



**FOCUS (USPS-390-570)**  
**Fall 2006, Volume #56, Issue #1**  
**ISSN: 1056 3199**  
www.aauw.org  
www.aauw-nys.org

PERIODICALS  
POSTAGE PAID at  
Buffalo, NY 14240  
USPS-390-570

**AMERICAN  
ASSOCIATION OF  
UNIVERSITY  
WOMEN  
NEW YORK STATE**



**A Legacy of Leadership**

## **PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

Diane Haney, AAUW-NYS President  
haneydhd@gmail.com 516.248.0476



**“AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.”**

With these bold words, the Association has created its new mission statement. Those who have seen it so far note that it is clearer and more concise than the old one. It marks us as an advocacy organization and links us to the bold vision of our fore-mothers 125 years ago. At the same time it keeps front and center our continuing dedication to education. Let me know your thoughts, and please use the new statement in your branch publications.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, there will be no fall Focus. A double issue will be out in a few weeks. We apologize for any inconvenience. Meanwhile, we wanted you to have these key messages. Diane Haney, NYS President

# AAUW NYS LAF CORNER

Cheryl Papa, AAUW-NYS LAF Vice President  
1005 Glenwood Road, Vestal, NY 13850  
cbpapa528@yahoo.com 607.748.6075

It is our 25th Anniversary. Zahorik v Cornell University was the first AAUW supported case to address the issue of sex discrimination on campus. This was a result of the “perfect storm”. A few brave women at Cornell University dared to fight the system. A few more brave women in the Ithaca Branch dared to support the faculty members. The women at the Association level dared to create a fund to fight such injustice. The birth of LAF resulted.

This November, the National Science Foundation awarded Cornell a grant to increase the representation of women faculty in the university’s science and engineering departments. **Cornell’s goal is to reach a level of 20% women faculty in each science and engineering department over the next five years. At present about half – or 27 of 51 of those departments – fall below this percentage.** I can’t help but wonder if this would have happened if those brave women had been unwilling to advocate. While it represents **progress** toward equality, it doesn’t represent **equality**. Our job is not done yet!

To fulfill our mission requires funding. This is the time of year we decide which charities we should support. If you have not already done so, please consider choosing the Legal Advocacy Fund. All contributions are tax deductible.

If you think the work of LAF doesn’t personally connect to you, consider the following scenario. It is your daughter or granddaughter that is a student, secretary, custodian, or faculty member on campus. She has been sexually harassed, denied a job, paid less, or denied promotion due to her gender. Do you find that acceptable? Every case won supports equality for women. Such work will reverberate throughout society. Will you help? Your daughters and granddaughters are awaiting your answer.

**Please respond by Dec. 15 if at all possible. If you have extenuating circumstances, please call me.** Make your checks out to AAUW LAF or AAUW LAF Evvie Currie Giving Circle. All such designated donations will be spent within NYS on Campus Outreach Programs. Be sure to put the branch to be credited on the memo line and mail it to me. Thank you.

# Your EF: Has the Foundation Reached Its Goals?

Tamara Brown, AAUW-NYS EF Vice President  
2723 Christopher Boulevard, Hamburg, NY 14075  
TBforAAUWNYS@cs.com 716.649.9871

Members often ask about the necessity of financial support for our Educational Foundation. The question is one that I and EF Chairs all over the state are glad to answer. We understand the reasons for the questions. After all, the AAUW Educational Foundation is well known as the largest foundation for women’s education. Last year the Foundation granted \$3.5 million in support to 300 fellows and organizations from a pool of 1,100 applicants. It might seem that the Foundation is doing well and is able to support the work of many worthy recipients. It might seem that there’s not the need for individual financial support.

There is another, often overlooked, but very important side of the Foundation: research. Importantly, projects-- whether internally or externally executed-- cover the lifespan from girlhood to womanhood. There are two new research reports in progress, and the next wave of research will only be possible with financial support. Yes, supporting EF is necessary; there is definitely a lot of work left to do!

## *What can I do now?*

The end of the calendar year represents the last chance to receive credit for EF contributions. Your branch EF chair will be continuing her appeal for branch and individual contributions. Regardless of the dollar amount, your gift puts real muscle behind the mission! So, please make a personal pledge to give \$10 to your EF chair in December as an “extra” donation to EF before the end of this year.

Last year, because of your commitment, New York State ranked seventh in the nation for total EF giving. Your support this year is helping to continue our state’s strong tradition of giving and puts our mission to action for girls and women -- at every stage of their lives!

---

FOCUS (USPS-390-570), a quarterly newsletter, is published for the New York State Division of the American Association of University Women by Printking, Inc., Williamsville, NY 14221-0701. The subscription rate of \$4 is included in the NYS dues. Periodicals postage is paid at Buffalo, NY, 14240.

Send all address changes to Buffalo Postmaster, Buffalo, NY, 14240, and AAUW Records Office, 1111 16th St., NW, Washington, DC 20036.

Questions and articles should be addressed to the Communications Director, Betty Preble, 6935 East Quaker Street, Orchard Park, NY, 14127, 716/662-0608, e-mail [betty6935@adelphia.net](mailto:betty6935@adelphia.net)