



MISSION & ACTION e-News

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

January/February 2010

AAUW on Campus



Support the 25th Anniversary of NCCWSL!

Early-bird registration for the [2010 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders](#) opens on February 15! Early-bird rates remain the same amount as last year. Please [support the conference](#) by sending students from your community or by giving to [NCCWSL scholarship fund #2504](#) or [NCCWSL general support fund #2505](#).

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National Girls and Women in Sports Day

To commemorate National Girls and Women in Sports Day, AAUW [co-sponsored an event](#) in January with the Washington Mystics professional women's basketball team at the University of Maryland. You can celebrate girls in sports by evaluating your local high schools' athletics compliance with Title IX using the AAUW [Title IX Compliance: Know the Score Program in a Box](#). Also, be sure to read [Her Life Depends on It – II](#), the latest research report on the topic by the Women's Sports Foundation, a partner for Know the Score.

E-Student Affiliate Opportunity

Use AAUW's [FREE e-student affiliate initiative](#) to recruit undergraduate students who do not already have a bachelor's degree and who currently attend an AAUW college/university partner institution. Branches and states can use the Member Services Database to encourage local e-student affiliates to become branch and state members. State and branch college/university relations officers, membership vice presidents, and presidents now have access to the information they need to offer students the opportunity to join AAUW.

AAUW's Social Media Resources



AAUW Bloggers Participate in Work-Life Blog Carnival

AAUW advocates for [policies that support workers and their needs](#). Work-life balance issues affect not just women but everyone. To raise awareness of these issues, AAUW is participating in Fem2.0's [Work-Life Blog Carnival](#) on February 6–13. This week of blogging will be devoted to changing the way we talk about work-life balance to be more inclusive and enact change. [To learn more and join us](#), visit the AAUW Dialog blog.

Chapter Leaders Playground — New Leadership Partner

The [Chapter Leaders Playground](#) is an online community for volunteer leaders from across organizations. Your AAUW membership gives you access to more than 40 30-minute leadership webinars a year to help you achieve even greater success as a state or branch leader. AAUW has officially launched a partnership with Cynthia D'Amour, author of *The Lazy Leader's Guide to Outrageous Results*, who specializes in helping associations get members involved. Cynthia and the Chapter Leaders Playground are valuable resources to help you grow your branches and be more successful as leaders. [Join today!](#)

AAUW News and Notes

2010 AAUW Art Contest Voting Begins February 12!

Now through February 10, enter your art in the 2010 AAUW art contest! Then, starting February 12, you can cast your vote for your favorite artwork. The winning entries will be used in the upcoming 2010–11 AAUW calendar. For more information and to see this year's gallery, [visit the AAUW website](#).

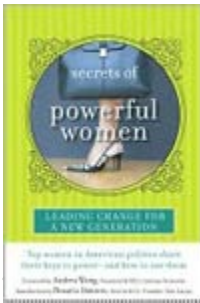


March Is Women's History Month

AAUW will be celebrating National Women's History Month in March. Check the [AAUW website](#), [our blog](#), or [AAUW's Facebook page](#) during March to see what activities we have planned. We'll also be tweeting about women's accomplishments throughout history, so be sure to [follow AAUW](#) if you have a Twitter account, and join us for our weekly Twitter event, #wmnhist, on Wednesdays.

AAUW Public Policy Fund Pins — and a Bonus!

For the first time at AAUW, you can show your [support for advocacy for women and girls](#) — and get a tax deduction. Contribute \$100 or more to the [AAUW Public Policy Fund](#) and receive the fund's first annual pin. As a special bonus, we will mail you a copy of the book [Secrets of Powerful Women](#) (a \$14.99 value) personally signed by Lisa Maatz, AAUW's director of public policy and government relations. Lisa is among the women — members of Congress, journalists, actors, CEOs, and activists — who each wrote a chapter of the book, and she will ask one of the other authors to sign your book as well. Please support this crucial work with a [tax-deductible contribution through our secure website](#).



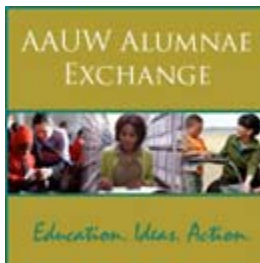
Leadership Corps Offers Support at All Levels

[Leadership Corps](#) is a member involvement opportunity created to support branches, states, and members at large. These volunteer member leaders seek to develop new branches, maximize member awareness and engagement, and improve communication among all levels of AAUW. AAUW state presidents recently participated in two conference calls with the Leadership Corps grassroots liaisons, AAUW President Carolyn Garfein, AAUW Executive Director Linda Hallman, and staff. If you would like assistance with branch programming or administration, please complete the [online form](#).

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Hallman Attends Health Sector Assembly

AAUW Executive Director Linda Hallman continues to be invited to the prestigious Health Sector Assembly and now serves on its advisory committee. Her involvement began when she was the executive director of the American Medical Women's Association. The assembly is an annual gathering of health care constituencies including employers, consumers, government, foundations, industry, economists, and selected providers.



Fellowship and Grant Alumnae News

AAUW continues to reconnect with [former fellowship and grant recipients](#) and to highlight their amazing accomplishments in [AAUW Dialog](#). We recently launched the [AAUW Alumnae Exchange](#), an exclusive social networking community where former fellowship and grant recipients can connect and share resources. The site now has more than 125 AAUW alumnae members from around the world. If you know any former recipients, please tell them about the Alumnae Exchange.

AAUW Book Sales and Lead Testing Requirements for Children's Books

In January 2009, the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) released updated guidelines regarding lead in consumer products. These guidelines included a clause that books would be subject to the same lead testing as children's toys and other products, despite previous testing of children's books showing they contain far less (and far safer) levels of lead than toys do. Because of concerns that such a provision could negatively affect branch book sales, AAUW began working with the American Library Association on this issue. Responding to complaints, the CPSC announced in February 2009 that it was implementing a year-long "grace period" under which certain entities would not have to abide by the new guidelines, including purveyors of children's books. This stay was originally scheduled to expire in February 2010, but the CPSC recently voted to extend it through February 2011. Thus, **the guidelines do not affect AAUW branch book sales**. AAUW will continue to monitor the situation and will provide updates as appropriate.

AAUW's Global Connections

International Women's Day

In conjunction with our partners at [CARE](#), AAUW is planning to celebrate International Women's Day on March 4, 2010, with an event based on Nicholas Kristof's acclaimed book *Half the Sky*. Visit the [AAUW International Corner](#) for updates. Would you like a local speaker from CARE for your branch or state event? E-mail groups@care.org, and Helen Robinson will do her best to accommodate you!



Global Reproductive Health Conference

On January 8, AAUW Executive Director Linda Hallman attended an event with Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton marking the 15th anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development ([ICDP](#)). Clinton [spoke](#) about U.S. support of the ICPD goals of universal access to reproductive health care around the globe by 2015. AAUW's [2009-11 Public Policy Program](#) declares our support for international family planning programs and increased access to health care.

Public Policy News

AAUW Prepares for Equal Pay Day

AAUW continues preparations to mark Equal Pay Day on Tuesday, April 20. State public policy chairs from across the country participated in conference calls led by AAUW public policy and government relations staff focused on advancing the [Paycheck Fairness Act](#), planning for Equal Pay Day, and including [pay equity programming](#) in state conventions and branch activities. [Find out how to get involved](#), download our [Pay Equity Resource Kit](#) and [Equal Pay Day Program in a Box](#), and [order AAUW "Women at a Discount" posters and stickers](#) for use at AAUW events, meetings, programs, and protests.



AAUW Releases Congressional Voting Record and First-Year Report on Obama

AAUW recently released a comprehensive analysis of President Barack Obama's first year in office and the [AAUW Action Fund](#) scorecard of congressional votes. [The Obama Administration's First Year: A Progress Report on AAUW Priority Issues](#) and the [Congressional Voting Record](#) for the first session of the 111th Congress outline the AAUW priority issues that became law in 2009 and demonstrate that real progress is being made on the issues that matter most to women and their families. See how your members of Congress voted and then [encourage them to support our issues](#).

Lobby Corps Preps for New Congressional Session

The AAUW Action Fund [Capitol Hill Lobby Corps](#) hosted a training in January to welcome new members and to begin preparing for the new congressional session. Members in the D.C. area, or those visiting D.C., are invited to join the Lobby Corps volunteers on Thursday mornings as they give AAUW a voice and a face on Capitol Hill. To join or to learn more, contact VoterEd@aauw.org.

AAUW Marks One-Year Anniversary of Ledbetter Enactment

AAUW marked the one-year anniversary of the enactment of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act on January 29 with a renewed push for the passage of the [Paycheck Fairness Act \(S. 182\)](#). Lilly Ledbetter and AAUW Director of Public Policy and Government Relations Lisa Maatz attended meetings with key senators in Washington, D.C., and [Action Network](#) members around the country [urged their senators](#) to take the next critical step in the fight for pay equity by quickly passing this much-needed update of the Equal Pay Act. [See what the wage gap is in your state](#), learn more about the [Paycheck Fairness Act](#), and read [Lilly Ledbetter's letter](#) supporting the bill.

New Programs in a Box Now Available

New public policy Programs in a Box are now [available online](#) to help members consider and choose programs for their branches. The Programs in a Box, which contain downloadable resources and steps for program implementation, focus on hosting an issue-specific women's summit or public policy brunch, taking action on Equal Pay Day, meeting with a public official, ensuring Title IX compliance, and more.



Members Take Action on Health Care Debate

As a member of the [Stop Stupak Coalition](#), AAUW participated in national action days in December and January. AAUW members from neighboring states came to D.C. to lobby and attend a Capitol Hill rally, while other members participated in events in their local communities. Contact your senators now and urge them to [end the practice of gender rating](#) and [protect women's access to complete reproductive health care coverage](#) as the health care debate continues.

AAUW Executive Director at White House Events on STEM Education

AAUW Executive Director Linda Hallman attended several White House events in December and January with President Barack Obama, Education Secretary Arne Duncan, and other administration, business, university, and foundation officials to discuss the administration's [Educate to Innovate](#) campaign. The campaign aims to prepare more than 10,000 new math and science teachers over five years and provide training and development for more than 100,000 current teachers in the science, technology, engineering, and math fields.

Science and Technology Updates



National Girls Collaborative Project

Last year the [National Girls Collaborative Project network](#) provided collaboration opportunities to more than 2,500 programs in 28 states. Check out the latest [NGCP newsletter](#) highlighting recent and upcoming activities for girls in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). Does your AAUW state or branch have a STEM program? Don't forget to include it in the [NGCP program directory](#) and share your success and ideas with others.

National Lab Day Offers Role Model Opportunities

In November, President Barack Obama announced the establishment of [National Lab Day](#), an effort supported by AAUW, NGCP, and more than 200 other organizations to bring hands-on learning to 10 million students. Are you a teacher, scientist, engineer, or professor? [Sign up as a volunteer or mentor](#).

AAUW Member Benefits

New AAUW Partner: Paperwork, Etc.

Just in time for state conventions, this [new AAUW partner](#) can create customized products for your convention or for branch giveaways, speakers' gifts, and recruitment incentives. Visit [Paperwork, Etc.](#) today for your state and branch needs.



Branch Fundraisers

Looking for creative ways to raise funds for your branch? AAUW partners [Better World Books](#), [The Princeton Review](#), [VirtuArte](#), and [World Medical Card](#) all include fundraising programming for your branch. Contact [Cordy Galligan](#), AAUW director of corporate relationships, today to learn more.



World Medical Card

Protect yourself, those closest to you, and your entire community from medical error! Now, every AAUW member receives a [FREE World Medical Card](#), and friends and family get a significant discount. Visit [World Medical Card](#) today and learn how you can use this benefit to raise funds for your branch programming as well!



ShopAAUW

Leave your state convention with AAUW memorabilia you won't find elsewhere! ShopAAUW is offering a limited selection of [discontinued merchandise](#) at remarkable prices in addition to must-have items under [Branch Necessities](#). Visit [ShopAAUW](#) today or call 866/225-9998 to order.

We welcome your comments on *AAUW Mission & Action*. Please send feedback to editor@aauw.org.

Mission & Action, a bimonthly bulletin that brings AAUW news and updates directly to your e-mail box, is mailed to all AAUW members who have provided an e-mail address with their membership information. If you would like to update your membership information or e-mail address, please do so

[online](#) or by e-mail to records@aauw.org. Members can [read previous editions](#) of *Mission & Action* online.

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Breaking through Barriers

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