



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

A A U W

VANTAGE

May 2004

Long Beach Branch, Vol. 33 Issue 9

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Health Care and Managed Health Care Plans What Is AAUW's Stand on These Important Issues?

Fay Denny and Lynn Rodriguez, Co-Presidents

Written by: Fay Denny

Our branch meeting for May features a panel of health care experts and their perspectives of current health care issues. As AAUW members, we need to be aware of what our organization supports so that we may add our political voices to those lobbying for health care legislation.

AAUW supports access to quality health care for all women and their families. Today, 75 percent of privately insured Americans are enrolled in managed care health plans, yet many consumers report widespread problems: denial of access to medical specialists; refusal to pay for emergency room visits; lack of information about policies and procedures; and arbitrary limits on medical care. These problems disproportionately affect women because they are the majority of enrollees in managed health care plans and make many of the health care decisions for themselves and their families.

AAUW believes that Congress should enact enforceable federal standards to assure a minimum level of quality and protections for every consumer covered by managed health care plans. These standards must address the unique health care needs of women, including reproductive health. Any managed care reform legislation enacted into law should do the following:

Improve the accountability of health plans by

- Ensuring that when care is denied or limited, patients have access to adequate legal recourse and a genuinely independent external review of their claim.
- Allowing individuals to sue their health plan if they are harmed by the failure of their plan to comply with an external reviewer's decision.

Improve access to health care services for women and their families by

- Ensuring that women have direct access to ob-gyn services from any obstetrics and gynecological specialist participating in the health plan
- Requiring that insurance companies pay for emergency services if a reasonable person would consider the situation an emergency
- Guaranteeing access to clinical trials that may save lives
- Ensuring that pregnant women can continue to see the same health care provider throughout pregnancy even if their provider leaves their health plan or their employer changes plans
- Requiring plans to allow doctors to disclose to patients all available medical options and to advocate on behalf of their patients

Improve the quality of health plans for women and their families by

- Ensuring that managed care plans incorporate gender-specific and pediatric-specific medicine when they develop written clinical review criteria
- Requiring that managed care plans provide important information to consumers regarding their health plans' policies, procedures, benefits, and other requirements.

As we listen to our panelists, keep our AAUW standards in mind. Managed health care issues will be important political issues for this next election. How will the presidential and congressional candidates line up with AAUW's viewpoint? Stay tuned!

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
MISSION STATEMENT

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

BRANCH NEWS

BRANCH MEETING

Saturday, May 1, 2004

At 9:30 a.m. at the CSULB Chart Room

JOINT BOARD MEETING

Monday, May 17, 2004

At 6:30 p.m. at the AAUW Headquarters

BOARD BRIEF

Barbara Gleason, Co-Secretary

At the March 15, 2004, Board of Directors Meeting, regular business was conducted.

- Ellen Mathis, Diane Bradfield, Darlene Daclan, Gail Morrison, Lisa Monteiro, and others to a total of seven members were elected to be voting delegates to the California State Convention during April 23-25, 2004. Motion passed.
- The Branch will pay the State Convention registration fee of \$225 for Co-President Fay Denny. Motion passed.

COURTESY

Mary Orr, Courtesy Chair

We're happy to learn that Jane Sellers is slowly progressing at her Rehab Center. She can be visited at Broadway By The Sea, 2725 East Broadway, Room 5B, Long Beach. No phone calls please.

Dr. Lou Es Greene Underwent a complete knee surgery on March 29th and will be incapacitated for quite some time learning to walk again. A get well card was sent on our behalf to both Jane and Lou Es.

Birthday greetings to all May celebrants.

Dream of the joys to come, hold tight to the joys that are here.

COMMUNITY

Lorna Menke, Community Chair, (562) 431-3762

On March 24, 2004, donations were delivered to Women's Shelter and to Mary Bethune Transitional Center. If you have any items to donate, please bring them to St. Luke's, to the May 1st Branch meeting or call me for pick up. Also, remember donations to School on Wheels. They request books, Backpacks, and school supplies. The recipients of these items are homeless children in Los Angeles County.

Thank you for your continued support.

MEMBER NEWS

AAUW Long Beach Branch member, Dr. Sherry L. Meinberg, is a finalist in the ForeWord Magazine's Book of the Year Awards in the True Crime category. She is thrilled with this honor, and is asking that you hold a good thought for her. Dr. Meinberg's third book, *The Bogeyman: Stalking And Its Aftermath*, represents her personal history as it pertains to her stalking experiences. The book covers over 40-plus years, with all the events taking place locally, in Long Beach, Lakewood, Bellflower, and Seal Beach. According to the FBI, she is the longest-stalked person in the nation. The companion self-help book, *Toxic Attention: Keeping Safe From Stalkers, Abusers, and Intruders* followed as a result of so many women's questions and needs. Total strangers are always approaching her with their stories and their suggestions are a way in which she can help.

<p>AAUW-LONG BEACH WEBSITE: http://www.aauw-longbeach.org Webmaster: George Jackson – email him at gl_jackson@hotmail.com</p>

MAY PROGRAM

MAY PROGRAM A Panel of Health Care Experts

Betty Ann Rauch, Program, Co-Vice President

The May meeting of the Long Beach Branch will feature a distinguished panel of health care experts. The panel includes: Theresa J. Marino, Manager of the Long Beach Bureau of Public Health; Don R. McCanne, M.D.; and Judy Sebring, Director of Rehab Services at Good Samaritan Hospital in San Jose, California. They will speak on their efforts to expand access to quality health care. Ample time will also be reserved to answer questions from our members and guests.

Theresa J. Marino is the manager of the Bureau of Public Health in the Department of Health and Human Service (DHHS) for the City of Long Beach. She holds a Bachelor's Degree from Antioch University in Public Administration and a Master's Degree in Gerontology for California State University, Long Beach. Leading to her current position, Theresa was also the program coordinator Of Health Promotions/Tobacco Education Program for the DHHS as well as a consultant for the Community Development Department of the DHHS. She is a member of both the American Public Health Association and the Southern California Public Health Association. For the last 10 years, she has been a mentor to elementary to college age students interested in the public health and human services fields. Theresa enjoys running and walking with her two Rottweilers and is also a watercolor artist.



Dr. Don McCanne received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California at Riverside in 1959 and a M.D. from the University of California at San Francisco in 1963. After serving two years as a medical officer in the U.S Army, he practiced for over 30 years in San Clemente, California. He is a Charter Diplomate of the American Board of Family Practice, and a Charter Fellow and Life Member of the American Academy of Family Physicians. He has served as Chief of Staff of his community hospital and as Chairman of the Board of a community bank. He has dedicated his remaining productive years to health care reform activism: speaking and writing on a universal health care program and other policies expanding health coverage, access, and affordability. He served as President of Physicians for a National Health Program for two terms, in 2002 and 2003.

Judy Sebring is Director of Rehab Services at Good Samaritan Hospital in San Jose, California. She manages the Departments of Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Cardiac Rehab Nurses, and speech pathologists. She is a Member and past President of California State Physical Therapists Association and a representative to the national association. Judy is also the daughter of AAUW member, Helen Sebring.



Long Beach Branch's Tech Trek Girls

This is the 7th year the AAUW- Long Beach Branch will send girls to Tech Trek Science Camp. This year the Branch will be sending Ashley and Sara to camp at Whittier College, August 8-14.



Ashley J.

Ashley says “In the science fair, I’ve made crystals, a volcano and tested gravity.”



Sara A.

Sara says “I really like math and science.”

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PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE

Recommended Changes to Amend Title IX Regulations

Carolyn Magnuson and Joyce Blasnek, Public Policy, Co-Chairs

A message from Angela Colaiuta, Field Director of the AAUW in Washington D.C. discusses the new recommended changes to amend Title IX Regulations. The Department of Education, on March 3, 2004, recommended these changes to provide more flexibility to educators to establish single-sex classes and schools at the elementary and secondary levels.

The AAUW recommends that we email the U.S Department of Education at singlesexcomments@ed.gov and urge them to not amend the regulations governing single sex education under Title IX. Your message must have the subject line "Single-Sex Proposed Regulations Comments" to be counted as an official comment. The deadline for comments is April 23, 2004.

Currently, Title IX regulations already allow for the establishment of single-sex schools and classrooms in certain situations as long as comparable education opportunities are created for the excluded sex. In fact, there are currently 24 single-sex public schools in the United States. Single-sex classes and schools can be created to remedy past discrimination to allow girls and women to overcome historical barriers to equal education. Other specific circumstances in Title IX allows for single-sex classes are competitive athletics, human sexuality classes, and choirs.

But, with the recommended changes to Title IX, the new regulations would throw out the most basic legal standards prohibiting sex discrimination in education. The Administration's proposed regulation change authorizes the most general and even admittedly unproven assertions as adequate justification for sex-segregated schools and classes. Schools would be able to create and parents would be able to demand separate programs to which only boys or only girls may apply, based on any untested belief that it would bring some sort of educational benefit.

More specifically, AAUW is concerned about the proposed regulations change because these regulations divert attention away from the real education problems. The REAL problems in education are lack of funding, a shortage of good teachers, overcrowded classrooms, inadequate facilities and poor technology in the classroom. This Administration should be implementing sound, proven strategies that lead to results. Instead, they want to experiment on our children – and gut civil rights laws in the process.

The proposed regulations pose NO accountability requirements consistent with the No Child Left Behind Act. Although NCLB placed a premium on implementing strategies that are based on sound science, the proposed regulations break from this standard. Schools are not required to demonstrate that there is a significant education problem needing to be fixed, and they are not required to demonstrate that single-sex classes or schools fix such a problem. Schools will have authority to "tinker" with gender equity without having to prove grounds that such actions are even necessary. Furthermore, while the regulations suggest that schools evaluate single-sex practices periodically, there is no requirement that the schools report these interval evaluations to the Office of Civil Rights (OCR), or that the evaluations be scientifically valid or reliable.

These regulations are unnecessary. Title IX already allows flexibility. They would undermine the standard that separate is inherently unequal. Although the regulations require "substantially equal" opportunities for both sexes, they do not require equal opportunities class-by-class or even subject-by-subject. Schools are only required to offer "substantially equal" coeducational class for the excluded sex. By making the case that single-sex classes or schools are better in certain situations, schools would be necessarily creating an unequal learning environment where they only have to provide that benefit to one sex.

Less than one month before the anniversary marking the 50th anniversary of Brown versus the Board of Education, where the Supreme Court said that separate is NOT equal in education, this Administration will implement new policies allowing gender discrimination in public schools.

Take the time to email the U.S Department of Education!

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION UPDATE

Kee DeBoer, EF Vice President

In addition to many fellowships and research grants, the Educational Foundation also presents special awards to outstanding scholars and organizations.

The highest special award given by the Foundation is the Achievement Award, presented to a woman of outstanding achievement in an academic or professional field. First presented in 1943, the award went to Dr. Florence Seibert for research on the tuberculosis vaccine. Subsequent award winners have included Barbara McClintock, Rachel Carson, Margaret Mead, Marian Wright Edelman, and Rita Colwell. This year Gloria Steinem received the prestigious award.

The Emerging Scholar Award recognizes an exceptional scholar who, through outstanding contributions in her academic field, shows potential for future achievement. It was established in 1972, and Linda Weavers was the 2003-2004 recipient for her work in the field of environmental engineering.

The Annie Jump Cannon Award is given each year to a woman astronomer pursuing postgraduate studies. Presented in collaboration with the American Astronomical Society, it is named for a woman astronomer at Harvard Observatory. Annette Ferguson, the latest recipient, was honored for her research in the field of evolution of galaxies.

The National Women's Law Center received this year's Eleanor Roosevelt Fund Research and Development Award. The Center focuses on issues that matter most to women and girls – education, employment, family economic security, and health.

Through the award program, the AAUW Educational Foundation honors excellence, and acts to encourage and increase educational opportunities for talented scholars.

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

Hooray For Cal State University San Bernardino

Lou Es Greene and JoAnn Kuroda, LAF Co- Chairs

Amidst all the hand ringing about the condition of women on the nation's campuses, there is good news emerging from Cal State University San Bernardino (CSUSB). The University's Associated Students publication, The Coyote Chronicle, which has been serving the University community for 37 years, reported in the February issue that the University has more than the national average of women in the sciences as detailed by a national study. The full text of the national study can be found at http://now.org/issues/diversity_report.pdf. The text of the local study found that in CSUSB's College of Natural Sciences, women are 31% of the physics professors while the national average is 10.6%. The University's Chemistry department is made of 27% women, where the national average is 12.1%. The Biology department has more women than the national average of 20.1% with 21% women in the department. Additionally, two of the nine natural sciences department heads are women, in contrast to other campuses, that frequently have no female department chairs. What wonderful news!

AAUW CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES DISTRICT LEADERSHIP DAY

WHEN: Saturday, May 29, 2004 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

WHERE: Arcadia Community Center, 365 Campus Drive, Arcadia, CA

COST: \$26 per person for reservations received by May 22, 2004

\$31 per person for reservations received on or after May 23, 2004

Includes morning refreshments, lunch, and reserved handouts.

WHAT: The training will feature outstanding presenters and many new scripts. Responding to a request to offer something for longtime members who have already filled every job in the branch, the day will feature a special attraction, "Committing Acts of Community," a talk by Corrine McGuigan, Ph.D, Provost of Pacific Oaks College. Dr. McGuigan presented this talk with great response at the 2003 AAUW CA Convention.

Antiques and Collections	2 nd Thursday	1:30 a.m.	Barbara Gleason	421-2206
Book Chat Plus*	4 th Monday	1:30 – 3:30 p.m.	Jean Friedrichs	598-9218
Day Gourmet	5 th Thursday	12 – 2:30 p.m.	Elizabeth Jackson	494-0979
Film Fans			Marilyn Fortier	421-5838
Golf at Bixby	Every Wednesday	8:15 a.m.	Betty Bragg	(714) 897-7184
Great Books	1 st Monday	1 – 3 p.m.	Linda Patten	402-6831
Friday Bridge**	2 nd Friday	9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Cathy Cunningham	424-3166
Other Wednesday Bridge*	1 st , 3 rd Wednesday	12 – 4 p.m.	Emily Elgin	498-4646
			Marlys Pfrimmer	598-4161
Saturday Bridge*	3 rd Saturday	12:30 – 3:30 p.m.	Louise Sperr	425-6231
Wall Street Stocks Discussion Group*	1 st Thursday	1 - 3 p.m.	Dorothy Anderson	597-7645

*Meets at Branch Headquarters @ 525 East 7th Street, Long Beach 90813

**Meets at the Petroleum Club

AAUW BRANCH MEETING

Saturday, May 1, 2004

California State University, Long Beach

Chart Room (Pacific Room)

6049 E. 7th Street

Long Beach, CA

Networking: 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Business Meeting: 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Program: 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Lunch: 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Menu: Grilled Gingeryaki Glazed Chicken Breast
 Seasonal Vegetables
 Green Salad
 Rolls and Beverages
 Carrot Cake
 Vegetarian Meal Available

Cost: \$18

Parking: Parking will be in Lot 4 immediately adjacent to the Chart Room, with Lot 5 also available. A campus map may be picked up at the Visitor Information Center near the Bellflower Blvd. entrance. No permit is necessary for Lot 4, which will be open, but a permit is required for gated Lot 5. A permit with the day's code for the gate may be obtained at the Visitor Center. Lot 4 is most easily approached from the Bellflower Blvd. entrance. It is the first lot after the road curves past the fountain. Take the first of two parallel entrances; the second leads to a loading zone. The entrance to Lot 5 is about 50 yards beyond.

Carpooling is suggested.

RESERVATION RETURN:

Send your registration and check payable to AAUW, Long Beach Branch. Please mail to: **Gail Morrison, 38 Quincy Ave., Long Beach, CA 90803.**

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS:

Monday, April 26, 2004

Member(s) _____

Phone (Day) _____ Evening _____

Guest(s) _____

Address(s) _____

Phone _____

No. of Reservations _____ Amount Enclosed _____

I would like to make _____ reservation(s) for the **meeting and program only.**

Vegetarian Meal preferred _____

MAY 2004

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 BRANCH MEETING 9:30 a.m.
2	3 Great Books 1-3 p.m.	4	5 Golf @ Bixby 8:30 a.m. Other Wed. Bridge 12- 4 p.m.	6 Wall Street Stocks 1-3 p.m.	7	8 MATH/ SCIENCE CONFERENCE 9:00 a.m.
9	10	11	12 Golf @ Bixby 8:30 a.m.	13 Antiques & Collectibles 1:30 p.m.	14 Friday Bridge 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	15 Saturday Bridge 12:30-3:30 p.m.
16	17 JOINT BOARD MEETING 6:30 p.m.	18	19 Golf @ Bixby 8:30 a.m. Other Wed. Bridge 12- 4 p.m.	20	21	22
23 30	24 Book Chat Plus 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. 31	25	26 Golf @ Bixby 8:30 a.m.	27	28	29

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In principle and 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, or disability.