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The following program is the first in a series of informational programs on topics that are critical to understanding an issue of grave importance to women.



Pennsylvania Reproductive Rights after Dobbs Thursday, August 25, 7:00-8:00 pm

You are invited to a Zoom webinar on this critically important topic. The presenter is **Sue Frietsche, senior staff attorney and founder and director of the Women's Law Project, Western Pennsylvania**. The webinar will last an hour with time for questions included in the hour. Please share the program description with colleagues, friends, and community leaders: [August 25 Program Description](#)

Register in advance for this webinar:

[Program Registration Link](#) - After registering, a confirmation email will be sent with information to join the webinar.

AAUW State College FALL GATHERING & POTLUCK



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th 5:00–7:30 pm

Tom Tudek Memorial Park Pavilion 1

The park is located in Ferguson Township: [Map to Tudek](#)
Sign up by Sept. 10th: <https://signup.com/go/HPzeafO>

AAUW STATE COLLEGE EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT

ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES

Elections for new officers took place in June, too, and we are sorry to report that the new Co-Presidents submitted their resignations at the August 1st Board meeting:

August 1, 2022

We resign as co-presidents of AAUW State College effective August 1, 2022. This organization is too important not to have co-presidents who are able to devote the full commitment needed to sustain the branch. We appreciate members' contributions to the branch.

Yours truly, Ann Echols and Carline Crevecoeur

Carline and Ann spent much of their summer getting feedback from chairs and committee members, suggesting new ideas, and organizing our documents, putting us in a good position to move forward. We anticipate that they will continue to share their expertise as members of AAUW State College.

AAAUW PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE

Much has been happening this summer. In June, Board members attended the 2022 AAUW-PA State convention in Harrisburg with the theme: *Disruption as Opportunity... It's a Woman's World*. Attendees enthusiastically supported Cindy Hall as she officially became the new President of the State's AAUW team.

MOVING FORWARD

The Executive Board has begun meeting to discuss alternative leadership options as well as priorities for the coming year, including financial health, membership, and strategic planning.

According to our Bylaws, as immediate past co-presidents Sally Kalin and Linda Friend are responsible for facilitating the strategic planning process. Quite a bit of work has already been done since the spring with the help of Cindy Hall and feedback from other board members. What we still have not resolved is a process to create a strategic plan that is concise, does not require a great deal of time but at the same time is meaningful to the members of the branch. Four potential themes have been identified:

- Contributions to Society & Community Engagement;
- Organizational Stability and Sustainability;
- Communications;
- Mission-based Programming
- Used Book Sale and other fundraising initiatives.

We will endeavor to include as much member input as possible.

The pandemic has interrupted many of our normal interaction channels. For the branch in general, our guiding principles are to:

- Be transparent
- Entrust work to others in order to get the job done;
- Encourage respect and stronger listening skills;
- Create an atmosphere of flexibility and compromise.

Questions or ideas:

info@aauwstatecollege.org

-- Linda Friend & Sally Kalin, AAUW State College Immediate Past Co-Presidents

Be a part of something that matters.

\$850M increase for basic education and special education funding in 2022-23 PA Budget



GOVERNOR'S BUDGET INCREASES EDUCATION FUNDING

Last month Governor Wolf signed into law a distribution for the \$12 billion one-time surplus funds available for the 2022-2023 state budget. Acting Education secretary, Eric Hagarty, stated that this is the “most consequential budget for public education

in Pennsylvania’s history – and it would not have happened without many of you advocating for these funding increases.”

Thanks to those of you who wrote letters, contacted legislators and attended Lobby Day in May! AAUW State College members **Susan Chyczewski**, **Carol Hodes**, and **Leslie Laing** were part of that effort. Here’s a high-level view of some the results of the 2022-23 budget negotiations for public education:

- \$525 million increase in Basic Education Funding through the Fair Funding Formula
- \$225 million increase in Level Up funding targeted for 100 most in-need school districts
- \$100 million increase in Special Education Funding
- \$79 million increase for Early Education funding through Pre-K Counts and Head Start
- \$90 million to stabilize child care workforce via recruitment/retention payments
- \$100 million for student mental health supports through Ready to Learn Block Grants
- \$100 million increase in School Safety Grants
- \$100 million in one-time grants to school districts to support student mental health
- \$220 million increases for public higher education \$11 million for public libraries
- \$6.1 million for career and technical education

--Carol Hodes, AAUW State College Education Chair

bylaws & policies



BRANCH BYLAWS UPDATED

This past spring, Immediate Past President Cindy Hall led the effort to update the branch bylaws.

This activity occurs every two years. Recent changes included e-voting. Bylaws relate to branch governance so the focus is on the Board of Directors, elected and appointed officers, elections, and nominations. With the branch’s commitment to transparency, updated bylaws are included here: [AAUW State College Branch Bylaws – updated 2022](#)



DIVERSITY CORNER

Volunteers Needed for AAUW Table at September 17th

Multicultural Unity Fair - The Community Diversity Group will host a Multicultural Unity Fair on **September 17th from 12:00 - 4:00 pm at the State College Municipal Building**. The event features food and activities for both children and adults.

Various organizations, including AAUW State College, will host tables to showcase their activities. We are in need of volunteers to help staff the AAUW table, for 1-2 hours. To help, email naananti500@gmail.com. --Naana Nti, AAUW State College Diversity Chair

Online Bystander Intervention Training – This free one-hour, interactive online training provides tools to help people who find themselves in a situation where they witness people being harassed or discriminated against for any reason. The focus is on Asian hate but the skills provided are useful for any situation. To learn more, including future training dates, visit: <https://www.advancingjustice-chicago.org/what-we-do/bystander-intervention-trainings/>

--Candace Davison, AAUW State College member



BRANCH SPONSORED PENN STATE FORUM SPEAKER SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 1ST - *Tickets on Sale Now!*

Thursday, December 1st is the date of the Penn State Forum Lecture Luncheon with AAUW State College-sponsored speaker **Dr. Na'ilah Nasir**. Dr. Nasir is the President of the American Educational Research Foundation, National Academy of Education member, and CEO of the Spencer Foundation. Her research examines the racialized and cultural nature of learning and schooling. Dr. Nasir's talk title and

description are not currently available. Check the following site for updates:

<https://sites.psu.edu/forum/2022/07/13/dr-nailah-nasir-president-of-the-american-educational-research-foundation-national-academy-of-education-member-and-ceo-of-the-spencer-foundation/>.

Purchase Your Penn State Forum Ticket Today

AAUW State College has reserved three tables of ten for this event, which includes a buffet lunch. The cost to attend is \$25. To sit with AAUW State College, please send check made out to **"SCAUW Inc."** and write "Forum Lunch" in the memo line. Send to Vasundara Varadan, 746 East McCormick, State College, PA 16801. Tickets sell out quickly; mail your check today!

Dr. Nasir's talk is funded by the branch's centennial endowment, created in 2016 when the branch celebrated its 100-year anniversary. The event will be held at the Penn Stater.



WHY YOUR LEGISLATIVE VOTE MATTERS SO MUCH

Will abortion remain legal in Pennsylvania? The first attempt by the Pennsylvania Senate Republican majority to end abortion rights came during this year's budget negotiations. In the middle of the night—literally—they rammed that through as one of five proposed Constitutional Amendments. You won't like most of the others, either.

Why do they want a Constitutional Amendment? Because they cannot pass extreme measures in a swing state through the usual legislative process. The Constitutional Amendment approach short circuits the

Governor's veto and perhaps judicial review.

Voters make the assumption that something as serious as a Constitutional Amendment has been carefully thought out and ought to be approved. To the contrary, in recent years the wording of many proposed amendments has been confusing and manipulative. Further, they put those proposed amendments on the ballot in primaries in odd numbered years because of low overall turnout overall. Truly conservative voters reliably vote in those primaries, whereas moderates and liberals are casual voters, and independents rarely vote at all.

What can you do to stop this? Obviously, pay attention to the proposed amendments and vote accordingly.

But there's something else that can stop this process in its tracks: Change the makeup of the Legislature. Amendments must be passed in two consecutive sessions before they can go on the ballot. That means the people we elect this fall will cast the votes that put these amendments on the ballot. Centre County now has three Pennsylvania House districts. Please look carefully at the candidates you can vote for, and decide which of them will vote as you prefer. Then pass the word to friends and family to vote for those candidates—and tell them why. More in the next Bulletin about other issues we face in this fall's election.

--Mary Dupuis and Dianne Gregg, AAUW State College Public Policy Co-Chairs

Editor's note: To learn about AAUW's views on reproductive health visit:

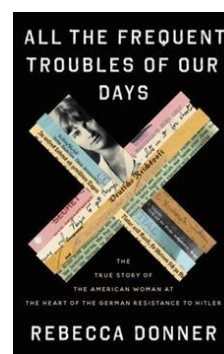
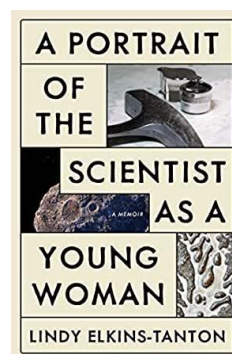
<https://www.aauw.org/resources/policy/position-repro/>



PRESIDENTS' BOOK SHELF SELECTIONS MADE

Many years ago, AAUW State College established the Presidents' Bookshelf at Schlow Centre Region Library to recognize the service of former branch presidents. The books are selected in collaboration with the outgoing president(s). AAUW State College funds the purchase of the selected books. These books honor past branch presidents. Maria Burchill, Head of Adult Services at Schlow, commented, "By maintaining the AAUW past presidents' book list we recognize the contributions of these women leaders in our community, and our organizations retains these inspirational stories for future generations of women."

Linda Friend selected *The Portrait of a Scientist as a Young Woman: A Memoir* by interplanetary scientist Lindy Elkins-Tanton. **Sally Kalin** selected *All the Frequent Troubles of Our Days: The True Story of the American Woman at the Heart of the German Resistance to Hitler* by Rebecca Donner.



At the July 18th Let's Read Math session, the children emulated the sounds made by manatees, which tied in with the book they read and the new Marine Life exhibit at Discovery Space.

LET'S READ MATH

Three *Let's Read Math* programs were conducted at Schlow Library on July 11th, 18th, and 25th. *Let's Read Math* was conducted via zoom in 2020 and 2021. We were excited to return to "in-person" activities again. The books and activities were related to the summer reading program theme *Oceans of Possibilities*. Roughly 10-15 children attended each session.

The program is conducted by the AAUW STEM committee and supported by the Library and Discovery Space. The new Marine Life exhibit at Discovery Space complements the summer reading theme. Historically the program began at the library and ended with a short walk

to Discovery Space. This year each participant received a free pass to Discovery Space.

--Candace Davison, AAUW State College Let's Read Math Coordinator



MARKETING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The effort we put into communicating with others about our branch corresponds directly to impact achieved and members gained. Here's where we need help:

Branch Photographers – Two photographers are needed to document branch events. For larger events (such as the book sale) we need two photographers on hand. Photos are used in the *Branch Bulletin*, on social media, on the website, and sometimes in local media outlets. Photographers will need to use a 35 mm camera or a newer cell camera set on high-resolution. Photos are requested in their unedited state and will be reviewed and edited for use where appropriate.

Community Outreach Reps – Two members are to be part of a team to help set-up and staff branch information tables; distribute branch materials (such as the new branch bookmark) in high traffic areas; interface with groups seeking to learn more about AAUW State College; assist with development of a new branch PowerPoint presentation, and more.

If interested in joining the Marketing & Communications team, contact Connie Schroeder, connieschroeder@gmail.com.



FOLLOW US: LIKE IT, LOVE IT, SHARE IT

The branch is in the process of ramping up our social media presence. In addition to Facebook we are now on Instagram. Social media posts with high engagement extend our reach. When you share, like, and comment on AAUW posts, you are giving the posts a "boost," and increasing the chance that more people will see them, too.

Send people our way! Encourage friends, family, and colleagues who might be interested in the AAUW mission to interact with the posts on social media. Everything helps! If you have ideas for posts, please pass them along to marywolfin@gmail.com.

--Mary Wolfin, AAUW State College Social Media Lead



TWO NEW STATE COLLEGE BRANCH SHIRTS With New Tagline! Orders Due Thursday, August 25th

If you already have a branch shirt and would like to buy another one, or are ready to buy your first one, place your order now! In addition to the crew neck style a second polo style shirt (with placket and collar) is also being offered. We are excited to introduce

a new tagline for both shirts – *Changing the Climate for Women & Girls*. It corresponds nicely with the central mission of *Advancing Equity for Women & Girls*.



STYLE #1: Port Authority® Ladies Silk Touch™ short-sleeved polo with machine embroidered logo – \$30: This classic (collared) polo with 3-button placket is 5 oz. 65/35 pique with superior wrinkle and shrink resistance, and gives a silky soft feel. These will come in **Mediterranean Blue** – perfect for a united front at any public events.

Polo: https://catalog.companycasuals.com/p/1407_MediBlue#?doScrollToGrid=true

Size Chart: <https://www.apparelvideos.com/cs/CatalogBrowser?todo=ss&productId=L500>

STYLE #2: Gildan Softstyle Crew Neck Ts with screen printed logo - huge selection of colors to choose from. Blend depends on color selected.

Short Sleeve #64000 - \$10

<https://www.sportswearcollection.com/p/gildan/64000?site=XQIJYERCRG>

Long Sleeve #64400 - \$15

<https://www.sportswearcollection.com/p/gildan/64400?site=XQIJYERCRG>

Shirt orders are due Thursday August 25th. Please send order request(s) with your name, email address, and shirt(s) listed by size. Include style name and color for the Gildan Crew necks. For sizing on the crew neck style, click on “View Specs. Include a check to “**SCAUW Inc.**”

Mail order to Connie Schroeder, 315 Hubler Road, State College, PA 16801. Questions? Ask Connie, ConnieSchroeder@gmail.com (814) 360-4810. **Shirts will be ready for pick-up at Connie’s house starting Friday, September 16th.**



AAUW STATE COLLEGE MEETS ARTS FEST

Let me give a huge shout-out to all AAUW members who helped staff the Arts Fest info table on Allen Street. Your friendliness, kindnesses and professionalism in handling the tasks were greatly appreciated by Fest visitors and staff. This community activity brought smiles to faces every day which were long overdue and much needed.

--Jackie Esposito, AAUW State College Arts Fest Coordinator

Left: Talat Azhar, Connie Schroeder, and Vasundara Varadan were three of about two dozen branch members who volunteered.



MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

We are grateful to the many members who have renewed their membership.

We ask members interested in continuing their membership to send their \$85, made payable to **“AAUW State College Branch,”** immediately. For questions, contact Charlene Harrison (814) 237-6723, chh1@psu.edu, **no later than August 15th**. Please send membership renewals to AAUW State College Branch Membership, P.O. Box 735, State College, PA 16804. We have gained many new members recently and are happy to introduce several in this bulletin. Welcome all, to AAUW State College!

--Charlene Harrison, AAUW State College Co-VP Membership

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

Thank you to the new members who have shared their bios. We look forward to meeting all of you, and hope you will respond to volunteer opportunities listed on page 12. Members who have joined AAUW State College in the past year but have not introduced yourself with a bio for this

publication, contact connieschroeder@gmail.com. We'd love to feature you in our New Member Welcome!



TIFFANY CABIBBO – tlcabibbo@gmail.com

My name is Tiffany Cabibbo. I moved with my family to State College in the fall of 2017 and am looking for new ways to contribute to our community.

Professionally, I am a healthcare leader with over 20 years of experience and hold a doctorate degree in Healthcare Leadership from University of Alabama at Birmingham and BSN & MSN from Florida Atlantic University. Currently, I am member of the executive team at Mount Nittany Health, serving as the chief nursing officer with responsibility for both clinical and ancillary operations of the Medical Center.

In my personal life, I love spending time with my spouse John—ever since we were married since 1999. We are the proud parents of Domenic & Sophia who are in college and high school. I also enjoy cooking, eating, reading, gardening, traveling, and being around good people.

Why AAUW?

I LOVE the AAUW book sale. It's been a highlight for me since I moved to State College. I became intrigued about the organization after the first time I attended the book sale. I did some research and thought this might be a way to make a difference. I have been very fortunate in my life to have amazing mentors, and I enjoy paying it forward. I believe this could be a way to accomplish that. I'll work the book sale because I love being around books!



RENEE CLOUTIER reneecloutier2013@gmail.com

Hi, I am Renee Cloutier, a scientific director/research scientist in the Program Evaluation and Research Unit at the University of Pittsburgh. I received my Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology from the University of North Texas in 2019 and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the Prevention and Methodology Training program at Penn State in 2021.

My research focuses on identifying substance use risk factors and implementing evidence-based prevention programs in communities to reduce fatalities and enhance wellbeing. In addition to my research, I have maintained a commitment to actively growing and diversifying the pipeline of early career researchers through undergraduate research mentorship, serving as a graduate student program representative, and chairing the American Psychological Association Graduate Student Science Committee. In my free time, I enjoy spending time outdoors and reading.

I discovered AAUW when stocking up on my summer readings at the annual Used Book Sale and was drawn to the opportunity to help with organizing books as well as supporting local fundraising events and engaging in broader advocacy in women's advocacy.



CHOBİ DEBROY – Chobi@psu.edu

Hello! My name is Chitrita DebRoy, known by my nickname Chobi. I've been a member of the State College community since 1980 and recently retired as Professor of Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences and Director of the E. coli Reference Center at Penn State University.

I'm very proud to have built the largest repository of E. coli strains that allowed us to develop hundreds of molecular tests to detect pathogenic strains, change the nomenclature of E. coli based on research, and collaborate with industry partners such as J&J to develop vaccines – including one for urinary tract infections.

I grew up in New Delhi, India, where I earned my masters and Ph.D., before coming to the United States in 1978. I continue to review and edit scientific papers and enjoy watercolor painting, cooking and spending time with my family and grandsons. I look forward to volunteer and contribute to causes for AAUW.



REBEKAH GRMELA – rebekah.grmela@gmail.com

Hi everyone! My name is Rebekah Grmela. I'm a new resident of State College by way of Los Angeles, and raised in central Texas. As you might suspect, I've moved here due to Penn State with my husband, who is a new starting professor in the Geology department.

Since partnering with an academic, I've been quite nomadic the last few years and have been waiting for an opportunity to be more settled and get more involved with the community. Professionally, I am the owner of a communications consulting firm, Right + Good Consulting (www.rightandgood.co) that works to support nonprofit and social impact causes, just like AAUW, in fact. When I'm not working with these groups, I enjoy volunteering with them, and look forward to supporting this organization. I was delighted to learn that AAUW State College was also the host of the annual Used Book Sale, which I have attended.

I'm looking to make friends, get immersed in Centre County, and support AAUW. I love cooking (and tasting!) new foods, wine and cocktails, new casual hikes, reading, and exploring local history. I look forward to meeting you all soon.



ANN MITRA - annmitra@earthlink.net

I am looking forward to learning and becoming involved as a newbie to the AAUW organization. My professional background is within special education in various capacities from sibling to administrator. Leisure time activities include volunteer gardener, maker of pysanky (Ukrainian eggs), reading, trying new restaurants, and exploring new learning opportunities. Just completed a bucket list item of climbing Mount Nittany! More to come!



BRITTA PETRICH - britta326@gmail.com

Hi, I am Britta Petrich, and my life goes something like this. I'm a mother of two, and a part-time lecturer in the English Department at Penn State. My interest areas include writing, storytelling, and mental and emotional health in women. I have a B.A. in Communications Studies from Virginia Tech and a M.S. in Integrated Marketing and Management from Florida State University.

I was prompted to join AAUW while volunteering at the Used Book Sale in May after learning more about the mission of the group and interacting with members.



JANE WHITAKER - janewhitaker@verizon.net

My name is Jane Whitaker and I have lived in State College since 2001. I am a Minnesota native and earned my BS in Business and MBA from the University of Minnesota. I worked in the telecommunications industry for over 12 years in Marketing and Sales roles. I am married and have two children who attended Penn State. I believe strongly in helping young

women attain the education they desire to reach their potential. I think books are a very important factor in development and have been an avid attendee at the Annual Book Sale since we moved here. I look forward to helping the organization with this important fundraiser.

**AAUW STATE COLLEGE
USED BOOK WORKSHOP**

OPEN for BOOK DONATIONS

2197 High Tech Road

(across from University Park Airport
½ mile down High Tech Road
on the right
behind Handy Delivery)

Mondays 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Tuesdays & Wednesdays

9:00 am – 12:00 noon

(Tuesday/Wednesday hours
extend to 2:30 pm after Labor Day.)

Read before packing up
book donations:

[https://aauwstatecollege.org/used
book sale donations/](https://aauwstatecollege.org/used-book-sale-donations/)

***VOLUNTEERS WELCOME!
Stop by and check us out.***



*Branch member Oleksandra Pyrozshok
(right) helps a donor with a book donation.*



A carload full of books is a beautiful sight.



BRANCH BULLETIN NOW ISSUED MONTHLY

The *Branch Bulletin* will now be issued monthly as we supplement branch communications with more electronic messaging via e-blasts, social media, and the website. Bulletins will generally be issued the 2nd Monday of the month, with items for inclusion due the first Monday of the month. The next bulletin comes out **Monday, September 12th** so items for inclusion in that issue are due by **Monday, September 5th** 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/>.



AAUW STATE COLLEGE AREAS of ENGAGEMENT

Whether you are a new member, a long-time member, or anything in between, the best way to become active in the branch is to join an area of engagement. To follow is a listing of areas of engagement with their points of contact.

Many areas are actively seeking help right now. Others may take your name with a commitment to reconnect with you when help is needed. It's time to reach out!

Awards – Chriss Schultz, cschultz8g@gmail.com

Suzanne Kerlin, suziekerlin@gmail.com

Archivist/Historian – Jackie Esposito, archivist122@yahoo.com

Community Action Grants – Connie Wheeler, cmwheeler15@gmail.com

Diversity – Naana Nti, naananti500@gmail.com

Education – Carol Hodes, carolhodes@yahoo.com

Finance – Sherry Crassweller, apssherry@gmail.com

Marketing & Communications – Connie Schroeder, ConnieSchroeder@gmail.com

Membership – Charlene Harrison, chh1@psu.edu

Jordan Glover, jmg6097@gmail.com

Nominations/Leadership – info@aauwstatecollege.org

Program – Nina Cowart, ninalee1975@gmail.com

Susan Chyczewski, chyczewski@yahoo.com

Public Policy – Mary Dupuis, mdupuis73@gmail.com

Dianne Gregg, dianne@diannegregg.com

Scholarship – Leslie Laing, lal24@gmail.com

Maria Schmidt, mjs125@psu.edu

STEM - Carol-Ann Book, cab962@psu.edu

Michele Crawl, michelle@discoveryspace.org

Used Book Sale – Mary Ann Blair, mablair1001@gmail.com

Donna Trapp, donnatrapp@pennstatefederal.com

Used Book Workshop – Monday nights – Dina Liberatore, dina.liberatore@gmail.com

Tuesdays/Wednesdays – Sherry Crassweller, apssherry@gmail.com

Suzanne Kerlin, suziekerlin@gmail.com