

New York State American Association of University Women
Notes from Convention 2005 College/ University Session Saturday, April 16, 2005
“Conversations with the Next Generation”

Participants: **Nancy Rustad**, AAUW Association President
Nazareth College of Rochester students: **Dawn Douglas, Caitlin Finn, Sheila Glaub**
Rochester Institute of Technology graduate student: **Rachel McGinnis**

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Current issues confronting students on campus and recommended actions

1. Date rape and lack of education about the topic on campus and off; students stated that 61% of date rape victims are ages 13-18; AAUW could target school districts to provide programs and information for parents and students and at new student orientations in middle schools, high schools, and college
2. Need methods of keeping sexual discrimination from being buried on campuses
3. Need for mentors and role models who are in tune with women's issues on campus, including women of color
4. Women on campus have the impression that feminists have made enough change; students need to have someone deliver the message that it is okay to fight for what you deserve and it is okay to want respect and continuing change for women
5. Provide a method for women on “Campus A” to communicate with women on other campuses to make it easier to support each other and have common goals for action
6. Students on campuses are begging for more advisors, especially women. AAUW should offer to assist in some way working through the college administration or faculty
7. Ratio of students on campus is not in balance
Math and Science at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT):
Male: 70%
Female: 30%
Math and Science at Nazareth College of Rochester:
Male: 30%
Female: 70%
8. Recommended AAUW branch boards go to campus to meet and open their meetings to student observers/ affiliates; advertise the meeting through bulletin

boards and/or through C/ U representatives, online, and through women who support AAUW through a variety of campus activities such as Women's Studies Programs and courses

9.Target students with AAUW information; they have no knowledge of the organization; provide literature about AAUW and website address to a student on campus who may copy the materials and place them in intercampus mail for stuffing in boxes and posting on bulletin boards in student lounges and dorms; At least contact one student who can copy an AAUW branch board member in on events of interest on campus to encourage partnerships and communication

10.It is key for students that they become passionate about an AAUW issue in order to link with the organization

11.Provide a way to allow students to become aware of AAUW

12.Recommended that AAUW association allow students to act as campus liaisons as well as a faculty/staff member; student liaisons would work with the faculty member; this would allow the student to learn out AAUW and spread the word about the organization

13.Conduct a membership drive on campus; recommended the drive take place at time when other major events or activities such as *Take Back the Night* are occurring on college campuses

14.Involve the students in community outreach projects

15.Engage college students in Sister to Sister Summits; students suggested they would want to be connected to those students beyond a once a year summit

16.Have an AAUW presence on campus by having members available during such informal student meetings such as "Girl Talks"; discuss topics of common interest there

17.Communicate well across cultures too; few women in the convention audience were women of color; market to people of color

18.Students are interested in the topic of women in other countries and ways to communicate with them, especially women who have less in South America, Europe, and Africa; AAUW members could work with the students on projects in place already on campuses and provide ideas and aid to the students in their efforts such as letter writing to stop women from disappearing in Argentina

19.Provide more information about Title IX on campus; issues of equity in sports on campus are covered up to keep students from being informed and involved.