

## Looking Back... and to the Future

Saturday, February 4, 2017

Flo Pickett  
Public Policy Chair



### A Conversation on Race and Color: a Women's Perspective Panel Discussion

The February 4<sup>th</sup> Brunch meeting program will be a panel discussion on race in America from a women's perspective. We celebrate Black History annually so that we can become more knowledgeable about the civil rights movement in America. *"To Guarantee equality, individual rights and social justice for a diverse society, AAUW CA advocates vigorous protection of and full access to civil and constitutional rights for all Americans."* (2015-17 Public Policy Action Priorities)

Our Panelists are:

**Pamela A. Lewis, M.S.** Commission on the Status of Women at CSULB.

She has a B.A. in Communication Studies and an M.S. in Counseling and Student Development - both from CSULB. She serves as Assistant Director of Conduct and Title IX investigator for Housing and Residential Life at CSULB. In 2010, she was appointed Operations Manager. Her main interest is in student development.

**Ebony Utley, PhD.** Associate Professor Communications Studies at CSULB. She teaches undergraduate and graduate courses on intimacy, popular culture, and technology. Dr. Utley's expertise has been featured on The Oprah Winfrey Network and other radio, print and online outlets.

**Dr. Vanessa Gavin-Headen, M.D.** Kaiser-Permanente Health Care. She graduated from UCLA School of Medicine in 1995. She has been involved with Hippocrates Circle mentorship—an outreach program in middle schools to encourage students in under-represented populations to consider careers in medicine. Dr. Gavin-Headen has been married for 20 years and has two teen age boys.

**Moderator is Cacilia Kim, Co-President of AAUW-LB.** Panel members will present their perspectives, their own life stories and experiences of being black in America. Where have we been? Where are we now? Where should we be heading?

A Question & Answer period will follow.

**AAUW-LB would like to initiate and encourage this most important civil conversation between people in Long Beach.** Please join us. Invite your friends to a Breakfast Brunch at The Grand, 4101 E Willow St, Long Beach from 9:00 - 12:00 PM Saturday February 4<sup>th</sup>.

**AAUW's Mission Statement:** *AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.*

**AAUW's Value Promise:** *By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women and girls have a fair chance.*

# Branch News

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## Courtesy Best wishes to February birthdays!



2—Groundhog Day  
12—Lincoln's Birthday  
14—Valentines Day  
28—Mardi Gras Festival

**Let those love now who never loved before;  
Let those who always loved, now love the  
more."**

Translation of the Pervigilium Vener

## CALENDAR EVENTS

Meetings are the first Saturdays, except in Sept., January, March and May (changed to avoid holidays).

February 4 – March 9 (dinner)— April 1 —  
May 6 \* – June 3

\* The May Garden Party, held in the afternoon, will be at a private home.

**AAUW-LONG BEACH website:**

[www.aauw-longbeach.org](http://www.aauw-longbeach.org)

**AAUW email address:**

[AAUWLongBeach@gmail.com](mailto:AAUWLongBeach@gmail.com)



**We're on Facebook!**

[www.facebook.com/aauwlongbeachca](http://www.facebook.com/aauwlongbeachca)

**Follow AAUW on**

<http://www.linkedin.com/groups/AAUW-Long-Beach-CA-Branch-7001584/about>



Register now for the **AAUW National Convention!** Join us June 14–17 in Washington, D.C. to lobby Congress, hone your leadership skills, and network with AAUW leaders. After this unprecedented election, AAUW's voice is needed now more than ever.

**Join the chorus of AAUW leaders who will take Capitol Hill by storm on June 15 at the 2017 AAUW National Convention Congressional Lobby Day.**

Together, 1,000 AAUW members from across the country will speak truth to power on Capitol Hill and advocate for AAUW's policy priorities for women and girls. What's more, the convention will prepare you with the skills and training you need to keep fighting for equity back home.

**Make sure your voice is heard in the halls of power in June. [Register now!](#)**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS**—All meetings will be held on the third Monday of the month, social time at 6:30pm with meeting at 7:00pm. All meetings will be at the Unitarian Universalist Church at Atherton and Bellflower Blvd. Room 2.  
Dates: Feb. 20 and April 17

**FULL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS**—All meetings will be held on the third Monday of the month, social time 6:30pm with meeting at 7:00pm. Meetings will be at the Unitarian Universalist church, Room 2. Dates: January 22, March 20



Has any of your contact information changed? Phone? Email? Address? Help us to keep you informed in a timely manner. Send your changes to Database Coordinator George Jackson, at [georgeljackson@gmail.com](mailto:georgeljackson@gmail.com) or call 562-377-1670.

Send any Branch news or Courtesy items to Editor: Rebecca Low    [rlow1@hotmail.com](mailto:rlow1@hotmail.com)

## President's Message



As we reflect on the first half of our Presidency, we would like to thank all of you who have made the job so rewarding. Lois Ledger and her committee have done a great job presenting us with interesting and informative programs. Daphne Ching-Jackson and Pam Rayburn have worked to give us a variety of locations and meals for the meetings. Thank you! Kudos to Margaret Huebner and Elsa-Karen Braden as they continue to register new members. Our numbers keep growing and we hope the new members will become involved in the various activities of the branch.

Have you ever wondered how you can make a difference? There are many ways, including saying yes to Dianne Bradfield and the nominating committee if they ask you to serve on the board. Help with the branch's 14th STEM Career Conference for middle school girls by volunteering on February 24th. Discover how Frances Rozner, Mary Lamo and their committee hold this very successful and highly anticipated event to encourage the young women to pursue higher education and consider careers in STEM fields. These are ways to become involved, learn more about AAUW and branch operations, and make lifelong friends with the amazing women who belong to the Long Beach branch.

March 31st is the deadline for early registration for best rates for the National AAUW Convention in Washington, D.C. It promises to be an outstanding conference (June 14-17). Log on to [convention.aauw.org](http://convention.aauw.org) for details. Be sure to register now! If you've never attended an AAUW convention, this is a great opportunity to participate in informative workshops and visit the Nation's capital.



### Make Your Voice Heard on Capitol Hill with AAUW!

For more than 40 years, AAUW Action Fund Capitol Hill Lobby Corps volunteers have conducted tens of thousands of visits to congressional offices on behalf of AAUW members and supporters — and now you have the opportunity to join in during AAUW's 2017 National Convention!

# 14<sup>th</sup> Annual AAUW LB STEM Career Conference

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Darlene Declan  
STEM Career Conference

The Conference is scheduled for **Friday, February 24, 2017** from 4:30pm - 7:00pm. (volunteers arrive earlier!) at LBCC (Liberal Arts Campus).

We appreciate all of you who have volunteered to assist at the 14th AAUW Long Beach Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Career Conference. Volunteers for this event are needed to take on tasks like facilitating speakers, helping with registration, preparing bags and refreshments, and, photographers! You will not be disappointed volunteering at this Conference—see your AAUW mission at work.



If you are interested in being a volunteer or have any questions about the STEM Conference, please email Darlene Daclan at [darlene\\_daclan@yahoo.com](mailto:darlene_daclan@yahoo.com) or call at 562/673-6909.

## Work Smart

Mary Lamo, Frances Rozner &  
Sharon Westafer

The Work Smart Planning Committee, along with three additional facilitators, celebrated on December 7 the successful completion of our Long Beach Work Smart pilot. Between early July, when the branch was accepted as a pilot site, and December 7, we trained 20 volunteers to be future workshop facilitators - we lost a couple and gained two from other branches - held three workshops in October and November with a total of 61 attendees (including 2 men), and have developed an initial cadre of organizations interested in pursuing workshops for their constituents. All of this was accomplished with a dedicated group of volunteers.

As a testament to interest in the course: we had one attendee from Culver City who came for an evening workshop via Metro and another who drove in from San Diego for the Saturday workshop. Plus, we met with three LB City Councilpersons— all of whom have offered support. We met with Mayor Garcia, who will assist with this program, with Former Mayor Beverly O'Neill who provided an excellent perspective on marketing and with Congressman Lowenthal's LB Field Officer, Helene Ansel, for a brainstorming session. Helene Ansel is now a LB branch member and a WS Facilitator.

The Planning Committee has decided to proceed beyond the pilot. Next steps: tweaking the workshop script, raising funds (\$1000 per workshop) and recruiting more volunteers. The goal is to have the first 2017 workshop coincide with Equal Pay Day week in April. We're looking forward to training 5000 women in 5 years – and that will require a larger energized and committed volunteer team. Please contact the following subcommittee chairs if you, or friends of yours, want to be involved in this super effective project: Facilities (Daphne C.), Fundraising (Frances R.), Facilitators/Facilitating (Judy W.), Marketing & Promotion (Elise R.). We're changing the equity equation – it's what we do as AAUW members.





## Public Policy

Flo Pickett, Public Policy Chair



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**First Public Policy group meeting of the new year will be Thursday January 19th 4:30 PM at Judith Bergquist's house. (see directory)**

**The topic will be "What to expect of the new administration in terms of Women's issues"**

We will touch on Health Care, Reproductive Rights, Equal Pay Equity for All Act of 2016, Support for Title IX-Gender Equity in Education including Violence Against Women Act.

How can we tell the Senate to Act on the Supreme Court Nomination fairly and expeditiously. Fully vet the new Cabinet--examine every nominee's record; encourage comprehensive confirmation hearings before taking a vote. These issues, of course, affect all people regardless of gender or age. Bring your positive ideas about how AAUW can push forward the issues that particularly benefit women and families in 2017.

We support Quality Public Education, Economic Security for all, and Civil Rights which includes Equal Rights for Women and Voting Rights for all people in all states. Join us to learn how to take action on our issues.

**Go to AAUW.org.** to see what your organization is working on currently. **Take Action-Become a Two-Minute Activist by entering your email address.** Take action as your time permits; this is the easiest way to support issues. Read about one issue of interest to you currently before the Congress. Email your Congressman (Alan Lowenthal in LB) [www.govtrack.us/congress/members/map](http://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/map)

Consider writing a brief letter to the editor. Remember, less is more.

[letters@latimes.com](mailto:letters@latimes.com) [speakout@presstelegram.com](mailto:speakout@presstelegram.com) [www.ocregister.com/blogs/letters](http://www.ocregister.com/blogs/letters)

Join us at the meeting Thursday Jan 19 4:30 pm. Light refreshments and good company.

If you have a chance to see the recently released movie HIDDEN FIGURES, it will give you a good background on Feb 4th program. It is excellent movie with documentary evidence about race relations and women's status in the 60's - a must see!



### Women's March

January 21

Downtown Los Angeles  
Pershing Square

"Not a protest march;  
a celebration of human rights"

[www.womensmarchla.org](http://www.womensmarchla.org)

### *The International Cuisine Group*

will meet on

**Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at 6:30pm**

***Playa Amor (Beach Love) Restaurant*** 6527 E. Pacific Coast Highway  
(In the Market Place next to Bev Mo) 562-430-2667

Come join fellow members at the Playa Amor Restaurant for a delicious dinner of Mexican cuisine. You can select from a wide array of foods like tacos, chilaquiles, Oaxacan chicken, Mexican White Shrimp or favorites like enchiladas and burritos. You can go online at Playa Amor to review their menu. Cost is approximately \$20.00 but does not cover a beverage of your choice.

Please call Joan Gustafson at 562-439-3130 ([jwg221@aol.com](mailto:jwg221@aol.com)) or Fay Denny @ 714-894-0416 ([faydenny@yahoo.com](mailto:faydenny@yahoo.com)) by February 8, 2017.



If you were in attendance at our January Branch Meeting, you already heard the sad news! We did not get the requested spaces for campers at either Whittier or UC Irvine for this summer's Tech Trek camp due to email miscommunications. By the time this was discovered, both camps were already over capacity. We will be the first to send in our request next year.



We already have a \$5,880 nest egg for Tech Trek 2018. However, if you would like to make a tax deductible donation this year for use in 2018, please mail your check payable to AAUW and mail it to Tech Trek, c/o Pat Ferrer, 365 Ultimo Ave, Long Beach, CA 90814.

Thank you for your continued support of this important national AAUW program.

## Time for Great Decisions 2017

*Great Decisions* groups begin meeting in February at member's homes on Tuesday afternoons, Wednesday and Thursday evenings, and Friday mornings.

If you have already paid for a *Great Decisions* book, Norma Grady will be distributing them to group leaders. She also will have them at the Feb 4th general meeting. If you missed the order deadline, you can order your own book through the Foreign Policy Association. Contact Norma for more information if needed. Please call me at (562) 596-2819.

## Legal Advocacy Fund

Sharon Westafer, Chair AAUW CA Fund Committee

On Sunday, January 8, Daphne Ching-Jackson, Indrani Chatterjee, JoAnn Kuroda, Denise Montoya, Frances Rozner, Sharon Westafer and Judy Willis attended the Los Angeles County Interbranch Council LAF luncheon at Cal Poly, Pomona, to hear Aileen Rizo, an AAUW LAF litigant, speak about her suit against the Fresno County of Education. Aileen filed suit against the Office under equal pay and gender discrimination laws after discovering she was paid less than her male colleague who had less experience and seniority. Ms. Rizo told a wonderful story about her grandmother who was denied an education and how education is so important. Aileen has testified for equal pay laws, and continues her case against the office of education to receive the back pay owed to her. She has since moved on to a job that pays better but continues her case as she believes it will affect women in the future. She also wants to be able to tell her children that she fought for equal pay and that she didn't give up.

The Legal Advocacy Fund provides financial and organizational support to selected cases in the workplace and academia which have the potential of providing equity for both women and men. The financial support helps pay for the filing of briefs, other paperwork, and/or travel expenses for a litigant to travel to court. Organizational support doesn't provide money but it does provide support in the form of signatory on an amicus brief, an official letter of support, or AAUW may attend the court sessions involving a litigant to show their support.

LAF also provides travel grants to provide transportation costs for a litigant to speak at an AAUW convention or regional meeting, and Campus Action Grants which fund activities on college and university campuses. These activities include educating students about their rights under Title IX, advocating against sexual harassment or assault on campus, and holding educational panel discussions on equity.



DONATE

# BRANCH INTEREST GROUPS

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Joining an AAUW members-only interest group (or many) is a great way to get to know other members on a more personal level. Make friends while participating in fun, informative and educational activities.

To start a new interest group, submit a description to the President and it will be passed along to Ellen Mathis, Interest Group Coordinator, for help with implementation.

*Reminder: All interest group participants MUST be AAUW Long Beach members. Guests may attend a meeting group or an interest group a maximum of three times before they are required to join AAUW. Interest groups are for the benefit of AAUW members.*



**Book Chat Plus Group** members present the most interesting book they have recently read, film they have seen or the most exciting travel experience they have had. If time allows, all three! Light refreshments are served along with the intriguing conversation. We meet the 1st Tuesday at 10 a.m. Contact **Betty Thompson**, 562 - 430 - 8438 or [bettythom@aol.com](mailto:bettythom@aol.com)



**Cultural Adventures Group** plans trips to museums and other points of interest. It is usually a mid-week tour & lunch scheduled several times a year. Join a group that enjoys checking out museums and other cultural interests. Contact **Joan Gustafson** at 562-439-3130 or **Fay Denny** [faydenny@yahoo.com](mailto:faydenny@yahoo.com) Ideas welcome for Spring.



**Great Decisions Group** meets weekly to discuss, share opinions and ideas on a critical global issue. *To all Great Decisions Group members:* Great Decisions book information is available at the branch meetings. If you plan to participate, you may also contact a group coordinator or Contact **Julie Taboada** at 562-856-0709 or [jutaboada@verizon.net](mailto:jutaboada@verizon.net)



**International Cuisine Group** meets and dines at restaurants of different ethnicity in the local area. It is usually scheduled every few months on a Wednesday within an easy drive of LB. Car pooling is an option. Come join a group who enjoys unique flavors of the world. Contact **JoAnn Kuroda** at 562-429-6923 or email at [sojoinlb@aol.com](mailto:sojoinlb@aol.com). See the next event scheduled for February 15—on page 5



**Literary Ladies Group** meets to discuss and compare thoughts on a selected book, fiction or non-fiction. Each member takes a turn recommending and leading the group. The group comes together to hear thoughts and insights from others in the group. They meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at 12:30 p.m. There is a maximum of 10 and a waiting list. Contact **Sharon Westafer**, 562-493-4749 if interested. The book selection for January is *Where'd You Go, Bernadette?* by Maria Semple



**Public Policy** meetings, explore, discuss and support the active legislative issues of AAUW, which underscore our mission of promoting equity and education for all women and girls. The group passes on knowledge and information to all branch members and encourage them to become involved with AAUW issues. For the next meeting - Contact **Flo Pickett**



**Residential Rentals Discussion Group** meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of odd months year round from 10:00-11:30 am. Our next meeting in 2017 is being planned. Anyone with an interest in residential rental is welcome. We cover current landlord/tenant topics, share experiences and work to keep current in the housing industry all in an informal setting. Ellen Mathis and Joan Gustafson Co-Chair and invite you to check the group out.



Contact Ellen Mathis, 562-433-6509 or [emathis@verizon.net](mailto:emathis@verizon.net) to discuss ideas or details for meetings (what, where, time, etc.).

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## AAUW Long Beach Branch

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in the organization, on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin or disability

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Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ reservation for meeting, program and  
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(NO MEAL) Meeting cost is \$5.00

Pay by credit card using Pay Pal at [aauw-longbeach.org](http://aauw-longbeach.org)  
Select Family and Friends to avoid usage fee to the branch

**RESERVATION by Jan. 25**

*A meal reservation is a financial commitment and  
refunds shall not be made.*

### AAUW BRANCH EVENT Saturday, February 4, 2017

9:00 a.m.	Networking
9:30	Breakfast Buffet
10:00	Meeting
10:30	Program
11:30	Close

**Place: The Grand**

4101 E. Willow St, LB 90815

**Meal:** Breakfast Buffet (scrambled eggs,  
Country Potatoes, Bacon, Zucchini Bread, and  
fruit platter) Coffee, decaf coffee, orange juice

**Price:** \$22.00

Questions about the location?

Daphne Ching-Jackson  
[dchingjackson@verizon.net](mailto:dchingjackson@verizon.net)

or Pam Rayburn at  
[pam.rayburn@csulb.edu](mailto:pam.rayburn@csulb.edu)

