws and regulations that protect air and water quality, promote energy conservation and sustainable agriculture.

Nominations Committe Presents Slate



Brianna Bartlett has served capably as Program Vice President in the 2014-16 term co-creating outstanding annual meetings and is willing to partner with her new co-program vice president to continue the excellent planning in the 2016-2018 term. She teaches art in Oskaloosa Elementary School as well as serves as teacher leader for the People to People Student Ambassadors. She is a community leader serving on the Fine Arts and Cultural Events in her county while being an active member of the Oskaloosa Branch.

Dr. Theresa Moore of the Cedar Rapids Branch is the candidate for the new Program Co-Vice President. She holds a PhD in Education from the University of California at Santa Barbara. Dr. Moore is currently serving as Assistant Professor and Faculty Development Specialist at Kirkwood Community College. Her community involvement includes serving as Junior Achievement Volunteer and AYSO volunteer coach as well as serving as AAUW Public Relations Chair. Her interests include education, women's rights and professional development which will qualify her for planning and coordinating dynamic state events.

Elaine Kresse is the candidate for Membership Vice President. She has served on many positions in the Davenport-Bettendorf Branch including serving as president two different terms. She is not new to state board experience, as she was Public Policy Chair in the past. She is very involved in her community as she currently facilitates a reproductive justice project, is committee member of a restorative justice team that is working for a mental health court, serves as part of the Quad City Interfaith focusing on social justice, volunteers for QC Symphony, and is on the membership committee of the local NAACP.

Dr. Angie Fay is nominee for Secretary. She earned her MS degree from Drake and her PhD of Education from Argosy University and currently serves as Hand in Hand Director. Although she is fairly new to the Emmetsburg Branch, she took an active role in assisting with Girls Day Out in the summer of 2015. Dr. Fay is an involved member in her church, volunteers as Girl Scouts leader, trainer and cookie sale manager; is a member of American Legion Auxiliary; and participates in PATHS (parent teacher association); is involved in politics where she ran for county recorder in 2014.

Kathie Farris, current president of the Indianola Branch, is candidate for Treasurer. With a BA from University of Illinois and MS from Drake in Special Education, she has devoted most of her life to improving the lives of others professionally and in her volunteer endeavors. She has demonstrated her ability to manage funds as she served on the AAUW Iowa Board as the LAF Co-Director. While advocating for women and girls in her years of AAUW leadership, she and her husband raised their three daughters.

Karen DeVore nominating committee member of the SE quadrant has served as Indianola Branch treasurer and president. As a member of the nominations committee she has been active in finding nominees and bringing qualified members on the board. Karen is a retired teacher and finds herself busy in community activities working tirelessly for the betterment of women and girls.

Lois Enger representing the NW section on the nominating committee holds a Master's Degree in Educational Technology from UNI and currently holds the position of Adjunct Professor at Iowa Lakes Community College. As a member of Palo Alto County Branch she has served locally as well as AAUW Iowa Web Master and serves on the Nominations Committee with dedication.

Mary Koenig nominating committee member represents the SW area. Graduating from Nebraska Wesleyan and receiving her Multi-Categorical endorsement from Creighton, prepared her to teach special education children over 35 years. Mary has been active in AAUW serving as secretary, co-membership and co-president. She has provided leadership in the branch's STEM Formulas for Success project and honoring local leaders in the "Women of Distinction" awards luncheon.

Sharon Vana currently represents the NE section on the nominating committee. She holds a BA in Education from UNI and her MA from University of Iowa. Sharon retired from teaching elementary children in the Cedar Rapids Schools, but continues to work part-time as employee of NCS Pearson in Iowa City. Active in AAUW she has served as program vice president, treasurer and president of the Cedar Rapids Branch and has been treasurer and nominations committee of AAUW Iowa.

Irene Dodder is presently director of the nominating committee. An active AAUW member, she has held all offices locally and helped to form the Loess Hills Branch. She served on the state board as Educational Foundation Director and Membership Vice president. Irene has been active in her church serving on the conference board and now returning to district leadership. She is determined to make her retirement years an adventure.

Ann Gale, your elected President-Elect , will become your president in the 2016-2018 term. Her appointed officers, along with this slate, will provide outstanding leadership for the AAUW Iowa Board. Please see photo bottom of page 5.

Voting at Annual Meeting

AAUW Iowa Board approved the following motions for presentation to the state membership for action at the Annual Meeting in April 2016.

The Board voted to set student affiliate's state dues at $5 and to waive the first year dues for a 'give a grad a gift' recipients. These Board approved changes must now be presented to the entire membership for final action.

Motion #1 – State dues for student affiliates are $5 payable on or before July 1.

Motion #2 – State dues for 'give a grad a gift' recipients shall be waived for the first year.

Rationale: to involve these individuals at the state level allowing them to receive state publications and information. [State dues for branch members is $10.]

In aligning the state bylaws to the Model State Bylaws, the bylaws committee became aware that the items below were not included in the state bylaws, but are procedures the state follows. The Board approved presenting these motions to the membership for action.

Motion #3 - Add a sub-point under **ARTICLE VI. Officers - Section 1. - Officers and Directors – Section 3. Terms of Office.** Item c. Removal from Office. An officer or director of the Board may be removed for any reason or no reason by a two-thirds vote at an in-person meeting of the state Board of Directors in accordance with policies and procedures adopted by the AAUW.

Rationale: AAUW recommends that a procedure to remove an officer/director from the state organization should be identified as it is in the national bylaws. This addition to the state bylaws would fulfill that recommendation.

Motion # 4 - Add two Sections to Article IX COMMITTEES to read:

Section 3. Reports. All committees shall provide written reports to the state board for the annual meeting and such other times as requested.

Section 4. Quorum. The quorum for a meeting of any committee shall be a majority of its members.

Rationale. Section 3. Presently AAUW Iowa committees [under Officers/Directors or special committees] are asked for reports in the state Policy document. So this is not a new procedure, it just places the procedure in the state bylaws as well as in the Policies.

Section 4. The present quorum in our committees is a majority with a majority vote as per parliamentary rule – this just places that procedure in the bylaws. If the IRS looks for such criteria when checking bylaws then this would clarify procedure for committee action rather then just relying on parliamentary law.

Branches are reminded to review the aligned copy of their branch bylaws to the Branch Model Bylaws format that was sent in December 2015 and to send a copy to AAUW [connect@aauw.org] before May 26, 2016. This is required to show affiliation with the national organization.

An aligned copy of AAUW Iowa bylaws has been sent to all branch presidents and is available on the AAUW Iowa website. Also on the website is a copy of AAUW Iowa's Policy document which was updated during 2015. Review these documents before the Annual Meeting and contact Jo Treadwell, Bylaws Director [jotom.tdll@gmail.com] with questions or concerns.

Tech Trek at Storm Lake

The AAUW Storm Lake Branch is excited to be sponsoring Tech Trek, a week-long camp to be hosted at Buena Vista University (BVU), July 17-23, 2016. 50 eighth-grade girls will explore first-hand how exciting careers in the science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields can be.

We've asked the presidents of AAUW Branches across Iowa to contact area middle schools and to encourage science teachers to recommend young women for the Tech Trek program. Campers pay just $50 to attend Tech Trek. AAUW members and branches can choose to sponsor campers or assist in purchasing supplies through donations to the website established by AAUW National Headquarters: https://ww2.aauw.org/program-gift/?treatment=TECHTREK

Contact Dr. Melinda Coogan, Associate Professor of Biology at Buena Vista University, at (712) 749-2293 or email coogan@bvu.edu,

AAUW Iowa 2016 State Conference, Saturday April 16 & Sunday April 17*

Student Center, Grand View University, Des Moines, Iowa

Saturday, April 16

9:15-10:00	Registration-–Student Center lobby (light breakfast)
10:00-10:15	Welcome
10:15-11:30	*Criminal Justice Reform Issues*–Pam Hays and Dr. Al Hays, Citizens for Undoing Racism group leaders
11:30-1:00	Buffet lunch
1:00-2:15	*The Grey Area*–a look at issues impacting women in the criminal justice system and feminism behind bars
2:15-2:45	*Transitions for Women*–Amy Jones, Residential Supervisor Waterloo Women's Center for Change
2:45-3:00	Break/silent auction bidding ends
3:00-3:45	*The School to Prison Pipeline*–Thomas Mayes, attorney, Iowa Department of Education
3:45-4:30	*The Nature and Extent of Implicit Bias*–Tom Newkirk, civil rights attorney, Des Moines
4:30-5:30	Social
5:30-6:30	Dinner
6:30-7:30	Keynote speaker-Fifth Judicial District Court Judge Karen Romano

Sunday, April 17

8:30-9:00	Registration–Student Center lobby (light breakfast)
9:00-10:15	AAUW Update–Traci Jensen, Board of Directors representative
10:15-10:30	Break
10:30-12:00	AAUW Iowa Annual Meeting
12:00-1:15	Lunch and recognitions
1:15-2:15	2015 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) attendees panel
2:15-2:30	Conference close

*An article about the conference was in the last issue of the Iowa Initiative and can be found at aauw-ia.aauw.net.

Hotel Information

Conference attendees may stay wherever they choose in Des Moines or Ankeny.

We have reserved a block of rooms at two Ankeny hotels. Contact the hotel directly to make a reservation. Mention AAUW Iowa for the conference rate.

Fairfield Inn, 215 NE Delaware Ave., Ankeny, Exit 92 from I-35, 515-965-8400

$119.95 for a single or double room

Conference registration rate cut-off–April 1, cancellation 24 hours in advance

Hampton Inn, 6210 SE Convenience Blvd., Ankeny, Exit 89 from I-35, 515-261-4400

$119 for single or double

Conference registration rate cut-off–March 20, cancellation 72 hours in advance

Ann Gale, President-Elect, has recently become a CASA volunteer (Court Appointed Special Advocate), and is responsible for reporting back to the judge in the CINA (Child in Need of Assistance) case that I've been assigned. I also help out in the office at the CARE Team in Algona. They provide clothing and household items for free to people in need.

Driving Directions and Parking

The conference will be at the Student Center on the campus of College/University Partner Grand View University in Des Moines. The Student Center is easily accessed off E. 14th St (corner of Morton and E. 14th St). The parking lot right in front of the building has handicap parking spots.

Use this link to view the Grand View campus map: http://www.grandview.edu/userdocs/doc_maps/gv_campus_map.pdf

Driving directions are available at:

http://www.grandview.edu/userdocs/doc_maps/gv_driving_directions.pdf

From the *west* on I-235

Exit I-235 on the E. 6th/Penn Ave. exit, cross E. 6th and turn left (north) onto Penn Ave.

Continue north to E. University Ave.

Proceed right (east) on E. University Ave. to E. 9th St.

Turn left (north) onto E. 9th St.

Continue north on E. 9th St. to Morton Ave. and take a right

Cross E. 14th St. –Student Center is on the left.

OR

Take exit 9 from I-235 toward US 69/E 14th/E 15th St.

Continue to E. 15th

Left on E. 15th which will merge with E. 14th St.

North on E. 14th

Turn right (east) onto Morton Ave.–Student Center is on the left

From I-35 or I-80 or I-235 from the *east*

Take I-235 West. Continue to E. Euclid Ave. exit.

Proceed right (west) on E. Euclid Ave. to E. 14th St.

Turn left (south) onto E. 14th St.

Continue south on E. 14th St.

Turn left (east) onto Morton Ave.–Student Center is on the left

College/University–Janet Fife-LaFrenz, College/University Relations Director

Each of Iowa's 65 higher education institutions have been provided information about topics such as AAUW student affiliates, STEM, Start Smart workshops, and grant availability for faculty training.

Currently, AAUW is soliciting nominees for the Distinguished Faculty Award. The purpose of this award is to recognize women faculty's exemplary contributions toward creating a climate of gender equity in education. This may be accomplished through excellence in teaching, advising, scholarship and service to the college/university and community, through continual efforts to develop new understandings and competencies in her discipline of expertise, and through outstanding leadership in service, which addresses the needs of female students. More information can be found on the AAUW-Iowa website.

Reach out to employees of post-secondary schools. Ask them to investigate the benefits of a partnership. For more information contact Janet Fife-LaFrenz (fifelafrenz@gmail.com).

AAUW Iowa Lobby Day Wednesday, March 9, 2016–Jane Nettleton and Anne Johnson, Public Policy
Mark your calendars for Lobby Day at the Capitol. The Public Policy committee has selected education funding, equal pay, and human trafficking as our main priorities. We'll provide training to help you focus on important issues and find common ground in discussing political topics with your legislators. Watch for details at aauw-ia.aauw.net and in email communications.

AAUW Iowa State Conference Registration

April 16 & 17, 2016, Grand View University, Des Moines, Iowa

The AAUW Iowa State Conference and Annual Meeting will be held at the Student Center (corner of Morton Ave. and E. 14th) on the Grand View University Campus. **Registration Deadline** All registrations must be post-marked on or before ***April 7,* 2016** to avoid paying the $10 late registration fee.

Conference registration fees Saturday's registration fees cover the cost of light breakfast items, beverages, lunch and dinner.

Sunday's registration fees cover the cost of light breakfast items, beverages and lunch. ***A full refund will be given if a cancellation email or phone call is received by Monday, April 4.***

I am attending Saturday only

___$65 Member Rate (please add $10 if postmarked after April 1, 2016)

___$70 Non-member Rate (please add $10 if postmarked after April 1, 2016)

___$30 Student Rate (please add $10 if postmarked after April 1, 2016)

I am attending Sunday only

___$40 Member Rate (please add $10 if postmarked after April 1, 2016)

___$45 Non-member Rate (please add $10 if postmarked after April 1, 2016)

___$20 Student Rate (please add $10 if postmarked after April 1, 2016)

I am attending both Saturday and Sunday

___$90 Member Rate (please add $10 if postmarked after April 1, 2016)

___$95 Non-member Rate (please add $10 if postmarked after April 1, 2016)

___$40 Student Rate (please add $10 if postmarked after April 1, 2016)

Special dietary needs (please list): _____

Personal Information: (must be completed for *each* registrant)

Name_____

Address_____

Phone _____

Email_____

AAUW Member____ Student____ (please check one)

AAUW Branch_____

AAUW office held _____

Organization (other)_____

Please mail this form with your check payable to **AAUW Iowa** to:

Sandy Lawry, 3819 S. Main St., Cedar Falls, IA 50613, 319-415-7912

sandylawry1970@gmail.com

INITIATIVE Editor

Nancy Hasenwinkel

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INITIATIVE, a tri-annual newsletter, is a publication of the AAUW-IA Board. The distribution cost is included in state dues. Articles and/or questions should be addressed to the editor.

Silent Auction – Anything Goes!

New Year's greetings, and we hope you are all beginning to make plans to attend the AAUW spring conference in April. As you make your conference plans, please think about bringing one or more items for the conference silent auction which is our annual opportunity to raise money for AAUW Funds. At the 2015 conference, the silent auction raised $1232 for AAUW Funds, and we'd like to do even better this year.

The silent auction theme for 2016 is "Anything Goes." This year branches are encouraged to donate items they already own rather than purchasing new things. Auction items may be dropped off beginning at 8:00 Saturday morning. Bidding will be throughout the day Saturday only, ending at 3:00 p.m. Donations may be single items or a number of items combined into one theme. They may be presented in the traditional basket or other container if you like. Use your imagination—it's always fun to see the variety of items that branches bring and observe the spirited bidding as attendees vie to take home something that catches their eye. And best of all, every dollar raised helps advance AAUW's mission. Let's make this the best silent auction yet!

Jane Close and Nancy Magnall