



AMERICAN  
ASSOCIATION OF  
UNIVERSITY  
WOMEN

AAUW — CHAMPAIGN-URBANA BRANCH

# NEWSBRIEFS

## What's Inside

- 1 Saturday Luncheon Forum
- 2 Documentary Film Program
- 2 EF & LAF
- 3 Interest Groups
- 4 President's Message

## C-U AAUW Saturday Luncheon Forum

### Dr. Elsie Field's 1925 letters from China

**Saturday, March 7 at Noon**  
**Location: Kennedy's at Stone Creek**  
**2560 Stone Creek Blvd. Urbana**

**Margot Jerrard**, writer, editor, and long time friend of the late Dr. Elsie Field, will share letters written by Dr. Elsie Field and stories about her.

Dr. Field was the medical director at Planned Parenthood in Champaign from 1974, through the 1980s. She did her undergraduate work at Radcliff and received her M.D. from Columbia College in 1930. While at Planned Parenthood she insisted the clinic develop a more medically oriented system, trained third year medical students in OB-GYN rotations, and stressed that it was important for students to develop sensitivity to their patients.

Luncheon includes salad, entrée choice, coffee or tea for

#### C-U Branch Calendar of Events

#### February

- 5 Drama Group
- 18 Documentary Film
- 20 Writer's Group
- 24 Afternoon Adelante

#### March

- 5 Drama Group
- 7 Saturday Luncheon Forum
- 20 Writer's Group
- 24 Afternoon Adelante

**\$14.25 (includes  
tax & gratuity)**

For Reservation,  
call Helen Miron at  
344-4225 by  
Wednesday,  
March 4.

**AAUW Illinois State Convention—April 24-25, 2009**  
**2009 AAUW National Convention—June 26-28, 2009**

**See you there!!**



## Educational Foundation Update

The Educational Foundation review panels are preparing to begin their important work to select the recipients for the 2009-2010 fellowship and grant awards. These awards are made possible by the generous support of AAUW members – Thank You. More information about the awards can be found at

[http://www.aauw.org/education/fga/fellowships\\_grants/index.cfm](http://www.aauw.org/education/fga/fellowships_grants/index.cfm)

Information is now available for the 2009 National Conference of College Women Student Leaders, scheduled for June 4-6, 2009 at the University of Maryland, College Park. This two-and-a-half day conference focuses on important and contemporary leadership issue and is designed to help hone leadership skills for work on campus and in local communities. In 2008, more than 500 students participated in the conference. Please share this information with colleagues and think about helping to support a woman college student to participate in this terrific event. More information can be found at <http://www.aauw.org/nccwsl/2009/>



## Program of interest to AAUW members!!

### Documentary Film - "Beyond Killing Us Softly: The Strength to Resist"

The film is about the media's impact on women and girls.

Presented by Channing-Murray Foundation  
C-U AAUW is a Co-Sponsor

Wednesday, February 18 at 7:15 p.m.

Location: 1209 W. Oregon, Urbana  
(Corner of Oregon & Mathews)

Come watch the 33 minute documentary, "Beyond Killing Us Softly: The Strength to Resist" about the image of women in advertising and how these images affect women and girls in our society. The film will be followed by a panel discussion featuring local activists and academics speaking about how media impacts women and girls, and what we can do to counteract these negative images.

Free and open to the public.  
Refreshments will be served.

### *Please consider a donation to local scholarships, EF, or LAF!!*

You can send a donation, to Phyllis Cline, 104 E. Willard, Urbana, IL 61801. If you would like to receive another pledge form and envelope, call Phyllis at 344-4806 or send an email to: [plcline@comcast.net](mailto:plcline@comcast.net) Thank you.

### Expanded Role for the Legal Advocacy Fund

The Legal Advocacy Fund has experienced several changes as AAUW has been engaging in a strategic process during the last three years. Beginning this year, LAF is throwing its support to cases that protect women in all workplaces, not just to those cases arising in the academic context as it has before.

Further, in the past LAF has been focused more on deserving individuals; the new emphasis will be to select landmark cases for support. These will be cases that have the potential to set precedent and address significant issues that clearly impact AAUW's fight for pay equity and workplaces free of sex discrimination. The goal is to protect other individuals in the future.

LAF will continue to provide travel grants and stipends to LAF speakers as requested by branches. In fact, one criterion to be selected for support will be that the individual is willing to travel to make presentations to branches that request a speaker.

The Fund is looking for support from the membership. That will be vital if LAF is to be successful as it broadens its scope beyond academia and strives to be effective in achieving significant gains through strategic litigation.

# C-U AAUW INTEREST GROUPS

Thursday

## Drama Group

Thursday

February 5 7:30 p.m.

Home of Margaret Stewart  
3202 Stoneybrook Dr. Champaign,  
356-9475

Discussion Leader: Phyllis Cline

**Program: Rappaccini's Daughter**



March 5 7:30 p.m.

Home of Helen Miron  
612 W. Nevada St. Urbana  
344-4225

Discussion Leader: Jackie Terry

**Program: Talley's Folly**

The Drama group gets together each month to discuss a selected play. Occasionally the group will host a guest speaker working in the field to discuss a pertinent topic. Once a year the group selects and attends a play together. **New members are always welcome!!!**

Drama group meets on the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm, September—May.

Co-Chairs: Phyllis Cline 344-4806

Helen Miron 344-4225



## Community Outreach



*¡Adelante!*

### Book Discussion

Afternoon: 2:30 pm

Tuesday, Feb. 24

Tuesday, March 24

Home of Amy Kummerow,  
1805 Pleasant St. Urbana

The evening group that was meeting every 4th Wednesday at Pages for all Ages, Savoy is cancelled until we know whether Pages is going to reopen.

Please attend, even if you haven't read the book!!

### February Book (Black History Month):

#### Slavery by Another Name by Douglas A. Blackmon (2008)

The shocking story of post-Civil War intimidation of African-Americans through a system of involuntary servitude that involved the courts, US corporations, mine owners, local farmers, and others to whom prisoners were leased for hard physical labor. Fraudulent arrests, trials and sentences sent over 100,000 men into dangerous working conditions, with no hope of legal redress. The practice continued until the start of WWII.

### March Book (Women's History Month):

#### Mother Jones: the most dangerous woman in America by Elliott J. Gorn (2001)

The life and exploits of this legendary icon of labor organizing and advocating for the underdogs of our society—miners laboring in unsafe conditions, children working in factories and sweatshops, and others oppressed by poverty and ignorance. Her motto was "Pray for the dead and fight like hell for the living." If you cannot get a copy of this book, two others are available and can be substituted.

The afternoon group meets every 4th Tuesday at 2:30pm at the home of Amy Kummerow. The evening group is cancelled until we know if Pages for all Ages Bookstore in Savoy is going to reopen. **Anyone interested in discussing these books are welcome, whether or not you are an AAUW member.**

## Writers' Group



Friday, Feb. 20 & Friday, March 20

1:30 p.m.

New Location: Barbara Scott's home—5 Bellamy Court, Champaign



The AAUW Writers' Group meets on the **third Friday of the month** at 1:30 p.m. We read our writings and exchange information about writer's conferences and local classes, as well as reading our own creations to each other. We usually present the program in December for the general AAUW members with our original works.

**All are welcome to attend—beginners as well as more experienced writers.** You may come to listen and offer comments, too—we do not require that you present something at every meeting but hope that we interest and encourage people to create. **Come join us!!**

Chair: Barbara Scott 352-7364

## What's Happening by Co-President Helen Miron

During the past year AAUW has played an integral role in the passage of public policy legislation in Washington. President Obama just signed into law the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. The Fair Pay Act has updated and strengthened the older Equal Pay Act, and public support has encouraged Congress to pass the GI Bill for the 21st Century, which includes provisions for expanding grants to part-time students, most of who are women and girls. These issues and more have a direct impact on our daughters and us. When we make legislators aware of our concerns and our wishes we can make things happen. There was a great push during the national elections to talk with the candidates about issues that concerned us and the changes we would like to see, and they are responding to those concerns. The elections are over and a new administration is in Washington, but we need to keep our momentum going; our work isn't finished until there is real equity educationally and economically for women and girls everywhere. Keep pushing. Inform your legislators; state and federal, how you feel about the issues and what you feel should be changed. They do listen to us.

Our next Saturday Luncheon Forum will feature Margot Jerrard, speaking on Dr. Elsie Field and her work as medical director of Planned Parenthood. Keep the date open: March 7, 12:00 noon, at Kennedy's Restaurant in Urbana Besides an interesting speaker and a good lunch it's a time when we can come together, share ideas, and enjoy each other.

**"The Issue is Equity"**

Champaign-Urbana Branch  
Illinois 4012

### **American Association of University Women**

Sallie Miller, editor  
1101 Foothill Drive  
Champaign, IL 61821

#### **Mission**

***Advancing equity for women and girls  
through advocacy, education, and  
research.***

#### **Vision**

*AAUW will be a powerful advocate and  
visible leader in equity and education  
through research, philanthropy, and  
measurable change in critical areas  
impacting the lives of women and girls.*

#### **Diversity Statement**

*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, disability, or class.*

