

President's Message

"Educational and Economic Equity for Women" is the theme of our April Convention/Annual Meeting weekend in Boston which includes a daylong program on the theme, a Legal Advocacy Fund program, an Eleanor Roosevelt Fund Walk, a showcase of branch programs, and an awards ceremony for outstanding branch leaders.

AAUW-MA will be privileged to have two special guests during the weekend: Dr. Elena Silva, AAUW Educational Foundation Director of Research, and Dr. Lynn Ilon, Legal Advocacy Fund litigant. Dr. Silva not only will provide an initial overview of educational and economic equity issues for women on Saturday but will give a workshop on using AAUW Research in branch programs on Sunday. Dr. Ilon will speak at the LAF program on Saturday evening and present a workshop on higher education. In addition to these presenters, Roxbury Community College and Boston University students and AAUW Educational Foundation fellows will share their personal perspectives on equity issues. A series of workshops focusing on various aspects of our theme completes the program.

AAUW-MA Convention-goers will be among the first in the country to hear first-hand about the newest AAUW research report, *Women at Work*. Authored by Dr. Silva, the report explores the questions: "How are women faring in today's economy?" and "What are the future prospects for women in the labor market?" The results of Dr. Silva's research are both encouraging and sobering with major policy and advocacy implications for continued efforts towards achieving equity for all women and girls.

Our Convention/Annual Meeting weekend in Boston promises to be both informative and enjoyable. I look forward to sharing it with you.

GIVE A GRAD A GIFT ... A FREE AAUW MEMBERSHIP!

As an AAUW member, you can give a recent or about-to-be college grad—a **friend, daughter, granddaughter, or niece**—a free AAUW membership. All at no cost to you or her!

Expose her to the power ... that comes from belonging to a national women-led organization of 150,000 members who believe in and advance equity and education for women and girls.

Expand her networking opportunities ... through career development opportunities and community action projects. She will experience the rewards of working with and learning from successful AAUW mentors.

Keep her up to date on the events and people that affect her life ... as she receives *AAUW in Action*, *AAUW Outlook*, *Get the Facts* alerts, and more.

Increase her buying power ... with access to discount health and dental insurance, AAUW research reports, a low-interest rate credit card, and other members-only benefits.

Best of all, she will receive a free one-year AAUW membership at no cost to you or her! So send no money!

Complete the Online Membership Application Now! <http://www.aauw.org/6000/gradgift.html>

Plant the seed now... to grow for the future!

News from Membership

Hollie Bagley, Membership VP

MEMBERSHIP GROWTH REQUIRES A PLAN

Now is the time to build membership both for next year and the future. Hold a board or branch meeting specifically to devise a strategic plan for membership development. Use the *Membership Tool Kit* as a guide. Set branch goals: define what you want to accomplish, be specific and quantitative, define your target markets. Plan specific actions: identify strategies and timelines, outline specifically how you will accomplish each goal. Distribute a written copy of your membership strategic plan to every branch member.

Involve every branch member in recruitment and retention. Ask every member to submit contact information for three to five (or more) potential members to the membership vice president by August 1 so that they may be invited to the branch kick-off in September. Ask a long-time member to become a “buddy” to a new member. Organize carpools by geographic areas. Brainstorm where AAUW literature should be available and assign a group to see that the supplies are replenished. Find a way to put program announcements in PTO newsletters, teacher organization newsletters, business groups newsletters, etc. Post information about your branch and its activities on the state website. Schedule a new member orientation. Highlight new members in the branch newsletter. Provide opportunities for new members to meet other new members. Involve new members from first contact. None of these ideas are new or earthshaking. Strategies can be simple, but together they can become a successful membership plan.

As you develop your branch membership plan, “May your sights be set on the stars, may your spirits soar up to the sky, and may your feet always be on the ground.”

(© Kathy Davis)

I found the above quote on a card I received this week in the mail. I also received a mailing from my alma mater on the occasion of planning for its 100th anniversary. It was entitled “Vision 2015: Non-Negotiables, Challenges and Opportunities.” As we all ponder the Maine resolution and other resolutions for opening AAUW’s membership to those not holding a baccalaureate or higher degree, let us think of our personal vision for AAUW in the year 2015. Will the branch system exist? Will AAUW exist? What will it look like? As we make our decision on the future of AAUW we must hold dear our list of non-negotiables (for me, it’s our mission statement to promote equity and education for all women, lifelong learning and positive societal change), meet the challenges (to preserve all that is good about our organization while being open to change and growth), and welcome opportunities (too vast to enumerate). I urge each of you to look to the future and to choose wisely. Your organization depends on it.

Helpful Hits from Hollie

Dear Hollie,

I’ve heard that it’s easy to contact our legislators on issues important to every AAUW member using the Association website (www.aauw.org). How do I let my voice be heard?

Sincerely,

Armchair Activist

Dear Armchair Activist,

From the Association homepage (www.aauw.org) click on Take Action. Choose the make your voice heard on Capitol Hill link to get to Two-Minute Activist. It takes only two minutes to make your voice heard-- one minute to read, one minute to act! First, take one minute to read about the latest issue in Congress. Then, take one more minute to personalize a pre-written AAUW message and e-mail it to your member of Congress.

Dear Hollie,

I’m beginning to see that the Association website (www.aauw.org) and the state website (www.aauw-ma.org) are wonderful sources for all AAUW information. What should I do?

Yours in AAUW,

Light Dawning

Dear Light Dawning,

Visit the websites often to stay abreast of the latest AAUW happenings and to answer your questions. Suggest them to members and use them for new member orientation. Publish selections from them in your branch newsletter.

Hollie Bagley, AAUW-MA Membership VP

781 749-6274 or holbagley@aol.com

2003 Convention and Annual Meeting

April 26—27, 2003

At the Double Tree Guest Suites, Boston, MA

Introducing Dr. Elena Silva - Keynote Speaker



Dr. Elena Silva is the new Director of Research at the AAUW Educational Foundation. She previously worked as a researcher and instructor at the University of California-Berkeley where she earned her master's degree and doctorate in Education and served as a Spencer Foundation Research Fellow in the Center for Urban Education. She has also worked for educational nonprofit organizations including the Aspira Association in Washington, D. C. and Youth In Focus in Oakland, CA. Before heading west to California, Dr. Silva completed her undergraduate degree at U. Mass.-Amherst.

AAUW-MA Convention and Annual Meeting Weekend Overview April 26 - 27, 2003

Saturday, April 26

- 8:30a.m.- 9:00a.m. Registration
- 9:00a.m.- 4:15p.m. Educational and
Economic Equity for Women Program
- 6:00p.m.- 9:00p.m. Legal Advocacy Fund
Reception and Dinner
Program

Sunday, April 27

- 8:00a.m.- 9:00a.m. Eleanor Roosevelt Fund Walk
- 9:00a.m.- 9:30a.m. Showcasing Branch
Programs
- 9:30a.m.- 12:30p.m. Annual Meeting
- 12:30p.m.- 2:00p.m. Luncheon

Mark your calendar and plan to attend
LAF Night
Saturday, April 26, 2003
Celebrate our successes
Honor Branch and Individual Donors
Meet and hear Lynn Ilon



(Ilon v. The State University of New York at Buffalo)
speak about her case

Learn how you can help the LAF Plaintiffs
Find that special outfit and
come prepared to be informed
and to have fun

Please join us at the LAF Reception and Dinner

LAF...Speaking out for Justice in Higher Education!

Educational and Economic Equity for Women Program April 26, 2003

- 8:30 - 9:00 am** **Registration**
- 9:00 - 9:45 am** **“Overview of Educational and Economic Equity Issues for Women”
Dr. Elena Silva, Director of Research, AAUW**
- 10:00 - 11:15 am** **Student Perspectives on Educational and Economic Equity**
- 11:30 - 12:45 pm** **Workshops**
A. Longevity & Economic Issues: (TBA)
B. Women at Work Museum and AAUW: Katherine Honey, Carole Myers and Kris Occhino, Attleboro Branch Members
C. Equity Issues & Higher Education Employment: Dr. Lynn Ilon, LAF litigant
- 1:00 - 2:00 pm** **Lunch—Educational Foundation Awards - Elizabeth Kenney**
- 2:00 - 3:15 pm** **Workshops**
D. Longevity and Health Issues: NASW Committee Member
E. Homelessness: Give Us Your Poor: Laurie Peter
F. Infusing Diversity Activities in Schools: Jennifer Kilson-Page, Boston Higher Education Partnership, and Susan Maze-Rothstein, Northeastern Law School
- 3:30 - 4:15 pm** **Fellows Reflect on Careers and Equity
Issues: Elizabeth Kenney, Convener**

Program Co-sponsors: AAUW-MA, National Association of Social Work Committee of Social Workers Concerned with Chronic Illness and Disability

LAF Litigant will speak at Convention



Lynn Ilon (Ilon v. The State University of New York at Buffalo) will be the featured speaker at LAF Night and a workshop presenter at the State Convention on Saturday, April 26.

Ilon was an economist at the State University of New York at Buffalo, sued the university for sex discrimination, retaliation, and pay inequity. The Legal Advocacy Fund adopted her case in June 2001 and has contributed \$7,500.

AAUW-MA Annual Meeting

April 27, 2003

9:30 am	Welcome	Marion Kilson, President
9:35-10:35 am	Workshop: Using AAUW Research in Our Branches Elena Silva, Director of Research, AAUW Educational Foundation	
10:45-12:30 pm	Annual Business Meeting (Tentative Agenda)	
	Opening	Marion Kilson, President
	Roll Call of the Branches and Credentials Report	Kerry Degnan, Secretary
	Minutes 2002 Annual Meeting	Kerry Degnan, Secretary
	Treasurer's Report	Linda Britt, Treasurer
	Regional Director's Message	Lillian Colavecchio, R.D.
	Nominating Committee's Report	Traude Strohschneider, Chair
	Election of Officers	Marion Kilson
	President's Report	Marion Kilson
	Recognition of Outstanding Branch Leaders	Branch Presidents
	Membership Awards	Hollie Bagley
	Finale	Marion Kilson

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The following is the slate of nominees for the Annual Meeting and election at the Annual Meeting on April 27, 2003 at the Doubletree Guest Suites, Boston. All offices are for a two-year term, 2003-2005.

PROGRAM VICE PRESIDENT

Trudi Feinstein (MAL)

MEMBERSHIP VICE PRESIDENT

Rosemarie Buote (Taunton)

LEGAL ADVOCACY VICE PRESIDENT

Liz Fragola (Danvers -Topsfield)

TREASURER

Linda Britt (Danvers-Topsfield)

Respectfully submitted, The Nominating Committee

Traude Strohschneider, Chair (Plymouth)

Laurel McGregor (Taunton)

Susan Tatelman (Boston Branch)

Enid Wilson (Boston)

Bridget Fancher (Taunton) (Alternate)

Barbara Burgo (Taunton) (Alternate)

HOTEL INFORMATION
FOR STATE CONVENTION

A block of suites is being reserved for the nights of April 25 and 26 (\$129+12.45% tax/per night). To make a reservation call 1-800-222-Tree or the hotel directly at 617-783-0090 and ask for the “American Association of University Women Block.” Reservations will be accepted until March 26.

DoubleTree Guest Suites, 400 Soldiers Field Rd., Boston, MA is right off the Mass Pike on Soldiers Field Road, overlooking the Charles River; all rooms are “suites.”

Hotel Parking - \$5.00

Public Policy

Lois Pulliam, Chair

The Thirtieth Anniversary of the historic Roe v. Wade decision was held on one of Boston's coldest winter days in January, but there was a warm, standing-room-only crowd to hear Eileen McNamara of THE BOSTON GLOBE, and to see Dr. Phil Stubblefield receive an award for his unstinting and ongoing support for access to abortion for women.

As Dianne Luby, president and CEO of Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts wrote January 21st in the GLOBE, "President Bush has made his anti-choice political agenda apparent. Since his inauguration two years ago, he has taken 36 anti-choice actions. He endorsed the removal of medical information deemed contrary to an abstinence-only platform--like how to use a condom--from government Web sites, including the Centers for Disease Control. He sacrificed vital health care policy in an attempt to attribute personhood to a fetus, even going so far as to provide fetuses with health insurance instead of providing pregnant women with prenatal care. On the international front, he eliminated funding from the UNFPA, the largest multilateral family planning association providing family planning services to more than 150 countries. On his first day in office, he reinstated the onerous Global Gag Rule, preventing foreign organizations that accept US financial assistance from counseling their own patients about abortion, even in a country where it is legal".

Pro-choice men and women may take heart from a recent Alan Guttmacher study that indicates a drop in the abortion rate, and we can agree that the 5 % drop between 1996 and 2000 may simply reflect more of an array of birth control options. Perhaps, too, there is more sexual caution since AIDS became an international concern. Nevertheless, there is truth to the statement that "The Supreme Court is only one vote away from overturning Roe v. Wade." We know that influential anti-choice forces are trying to fill vacancies on the Federal Courts with like-minded judges, and that the next worry is filling whatever vacancy may appear in the Supreme Court. We know that in the 108th Congress, issues relating to reproductive choice will be front and center again. Opponents of choice are gearing up to achieve new restrictions during the first session. Congress is expected to take up legislation that would ban some late-term abortions. Also expected: a bill making it a crime to take minors across state lines for an abortion, avoiding parental notification laws that exist in some states.

Meanwhile, the Coalition for Choice will work to pass some legislation that will guarantee better health education for Massachusetts, as well as emergency contraception legislation.

Public Policy Updates....

Opening of the 108th Congress: Representative Nancy Pelosi became the first female leader of a party when she was elected Minority Leader of the House. Representative Deborah Pryce was elected Republican Conference Chair and is now the highest-ranking woman ever in the Republican Party. Senator Bill Frist became the Senate Majority Leader.

FY03 Omnibus Appropriations Bill: Urge members of Congress to fund the WEAA at \$3 million.

Appropriations and Reproductive-Health Care: Urge members of Congress to support adequate funding for International Family Planning and Title X family planning programs. Further, urge members of Congress to fund only comprehensive sex-education programs as opposed to abstinence-only programs.

Bush Economic Plan: Urge members of Congress to support only economic recovery plans that provide short-term economic stimulus that is fiscally responsible and equitable, including aid to states to assist them in responding to their fiscal crises.

Federal Judicial Nominations: Urge ALL senators to block Miguel Estrada's confirmation to the U. S. Court of Appeals for the D. C. Circuit. Further, tell Senate Judiciary Committee members to vote only for judicial nominees who have participated in committee hearings, responded to senators' questions, and have a demonstrated commitment to upholding civil and constitutional rights for all Americans.

Threats to Title IX in Athletics: Tell members of Congress about your strong support for Title IX and urge members of Congress to tell President Bush and Secretary Paige to make no changes to Title IX and its enforcement mechanisms.

Reproductive Rights: Urge members of Congress to oppose the so-called Child Custody Protection Act, the Unborn Victims of Violence Act, and the so-called Abortion Non-Discrimination Act.

Contraceptive Coverage: Urge members of Congress to co-sponsor and support passage of EPICC.

Welfare Reauthorization: Urge members of Congress to support only welfare reauthorization bills that increase access to education and training programs, set realistic work requirements (30 hours), increase child-care funding, and extend the FVO to all states.

DIRECTIONS TO DOUBLE TREE SUITES

400 Soldiers Field Rd., Boston, MA

Hotel Parking - \$5.00

FROM the SOUTH:

Take Route 3 North, which becomes the SOUTHEAST EXPRESSWAY. Take the MASS. PIKE exit toward DOWNTOWN/CHINATOWN. Take the MASS. TURNPIKE WESTBOUND. Go about 3 miles and take exit 20 toward BRIGHTON/CAMBRIDGE. Take the ramp toward CAMBRIDGE/SOMERVILLE and merge onto CAMBRIDGE ST. After 1/4 mile, turn right onto SOLDIERS FIELD RD.

FROM the WEST:

Take the MASS. TURNPIKE WESTBOUND (portions are toll). Take exit 18 on the left toward CAMBRIDGE/SOMERVILLE. Merge onto CAMBRIDGE ST. After 1/4 mile, turn right onto SOLDIERS FIELD RD.

FROM the NORTH:

Take I-93, I-95, or Route 1 south towards Boston. Take the I-93 S/US-1 S exit toward Boston/Cape Cod. Take the ramp toward Storrow Drive; keep LEFT at the fork in the ramp. Take ramp and merge onto STORROW DRIVE. Storrow Drive becomes SOLDIERS FIELD RD. Take the ramp toward CENTRAL SQ. I-90/MASS. PIKE then turn LEFT onto CAMBRIDGE ST. Turn LEFT onto SOLDIERS FIELD RD.

AAUW-MA SELECTED

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

AAUW-MA is one of two states selected to participate in the AAUW CONFERENCE FOR COLLEGE WOMEN STUDENT LEADERS PILOT PROGRAM!

AAUW-MA applied to participate in this program in order to

- **Achieve greater visibility for AAUW-MA with Boston area colleges and their women students,**
- **Provide advocacy and leadership development training for undergraduate students,**
- **Create replicable conference model for AAUW-MA branches.**

Volunteers are needed for the team that will plan and implement this program next October. If you are interested in being part of the team, please contact Marion Kilson (781-862-0760; marionkilson@worldnet.att.net).

State Convention Registration: Early Registration Deadline - Saturday, April 12, 2003

Send registration form and check to: Linda Britt, Registrar, 16 Ellsworth Rd., Peabody, MA 01960
Check payable to AUW-MA 978-531-6116 or Lbritt@vnab.org

Registration for State Convention and Annual Meeting—April 26-27, 2003

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

E-mail _____

Please indicate your first and second workshop choices for each Workshop Session. Every effort will be made to give you your first choices.

Morning Workshop - 1st Choice _____ 2nd Choice _____ (Use Workshop Letter from page 4)

Afternoon Workshop - 1st Choice _____ 2nd Choice _____ **(Fee after**

Check the program(s) and meal(s) you plan to attend: **April 12, 2003)**

_____ Weekend Package \$ 100.00 (\$125.00)

(Morning coffee, 2 luncheons, Sat. Dinner and program materials) **

_____ Saturday Package \$ 50.00 (\$ 60.00)

(Morning coffee, deli lunch and program materials)

_____ Saturday Night Dinner \$ 55.00 (\$ 65.00)

(LAF program, cash bar reception, and dinner)**

_____ Sunday Workshop and Annual Meeting \$ 50.00 (\$ 60.00)

(Morning coffee, luncheon and program materials)

**Check here if you need a vegetarian option _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

NEWS FROM THE BRANCHES

WORCESTER WOMEN'S HISTORY PROJECT

Presents a Panel Discussion on
**“Women’s Activism and Leadership,
Yesterday and Today”**

Saturday, March 22, 2003

2:30 pm to 4:30 pm

Worcester Public Library, Saxe Room

Please join us for a lively and stimulating afternoon with activists and leaders willing to share stories about their experiences, reflect on the changes they have witnessed in the community, and offer advice on how best to meet the challenges ahead.

Our panelists bring a wealth of experience:

Vera Dowden Baldwin, first woman Dean of Worcester State College, Worcester Women’s Club member
Eleanor Hawley, first Chair of Human Rights Commission in Worcester
Barbara Kohin, former City Councilor and president of the Worcester League of Women Voters
Ruth Rodriguez, director of Centro Las Americas and delegate to the UN’s Nairobi Conference on Women
Earleana Yelverton, president of NAACP of Worcester and member of the city’s committee on hate crimes

Gathering songs by WWHP’s Uppity Women Singers, director Lisa Cohane and manager Nancy Avila

Free and Open to the Public -- Light Refreshments

For more information, contact WWHP by calling 508-767-1852, or e-mail info@wwhp.org.

COLLEGE CLUB OF NEW BEDFORD

Congratulations to Alice Pfeninger, College Club of New Bedford Branch’s Public Policy Chair who was voted 2002 Massachusetts Principal of the Year. She is the first administrator from a Vocational Technical High School in the Commonwealth to receive this honor.

A Dartmouth resident, Alice has served as principal at the Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational-Technical High School for 11 years. She was a teacher in several nursing programs and at the school before becoming supervisor in 1988 and principal just 2 years later.

Each year, the Massachusetts Administration of Secondary School Principals selects one principal of the year at the middle school level and one at the high school level as part of a MetLife-sponsored recognition program.

Winners are chosen based on demonstrated success in the areas of educational leadership, resolving complex programs, development of themselves and others, and community service.

Alice, a longtime educator is responsible for overseeing 26 vocational programs and supervising the voc-tech coordinators, summer school, the summer exploratory program and the evening adult education program.