



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

Fargo-Moorhead (F-M) Branch

President's Comments

Happy Spring, or should I say I hope spring is here! Hope to see all of you at the March 14th F-M AAUW Branch Meeting and it should be another great meeting! Dr. Angela Smith is our presenter. Detailed information and a bio of Dr. Smith are listed below. April 12, 2016 is Pay Equity Day and we have big plans! Our Branch meeting is April 11, 2016 and the program is on this topic. Watch for details coming soon. I want to give you information about our upcoming AAUW MN and ND State Conventions.

The **2016 MN AAUW State Convention** is hosted by the AAUW Duluth Branch. It is scheduled from Friday, April 29 – Sunday May 1, 2016. The theme is “Lighting the Way with AAUW.” The convention will be held at the Holiday Inn and Suites in Duluth, 200 West First Street. Registration is due by March 31st. I have all of the information so call or email me if you need more details. I need to know if you are going since I need to mail in our delegates who will be attending. We are allowed two.

The **2016 AAUW North Dakota Annual** meeting will begin with a social on Friday, April 22, scheduled for 5:00 p.m. at the home of President Elect, Theresa Leiphon at 1610 3rd St. SE, Devils Lake, ND. A block of rooms has been reserved under AAUW at the Sleep Inn & Suites Devil's Lake, ND. Room costs are \$109 per night. The meeting will be held on Saturday, April 23 at Lake Region State College, Devils Lake in the Chautauqua Gallery.

The tentative program is:

9:00 am - registration

9:30 - 11:00 am- Financial Wellness for Women - Panel Discussion and Q & A Session

11:00 - 12:00pm - Video Conference with Public Policy staff member from AAUW National with information on "Get Out the Vote" with Q&A and brainstorming session

12:00 - 1:00 pm - Luncheon (possible speaker - FUSE with update on Human Trafficking in ND)

1:00 - 2:00 pm - Malinda Gaul, AAUW Board of Directors - Update from AAUW National

2:00 - 3:30 pm - Annual Meeting

Susan Rae Helgeland
F-M Branch President



March Program

On Monday March 14, 2016, please join us at the F-M AAUW Branch meeting from 6:45-8pm. Our program begins at 7:15 pm.

The program is Female Power, Identity & Brothels: A case study in late 19th Century Fargo. Our program presenter is Angela Smith, an Assistant Professor in the Department of History, Philosophy and Religion Studies at NDSU. She grew up in Tennessee, graduated from Belmont University in 1984 with a degree in English and Communications and spent 20 years in the graphic design field as a print and web designer. She earned MA (2007) and PhD (2011) degrees from Middle Tennessee University in Murfreesboro, and now uses her documentary filmmaking experience in historical projects. She is writing a book on John Beecher, a 20th century radical poet, to be published by the University of Alabama Press.

As Public History Director at NDSU, Dr. Smith has guided her students in producing digital documentaries available for viewing at fargohistory.com. "Fargo's Most Famous Madam" describes the career of Melvina Massey and may be included in her presentation in the March program.

March 14, 2016 Agenda

WELCOME- President Susan Helgeland – Equal Pay Day Update & MN and ND State Conventions Update

APPROVAL OF AGENDA- Additions, deletions, changes

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY BRANCH MINUTES- Secretary Sara Lindberg

TREASURER'S REPORT- Finance Officer Lisa Rorvig

UNFINISHED BUSINESS- Title IX Manual Update – Sara Lindberg

NEW BUSINESS- Request STEM Volunteers-Alexa Ducioame

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE- Chair Sandy Sidler

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE- Acting Chairs Alexa Ducioame and Liz Cambron

PROGRAM CHAIR- Chair Ruth Stefonowicz – April Program Update

PARLIAMENTARIAN/BYLAWS UPDATE- Chair Maureen Kelly Jonason

ANNOUNCEMENTS- Next Branch Meeting April 11, 2016 at the Fry'n Pan Restaurant, Fargo. If you need a ride, please contact Maureen Kelly Jonason. Other Announcements?

ADJOURN

AAUW February 8, 2016 Branch Meeting at Biltmore on Main Minutes

Present: 20 members and guests

President Susan Helgeland called the meeting to order.

The January branch meeting minutes were approved.

Jan Jackson distributed the Treasurer's report, showing a beginning balance of \$843.82 and ending balance of \$981.01. The report will be filed.

Alexa Ducioame gave an update on the STEM event held last month co-sponsored by AAUW. It was very successful and plans are to do it again with a larger number of students. Suggestions from participants for future events are to offer more than three class options and provide Mexican and/or Chinese food for lunch.

Sara Lindberg reported that the Title IX Committee is gathering information on schools and coordinators in order to distribute the Department of Education manuals in this area. The ND AAUW has been contacted to collaborate on the process. Committee members are Liz Cambron, Sandy Sidler, Ruth Stefonowicz, Pat Schutt and Sara Lindberg.

A discussion was held on pay negotiation workshops. Alexa said that Fosston is collecting data on salaries. The possibility of conducting a workshop in Fargo was explored, possibly in cooperation with the ND Women's Network.

Susan was encouraged to ask the mayors of Fargo, West Fargo and Moorhead to sign a proclamation for Pay Equity Day on April 12.

Maureen Kelly Jonason will chair a nominating committee, along with Susan Larson and Margaret Schneider, to present names to fill the offices of President-Elect and Finance Officer at an election in May for two year terms.

Public Policy Chair Sandy Sidler emphasized the need for a Get Out the Vote campaign, especially for North Dakota college students who will be required to have an ID card with their current address in order to vote, or to vote by absentee ballot. One possibility is to provide the application for absentee ballots in college newspapers.

The branch has three new members: Kathleen Nelson, Margaret Schneider and Sarah Altenburg. Membership dues are half-price now at \$18.00 for Fargo and \$17.75 for Moorhead for the rest of the year. After March 15 full price dues of \$36 for Fargo and \$35.50 for Moorhead will provide 15 months of membership.

The Venue Committee of Liz Cambron and Alexa Ducioame reminded members that the March meeting will be held at The Green Mill and in April at the Fry'n Pan, when a vote will be taken on which meeting place to use in the future.

Program Chair Ruth Stefonowicz announced Giving Hearts Day is February 11 and contributions can be made to the ND Women's Network. The NDWN is sponsoring the film "Iron-Jawed Angels," a drama about the struggle for women's right to vote, at the Fargo Theatre on March 8. Admission is free, with donations to NDWN accepted.

Jan Jackson announced the book club meeting on February 22 with a discussion of *The First Lady of Radio* edited by Stephen Drury Smith.

The meeting was adjourned.

The program speaker, introduced by Susan Larson, was Samantha Adank, a Mathematics Education major from Concordia College who described her project "Growing from the STEM." Samantha obtained a grant from the Phillips Foundation to implement the project whose purpose was to have a positive impact on middle school girls' STEM education in Minnesota communities.

Samantha said she appreciated all of the useful information she accessed from AAUW, particularly in comparative statistics on salaries, and the publication "Why So Few Women in STEM?" She said even in STEM jobs women are paid less than men—82% in engineering and 87% in computing. Nationwide 28.8% of people working in STEM are women, but both North Dakota at 32.4% and Minnesota at 29.7% are slightly above that figure.

Samantha designed and directed an ambitious Summer Project, whose goals were to provide young women with opportunities to improve STEM skills, foster awareness of females in STEM activities, and support a sense of belonging in the STEM community. She was responsible for a two week program for ten girls in grades 4-8 with half-day classes, all with female instructors. She also visited nine daycare and youth programs in the FM area with participants from K-8, and developed hour long projects and library activities.

The community benefits of Samantha's efforts were to supplement the students' formal education, offer female role models, investigate STEM topics and educate parents on available resources.

Samantha has been student teaching in math at Ben Franklin School in Fargo and will graduate from Concordia this spring.

Sara Lindberg
Secretary

Recommended changes to the BYLAWS OF THE FARGO (ND)-MOORHEAD (MN) BRANCH OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN (AAUW)

Recommended Deletions **Recommended Additions** **Language required by AAUW**

ARTICLE III. USE OF NAME

Section 1. Policies and Program. The policies and program of AAUW shall be binding on all members, and no member shall use the name of AAUW to oppose such policies or program. Established channels may be used to change a policy or program. **The branch is a legally recognized non-profit under the AAUW parent 501 c 3 status as long as a signed AAUW Affiliate Agreement is on file in the national office.**

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Section 3. Basis for Membership

a. Individual Member

(1) Eligibility. A graduate holding an associate or equivalent, baccalaureate, or higher degree from a qualified educational institution **or a foreign degree acceptable as a basis for admission by graduate schools at qualified universities of the United States** shall be eligible to receive admission to AAUW membership; such membership shall be granted upon payment of AAUW dues.

(4) Categories of Membership

a. A national member is an individual who pays annual AAUW dues and who may or may not belong to a branch and/or state, **multi-state organization or comparable AAUW-affiliated entity.**

c. Privileges. A life member who maintains branch membership in one or more branches **or comparable AAUW-affiliated entities** shall be entitled to all branch rights and privileges. A life member of AAUW who does not maintain branch membership shall be entitled to national member privileges only.

(6) Partner Member.

b. Other partner members include educational or other institutions and organizations meeting criteria established the Board of Directors. Such **other** partner members are not entitled to vote or hold office, but may participate in AAUW activities and programs.

Section 5. Dues

b. Payment. Member dues shall be payable in accordance with procedures established by policy.

(1) Paid life members of AAUW, as defined in the AAUW Bylaws, are required to pay branch dues to become members of the branch.

(2) Fifty-Year Honorary Members of AAUW are exempt from paying AAUW state (North Dakota or Minnesota) and branch dues.

(3) A member of one of the national associations or federations of IFUW, whose current dues have been paid and who is spending a period of a year or less in the USA, may attend branch meetings without vote.

(1) New members may join at any time. Dues are payable upon joining. The national and state portion of the dues paid by new members for less than a full year is determined by AAUW and state policy. The branch executive committee may set a reduction in branch dues.

c. Reciprocity. A branch member of AAUW **or an AAUW-affiliated entity** who has paid current dues shall be eligible to transfer membership to another branch **or AAUW-affiliated entity.** Payment of any

additional dues shall be waived for a transferring branch member whose current dues have been paid in another branch.

ARTICLE V. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. Nominations

- a. Any paid member may nominate herself or himself for elected office.
- b. **A nominating committee is appointed by the executive board in January each year.**
- c. The names of the nominees for elected office shall be published and sent to every member at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual branch meeting.
- d. Nominations may be made from the floor with the consent of the nominee.

ARTICLE VI. OFFICERS

Section 2. Duties

- b. The president shall be the official spokesperson and representative for the branch and shall be responsible for submitting such reports and forms as required by AAUW. **The branch president will serve as Past President for one year upon election of the new president**
- c. The finance officer shall be responsible for collecting, distributing and accounting for the funds of the branch and for meeting **specific required** deadlines.
- d. The secretary shall record and keep minutes of all executive committee, membership, and special meetings.
- e. The membership officer shall be responsible for organizing and supervising recruitment efforts of the branch and processing memberships.

ARTICLE VII. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 2. Duties. The executive committee shall have the power to act for the membership between **branch** meetings **of the executive committee** and shall report to the membership on all actions taken by it. It shall perform such duties as may be delegated to it by the membership.

Section 4. Quorum. The quorum of the executive committee shall be a majority of the voting members. **Each member of the executive committee shall be considered one voting member of the executive committee.**

Section 5. Voting Between Meetings. A written, conference call or electronic vote may be taken at the request of the **co-presidents** on any question submitted to all voting members of the executive committee, provided that every voting member of the executive committee shall have an opportunity to vote on the question submitted.

Please forward any comments or questions to the Bylaws chair Maureen Kelly Jonason:
maureenkellyjonason@gmail.com

Announcements

Welcome New Member!

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

- Dr. Angela Smith

April Branch Meeting

Next month's meeting will be back at the **Fryn'Pan**. Please come with feedback of the two new venues!

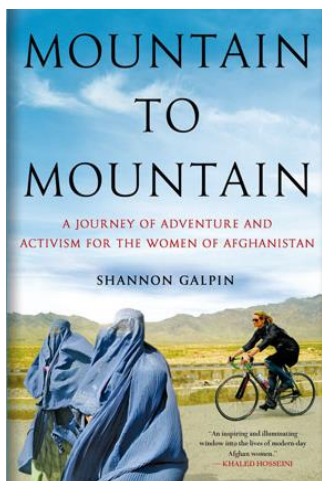
MARCH BOOK CLUB

Mon, March 28, 7pm – 9pm

Where: Moorhead Public Library

Book: Mountain to Mountain, Shannon Galpin

Leader: Lorna Williams



Want to join AAUW?

Membership dues for the FM-AAUW Branch will be ½ price for new members to join at the March branch meeting! New members pay membership fees of \$36 for ND and \$35.50. Hurry and *spring* to get these membership savings!



- Tri-College NEW Leadership Development Institute Application Deadline
- Can you name 5 women artists?
- 1913 Women's Suffrage Parade pictures
- Supreme Court Update AAUW Conference Call
- NDSU Banner story about BrainSTEM event
- Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day at NDSU
- Quiz: Are you biased against women leaders?
- Pictures from our February Meeting at the Biltmore
- Freakonomics "The True Story of the Gender Pay Gap"
- Iron Jawed Angels at Fargo Theater March 8th
- Rosa Parks' Birthday
- Pro-rape advocate cancels meetings

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are currently looking for volunteers to help with the following events. Members of the business community are invited to volunteer with these events. If you can volunteer for one or more of these events, please contact NDSU's Center for Science and Mathematics Education by email at ndsu.otl@ndsu.edu or by phone at 701-231-7015 or 1-800-726-1724.

Most opportunities do not require a STEM background!

Expanding Your Horizons - April 9, 2016

Volunteer opportunities: This event is looking for high-energy individuals to help with a variety of tasks. Volunteer shifts are in increments of one hour, half-day, or a full-day depending on the position.

North Dakota Science Olympiad - April 16, 2016

Volunteer opportunities: Approximate 140 volunteers are needed to make this event happen. Help make this a fun and exciting day for state qualifying teams by volunteering. Individuals interested in volunteering for this event will need to attend a half-hour facilitator meeting either March 1 or March 23 to get details on proper event set-up and current rules for the competition.

2016 Used Book Sale Taskforce

Enjoy helping students and love books? Consider joining the taskforce for this year's used book sale fundraiser! Call for volunteers will be at the April branch meeting. For more info, contact Co-Chair Liz Cambron (773) 818-5863 liz.cambron@ndsu.edu



AAUW in the News: BrainSTEM

In January, AAUW partnered with the NDSU College of Engineering to host BrainSTEM, “an event that brought 175 seventh and eighth graders to NDSU to learn about science, technology, engineering and math, known as STEM.” The following is a news report about BrainSTEM on NDSU’s website!

https://www.ndsu.edu/news/banner_stories/brainstem2016/