



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

Fargo-Moorhead (F-M) Branch

President's Comments

We've had a great start to our year.

I want to start by thanking Deborah Nelson, Liz Cambron, and Amanda Savitt, who joined me in volunteering for the Jeremiah Program Empowerment Training. We met some of the new mothers and spent time with 8 kids under the age of 5. The building should be ready for the single mothers and their children to move into in January. We might be able to offer them salary negotiation training in the future.

We also were present at both Take Back the Night rallies in the FM area this year. Kathleen Nelson and I carried the AAUW banner at MSUM and Liz Cambron and Amanda Savitt carried it at NDSU. Rebecca Moore took part in planning the NDSU event. The marches take place to support survivors of sexual and gender-based violence. This year we also celebrated the 45th anniversary of Title IX and the protections it provides on campuses.

The Book Sale Committee has been hard at work planning for our 59th Annual Used Book Sale for this month. The sale will take place October 27th-29th in the Moorhead Center Mall with donations and sorting on the 22nd-26th. Proceeds from the sale support the AAUW Educational Foundation, the Grace Hudson Memorial Scholarship at NDSU, and the Dorothy Dodds Scholarship Fund at MSUM. You can find out more about these scholarships on our website under Programs. Please contact Bonnie Klein at bonnieklein@cord.edu if you are interested in volunteering for a 2-hour shift at the sale. It's a lot of fun, and we need your help to make it happen.

I appreciate all of the time volunteered to keep this affiliate moving forward. Without you we couldn't make the difference in our community that we have.

Alexa Ducioame

President

I am pleased to announce the October 9th, 2017 FM AAUW program on Women as Authors: Reflections on writing about gender, theology and climate change with our speaker Dr. Hilda Koster, whose bio is below. The meeting will be 5-8 at the Biltmore on Main and dinner is \$20 (including tip). Please RSVP to farmoor.aauw@gmail.com by October 8th.



Dr. Hilda Koster is a faculty member in the Religion Department at Concordia College and has co-chaired the Environmental Studies program. She holds a BA and M. Div from the University of Groningen (the Netherlands), a Th M. from Princeton Theological Seminar and a doctorate from the University of Chicago. She is a prolific author on topics such as reformed theology, eco-feminism and environmental ethics. She has recently co-edited a book *Planetary Solidarity: Global Women's Voices on Christian Doctrine and Climate Change*.



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Amanda and Liz at NDSU's 2017 Take Back the Night

F-M AAUW Affiliate Business Agenda

October 9th, 2017 – 6:30 to 7:00 PM

Biltmore on Main

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

Call to Order and Welcome: President Alexa Ducioame

Approval of Agenda (additions, deletions, changes)

President’s Comments: Thank you to our volunteers at the Jeremiah Program and Take Back the Night marches.

Approval of May Minutes: Secretary Amanda Savitt (as printed)

Financial Report: Finance Officer Liz Cambron (as printed)

Continuing Business:

Book Sale

New Business:

Membership: Kathleen Nelson (MN) & Rebecca Moore (ND)

Public Policy: Sandy Sidler

Fundraising: Liz Cambron

Pay Equity: Evelyn Quigley

Announcements:

Book Club, Sara Lindberg

Adjourn.



AAUW Affiliate Meeting Minutes September 11, 2017

Present: 25 members, guests, speakers

President Alexa Ducioame welcomed all; the AAUW mission statement was recited. The meeting was called to order and the agenda was approved. Susan Larson was thanked for her work putting together this year's programs.

The minutes of the May meeting were approved.

Liz Cambron distributed the Treasurer's report showing a beginning balance of \$566.18 and an ending balance of \$925.18.

Liz and Noell Reinhiller discussed the book sale, which will be taking place between October 27 and 29. The book sale is the largest fundraiser of the year, and members were encouraged to volunteer and to distribute flyers and other materials widely, and a volunteer sign-up sheet was distributed. There will not be a concurrent art sale this year. Fifty percent of the proceeds of the book sale are to go to an educational foundation run by the national organization for women at the end of their educational career, 10% will stay in the Fargo-Moorhead AAUW affiliate, 20% will go to the Grace Hudson scholarship at NDSU, and 20% will go to the Dorothy Dodd scholarship at MSUM.

Alexa notified members that a volunteering opportunity with the Jeremiah Program would be available on September 25 from 5:30-8 PM.

Volunteers were also sought for Take Back the Night events at both NDSU and MSUM.

As F-M liaison to Minnesota, Kathleen Nelson informed members that there are seven current members from Minnesota. Kathleen will be provided with access to the membership list for North Dakota to provide updated information about current membership.

Public Policy Chair Sandy Sidler was not present, but she provided materials about AAUW's official statement concerning DACA, which were presented by Alexa.

As Chair of the Fundraising Committee, Liz asked for volunteers.

A report on the work of the Pay Equity Task Force was presented by Evelyn Quigley. The task force has met three times since July and set forth a focus area of Creating a Greater Awareness of Pay Equity within North Dakota and Minnesota. Strategies to proceed were discussed. Two programs are offered through AAUW to educate women about pay negotiation: Start Smart and Work Smart. The F-M affiliate is pursuing a grant to offer the Start Smart training at NDSU. The task force is looking for community partners and money for programs. Announcements included Book Club on September 25 with a discussion of *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead; Sara Lindberg is re-introducing the Meet a Member Feature for the monthly newsletter; Sara will also be collecting historical information about AAUW in Fargo-Moorhead, which will be included in the newsletter.

The meeting was adjourned.

Susan Larson introduced the speakers for the program "The Status of Women in North Dakota and Minnesota," Debra Fitzpatrick and Mylynn Tufte. Dr. Fitzpatrick's presentation was "Social and Economic Security for Women: Building a Movement across Generations." Dr. Fitzpatrick is a professor at the University of Minnesota's Center on Women, Gender and Public Policy, and she is an Equal Pay Today Coalition participant. Dr. Fitzpatrick's mother was a single parent with no sick leave, and the balance of work and providing care was challenging to find. Forty percent of mothers, and 80% of single mothers face this challenge. Approximately 50% of women are married, and many of these women have child care responsibilities. The Midwest leads the nation

in workforce participation of mothers with children under 5 years old, and workforce participation is increasing for older women, many of whom may be taking a caretaking role. Demographically, there are fewer young people and more elder people, creating challenges for government programs.

There is broad public support for programs to support working parents and others with caretaking responsibilities. The political divide does not have to be a barrier. For example, the Isaiah Program is faith-based, and is designed to reduce family-work conflict. Washington state, which is controlled by Republicans, recently passed the most generous family-leave law in the country.

There is a care crisis: there are greater needs, fewer providers, and caring occupations are undervalued. Health care has very high health and safety risks, and is often underpaid, with many in caring professions unable to earn a living wage.

Dr. Fitzpatrick emphasized the importance of paid family and medical leave as a policy that could have the greatest impact on pay equity. She also recommended making it illegal to prohibit people from talking about wages, or for employers to ask about previous income.

Mylynn Tufte is the State Health Officer for North Dakota. Ms. Tufte is a nurse by training. Her presentation was "Health Equity and Pay Equity: The Linkage."

North Dakota is tied with South Dakota and Texas for the fastest rate of growth among women entrepreneurs. Women in North Dakota have more higher education than men. North Dakota also has very low unemployment. Ms. Tufte discussed the difference between equality and equity, and suggested that equity is a more appropriate policy goal. In North Dakota, men outnumber women 100 to 95. Women earn \$.73 for every \$1 a man earns. Factors that affect pay and health inequalities between men and women include: family dynamics, temporary and shift work, and workplace safety considerations (for example, women are less likely to work in physically dangerous places like oil fields).

Women also face health disparities, including higher rates of diabetes, depression, and heavy alcohol use. Incarceration rates for women have also increased over 25% between 2014 and 2016. Health outcomes are particularly negative on reservations. The North Dakota government is seeking to remediate some of these health disparities through their Main Street Initiative, which involves public-private partnerships and includes three pillars: Healthy, vibrant communities; 21st century workforce; and Smart, efficient infrastructure.

Amanda Savitt,
Secretary



AAUW Minnesota News

On September 20, 2017, AAUW Moorhead members joined students, staff and other community members for their Take Back the Night event at MSUM-Moorhead. This event was in conjunction with Concordia College, North Dakota State University and Minnesota State CTC-Moorhead. Speakers included, Dr. Ann Blackhurst, MSUM President, Dana Bisignani, Women's Center coordinator and student speakers. In addition to the focus on violence prevention the crowd also celebrated the 45th anniversary Title IX. A female student athlete reminded the crowd that Title IX guarantees every student the right to an education free of discrimination based on sex. She also spoke of the recent news reports that Education Secretary Betsy DeVos' intends to reform the current law and these reforms will weaken Title IX. Other students spoke eloquently about their sexual assault experiences. Next year we are hoping for a larger group of Minnesota branch members to represent FM-AAUW at this important and educational event.

Kathleen Nelson

MN Liaison



Alexa and Kathleen at the MSUM's 2017 Take Back the Night



MEET AN AAUW F-M MEMBER

Alison Ward

Alison Ward of West Fargo is a brand new AAUW member of less than a year, and she's looking forward to becoming involved in Branch activities.

She graduated from the University of Saskatchewan with BS, MS and PhD degrees in Animal Science, focusing on genetic and dietary interactions in chickens and cattle. Her postdoctoral work at the University Cancer Cluster from 2011-2015 was studying breast cancer epigenetics. She is presently an Assistant Professor in the Animal Science Department at NDSU with a focus on epigenetics and nutrition in livestock.

Alison's hobbies and pastimes are reading, YouTube, volunteer work and cats. She believes the most important issue for AAUW to focus on is gender equality in the workplace, including the pay gap and underrepresentation of females.

The best advice she's ever received is: Be authentic to yourself. Find what works for you and embrace your strengths.

Welcome, Alison!

Magdalene Chalikia

Magdalene Chalikia of Fargo is a graduate of the American College of Greece with a BA degree in Psychology, and she earned MA and Phd degrees in Experimental Psychology with a focus on Perceptual Processes from McGill University, Canada. Her work experience includes positions at the Technological Education Institute in Greece, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and presently Minnesota State University Moorhead.

Magda has been an AAUW member for many years, sometimes as a member-at-large of the national organization and sometimes belonging to a local branch. Equity in general and salary equity in particular are the issues she would like AAUW to concentrate its efforts on in the near future. Travel, hiking, biking, swimming, reading, cooking and making jewelry are some of Magda's hobbies and interests.

The best advice she has received is to set high goals, know your abilities and ignore everyone who doubts that you can reach them. She would give that advice to young women today, adding: build alliances.

Welcome back, Magda!

Fundraising Committee Update

New this year is our fundraising committee! Our mission for this year is “to raise funds for local scholarships, educational programs, and outreach”. The money will go towards paying outside program speakers for travel/dinner, scholarships, and making donations to other local organizations that have relied on donations from our branch to fund their events, such as the NEW Leadership Development Institute. We plan to have little fundraisers at affiliate meetings for starters. We are opened to ideas and would love to have more people join us! Contact Liz Cambron for more information, liz.cambron@ndsu.edu.

October Silent Auction Fundraiser:



- **Book basket**
- **Jewelry basket**
- **Health products basket**
- **Handmade AAUW bookmarks**



*Cash or check only

Used Book Sale Task Force Update

Our 59th annual used book sale is almost here! Every year we hold a used book sale to fundraise for national and local scholarship to NDSU and MSUM. Our task force has been hard at work planning to make sure we have another successful event. This year we are starting a “Member recommended” book section, so members can pull out books as they’re sorting to showcase!

As our only major fundraiser, we ask **ALL MEMBERS** to participate with at least one shift. Sign-up sheets and event flyers will be circulated at the October branch meetings. We are searching for one more person to help organize Sunday’s clean up as well.

Sorting days: Oct. 22-26th

Contact Kathleen Nelson or Sara Lindberg to volunteer for sorting days.

Sale days: Fri, Oct. 27th 9-5pm (full price)
Sat, Oct. 28th, 9-5pm (half-price sale)
Sun, Oct. 29th, 12-3pm (\$5 fill-a-bag sale)

Contact Bonnie Klein or Liz Cambron to volunteer for sale days.



From the AAUW Archives

The Fargo-Moorhead AAUW Branch was formed on January 27, 1922, with 53 charter members; 34 from Fargo and 19 from Moorhead. Dues were \$2.50. A student loan fund was immediately begun with \$17.50, the proceeds from a “silver tea.” Besides scholarships, study and action were important areas of interest and the focus was on the educational nature of the meetings with socializing of secondary importance.

When North Dakota reached the minimum number of branches, five, in the late 1920’s Fargo and Moorhead separated. Now we’re together again!

Announcements

AAUW Book Club 2017-18

**All meetings are held at 7 p.m. at the Moorhead Public Library
Books will be available for purchase at a discount at Zandbroz, downtown Fargo**

October 23	Book: Sisters-in-Law, Linda Hirshman Leader: Nancy Johnson	February 26	Book: LaRose, Louise Erdrich Leader: Verlaine Gullickson
November 27	Book: Lab Girl, Hope Jahren Leader: Noell Reinhiller	March 26	Book: Hidden Figures, Margot Lee Shetterly Leader: Sandy Sidler
January 22	Book: Soldier Girls, Helen Thorpe Leader: Sara Lindberg	April 29	Book: My Life on the Road, Gloria Steinem Leader: Sibyl Olson

May 21 Book Selection for next year

Meet an F-M Member

To get to know our members better, we are excited to highlight our branch members in every newsletter!

Please contact Sara Lindberg to provide your info!
orchella@msn.com

Want to get involved?

The Fargo-Moorhead branch is currently looking to fill the president-elect position. For more information please contact any board member or email farmoor.aauw@gmail.com

F-M AAUW 2017-18 Programs & Dates to Remember

OCTOBER

Women as Authors: Reflections on writing about gender, theology and climate change
Dr. Hilda Koster

NOVEMBER

Cultivating Cultural Sensitivity: An Essential Practice for Effective and Intentional Leadership
Laetitia Mizero

DECEMBER

Multifaceted Approaches to Breaking Generational Cycles of Poverty
Cody Schuler & Diane Solinger

JANUARY BRUNCH

Crucial Conversations for Effective Leadership
Lonnie Pederson

FEBRUARY

Falling in Love with Math and Science: Women in STEM
Dr. Jane Schuh & Betty Gronneberg

MARCH

Title IX, assault, harassment and discrimination
Jennifer Cook, ACLU & Title IX representative from MSUM

APRIL

Equal Pay Day
Hosted by AAUW Pay Equity Committee

MAY

Annual Potluck Meeting

The public is welcome to attend our meetings. The format is 5-6 p.m. Social Hour; 6-6:45 p.m. Dinner; 6:45-7:15 Business Meeting; 7:15-8 p.m. Program

Interested in joining or have an announcement
for the newsletter? Contact us!

F-M AAUW ELECTED OFFICERS



**Alexa Ducioame
President**



**Amanda Savitt
Secretary**



**Susan Helgeland
Immediate Past President**



**Kathleen Nelson
MN Membership Chair**



**Liz Cambron
Finance Officer/Newsletter
editor**



**Rebecca Moore
ND Member Chair**

WEB SITES

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