

**AAUW STATE COLLEGE'S JANUARY 20th PROGRAM:
INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES on WOMEN in SOCIETY
featuring the Penn State Humphrey Fellows**



Ms. Amina Bektache



Ms. Shala Dawoodi



Dr. Nagwa Elnwshy



Dr. Vuyokazi Jamieson

Mark your calendar and plan to attend for our annual program with the Penn State Humphrey Fellows, **International Perspectives on Women in Society**. It will be held virtually this year due to Covid, on **Thursday, January 20th, from 6:00 – 7:30 pm.**

Organized and led by AAUW State College, the program is jointly sponsored with Altrusa International Centre County, Community Diversity Group, Global Connections, Penn State Humphrey Fellows, and Soroptimists International of Centre County. The format of the program is a panel discussion which will be moderated by AAUW State College member, **Dr. Charlene Harrison**. Penn State Humphrey Fellow panelists include:

- **Ms. Amina Bektache** is an Educational Consultant and EFL Teacher at Management Business International Institute in Setif, Algeria.
- **Ms. Shahla Davoodi** is an English teacher and trainer at the Ministry of Education in Iran, specializing in Computer-Assisted-Language Learning.
- **Dr. Nagwa Elnwshy** is a researcher and lecturer in the Institute of Biotechnology for Postgraduate Research at Suez Canal University (SCU) Egypt.
- **Ms. Vuyokazi Jamieson** is the Head Librarian at St. Andrew's College, South Africa. She co-chairs a group advocating for the welfare of local public libraries.

Register today: **January 20 Humphrey Program Registration**

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

--Naana Nti, AAUW State College Program Committee



Undergraduate Scholarships for Women

FOUR \$3,000 - \$7,000* SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Eligibility:

- Applicant seeks first associate or baccalaureate degree on part-time or full-time basis.
- Applicant interrupted college enrollment for at least two years.
- Applicant completed at least 15 credits of an associate degree or 30 credits for a baccalaureate degree.
- Applicant is a Centre County resident** and will maintain residency, even if attending a college or university outside the county.



**APPLICATION DUE DATE
MARCH 1, 2022**

ADVANCING GENDER EQUITY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS
THROUGH RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND ADVOCACY.

For more information:
<https://aauwstatecollege.org/scholarships>



*Award amounts vary depending on need.
** a resident is defined as living and working in Centre County and not here for the sole purpose of attending Penn State University.

BRANCH SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

AAUW State College Undergraduate Scholarships for Women is accepting applications. Spread the word and be on the lookout to suggest applying to female Centre County residents pursuing their undergraduate degrees for the upcoming academic year 2022-2023.

Our branch will award 3-4 scholarships based on financial need and circumstances of the recipient. All scholarship funds are deposited into the student's account at her institution.

The application deadline is March 1, 2022.

For additional scholarship information:

<https://aauwstatecollege.org/scholarships>

To share the left-hand flyer with others, please forward this link:

[AAUW State College Scholarship Flyer](#)

--Maria Schmidt, AAUW State College Scholarship Committee Co-Chair



PENN STATE NAMED #1 in STEM GRADUATES

Congratulations to Penn State, recognized earlier in a 2021 Forbes magazine study as the #1 school with the most undergraduate degrees (6,473) in STEM fields within the U.S. for 2019-2020. For details: <http://ow.ly/FziB50H5zxm>

Thank you and kudos to branch member **Michele Crowl**, who as Discovery Space Executive Director works with her team to involve Penn State staff and students in STEM education programs for children. In addition, a STEM Committee which includes AAUW and community members, chaired by Michele and branch member **Carol-Beth Book**, supports women in STEM. And AAUW State College community grants have funded many programs for Penn State women students. AAUW's involvement in STEM is multi-faceted and our work continues.



BRANCH EVENT CALENDAR on WEBSITE

Good news! Branch Website Coordinator Jordan Glover has created a Google form for members to submit branch events for the website events calendar. You can bookmark the form and submit events as needed. The form asks if the event is affiliated with AAUW State College, and if not, who the presenting sponsor is. Some events that are designated especially for AAUW members will be titled "Members Only" and other events will be open to the public. Check out the new events form today: <https://forms.gle/e1vCwdT4ETNZWnPz9>

BRANCH FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

While our annual book sale is the financial engine of our branch - funding programs, grants, and scholarships – branch members can help us strengthen our reach by supporting the following initiatives. They are a perfect way to start the new year.



Amazon Smile

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. Please consider AAUW State College for Amazon Smile proceeds. Sign up today: <https://www.aboutamazon.com/news/community/how-to-sign-up-for-amazonsmile>. It can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones. When you shop AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that **AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.** Sign up today!



Branch Note Cards

Inspired by branch member Ann Echols, who received first place honors in the 2021 AAUW National Art Contest for her painting *Indian Paintbrush*, AAUW State College had blank note cards made for resale that feature her painting. We have already sold almost \$700 worth of cards, to wonderful reviews. They are offered in packs of four for \$5.00 and packs of eight for \$10. With a little information about AAUW on the back of the card, they are perfect for hand writing an invite to a friend or colleague to join our group, and they also make delightful gifts. **Note cards are available for sale at our Used Book Workshop (2197 High Tech Road near airport) during workshop hours, Mondays 6:00-8:00 pm, and Tuesdays/Wednesdays, 9:00 am – 2:30 pm.**



Community Partners

We have partnered with Ten Thousand Villages for the past three years, promoting their store (which sells gifts made mostly by women from developing countries who are working to earn a fair wage) in exchange for 10% of AAUW-designated sales on a weekend near Thanksgiving). This past November, we were thrilled to net \$427 from the AAUW-Ten Thousand Villages event. There are other community partnership opportunities, limited only by our imagination. **How about teaming up with a popular restaurant or working with a local woman-owned business – for a percentage of sales on a designated AAUW day?** Share your ideas for this year with Marketing & Communications Co-VP Cindy Hall, cindyhall07@gmail.com.

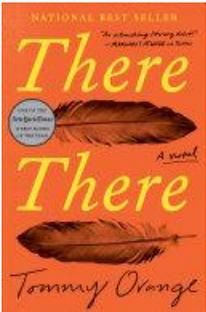


SCHOOL FUNDING TRIAL UNDERWAY

Last month Education Voters of PA executive director, Sue Spicka (right), joined by nearby AAUW branches, brought a toilet to the capitol steps in Harrisburg to drive home a point about lack of basic facilities. In some schools, 75 students share one toilet! Our state Constitution says, *"The General Assembly shall provide for the maintenance and support of a thorough and efficient system of public education to serve the needs of the Commonwealth."* Unfortunately, this is not the state of affairs in public education, which is the basis for the school funding lawsuit. In mid-November, six school districts and several other entities went to trial against the commonwealth.

As the trial continues, testimony from witnesses representing school districts and retired educators document the severe funding shortfall in many areas of our state. Fortunately, State College does not have such funding issues, but we don't need to travel far to find an underfunded district that lacks essential resources, highlighting the disparities. This link contains testimony and an interactive map of districts in our state that shows the funding shortfall: <https://www.fundourschoolspa.org/>.

--Carol Hodes, AAUW State College Education Chair



¡ADELANTE! BOOK CLUB to MEET JANUARY 20th

Our book club is modeled after the AAUW Diversity Outreach for Impact Program, featuring diverse cultures in both fiction and nonfiction offerings. We meet during the afternoon every other month on the third Thursday of the month, with our next (virtual) meeting taking place on **January 20th at 2:30 pm**. We will discuss ***There There***, by Tommy Orange. The book follows twelve characters from Native communities, all traveling to the Big Oakland Powwow, connected to each other in ways they may not yet realize.

To participate with the group, please contact info@aauwstatecollege.org. We warmly welcome new members. **Join Zoom Meeting on January 20:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82382979859?pwd=RUp2VS9xMEdTOG41M0Rkdm9HK3VYdz09>

--Naana Nti, AAUW State College Diversity Chair



MEET OCTAVIA, BOOK WORKSHOP VOLUNTEER

Meet Octavia, a young dog in training to be a certified therapy dog. Her trainer is Whitney Wagner who is a Youth Advocate with the Youth Service Bureau. The YSB has worked with us Monday nights recycling books and helped us move our books out for the October sale.

By being at our book operations on Monday evenings Octavia is learning to socialize with a wide range of new people, be comfortable in a new setting with unfamiliar routines and distractions and hear new voices. Led by Whitney, she will eventually work as a therapy dog in hospitals, nursing homes and with human service groups such as Youth Service Bureau. Welcome, Octavia!

--Sue Hiester, Monday Night Workshop Lead



The next *Branch Bulletin* will be issued **Monday, January 17rd**. Please send submissions for inclusion in that issue by **Monday, January 10th** to *Branch Bulletin* Editor Connie Schroeder, connieschroeder@gmail.com. *Bulletins* are sent electronically to branch members and friends and also are accessible at <https://aauwstatecollege.org/blog/>.