

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research

FEBRUARY 2015

MEETINGS

Board Meeting—Monday, February 2 at 10:00 am at Jo T's

Book Group—Thursday, February 5 at 1:00 pm at Stella Fife's—*The Astronauts Wives Club* by Lily Koppel



MOVIE DATE—
WEDNESDAY, February 11 at 2:00 pm at Luisa Tassan's

Book Group—Thursday, February 12th at TBD—*Lisette's list* by Susan Vreeland

Eloise Gomez-Reyes—Friday, February 20 at 10:30 am at the Mayor's Ceremonial Room on the 7th floor of City Hall

Healthy Hearts—Friday, February 27—place TBD.

Current Affairs—Monday, February 23 at 1:00pm at TBD

Bridge Group—Monday, February 23 at 7:00pm

WOMEN IN LAW AND POLITICS



Our featured speaker this month will be Eloise Gomez Reyes who recently completed a run for the 31st Congressional seat vacated by Representative Gary Miller (R). Ms. Gomez Reyes has a compelling human interest story to tell as the daughter of Latino crop-pickers who grew up in nearby Colton, earned a scholarship to USC and then went on to graduate from Loyola Law School. She began her career at a labor law firm in Los Angeles representing union workers who had been injured on the job. Ms. Gomez Reyes eventually returned to her hometown of Colton to open her own law firm specializing in the representation of injured workers.

Ms. Gomez Reyes was chosen, through a competitive process, by Emily's List to run as their endorsed candidate for the 31st Congressional District House seat. She came in 4th place in the "jungle primary" where there were 4 Democrats and 3 Republicans vying for 2 spaces on the General Election ballot losing by 781 votes to Pete Aguilar (D) who went on to win the seat. To read more about Ms. Gomez Reyes click [HERE](#)

The cost for the lunch is \$15.00, payable at the door.

Make reservations with Jo T. — 786-3966

BOARD MEMBERS

President	Barbara Ryon
Administrative VP	Ruthann Mlcoch
Program VP	Barbara Purvis
Membership VP	Carlease Chandler
AAUW Funds VP	Cindy Sprague
Secretary	Marilyn Puckett
Treasurer	Ann Kasper
Communications	Taffy Geith Public
Policy Chair	Luisa Tassan
International Affairs	Carrie Garrett
Parliamentarian	Bessie Ridley
Tech Trek Co-Chairr	Lisa Newhall
	Christine Morgando

INTEREST GROUPS & OTHERS

Book Group—1st Thursday at 1 pm	Stella Fife
Book Group—1st Thursday at 7 pm	Lisa Newhall
Current Affairs—4th Monday at 1 pm	Marilyn Dunagan
	Dorothy Andrus
Bridge Group—4th Monday at 7 pm	Bessie Ridley
Healthy Hearts—3rd Friday at Noon	Bessie Ridley
Out & About—dates and times vary	Jo Turner
UCR Coordinators	Luisa Tassan
	Carole Nagengast



February 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Board Meeting 10:00pm	3	4	5 Book Group 1:00pm	6	7
8	9 Beth Miller	10	11 MOVIE DATE 2:00 pm	12 Book Group 7:00pm	13	14 Happy Valentine's Day!
15	16 PRESIDENTS DAY 	17	18	19	20 Eloise Comez-Reyes 10:30am	21
22	23 Current Affairs 1:00pm Bridge Group 7:00pm	24	25 Deborah Wong	26 Kay Dobbertin	27	28

PRESIDENT'S
CORNER

Barb Ryon



Politics -- fascinating or frustrating, maybe both? I do know that we need to have more women in positions of leadership in business, education and politics at the top echelon levels. Do you have personal experience of running for an office, have you worked on a campaign for someone? What experience do you have of those around you and the work involved in running for an office? Have you ever thought of running for school board, city council, supervisor? What things have held you back from seeking a political position or leadership position in the organizations you belong to? Leadership is such an important issue for all women and especially those active in their local AAUW branches.

I am looking forward to hearing our guest speaker Eloise Gomez-Reyes and encourage you to come and bring guests. Her topic -- "Women in Law and Politics" is so timely.



Have you thought of accepting a position on the Board of the Riverside Branch? We are looking for volunteers to join us. I would encourage our new members to attend a board meeting and see where you would like to help. Everyone is always welcome.

Equal Pay Day is April 14, 2015. Save the date, and start planning how you're going to "celebrate?"

In Fiscal year 2014, AAUW saw a 57 percent jump in the number of Two-Minute Activist messages sent by AAUW members and supporters to Congress, the Obama administration, and state lawmakers! This tool and the AAUW Action Network are cornerstones of AAUW's e-advocacy efforts, and we thank you for taking action. [JOIN](#)

AAUW announced a new [collaboration](#) with Alcoa Foundation to bring our STEM education programs to girls in communities across the globe. Thanks to a \$250,000 grant, AAUW will expand our successful [STEM programs for girls](#) to new sites in Székesfehérvár, Hungary, and Barberton, Ohio, where Alcoa has operations.

AAUW received a \$90,400 grant from Lockheed Martin to help more than 1,600 rising eighth-grade girls attend 21 [Tech Trek](#) camps next summer at college campuses throughout the nation.

SEIBC—WHAT IS IT?

It is the South East Inter Branch Council. There are about 20 IBC's in California. Our IBC is made up of 12 regional branches: Big Bear; China Lake-Ridgecrest; Diamond Bar-Walnut; Hemet-San Jacinto; Ontario-Upland-Rancho; Pomona Valley; Palm Springs; Redlands; Riverside; San Geronio (in Bernardino); Temecula and Victor Valley. We meet 3 or 4 times a year to discuss topics of mutual interest and members of all 12 groups are invited to come.

BRANCH NEWS

Luisa Tassan, dewaelri@aol.com

Please check out updates, read articles or post photos and Comments on the AAUW-Riverside Branch website And Facebook page

AAUW RIVERSIDE BRANCH WEBSITE:

<http://riverside-ca.aauw.net>

AAUW RIVERSIDE BRANCH FACEBOOK PAGE

www.facebook.com/AAUWRiversideCA

HEALTHY HEARTS



The Healthy Hearts group meets for lunch on the third Friday of the month at 12 o'clock noon.

We take turns hosting and preparing the main dish, usually soup. Others bring salad or dessert. We share recipes and ideas for tasty dishes that are low in calories and fat. We welcome any interested AAUW members. If you would like to visit or join our group, call Janet F. at 951-213-6287.

ART CONTEST



Only 5 percent of the art currently displayed in U.S. museums is by women. There remains just one major museum in the world dedicated solely to women artists. That's why, working with the National Museum of Women in the Arts, we host an annual art contest to get women artists the equal attention they deserve.

The six winning entries will be featured in a collection of note cards mailed to AAUW members in the spring. And, for the third year in a row, one of the six winners will take home an NMWA Award of Distinction!

Submission Period	January 7-28
Nomination Period	January 29-February 4
Voting Period	February 5-25

MOVIE DATE

Join us for a Movie Date, February 11th at 2:00 pm at the home of Luisa Tassan to see the movie **"The Hundred-Foot Journey."** The film stars Helen Mirren and others in this two hour, PG rated film about a feud between two adjacent restaurants located in a small French town: one opened by a recently relocated Indian family and the other managed by a Michelin-starred French chef (Mirren). The film is produced by Steven Spielberg and Oprah Winfrey and sure to delight! For a preview see the Youtube <http://youtube/h6H8pAKKkgQ> The cost will be \$1.00 and bring a snack to share. RSVP: Luisa Tassan dewaetri@aol.com

CURRENT AFFAIRS



Current Affairs meets on the 4th Monday of the month at 1:00 PM in someone's home. We start with a delicious dessert supplied by the hostesses. After dessert we have a topic of interest to our members and we usually have a speaker. This is followed by discussion. Do join us for good fellowship and fun. Call Marilyn D. at 951-683-1330.

DR. PAUL LYONS



USEFUL WEBSITES

Our website

<http://riverside-ca.aauw.net/>

National

<http://riverside-ca.aauw.net/>

DR. PAUL LYONS**By Taffy Geith**

The Riverside Branch of AAUW met on January 14, at 10:00 AM at Habitat for Humanity. President Elect, Ruthann Mlcoch, (in for absent President, Barb Ryon) welcomed and thanked all those present for attending. Publication Chair, Jo Turner, introduced our speaker, Dr. Paul Lyons from UCR Medical School. Dr. Lyons' academic resume includes a BA in Philosophy from Oberlin College, an MD from Ohio State U, a Residency in Family Medicine at Minnesota U, and the Chair of Clinical Education and faculty advisor at Temple University School of Medicine. He has received three awards for excellence in teaching and is presently Dean of Education in charge of all curricular programs and faculty recruitment for UCR Medical School.

Dr. Lyons began by thanking us for the opportunity to speak about the changes that are happening at UCR Medical School. UCR is different from other Medical Schools because of its creative and innovative curriculum. UCR believes that a prerequisite for medical school is knowledge and experience in literature and the arts. Evidence has shown that this makes doctors better listeners and consequently, they can make better diagnoses. The patient seeking a doctor's help, tells the doctor a "story," -- the doctor must then organize his/her story, the information, choose what is important and recognize the detail that doesn't fit in. Knowing this, UCR has changed the medical school curriculum to include the Humanities. The Federal Government gave a grant of \$100,000.00 for medical students to begin this new program.

First, UCR Medical School has a writing professor teaching medical students to write for the first three years of medical school. The goal for the student is to gather information and turn it into a story--(creative writing). Second, medical students are asked to make use of "pretend patients" in order to practice skills of diagnosing and human interactions. Medical students create a ten page "dramatic persona" that they use in the art of a "drama" with other medical students. Third, medical students go out into the real world of practicing doctors' offices and clinics when they are freshmen and work with patients -- they continue at the same clinics for four years. Dr. Lyons calls this a Longitudinal Medical School -- (we have heard this before from Chancellor Wilcox.) Thus, medical students learn to apply their skills interacting with patients from the beginning of their school career which makes for a very different medical student. Scientific competence without compassion is not the doctor you want. The feedback from doctors and staff has been positive.

Dr. Lyons believes that the community of Riverside saved the UCR Medical School. Presently, UCR Medical School has one hundred students, but the future will bring growth -- in numbers of students and in the expansion by offering medical residency training at Riverside Community Hospital and other hospitals in the area.

For students wishing to enter UCR Medical School, the classic criteria of "braininess" is not the only prerequisite. UCR wants people from this region who are committed to others. They have set up an interviewing process to assess the students' ethics, professionalism and interest in service. This is their own unique system that elicits responses from the students that can be scored by the interviewing doctor and then compared and evaluated. Dr. Lyons seemed pleased with this kind of selection of students and considers it different (better) than what other medical schools do.

Dr. Lyons is a very dynamic and engaging speaker and as a result had an avid group of listeners. Our Branch has an abiding interest in the UCR Medical School and Dr. Lyons added to our knowledge and our pride that such an institution is here. Dr. Lyons began his talk with a poem by William Carlos Williams, a verse by Dr. Seuss, and the story of Goldilocks -- thus, as the saying goes, he had us from the start. (His reference to a low tech Tricoder approach to medical school, may have caused some to ponder!) Riverside and its environs are fortunate to have a person with the brains, talent and values of Dr. Lyons. What he does at UCR Medical School matters.

Dear AAUW Members,

This past year has pretty much been a national teach-in on the issue of **campus sexual violence**.

For all the attention that's been paid to the Rolling Stone article about gang rape allegations at the University of Virginia, I fear that many commentators, school officials, students, and others who care about campus safety do not understand that schools have a legal responsibility to respond to campus sexual assault as a civil rights issue.

As I wrote in the Huffington Post recently, schools' role in responding to campus sexual assault is essential, because students' civil rights—an equal opportunity to education—are on the line. Rampant sexual violence creates a campus climate that is hostile to students, especially women. When students aren't safe, they can't learn. Civil rights are violated, and schools are on the hook.

That isn't just my opinion; the federal law known as Title IX—which AAUW strongly advocated for and continues to promote vigorous enforcement of—prohibits such sex discrimination in all federally funded educational programs. The problem at hand is not whether schools have a role to play but rather that some schools are not meeting their requirements under Title IX—rules that have been around for more than 40 years.

Smart schools understand that Title IX, successfully implemented, is the very tool they need to improve campus climates for everyone. Title IX isn't a new kid on the block; what's new is the increased attention being put on campus sexual assault by students, advocates, the U.S. Department of Education, Congress, and the media, combined with the increasing pressure on universities to face up to their responsibilities.

It's on all of us to keep the spotlight bright to help ensure that all schools follow the law and protect students' civil rights. We must hold schools accountable—one way to do this is by checking a school's annual security report, which explains its compliance with new campus safety regulations that were finalized in October.

Consider stopping by the website of your alma mater, local college or university, or the school your kids/friends/relatives attend, and type in “annual security report” in the search bar. The report should show up and have been updated on or by October 1. Visit AAUW's blog to learn more about what information to look for in these security reports.

AAUW will continue to lead on this issue and work with our allies to ensure students' civil rights are protected, and I will continue to keep you up to date. Thank you for your support.

Yours in AAUW,

Lisa M. Maatz (with thanks to Mary Jo Weyenburg from Hemet).
Vice President of Government Relations

We've been confronting violence against women for decades — but we know there is much more to be done:

- We strongly support the Sexual Assault Training Oversight and Prevention (STOP) Act, which would change how sexual assault is handled in the military.
- We were instrumental in passing the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), which included most of the Campus SaVE Act. Now, young women on college campuses will be safer
- AAUW staff have testified in front of Congress to ensure that VAWA is carried out correctly. We have also developed an **Ending Campus Sexual Assault Tool Kit**, and we must do all that we can to get this resource on every campus in the country.
- AAUW is a proud supporter of the White House's new It's on Us campaign, which seeks to end victim blaming .

AAUW RESEARCH

AAUW conducts research that draws national attention to issues of gender equity in education and the workplace; influences policy-makers as well as educators, parents, and students; and, most importantly, serves as a catalyst for action. Recent reports address topics such as the pay gap between men and women, economic security of older women, sexual harassment on college campuses, and gender equity in science and engineering education.



Recent AAUW Research *Graduating to a Pay Gap: The Earnings of Women and Men One Year after College Graduation* (2012). *Graduating to a Pay Gap* explores the earnings difference between female and male college graduates who are working full time one year after graduation. *The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap* (2012): This commonsense guide provides key facts about the

gender pay gap in the United States, with explanations and resources to help you effectively advocate for pay equity. *Crossing the Line: Sexual Harassment at School* (2011): Comprehensive research on sexual harassment in grades 7-12 reveals sobering statistics about the prevalence of sexual harassment and the negative impact it has on students' education. *Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics* (2010): This in-depth report describes eight key research findings that point to environmental and social barriers that continue to block women's participation and progress in science, technology, engineering, and math. These publications are available on the www.aauw.org website.



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Elaine Levey,
Palm Springs Newsletter

EDUCATIONAL FUNDS

Did you know that AAUW granted its first fellowship In 1888? More than a century ago Vassar graduate, Ida Street, studying early American indian history received a grant for \$350 to pursue her graduate studies at the University of Michigan. AAUW has now topped \$80 million in grants to more than 11,000 women. Annually, Over three million dollars now provides women scholars the opportunity to pursue research, implement community projects for girls and women, or prepare for the tenure process. Various types of fellowships and grants are awarded so you may want to familiarize yourself with the specifics by going to the national AAUW website www.aauw.org and doing a search for "fellowships and grants."

DIVERSITY STATEMENT -- In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

RIVERSIDE PIPELINE

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AAUW advances equity
for women and girls
through advocacy,
education, philanthropy,
and research.

REPORT FROM YOUR PUBLIC POLICY CHAIR

Luisa Tassan

TWO of the most important things we can do as AAUW members to keep ourselves informed as to what is being done in Washington and Sacramento to improve the lives of women and girls in the United States today is to sign up for the **Washington update E-Bulletin** [HERE](#). And the **Action Network (2-minute activist)** [HERE](#). This lets you easily weigh in with your elected representatives on issues coming before them for a vote. LET YOUR VOICES BE HEARD AND STAY INFORMED!

OTHER PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES IN THE NEWS

- **Women's Economic Concerns take Center Stage in State of the Union:**
<http://www.aauw.org/2015/01/21/state-of-the-union-2015/>
- **5 takeaways from the White House Report on Campus Sexual Assault:**
<http://www.aauw.org/2014/04/29white-house-sexual-assault-report>
- **Federal Legislative Priorities for Women and Families in the 114th Congress:**
<http://www.aauw.org/resource/priorities-for-women-in-114th-congress>