

Legal Advocacy Fund Updates

By **Kathy Anthon**
Legal Advocacy Fund VP

Thanks to all of you who have been participating in the definition of the case criteria for LAF.

The criteria is very clear and focuses on the fact that our goal is to positively impact more people by using our funds and power to seek plaintiffs whose cases address significant issues that will clearly impact our fight for pay equity and workplaces free of sex discrimination.

We continue to rely on all of you

to keep Association informed of any plaintiffs that meet the criteria. You are all encouraged to contact Holly Kearl at kearlh@aauw.org if you are aware of a case that should be considered by LAF and she will send you the recommendation form. The link for the criteria and the review process at the AAUW Career Center is: www.aauw.org/about/career/index.cfm

For those of you who are wondering if you have pay equity or if you are looking for help in your next career step or negoti-

ating your salary for a new position be sure to check out the AAUW Career Center.

Please remember that LAF relies on our contributions to continue our good work. When you or your branch donate to LAF please send me a copy of the contribution form that your LAF VP has. Mail your form to Kathy Anthon, 2440 Brittany Lane, Grapevine, TX 76051.

I hope you all have a wonderful holiday season and a healthy and happy new year. I will see you in St. Louis.



Read the Updated LAF Briefing (December 4, 2008) - here: http://www.aauw.org/member_center/briefings/LAF_120408.cfm

Learn about LAF Case Support Criteria and the Review Process at: http://www.aauw.org/member_center/briefings/upload/NewLAFCaseSupport.doc

New Training Opportunities for Branch Leaders

By **Patricia Ross, Branch Services Officer**

In the past AAUW Texas has offered a weekend Leadership Conference in the summer. We have reviewed the feedback from this event and recognize that many leaders are unable to attend because of the time commitment and/or the cost.

Another criticism has been that by the time the conference was held, much of the planning for the next year had already been done in many branches. This year the AAUW Texas Board has decided to try something new.

Two officer "job training" events will be offered. First in Houston May 2, and in Dallas-Fort Worth at a date to be determined. Officers from any branch throughout the state may choose to attend whichever is most convenient.

This one-day counterparts training is an effort to reduce costs and make training more accessible,

local members will provide lodging if it is needed and attendees will be expected to cover the cost of their lunch. Details and registration information will be posted on the website as soon as they become available.

In addition, there will be a telephone conference in July with Branch Presidents (and any other Branch officers) and officers of the State Board. This will be designed to provide information and answer questions about bylaws changes approved at the national convention in June.

Plan now for your branch to participate in both of these new opportunities for leadership training. Leadership often involves reacting positively to new challenges and we hope these events will help branch leaders to be better prepared for changes and challenges in their branches and in the Association.

STARS Program changes to:

PEARLs of wisdom for a fair chance

PEARL is how AAUW breaks down educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

Every pearl begins as the result of agitation, a grit of sand – the pearl is the solution to the problem. PEARL is the same to AAUW, it begins with an injustice, a woman being denied the right to vote, the right to an education, the right to fair pay... PEARL is how we achieve the fair chance that all women deserve.

Every AAUW member and every AAUW branch helps women through some part of PEARL – offering local scholarships, carrying out STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) programs, educating voters or providing financial support so we can continue these programs.

It is only through our connections to each other, that we can do all the necessary work to bring about the PEARL.

Share the ways your branch is a

PEARL. Write a short paragraph for each section which demonstrates your branch commitment to Protect, Educate, Advocate, Research, and Lead. You do not have to complete all sections. Forms will be available on the website soon.

Deadline: April 30

Send electronically (preferred) to: Patricia Ross, Branch Services Chair, at paross@aol.com

Or mail to: Patricia Ross, 4218 St. Ives, Sugar Land TX 77479.



Our PEARL acronym:
Protect,
Educate,
Advocate,
Research, and
Lead...

2009 AAUW National Convention Breaking through Barriers

June 26-28, 2009
St. Louis



Book Convention Rooms Now!

Make your reservations as early as possible to save money . Go on-line to <http://cwp.marriott.com/stldt/aauwconference/> or call 1-800-397-1282.

The 2009 AAUW National Convention: Breaking through Barriers, designed with a new format and many new features, will be held in the St. Louis Renaissance Grand & Suites Hotel, a special place in women's history. Previously known as the Hotel Statler, the hotel was the backdrop for the historic convention of the National American Suffrage Association in March 1919.

More information at: <http://www.aauw.org/convention/conv2009/>
Registration Fees

Best Value	Type	2009 Full	2009 Daily
December 1, 2008 – January 15, 2009	Member	\$375	\$210
	Nonmember	\$425	\$235
	Undergraduate Student	\$200	\$150
	Guest*	\$200	\$150
Early Bird	Type	2009 Full	2009 Daily
January 16, 2009 – March 22, 2009	Member	\$399	\$210
	Nonmember	\$450	\$235
	Undergraduate Student	\$215	\$150
	Guest*	\$215	\$150
Regular	Type	2009 Full	2009 Daily
March 23, 2009 – Convention	Member	\$440	\$245
	Nonmember	\$490	\$265
	Undergraduate Student	\$215	\$175
	Guest*	\$215	\$175
Special Events <i>not included in registration</i>			Add
Banquet			\$125

*A guest may attend only plenary sessions and the welcome reception. Guests must be registered by a convention attendee and cannot be AAUW members.