



February 2016

Mission: Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

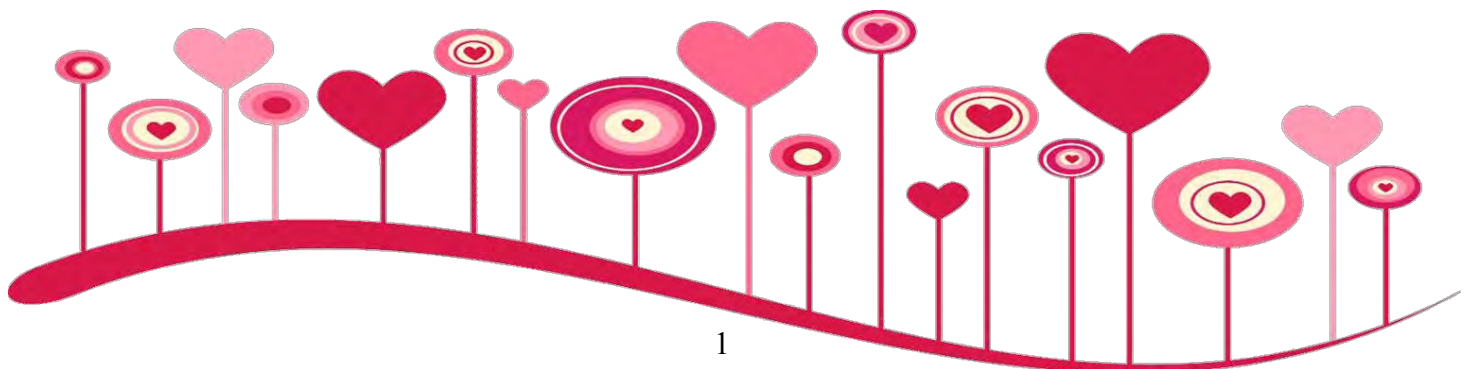
## Fargo-Moorhead (F-M) Branch

### President's Comments

I am excited to hear our program on STEM on Monday, February 8, 2016. I am also excited about exploring the idea of a new venue for our F-M AAUW Branch meetings. The Biltmore Hotel and Suites is this month's location and the March Branch meeting will be the Green Mill on 13th Avenue in Fargo.

We will need your feedback at the April Meeting at the Fry'n Pan. See you on Monday!

**Susan Rae Helgeland**  
F-M Branch President



## February Branch Program Description

### GROWING FROM THE STEM

Our speaker is Samantha Adank. She is a senior at Concordia College, majoring in mathematics and education. This past summer, as a Phillips Scholar, she implemented her community service project, Growing from the STEM, which focused on exposing youth to STEM topics in a real-world context through project based learning activities and fostering female empowerment in STEM pursuits. She plans to pursue a career in education and to continue her involvement in STEM programming for youth.

Ms. Adank will be talking about Growing from the STEM project and her experiences as a female in a STEM field, especially at the collegiate level.

### February 8, 2016 Agenda

**WELCOME**--President Susan Helgeland

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**--Additions, deletions, changes

**APPROVAL OF JANUARY BRANCH MINUTES**--Secretary Sara Lindberg

**TREASURER'S REPORT**--Finance Officer Lisa Rorvig

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**--STEM Workshop Update -- Alexa Ducioame

**Title IX MANUAL UPDATE** – Sara Lindberg

**NEW BUSINESS**--

**PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE**--Chair Sandy Sidler

**MEMBERSHIP**--Acting Chairs Alexa Ducioame and Liz Cambron

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**-- Next Branch Meeting March 14, 2016 at the Green Mill

Restaurant, Fargo. If you need a ride, please contact Maureen Kelly Jonason

**ADJOURN**

## AAUW January 9, 2015, Branch Meeting Minutes

Present: 27 members, 2 guests, 1 speaker

President Susan Helgeland welcomed all to the annual brunch and introduced Del Rae Williams, the first female Mayor of Moorhead, who spoke on "Politics: Making the Decision."

Ms. Williams thanked AAUW for its community efforts and its mission to empower women and girls, particularly in encouraging women to run for office.

She related the circumstances of her decision to run for mayor when she discovered support for her candidacy at a time that Moorhead needed a third candidate in the race. She expressed her gratitude for the many volunteers who gave their time and money to her campaign.

Ms. Williams is a retired CPA and considers her position as mayor a full time job, with her professional experience an advantage in administering budgets and the city's finances. She said she enjoys being mayor and helping people make decisions.

One of the statistics Williams reported is that of the 800 towns in Minnesota with a population of 30,000, only 18% have female mayors. There aren't any women in similar positions in North Dakota. Not because women aren't qualified. Williams pointed out, "Women are experienced at managing things and are better at asking questions," which are valuable attributes in a leadership position.

For her five year term Williams said she has set a tone of no bickering and no partisanship with her eight male council members. When asked what her major aspiration was going into office she replied that she wanted to change Moorhead's outlook on itself, which she believes has been realized. She also finds the "Coffee with the Mayor" activity to be a successful way for citizens to feel connected with their city government. Williams concluded by encouraging everyone to consider running for office, or asking others to run.

President Susan Helgeland called the business meeting to order.

The minutes of the December meeting were approved.

Lisa Rorvig, Finance Officer, reported last month's balance was \$928.82, and the ending balance this month is \$843.82.

Alexa Ducioame reported that the STEM event co-sponsored by AAUW on January 7 at NDSU was very successful and thanked the members from the branch who volunteered. 175 students attended the classes in which all of the instructors were females.

Sandy Sidler, Public Policy Chair, discussed the Get Out the Vote initiative, with emphasis on informing college students of the requirement to be in the DOT system, to have a government ID, or to vote in the precinct that is on their drivers' licenses. If none of those options is available, the student will need to vote with an absentee ballot. Sandy also reminded us that Equal Pay Day is April 12, 2016.

Alexa and Liz Cambron announced that the half-price dues for half-year membership are available now.

The next branch meeting will be on February 8 at the Biltmore, with a social hour beginning at 5:30, buffet at 6:15, and business meeting and program to follow. The speaker will be Samantha Adank from Concordia discussing their STEAM program.

The meeting was adjourned.

**Sara Lindberg, Secretary**

## Announcements

### WELCOME

Welcome the following ladies to the Fargo-Moorhead Branch! We look forward to getting to know you and having you as a valued member.

- **Kathleen Nelson**  
Sween1948@yahoo.com
- **Sarah Altenburg**  
sarah.altenburg@gmail.com
- **Margaret Schneider**  
margaret.schneider86@yahoo.com



### F-M AAUW Branch Meeting Location and Schedule

The February Branch Meeting will be on Monday, February 8, 2016 at the Biltmore Hotel and Suites, 3800 Main Avenue, Fargo. It is on the SW corner of I-29 and Main Avenue. It used to be the Kelly Inn.

Social hour from 5:15 to 6:15 pm.

Dinner will be from 6:15 to 6:45 pm.

Business meeting is from 6:45 to 7:15 pm.

Program – Growing from the STEM will be from 7:15 pm to 8:00 pm.

The price is \$16.00 and includes room fee, tip, tax, etc.

No credit cards please.

The March meeting will be at the Green Mill. More information to come soon!



## A DINNER FULL OF POSSIBILITIES

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER  
FREE ONE-NIGHT DINNER EVENT FOR WOMEN

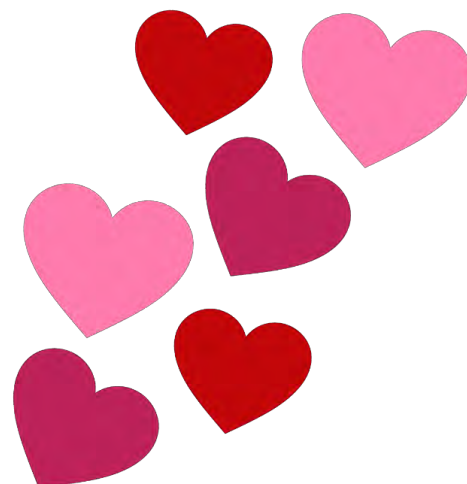
NDSU NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

*“Women are the  
real architects  
of society.”*

HARRIET BEECHER STOWE

# facebook® *Update*

- **BrainSTEM pics are posted!**
- Obama announces new measures to close gender pay gap
- Only women showed up to run Congress post-blizzard
- Feminist quotes from Tina Fey & Amy Poehler
- U.S. Supreme Court refuses to review ND's fetal heartbeat abortion ban
- Justin Trudeau: Embrace feminism to improve decision-making
- Joe Biden on violence against women
- Kathryn Smith hired by Buffalo Bills as NFL's 1<sup>st</sup> full-time female coach
- Social Experiment video: Sexy vs Breastfeeding
- State of the Union – feminine pronouns for STEM
- Vienna teen lifts car off father, saves family from fire
- NASA's latest class of astronauts is 50/50 M/F
- Jennifer Lawrence on Planned Parenthood



## February Book Club

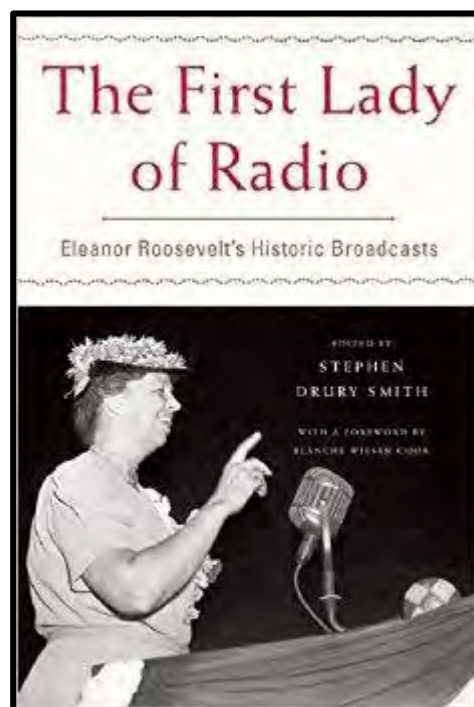
February 22, 2016 7pm-9pm

Moorhead Public Library

Book: First Lady of Radio, Stephen Drury Smith

Leader: Sandy Sidler

Here's to strong women.  
 May we know them.  
 May we be them.  
 May we raise them.



January 7, 2016

Attendees:  
7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Ben Franklin  
& Moorhead

Workshop Leaders:  
Women professors, college  
students, and industry professionals



**BrainSTEM** is a daylong event designed to introduce middle school students to STEM careers. This event also aims to increase the number of women in STEM.

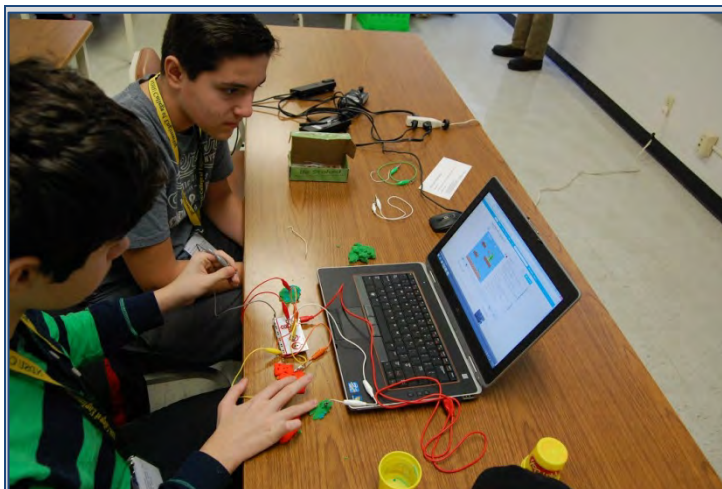
**Although women fill approximately half of the work force, they represent less than 25% of STEM occupations.** The numbers are even less in engineering. This event was created to show both girls and boys that there are women in these fields to look up to and that STEM careers can be fun!



Opening Session



How to Build a Circuit



Making Music with MaKey MaKeys



Rube Goldberg Machine

Sponsors:

