



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

CARBONDALE BRANCH IN FOCUS

The Newsletter of American Association of University Women-Illinois, Inc., Carbondale Branch
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AAUW website: <http://web.coehs.siu.edu/wed/wallace/AAUW%20page.htm>

LEARN ABOUT WOMEN'S SERVICES AND THE STUDENT WELLNESS CENTER AT SIUC, SPEAKER: DOLLEAN YORK-ANDERSON

MEET AT THE FACULTY HOUSE (NOT THE NEW STUDENT WELLNESS CENTER)

GRAND AND ELIZABETH, CARBONDALE, IL

TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2006, BUSINESS MEETING AT 6:30 P.M.

7:00 P.M. RECEPTION; PROGRAM 7:30 P.M. at the FACULTY

SOCIAL COMMITTEE: LINDA BOBELL

**MAY 2 PROGRAM IS AT THE NEWELL HOUSE. DON'T MISS THIS ONE!
WE'LL CELEBRATE OUR YEAR'S ACHIEVEMENTS**

The Faculty House was filled to capacity on March 7th with members, parents, friends and student winners of the 2006 AAUW



Women They Most Admire Essay Contest.



Joyce Hesketh, (left, red dress) a woman most admired by Carbondale Middle

School student Jennifer Ashton (right) preparing to read her winning essay.



7th and 8th grade winners of the AAUW 11th Annual Essay Contest read their essays to a packed house. From left to right they are: Lauren Terpinitz, Matthew Morgan Monteith, Mitchell Teston, Nate Suggs, Jennifer Ashton and Kendall Bell.

NOMINATION SLATE

Nomination slate for 2006-2007 elections is as follows: President: Vacant; Vice President, Susie Kapp; Recording Secretary: Kem Howze and Sandra Shea; Scholarship Committee: Carolyn Snyder and Kem Howze.

ANNE HILL RECEIVES LOYALTY AWARD



Congratulations to our loyal member Anne Hill who was nominated by Bonnie Heidinger for the AAUW Loyalty Award. Anne will receive the award for the Carbondale Branch and will be recognized at State Convention.

GREAT LAKES REGIONAL CONFERENCE

The Great Lakes Regional Conference will be held June 9 - 11, 2006 at the Lisle/Naperville Wyndham Hotel in Lisle, IL.

HIRAM H. LESAR DISTINGUISHED LECTURE

The Hiram H. Lesar Distinguished Lecture speaker this year is Priscilla Owens, Judge on the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Owens was one of those on President's Bush's short list for nomination to the Supreme Court, and had she been nominated, there would have been a real threat of a filibuster. Come hear what the controversy is about on Tuesday, April 25, at 5 pm in the law school auditorium, as she lectures on "What does the future hold for our court system?"

NEW AAUW PROGRAM THEME

In April 2005, the AAUW Educational Foundation Board and the Association Board voted to approve a new programmatic theme: "Education as the Gateway to Women's Economic Security." Three key program areas are Campus/Higher Education, Workplace and Lifelong Learning.

2006 AAUW SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

At the Celebrate Women reception held March 22nd, scholarships were awarded. A graduate scholarship of \$500 was awarded to **Kristina Dzara** who is a first year Ph.D. student in the Sociology Department in the College of Liberal Arts. She came to SIUC with an outstanding academic record, graduating from the University of Central Florida with an MA degree in applied sociology and earning a GPA of 3.96. As a Master's student Kristina won the Mid-South Sociological Society Graduate Student Paper of Distinction competition. She also earned her BA degree from the University of Central Florida and received a number of honors and awards for her academic and leadership achievements.

Her research interests include sexuality, medical sociology, and quality of life. She is currently working with one of her professors on a project intended to test a theory of inequality regarding the rate of rape in Sao Paulo, Brazil. As a Graduate Research Assistant in the Sociology Department since August 2005, she has assisted with academic research including conducting extensive literature reviews and data entry.

Kristina is a member of several professional associations and has made presentations at regional meetings including a March 2006 presentation at the Midwest Sociological Society, "They Give You a Prescription and Then They Send You on Your Way: Co-Operative Grocery Store Employee Beliefs about Health and Wellness."

When she graduates, she plans to work in academia or research. Her goals include becoming a published author and obtaining a research grant.

A graduate scholarship of \$500 was awarded to **Melissa Haithcox** who is a first year Ph.D. student in Health Education in the College of Education and Human Services. She received an MA degree in health education at Montclair State University in New Jersey and a BS degree in biology from North Carolina Central University in Durham, NC.

Her primary research area is female sexuality and reproductive health. She is the Sexuality Education Graduate Assistant in the SIUC Wellness Center where she has designed and implemented sexuality presentations and other related programs. Her prior experience included: Adjunct Instructor for contemporary health issues

in the Middlesex County College (NJ); Program Director for the New York City Bailey House; a Program Coordinator for community development for the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services Division of HIV/AIDS Services; and Director of General and Outreach Programs for the Girl Scouts Hornets Nest Council (Charlotte, NC).

Melissa has been involved in a number of community and campus activities, has taught workshops related to HIV/AIDS, and has held various positions in six grant projects including Program Director. She stated that she believes that her "greatest accomplishments have been when I have supported others in realizing their dreams and aspirations." An example she cited was her volunteer work with a community group for HIV positive women over fifty where her work resulted in securing funding in excess of \$15,000.

Her goal is to become a university professor and to teach in a women's college and/or a historically black college.

Tomi Gravatt received the Joyce A. Kelly Memorial Scholarship. It is awarded to a current, non-traditional SIUC student in memory of Joyce A. Kelly who achieved her educational goals later in life while raising a family as a single mother. Tomi is a master's degree student in the Rehabilitation Counselor Training Program in the College of Education and Human Services. She is specializing in Substance and Alcohol Abuse and expects to graduate in May 2007. She received her BS degree in workforce education in 2001 from SIUC.

Her work experience includes a wide range of positions including her current assignment as a teaching assistant in the Curriculum and Instruction Department. Previously she was the Future Steps Career Coordinator at Shawnee Community College working as a case manager for a diverse population. Prior to that, she was an intern at Michael's House of Hope in Marion, a transitional support home for men continuing their substance and alcohol abuse rehabilitation. She has also been a substitute teacher, a recruiter for the Bureau of the Census, a career development specialist for Man-TRA-Con, and a business and personnel manager for seven years for T & S Rentals and Sales in Marion.

At the age of 39 Tomi was a single mother earning \$8.00 per hour with two children and no

child support. She had always planned to continue her education, but as she said in her letter of application: "I was required to accelerate this opportunity immediately so I would be in a position to provide for my children." She began to pursue her bachelor's degree in 1998. It has been necessary for her to balance family and educational challenges as she pursued her BS degree and now her master's degree. She plans to continue a career of assisting persons in overcoming challenges and improving their quality of life through goal setting.

The Lelia Marvin Award was awarded to **Jennifer Blair**. This award is a \$500 scholarship for an undergraduate student transferring to SIUC from John A. Logan Community College. Jennifer is a 2004 Carbondale Community High School (CCHS) graduate and is now attending John A. Logan College (JAL). She plans to graduate from JAL in May 2006 with an associate's degree and enroll at SIUC in the fall, 2006, as an English education major. Her goal is to become a secondary education teacher.

Jennifer has received recognition for her academic achievements in both high school and college. When she attended CCHS, she was named an Illinois State Scholar and was inducted into the National Honor Society. At John A. Logan College she was named to the President's List for four semesters, named a Presidential Scholar for 2005 for maintaining a 5.00 (perfect) GPA for three consecutive semesters, and was selected for membership in the Phi Theta Kappa honor society. In both high school and college, she has been actively involved in activities ranging from Student Senate at CCHS to volunteer work at the Carbondale Memorial Hospital.

AAUW is glad to support this young woman of achievement in her educational goals, and we are especially pleased that she has selected SIUC.

Carolyn A. Snyder



IT'S TIME TO RENEW

Renew your AAUW membership now and be eligible for a special drawing at the May 2 Spring Celebration dinner and program. If there are any changes in your e-mail address, mailing address or phone numbers, please fill out the form below and send with your check for \$64 to AAUW Treasurer, Frances Gilman, 2131 South Illinois Ave., Carbondale, IL 62902.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: H. _____ W. _____

Email: _____

Send newsletter electronically? _____

Next board meeting is April 24

OUR AAUW MISSION

AAUW promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and societal change.

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

AAUW's Educational Foundation provides funds to advance education, research and self-development for women, and to foster equity and positive societal change.

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

AAUW's Legal advocacy Fund provides funding and a support system for women seeking judicial redress for sex discrimination.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in the organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

See you on the 11th!

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