



February 2018

American Association of University Women

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

Fargo-Moorhead (F-M) Branch

President's Comments

I hope you've had a great start to the new year!

I'm pleased to say that we are moving forward on assembling a strategic plan for our affiliate. We would love to hear from you at the February 3rd board meeting and will be reaching out soon with a survey to rank the priorities of our members. You can find out more about national AAUW's strategic plan here: <https://www.aauw.org/who-we-are/strategic-plan/>

With some adjustments we are now able to offer \$15 admission to our programs for the rest of the year. We are also rolling out a new program this month to encourage local college students to attend our meetings. We will be collecting donations for student sponsorships so that a limited number of students can pay a reduced price of \$5 for dinner and the program.

I'd like to invite you to the February 12th, 2018 FM AAUW program on Women in STEM: Falling in Love with Math and Science with our speakers Betty Gronneberg and Dr. Jane Schuh, whose bios are on the next page. The meeting will be 5-8 at the Biltmore on Main and dinner is now only \$15. The first 5 students to RSVP will get a reduced price of \$5. **Please RSVP to farmoor.aauw@gmail.com by February 11th.**

Our next book club meeting is February 26th at the Moorhead Public Library at 7PM. This month's book is LaRose, by Louise Erdich; a story of a heartbreaking accident in an Ojibwe family in North Dakota in 1999 and a unique attempt at making amends.

Alexa Ducioame
President



Women in STEM: Falling in Love with Math and Science



Dr. Jane M. Schuh, Professor and Associate Director of the ND Agricultural Experiment Station, NDSU. Jane Schuh is a NIH-funded biomedical researcher, professor of immunology, and Associate Director of Research for the ND Agricultural Experiment Station at North Dakota State University. She also serves as the Director of the Cellular and Molecular Biology interdisciplinary graduate program at NDSU and a representative to the Council of College Faculties for the ND University System. To date, her work on allergic fungal asthma has led to 38 peer-reviewed manuscripts, book chapters, and review articles and 76 national and international academic presentations. Her academic research collaborations have included investigators from the Universities of California, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Utah, and Wisconsin. Jane has also cultivated national and international non-academic partnerships that include a key opinion leaders' group in fungal asthma at GlaxoSmithKline UK and the ARUP National Reference Laboratories. She is an active advocate for science outreach to the public, and her research has been highlighted in popular print media and radio.

She is the 2017 YWCA Woman of the Year for Science and Technology in the Fargo community. She believes in mentoring scientific and professional development in her student and faculty colleagues to facilitate the personal success that benefits the institution and the greater community. Her skills as a creative visionary have been utilized in the university to provide strategic planning across disciplines, to support diversity in the faculty through policy change, and to win over \$14.5 million in competitive awards for research, research infrastructure, and training.



Bethlehem or Betty Gronneberg is a Founder and Chief Executive Officer of uCodeGirl, a social enterprise designed to inspire, engage and equip young women in the community with leadership traits, computational thinking skills and an entrepreneurial mindset. uCodeGirl is known for working with young women to forge pathways to careers in technology - making sure women are not under-represented in 21st century jobs and tech-executive positions. Betty has a Masters of Science degree in Software Engineering from North Dakota State University (NDSU). After 20+ years in the software industry and leading teams of software engineers, Betty was disheartened that her teams were missing something crucial - women. That's when she shifted her career and founded uCodeGirl - the innovative driving force behind making girls intrigued and excited about developing technology solutions. Since then Betty has become a recipient of the prestigious Bush Foundation Leadership Fellowship.

Betty currently serves on the Board of Directors for The Fargo chapter of the International Women in Technology, and The Prairie Public Broadcasting Services. Betty speaks regularly at regional and national conferences and to companies about the challenges the industry currently faces on bringing young women into the technology space and the breakthrough methods uCodeGirl has discovered to entice and excite women to these vitally important career paths.

Betty had received her Bachelors degree from Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia in Statistics and Computer Science. Betty was working as the first webmaster for United Nations - Economic Commission for Africa before immigrating to United States.

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F-M AAUW Affiliate Business Agenda

February 12th, 2018 – 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: Pricing and student sponsorship reminder

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

Financial Report: Finance Officer Liz Cambron (as printed)

Continuing Business:

Strategic Plan

New Business:

Membership: Kathleen Nelson

Public Policy: Sandy Sidler

Fundraising: Liz Cambron

Pay Equity: Evelyn Quigley

Announcements:

Book Club & Meet a Member, Sara Lindberg

Adjourn.



AAUW Affiliate Meeting Minutes January 2018

AAUW Affiliate Meeting Minutes January 13, 2018

Present: 21 members, guests, speakers

President Alexa Ducioame welcomed all and the mission statement was read.

The agenda was approved as written.

The minutes of the December meeting were approved as printed.

Finance Officer Liz Cambron presented the Financial Report. Income in December was about \$400. Our ending balance was \$1009.53.

Continuing business:

Strategic Plan: we will be developing a new plan. Kjersten Nelson, Amanda Savitt, and Evelyn Quigley will be working on the strategic plan. We will be seeking feedback on members' most important issues.

New business: Pricing: we will reduce the charge from \$20 to \$15 for our meetings. Liz presented about student sponsorship: we want to focus on new members and recruitment. We are looking to institute a student sponsorship to create a pool of money to cover costs for college students.

Membership chair Kathleen Nelson presented the membership update. The affiliate currently has 40 members. We have lost a few long-term members. Evelyn and Kathleen met with MSUM representatives since the last meeting. We will be looking to participate in activities at MSUM and Concordia. National dues are going up by \$10.

Public Policy Chair Sandy Sidler presented public policy updates. Equal Pay Day is April 10th. Evelyn and Susan met to do planning, but we are hoping to do something big for Equal Pay Day. National would like Affiliate branches to do a press conference, and we are hoping to go in that direction. We are seeking collaboration from other organizations. A federal court temporarily blocked DACA. AAUW encourages members to contact members of congress about the DREAM Act. The Governor-elect in VA created the first majority female cabinet in VA's history (8 out of 15 cabinet seats to be held by women). Actress Michelle Williams was paid dramatically less than Mark Wahlberg to reshoot scenes in a recent film. NC's congressional districts are unconstitutionally drawn. There will be work requirements for Medicaid benefits. One state, Kentucky, has already implemented the requirement. Tina Smith, the new Senator from Minnesota, has been assigned to several committees.

Fundraising Chair Liz Cambron noted that we are trying to do more fundraising. A donation from Sara is available today to be bid on. Liz will be holding a fundraising meeting at the Fry'n Pan on January 28 to discuss fundraising ideas.

Pay Equity Chair Evelyn Quigley reported on the Pay Equity task force's recent activities. Evelyn distributed state rankings for pay equity and noted that Minnesota has recently moved from 18 to 12, and North Dakota from 47 to 45. This is a legislative year, and we have the opportunity to ask those running for legislature about how to resolve pay disparities. Evelyn emphasized the importance of having a media events. We plan to have the four mayors present a proclamation about this issue. We may also have an educational event that the media can participate in. We have been networking with the ND Women's Network, who funded a study about pay equity in North Dakota. They have been awarded a Bremmer grant to disseminate their findings. We are still hoping to present the Work Smart and Start Smart curricula, which will require significant resources. Networking with the universities can increase the likelihood that we will receive grant funding to present these programs. The new grant proposal is due February 17, and we need support from a community group and a demonstrated relationship with the universities.

Book club chair Sara Lindberg notified the group that book club for January will meet on the 22nd at the Moorhead Public Library at 7 PM to discuss the book *Soldier Girls*. Sara also noted that Meet a Member forms are on the tables and encouraged members to fill one out.

The meeting was adjourned.

The program: Crucial Conversations and Seeing Things Whole: Relationships, Identity, Purpose

Speaker: Dr. Lonnie Pederson, Assistant Professor of Leadership and Director of the Master of Arts in Leadership

Dr. Pederson began her presentation by emphasizing the importance of gratitude and community. She noted that often, problems are polarized and difficult to fix, and we must be comfortable working in those spaces, which she calls a place of "dis-ease," or a place of perspective. We must be mindful of ourselves and our own perspectives, and of the gap between different visions of the future.

Dr. Pederson led a conversation about crucial problems, and we discussed how to recognize when a conversation is moving toward becoming crucial. In a 'place of dis-ease,' we have an opportunity to see different perspectives, and to see greater 'truth.'

We participated in an activity with peacock feathers, which demonstrated the idea that it is important to change your perspective in order to make it easier to solve a problem or handle a challenge. Crucial conversations are necessary to progress, and require communication and connection with others. They also require active listening in order to be successful. These interactions also require that we understand that different people have different values, and approach issues from a different perspective. By making us aware of both our own biases and how others' perspectives complicate but enrich our communities, Dr. Pederson helped us develop critical leadership skills for managing difficult issues.

Amanda Savitt
Secretary

F-M AAUW MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Included with this newsletter is information concerning the new dues structure for FY2019 and beginning with dues payable on or after March 16, 2108. This is the first dues increase in 10 years. According to the AAUW website, annual dues currently account for 13 percent of AAUW annual budget. They help to sustain and grow AAUW programs and work that advances equity for women and girls. A combination of dues, donations, and corporate and foundation funding is critical to supporting AAUW salary negotiation workshops, groundbreaking research, advocacy efforts, campus leadership programs, and so much more. If a member is considering a lifetime membership, the current rate of \$980 rate can be paid before March 16th, a savings of \$200.

Minnesota AAUW

The Minnesota Legislature will go into session for 2018 on February 20th. According to ERA Minnesota website there are two bills before the Minnesota House HF356 and Senate (SF229) calling for a resolution memorializing US Congress to remove the deadline on the ERA (SF229) and a and the companion house bill (HF356) to remove the sunset on the ERA.

The Minnesota State AAUW convention will be held on April 27-28 in Faribault, MN. Moorhead AAUW members are encouraged to consider attending. More information to come.

Kathleen Nelson
Membership & MN Liason



Meet an AAUW F-M Member



Susan Helgeland

Susan Helgeland, who recently moved to Moorhead, is the immediate Past President of the FM Branch. She earned an MS in Public Administration and Human Services from Minnesota State University Moorhead in 1989 and retired three years ago as Executive Director of Mental Health America of North Dakota. Susan worked as an advocate for equal access to behavioral health (mental illness and addiction) services for over 50 years, professionally and as a volunteer.

Susan joined AAUW in Colorado and has been a member for 42 years. She is most interested in increasing our current membership of young leaders to implement the goals of AAUW in the future.

Traveling and writing are two activities Susan enjoys, as well as reading. The best book she's read this year is *The Roosevelt Women* by Betty Boyd Caroli.

The best advice Susan ever received was from an 86 year old nursing home resident in Edmore, ND., who counseled her to put her family first and create the memories that provide solace and support in later life. Her advice to young women is to love yourself and work through any doubts, fears and concerns in order to live life to the fullest.

Bonnie Klein

Bonnie Klein from Fargo has a BA degree in Criminology from Michigan State University and a JD from Brooklyn, NY, Law School. Her work experience includes: being an attorney, an outplacement consultant, an electronic document review consultant, a non-profit director, and her current position in Higher Education Administration at Concordia.

She joined us in Fargo a year ago and believes the most important issues for AAUW to focus on are pay equity, equal access to education, and more women in elective offices.

Bonnie was Chair of the sales shifts at the annual book sale and is willing to volunteer as a speaker.

If Bonnie were Queen of the World, the first thing she would do is "Impeach the President!"

A voracious reader, Bonnie lists four books as the best she's read this year: *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, James Baldwin; *Killers of the Flower Moon*, David Grann; *Rules of Civility*, Amor Towles; and *Slaughterhouse Five*, Kurt Vonnegut, (for the sixth time).

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*”. We are opened to ideas and would love to have more people join us! Contact Liz Cambron for more information, liz.cambron@ndsu.edu.

The next fundraising committee meeting will be on March 24th 10am at the Fryn’Pan. If you are interested in coming, please email me ahead of time. You do not have to be a member to join us!

We will also have a donation box. All proceeds will be split with this month’s speaker Betty Gronneberg’s non-profit UCodeGirl!



We still have AAUW gear for sale! Perfect for another year of empowering women!



From the AAUW Archives

The now famous annual AAUW Book Sale was started in 1958, having several locations over the years including West Acres and currently the Moorhead Center Mall.

The 1961 AAUW sponsored a Tour of Homes, with tickets at the bargain price of \$1.00 for entry into 5 of 18 homes, including the unusual choices of the Phi Mu sorority house at NDSU, Fleck House Motel, and a prototype fallout shelter at Yunker Farm.

In the 1960's the Branch supported the Fargo American Field Service, the F-M Symphony, and KFME, and contributed to the building fund for the F-M Community Theater and the equipment fund of the Fargo Public Library.

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

February 26	Book: LaRose, Louise Erdrich Leader: Verlaine Gullickson	April 23	Book: My Life on the Road, Gloria Steinem Leader: Sibyl Olson
March 26	Book: Hidden Figures, Margot Lee Shetterly Leader: Sandy Sidler	May 21	Book Selection for next year

Announcements

DUES RATES AS OF MARCH 16, 2018

	Member	Member	Student	Student
	North Dakota	Minnesota	C/U Partner*	Non-C/U P
National***	\$59.00	\$59.00	\$0.00	\$18.81
State	\$10.00	\$9.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Local	\$13.00	\$13.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total****	\$82.00	\$81.00	\$0.00	\$18.81

*Check www.aauw.org to see if your College/University is an AAUW Partner (NDSU, NDSCS, MSUM, & Concordia are)

**Graduate students no longer pay while they are degree seeking students

***\$56 of member dues and \$16.81 of Non-C/U Partner dues are tax deductible as a charitable contribution

****New members can qualify for a reduced price – check with our membership chair

Shape the Future: 50% off national dues (\$26.50 tax deductible)

1 Free membership for every 2 new members (max 3)

Life membership for \$1,180 (\$1180 tax deductible)

C/U representatives get a free National membership

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

Nominating Committee

It is that time of year again! The nominating committee is beginning the search for nominees for the upcoming election at our annual meeting in May. The current elected positions open are President Elect and Finance Officer, and the appointed positions available are ND Membership, bylaws chair, program chair, and newsletter editor. If you know anyone who would be great for these positions, please let any of the committee members know!

Susan Helgeland, Sara Lindberg, Liz Cambron

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

FEBRUARY MEETING

2/12/18 Biltmore on Main

Falling in Love with Math and Science: Women in STEM

Dr. Jane Schuh & Betty Gronneberg

MARCH MEETING

3/12/18 Biltmore on Main

Title IX, assault, harassment and discrimination

Jennifer Cook, ACLU & Title IX representative from MSUM

APRIL MEETING

4/10/18 Biltmore on Main

Equal Pay Day

Hosted by AAUW Pay Equity Committee

MAY MEETING

5/14/18 Moorhead Public Library

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**

WEB SITES

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