

## 2017-18 Branch Officers

### President:

Lorraine Davis 715-629-7392  
[ldavis4762@aol.com](mailto:ldavis4762@aol.com)

### President-Elect

Suzanne Hagen 715-425-1471  
[Suzanne.hagen.1@gmail.com](mailto:Suzanne.hagen.1@gmail.com)

### Co-Program VP:

Sue Danielson 715-425-9082  
[suzied40@hotmail.com](mailto:suzied40@hotmail.com)

### Co-Chairs Membership VP:

Suzanne Hagen 715-425-1471  
[Suzanne.hagen.1@gmail.com](mailto:Suzanne.hagen.1@gmail.com)

Ruth Lee 715-425-7094  
[ruth.a.lee@icloud.com](mailto:ruth.a.lee@icloud.com)

### Co-Secretaries:

Maureen Olle-LaJoie 715-222-7384  
[Maureen.olle-lajoie@uwrf.edu](mailto:Maureen.olle-lajoie@uwrf.edu)

Magdalena Pala 715-425-2613  
[Magdalena.e.pala@uwrf.edu](mailto:Magdalena.e.pala@uwrf.edu)

### Treasurer:

Tina Kelly 715-307-4120  
[tk36698@gmail.com](mailto:tk36698@gmail.com)

## PROGAM LEADERS

### Public Policy Chair:

Barbara Peterson 715-425-5638  
[lbpeters@dishup.us](mailto:lbpeters@dishup.us)

### International Rel.:

Yolanda Dewar 651-459-3843  
[yolandadewar@gmail.com](mailto:yolandadewar@gmail.com)

### Historian:

Jeanne Zirbel 715-425-2669  
[jeanne.zirbel@gmail.com](mailto:jeanne.zirbel@gmail.com)

### Newsletter:

Cheryl Maplethorpe 715-307-8036  
[cheryl.kay.maplethorpe@gmail.com](mailto:cheryl.kay.maplethorpe@gmail.com)

### Book Sale Chairs:

Jane Matthews 715-425-2442  
[jjmatthews@Baldwin-telecom.net](mailto:jjmatthews@Baldwin-telecom.net)

### Science Essay Contest:

Jean Johnson 715-425-7826  
[jeanjohnson@gmail.com](mailto:jeanjohnson@gmail.com)

Sue Danielson 715-425-9082  
[suzied40@hotmail.com](mailto:suzied40@hotmail.com)

Jeanne Zirbel 715-425-2669  
[jeanne.zirbel@gmail.com](mailto:jeanne.zirbel@gmail.com)

### University Liaison:

Maureen Olle-LaJoie 715-222-7384  
[Maureen.olle-lajoie@uwrf.edu](mailto:Maureen.olle-lajoie@uwrf.edu)

### Scholarship:

Jeanne Zirbel 715-425-2669  
[jeanne.zirbel@gmail.com](mailto:jeanne.zirbel@gmail.com)

# FALLS NOTES



AAUW-River Falls, WI

## Branch Newsletter

[aauwrf@gmail.com](mailto:aauwrf@gmail.com)

December 2018

**Next regular meeting and STEM PRESENTATION will be January 26, 2019 (Saturday 1 p.m.) - at the River Falls Public Library.**

**Business meeting at 1 p.m. Presentation of Science and Math Awards at 1:30 p.m.**

Our meeting will feature the awards for the Women in Math and Science Essay Contest and a presentation by Katharine Hagen, daughter of our own Suzanne Hagen. Katharine Hagen will be speaking about her career in biochemistry.

Katharine is an analyst for the US Department of Defense. Previously she worked on the Department of Defense's Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Program while at the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the Defense Reduction Agency. She also worked at Homeland Security and in a translational vaccine research lab.

**This is open to the public, so invite anyone interested in hearing about this interesting topic and seeing some eighth graders receive recognition.**

For the next newsletter, send the application form for the Equity Role Model to members.

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Lorraine Davis, Branch President

## Happy New Year!

My "words" for this month are a review and upcoming events and opportunities to consider in 2019.

But first, special thanks to Suzanne and Waldo Hagen for their hospitality at the December branch meeting. The festive evening was filled with fun, frivolity, friendship and as it turned out, funds for the AAUW branch travel. Thanks to Bob Gustafson and Bill Montgomery for their auctioneering skills and thanks for the generous donations and participation and enthusiastic bidding of those who attended.

We need members to participate on the nomination committee for officers for next year—secretary and membership vice president need to be filled. If you are interested in either a position or being on the nominating committee, please let me know. I know there are a lot of “Crypto-leaders” out there.

Look around the community and consider nominating a woman you know as the **2019 Role Model for Equity**. This is our second year of awarding this honor to a woman who has demonstrated involvement in one or many aspects of civic life and exemplifies commitment to advancing equity and advocacy for women and girls. The application form is included with the newsletter and must be sent to Elaine Baumann (elaine.baumann1@gmail.com) by **January 25**. Your involvement is so important.

Please remember to take the AAUW Work Smart Course online course and share it to all women you know. It is accessible on the AAUW Website. Hopefully, all of us will do this so we can develop a plan to share it with the community as a meaningful tool to address pay equity. It is something we can do!!! The course is instrumental in AAUW's efforts to close the gender pay gap by 2030. As we think about how our branch can be a part of this effort, consider that this initiative is being used in Kansas City as a joint effort by the city and the Women's Foundation to train 1 million to negotiate for better salaries across Kansas and Missouri. While our efforts can't be as grandiose, we can make an impact.

Did you receive **Badger Briefs**, the state newsletter? It was uploaded to AAUW.org for state wide distribution. If you did not receive it you should check your email that is in the AAUW.org to see if it is correct. It has been posted on our FACEBOOK page. **Badger Briefs** has highlights what the state is doing to promote the AAUW Mission....equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research from which the acronym REAP is derived. It really encapsulates the essence of AAUW.

**FYI:** The AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund is very involved in monitoring court cases at both the District and Supreme Court levels which are germane to our mission. Cases range from the rights of a transgender professor to receive fair and equitable compensation and benefits, the practice of basing salaries of new hires on previous salaries, gender and sexual identification protections, right of employees regarding class-action arbitration, and the right of a state to bar an eligible health-care provider, which provides a full range of reproductive health care services, from Medicaid and whether termination decisions can be challenged. A complete article about these efforts is on our Facebook Page. <https://www.facebook.com/AAUW.RiverFalls>

**Please note: The Girls In Science STEM Event for 2019 is Highlighted in the Community Education Bulletin. Promote it.**

May 2019 be a year of harmony and health. I will think of you from the January warmth of Arizona.

## **State Convention**

The AAUW Wisconsin State Convention will be held **Friday, April 26 and Saturday, April 27 at the Lake Lawn Resort in Delavan**. Registration begins at 2 on Friday and sessions at 3. Thus far, speaker topics will include Title IX, Non Traditional Career Education for Women, Preventing Human Trafficking and Best Branch Practices. Please consider this in your spring plans. Travel funds will be available for this purpose.

## Selection of NCCWSL Scholarship Recipient

The Scholarship Committee (Jeanne Zirbel, Diane Crist, and Lorraine Davis) has selected **Faith Lauryn Velez** as the recipient of the branch's NCCWSL Scholarship.

Faith is a sophomore at UWRF with a psychology major with an emphasis in Social Justice and a minor in Women's and Gender Studies. She has had academic successes being on the Dean's list and has been recognized as the "promising New Psychology Major" scholarship by that department. She is an RA in the gender-inclusive community in Johnson Hall, acts as a tour guide for the university and is involved in the UWRF Feminist Organization. Her letters of recommendation included phrases like..."when it comes to thinking of strong leader on campus, Faith is at the top of that list" and I ...cannot say enough good things about Faith...and I believe she has the potential to be a great scholar, leader and activist." **Congratulations Faith!**

**Caveat:** In the newsletter Cheryl Maplethorpe, our esteemed newsletter editor, has put together a current schedule of events for the year. Please note that times and places are different from other years and these may not be final since as a group, we are nothing if not flexible. Thus, I encourage you to look at future communications carefully.

Kendra Morgan will be the new administrator for our AAUW branch Facebook Page. We had some difficulties with our old page so the best solution was to create a new page with

the URL: <https://www.facebook.com/AAUW.RiverFalls> . Please "like it." Also, if you have any events or information which are relevant please send your postings to [moke1202@outlook.com](mailto:moke1202@outlook.com).

Thank you, Kendra, for assuming this responsibility.

**Also**, we continue to work on making our Facebook page effective and for that we need everyone's support. If you have things to share, contact Kendra Morgan [moke1202@outlook.com](mailto:moke1202@outlook.com)

We have a **new Facebook page**. <https://www.facebook.com/AAUW.RiverFalls>

If you have not done so already, please **"LIKE" the page** by clicking at the top left side under the title.

## BRANCH MEETING MINUTES

Maureen Olle-LaJoie and Magdalena Pala, Co-Secretaries

**AAUW River Falls Branch Meeting - At the home of Suzanne Hagen - December 11, 2018**

Lorraine Davis called meeting to order at 6:50 pm and thanked Hagens for their hospitality.

Leslie Williams introduced Cathryn Flowers from RF Public Library.

Kendra Morgan introduced her roommate Madeline.

JoAnn Prout introduced her husband, Jack Snow.

Barb Peterson introduced Evelyn Purdy and Rebecca Ferguson.

## Secretary's Report and Treasurer's Report

Were approved as printed in the most recent newsletter.

## President's Report

Kendra Morgan is waiting for items to be posted on our Facebook page –

<https://www.facebook.com/AAUW.RiverFalls>

There is no nomination yet for Outstanding Woman of Western Wisconsin. The due date is January 29, 2019.

The new directory was mailed to membership. Extra copies and sheets with corrections were available at the meeting.

Lorraine reminded us that the names of persons we want to reach out to should be passed to co-secretary Magdalena.

Volunteers are needed for nomination committee by January. We need to elect Membership VP and secretary.

Work Smart site <https://salary.aauw.org> should be promoted among high school students, college students and to public at large especially women considering career changes.

**State Convention is April 26-27 in Lake Geneva.**

## Committee Reports

Membership – Suzanne welcomed our guests and encouraged them to join our branch.

Program – Suzie reminded us that the next meeting is on **Saturday, January 26, 2019, at the RF Public Library**. The science and math essay winners will be presented with certificates and \$50 awards. Katherine Hagen will be speaking about her career in biochemistry. Members are encouraged to attend and bring friends.

Public Policy – Barb Peterson and Elise Noonan met with our state senator, Patty Schactner, who suggested that we should educate public at large about redistricting and gerrymandering in WI.

Other – hosts for January meeting are needed. Contact Diane Crist.

## Old Business

According to Suzanne we made **\$418 at the Moose Brunch**.

**Faith Lauren Velez** was selected as a NCCWSL Scholarship recipient. She is a sophomore psychology major at the UWRF.

Help is needed with STEM event in April next year. We are to provide items for swag bags and lunch for speakers/leaders of activities.

## New Business

The following motion was made: "The Branch will provide \$200 on an annual basis to supplement the Ethel Johnson Memorial Literacy Fund. Funds will come from operating funds as available". After discussion about financial viability of such a support the motion (Jean Johnson/Kay Montgomery) passed. Jean Johnson will prepare application form.

Motion: "The Branch will donate \$1000 to National AAUW Funds to be used as determined by the National Organization. Additional donations to be made in spring if funds available" was made (Suzanne Hagen/Barb Peterson). During discussion Suzanne stated that we have enough monies in the scholarship fund to make \$1000 donation before the end of December 2018. The motion passed.

## Announcements

Several members were welcome after returning from their trips:

Cheryl Maplethorpe to New Zealand

Gretchen Toman to Europe

Karen Brohaugh to Christmas Markets along Rhein River.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Holiday auction followed and according to the preliminary count brought about **\$1340** for our travel fund.

Respectfully submitted by Magdalena Pala, co-secretary.

## FINANCE REPORT

Tina Kelly, Finance Chair

### AAUW-River Falls Finance Report December 28, 2018

<b>Checking balance 11/30/2018</b>	<b>\$ 7054.71</b>
Dues	\$ 83
Moose Brunch	418.23
Auction	1408
Contributions	70
Book Sale*	10
<i>Total receipts (11/30/2018 – 12/27/2018)</i>	<b>\$1989.23</b>
Disbursements	
AAUW (Annual Contribution)	\$1000
Moose Brunch (Check for ticket sales)	615
Printing/Envelopes	56.01
Postage	24.85

<i>Total disbursements (11/30/2018-12/28/2018)</i>	\$1695.86

**Balances 12/27/2018**

Checking: 7348.08

Savings: 2394.10

Total \$9742.18

Notes:

Savings total includes \$735 for Ethel Johnson Memorial Fund

Book Sale is for books I purchased during “clean-up”

**SILVER STATE MAKES HISTORY** Nevada will boast the first state legislature in U.S. history to have a majority of female lawmakers. [[HuffPost](#)]

When the 80th session of Nevada’s legislature begins on Feb. 4, women will hold 23 out of 42 seats in the state Assembly and nine of 21 seats in the state Senate, according to The Nevada Independent. In total, women will hold 32 of 63 seats in the state’s legislature.

**DON’T FORGET TO NOMINATE A WOMAN FOR ROLE MODEL EQUITY.**  
**See the form below**

**Nomination Form  
River Falls Branch AAUW  
Recognition of  
Role Model for Equity**

As part of Women's History Month, AAUW is recognizing a Western Wisconsin woman (not a member of the River Falls Branch) as a 2019 Role Model for Equity.

**Selection criteria:**

Recipient must

1. Be a current resident of Pierce or St. Croix County
2. Demonstrate involvement in one or more aspects of civic life (e.g., business, education, social service, government, the arts, etc.)
2. Exemplify commitment to advancing equity and advocacy for women and girls, the primary mission of AAUW.

**Please provide the following information:**

Name of Nominee \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Contact Information \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

AAUW Member Nominator \_\_\_\_\_

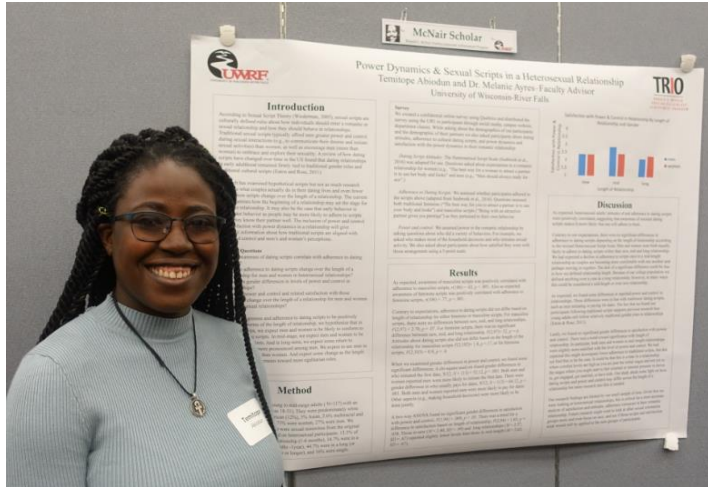
**Respond to the following:**

1. **How has the nominee demonstrated involvement in aspects of civic life in our community?**
2. **How does the nominee exemplify commitment to advancing equity for women and girls, the primary mission of AAUW? Be comprehensive and provide specific examples.**

*Please submit form by January 25, 2019 to Elaine Baumann (elaine.baumann1@gmail.com).  
Recipient will be announced by February 12, 2019 and honored at our  
March 12, 2019 meeting*



**2018 NCCWSL Recipients**, Temitope Abiodun and Jillisa Solberg, presenting research studies at UWRF Research Gala on December 11, 2018. This is a culmination of their semester research projects.



## STEM UP DATE

**Plans for Girls in SCIENCE are being made for Saturday, April 13, 2019 at UWRF.** It will focus on hands-on STEM activities in sessions designed for 80 elementary students in the morning and 80 middle school students in the afternoon. These students will participate and meet scientists/professors and university students in sessions throughout the day. Information is already available in the River Falls Community Education Fall Bulletin.

AAUW has co-sponsored this STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) program with related departments at UWRF for the past four years. Professor Rellen Hardtke is again heading the program. Presenters will be asked to provide exciting activities for attendees with new activities being developed this year. In the past, the larger community has provided additional support to offset the costs with offering funds for scholarships and materials for participants. For its part, AAUW has accessed community support and provided volunteers and "nourishment" for the day of the event. We will be asked to fulfill similar roles this year as well as promoting STEM and the program in the community throughout the year. More information will be forthcoming.

This event is one that the community looks forward to and it is wonderful that our organization can play a vital part.

Many of our Branch members contribute a great deal to our community. If you know of any members who have been recognized for their achievements, let Magdalena Pala ([magdalena.e.pala@uwrf.edu](mailto:magdalena.e.pala@uwrf.edu)), our secretary, know and she will send a letter of congratulations on behalf of AAUW. Let's celebrate one another.

## CARDS FOR SALE





We have reissued notecards recreating the pen and ink drawings of past member, Helen B. Walker.

The new cards are of two of Helen Wyman's flower prints and are packaged in groups of eight.

**They are available from Suzanne Hagen for \$10.00.**

A great gift!!!! A great support for AAUW efforts!!!!

## **ETHEL JOHNSON MEMORIAL**

Submitted by Jean Johnson, Committee Chair of The Ethel Johnson Memorial Fund

The Ethel Johnson Memorial honors a woman dedicated to learning. AAUW wishes to remember Ethel for her many roles of service to our organization and the community. Her life is an example of what education and a spirit of giving can inspire in all of us. The fund will be used for grants that promote literacy, such as books for the food shelf or the public school back pack program. By sustaining this memorial, AAUW continues the values by which Ethel lived as a teacher, mentor, traveler, and friend.

Please send your monetary support to Tina Kelly, W9908 State Rd 35. Hager City WI 54014 or donate at our monthly AAUW meetings.

## **MEMBERSHIP NOTES**

Suzanne Hagen, Vice-President Membership

## **Directory Update and Corrections – Dec. 11, 2018**

Add as member renewal:

**Murray, Lois** (1992)

**715-426-4778**

Email: [loidmuttsy@yahoo.com](mailto:loidmuttsy@yahoo.com)

1210 Golf View Drive

River Falls, WI 54022

*B.S., B.A., University of Wisconsin-River Falls, Accounting*

### **New Member**

Catherine Flowers

Address: 1738 Bennett St., River Falls, WI 54022

Phone: 651-329-3215

Email: [artemesia25@gmail.com](mailto:artemesia25@gmail.com)

Lorraine Davis: Phone number – 715-629-7392

Lorraine Peitso: Email – [rcpeitso@gmail.com](mailto:rcpeitso@gmail.com)

Karen Stimeling: Delete B.S., Mankato State University, Elementary Education

Legislative Contacts, p. 20: Delete Kathleen Vinehout as District 31 senator. **Jeff Smith will be incoming senator in 2019.** Current contact information: 715-600-3703; [info@togetherwithjeff.com](mailto:info@togetherwithjeff.com).

No Madison office phone or location available as yet.

### **Holiday Auction Results**

Our annual holiday gathering was a festive and successful fund raiser. The auction of creative gifts and delectable baked goods garnered **\$1,408** for the branch travel fund.

Kudos to our expert auctioneers, Bob Gustafson and Bill Montgomery, and much appreciation to our generous bidders!

We were also happy to have several guests join us, and we welcome new member Catherine Flowers.

We look forward 2019 - another year of growing friendships and supporting equity programs for women and girls.

### **POLITICAL POLICY**

Barb Peterson, Chair Public Policy

#### Public Policy News

**The November election data shows us once again how slanted legislative districts have been drawn (gerrymandered).** Statewide elective offices (governor, attorney general, secretary of state, treasurer) showed a majority of voters favored the Democratic Party. However in the districts, results show 1,306,922 votes for Democratic candidates for the Assembly and 1,102,721 votes for Republican candidates. Despite that, Democrats won 36 seats, GOP took 63. There were 33 uncontested races; these results show that districts are drawn/gerrymandered to the advantage of one party. Since those districts will be redrawn after the census in 2020 and **AAUW believes no party should have an advantage in any district**, it would be an opportunity for AAUW members to educate the population on this topic and advocate for change.

With that in mind, **Elise Nooney and Barbara Peterson are meeting to discuss how we can help the public understand how good government comes from fair district maps. If you would like to join us, please**

**speak to one of us at the next meeting or give us a call.** We are looking for other organizations that may have an interest in this advocacy and for speaking venues where the message can be delivered. We need speakers for these presentations, venue arrangements made, publicity handled and use of free social media to spread the word. Please contact us at your convenience.

Elise - 715-425-2260 elisenooney@yahoo.com

Barb - 715-425-5638 lbpeters@dishup.us

We look forward to making a difference with your help.

## **INTERNATIONAL ISSUES**

Yolanda Dewar, Chair

### **DECEMBER 2018 INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

#### **FEMU holds an International Seminar on the Latin American female migration to the US**

From 29 to 30 November, the Federation of Mexican University Women (FEMU) held an international seminar titled "*the Latin American Female Migration to the United States*" in Mexico City. On this occasion, leaders and members of FEMU, Women Graduates-USA (WG-USA), as well as government officials and a variety of academics gathered around three different tables to discuss the key issues linked to this crucial theme. For more ample information about the program of this significant event, please visit the FEMU [web-site](https://www.graduatwomen.org/mexican-federation-of-university-women). <https://www.graduatwomen.org/mexican-federation-of-university-women>

#### **Bina Roy Partners in Development: Girls' Enhanced Learning Project in Rwanda**

In 2017, the Rwanda Association of University Women (RAUW) ran the Girls' Enhanced Learning Project in Rwanda with the support of the GWI Bina Roy Partners in Development (BRPID) generously funded by Virtus Global Investment Fund ([VGIF](#)). The goal of the project was to increase girls' access to primary and secondary education. The program focused on improving inclusive participation of girls in school and teaching girls about sexual reproductive health and services. They also worked to empower girls to know their rights and stand up against violence and include parents and the community in a dialogue about girls' health. This project did not work exclusively to help girls gain access to educational opportunities but also through educational outreach teach the girls, their families and the communities about their rights and health. GWI is ever grateful to [VGIF](#) for its generous donations supporting the BRPID projects around the world.

#### **Graduate Women International (GWI) "Peace through Education" Triennial and Conference <https://www.graduatwomen.org>**

The GWI 33rd Triennial GA, Centenary Celebration and One–Day Conference will be held 25-28 July 2019 at the University of Geneva in Geneva, Switzerland. This major milestone event represents a new beginning for GWI, within a changing global landscape - one of strategic relationships with the UN, knowledge competencies in global policies that widen the social and economic divide and advocacy for global and national governance that protect women's and girls' rights. Our Theme "*Peace through Education*" reflects our deep-seated recognition of education, particularly education for women and girls as the cornerstone of peaceful, just and sustainable societies.

### **UN Global Citizenship Education (GCED) Forum**

On 13 November, Maryella Hannum, GWI UN Representative, New York attended the UN Global Citizenship Education Forum at the UN Headquarters in New-York. The event was followed by a lunch at the Korean Permanent Mission to the UN. Discussion included principles and approaches for formal education, informal education, non-formal education as well as youth and adults. Progress was reviewed in implementing Global Citizenship Education in preparation for next year's HLPF where United Nations Sustainable Development Summit (SDG 4) will be reviewed. Education policymakers, GCED experts, and educators shared experiences and perspectives. According to the concept note, in attendance were officials of ministries of education, national research and development institutes, Ambassadors of Permanent Missions to the UN, delegates from international organizations, and civil society from concerned fields.

<https://en.unesco.org/gem-report/sdg-goal-4>

### **Nepal under review of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women**

The 71<sup>st</sup> Session of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) took place from 22 October to 8 November at the UN's Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. CEDAW is a body of 23 independent human rights experts that monitor the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. One hundred and eighty-nine States have ratified the Convention and are reviewed regularly on how they are implementing it in their countries. Among the countries under review at the 71<sup>st</sup> session was Nepal, an important and active NFA of GWI. During the session Nepali Minister for Women, Children and Senior Citizens Tham Maya Thapa issued a statement. Thapa informed CEDAW that the Nepalese Government has enacted 16 laws in support of safeguarding women's rights, ending discrimination against women, and implementing measures for women's empowerment. She went on to explain that "women's representation through election has reached over 40 per-cent. This level of participation of women at the political and policy making level has set a milestone in the history of women representation in Nepal."

## **10 of the greatest challenges in global education, and how the GPE is addressing them right now:**

### **1. A lack of funding for education**

While the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) is helping many developing countries to increase their own domestic financing for education, global donor support for education is decreasing at an alarming rate. **The amount of total aid that's allocated to education has decreased in each of the past six years, and education aid is 4% lower than it was in 2009.** This is creating a global funding crisis that is having serious consequences on countries' ability to get children into school and learning. Money isn't everything, but it is a key foundation for a successful education system.

The Global Partnership is aiming to raise \$3.1 billion in new investment from donor countries into the GPE fund, as well as increases in other aid to education, and is also asking developing country partners to pledge increases in their own domestic financing.

## **2. Having no teacher, or having an untrained teacher**

What's the number one thing any child needs to be able to learn? A teacher, of course.

We're facing multiple challenges when it comes to teachers. **Not only are there not enough teachers globally to achieve universal primary education (let alone secondary), but many of the teachers that are currently working are also untrained, leading to children failing to learn the basics, such as math and language skills.** Globally, the UN estimates that 69 million new teachers are required to achieve universal primary and secondary education by 2030. Meanwhile, in one out of three countries, less than three-quarters of teachers are trained to national standards.

In 2016 alone, the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) helped to train 238,000 teachers worldwide. With a successful replenishment, GPE can make teacher recruitment and training a top global priority for delivering quality education for all.

## **3. No classroom**

This seems like a pretty obvious one – if you don't have a classroom, you don't really have much of a chance of getting a decent education. But again, that's a reality for millions of children worldwide. Children in many countries in Sub-Saharan Africa are often squeezed into overcrowded classrooms, classrooms that are falling apart, or are learning outside.

In Malawi, for example, there are 130 children per classroom in grade 1 on average. **It's not just a lack of classrooms that's the problem, but also all the basic facilities you would expect a school to have – like running water and toilets.**

**In Chad, only one in seven schools has potable water, and just one in four has a toilet; moreover, only one-third of the toilets that do exist are for girls only – a real disincentive and barrier for girls to come to school.** Since 2011 funding from the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) has helped to build or rehabilitate 53,000 classrooms. With an additional \$3.1 billion, GPE could help build an additional 23,800 classrooms, while training over 1.7 million teachers, among other things.

## **4. A lack of learning materials**

Outdated and worn-out textbooks are often shared by six or more students in many parts of the world. In Tanzania, for example, only 3.5% of all grade 6 pupils had sole use of a reading textbook. In Cameroon, there are 11 primary school students for every reading textbook and 13 for every mathematics textbook in grade 2. Workbooks, exercise sheets, readers and other core materials to help students learn their lessons are in short supply. Teachers also need materials to help prepare their lessons, share with their students, and guide their lessons.

GPE funding helped deliver 146 million textbooks to all primary and secondary school students in Ethiopia, increasing access to quality services in an estimated 40,000 schools.

## 5. The exclusion of children with disabilities

Despite the fact that education is a universal human right, being denied access to school is common for the world's 93 million children with disabilities. In some of the world's poorest countries, up to 95% of children with disabilities are out of school. A combination of discrimination, lack of training in inclusive teaching methods among teachers, and a straightforward lack of disabled accessible schools leave this group uniquely vulnerable to being denied their right to education.

Children with disabilities are one of the Global Partnership for Education's priorities. With a successful replenishment, the GPE will be able to work with its more than 60 developing country partners to promote inclusive education.

The GPE already has a proven track record in this capacity. For example, at the Daerit Elementary School in Asmara, Eritrea, children are taught that, "All children can learn." And with funds from GPE, the school is pioneering inclusive education in the country.

## 6. Being the 'wrong' gender

Put simply, gender is one of the biggest reasons why children are denied an education. Despite recent advances in girls' education, a generation of young women has been left behind. Over 130 million young women around the world are not currently enrolled in school. At least one in five adolescent girls around the world is denied an education by the daily realities of poverty, conflict and discrimination.

Poverty forces many families to choose which of their children to send to school. Girls often miss out due to belief that there's less value in educating a girl than a boy. Instead, they are sent to work or made to stay at home to look after siblings and work on household chores. Girls also miss days of school every year or are too embarrassed to participate in class, because they don't have appropriate menstrual hygiene education or toilet facilities at their school to manage their period in privacy and with dignity.

This Issue Has Rihanna, LeBron James, and Chance the Rapper Stepping Up and Taking Action  
Ensuring girls can access and complete a quality education is a top priority for the Global Partnership for Education. Since its inception, GPE has helped 38 million additional girls go to school. Sixty-four percent the developing countries GPE supports and works with succeeded in getting equal numbers of girls and boys to complete primary school in 2015. GPE funds have also resulted in better sanitary facilities, like toi-



let blocks and gender separated toilets worldwide. With a successful replenishment, GPE could get an additional 9.4 million girls in school by 2020.

## 7. Living in a country in conflict or at risk of conflict

There are many casualties of any war, and education systems are often destroyed. While this may seem obvious, the impact of conflict cannot be overstated. In 2017, around 50 million children were living in countries affected by conflicts, with 27 million of them out of school, according to UNICEF. Conflict prevents governments from functioning, teachers and students often flee their homes, and continuity of learning is greatly disrupted. In total, 75 million children have had their education disrupted by conflict or crisis, including natural disasters that destroy schools and the environment around them. Worryingly, education has thus far been a very low priority in humanitarian aid to countries in conflict – and less than 3% of global humanitarian assistance was allocated to education in 2016.

Since its establishment, the Global Partnership for Education has committed nearly half of all its grants (\$2.3 billion) to conflict-affected and fragile states. Nearly half of all GPE funded countries classify as either “fragile” or “affected by conflict.” The Global Partnership is also right now looking at how to further improve its operations to accelerate support to countries in emergencies or early recovery situations.

## 8. Distance from home to school

For many children around the world, a walk to school of up to three hours in each direction is not uncommon. This is just too much for many children, particularly those children with a disability, those suffering from malnutrition or illness, or those who are required to work around the household. Imagine having to set off for school, hungry, at 5 a.m. every day, not to return until 7pm. Many children, especially girls, are also vulnerable to violence on their long and hazardous journeys to and from school.

**Read More:** 7 Insane Ways Children Get to School All Around the World

<https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/unreal-ways-education-kids-commute-transportation/>

By investing in new schools, more schools, the Global Partnership for Education is helping to reduce the distances children have to travel to get to school for a decent education. With pledges of support from donors, the GPE can help ensure no child has to endure such long journeys just to fulfil their basic right to education.

## 9. Hunger and poor nutrition

The impact of hunger on education systems is gravely underreported. Being severely malnourished, to the point it impacts on brain development, can be the same as losing four grades of schooling. Around 171 million children in developing countries are stunted by hunger by the time they reach age 5. Stunting can affect a child’s cognitive abilities as well as their focus and concentration in school. As a result, stunted children are 19% less likely to be able to read by age eight. Conversely, good nutrition can be crucial preparation for good learning.



The Global Partnership for Education seeks to address national priorities as decided by developing country governments themselves. Where malnutrition is a major concern, the GPE is stepping in to address the problem.

For instance, in Lao People's Democratic Republic, an innovative School Meals Program funded by GPE is addressing students' nutritional deficits as well as promoting self-reliance, community ownership, and sustainability through integrated local food production and the active involvement of community members. **As a result, Lao PDR has seen increased school enrollment (especially for girls), improved nutritional status, reduced household expenses, and stronger student-teacher-parent and community relations.**

## 10. The expense of education

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights makes clear that every child has the right to a free basic education, so that poverty and lack of money should not be a barrier to schooling. In many developing countries, **over the last decades governments have announced the abolition of school fees and as a result, seen impressive increases in the number of children going to school.**

**But for many of the poorest families, school remains too expensive and children are forced to stay at home doing chores or work themselves. Families remain locked in a cycle of poverty that goes on for generations.** In many countries in Africa, while education is theoretically free, in practice 'informal fees' see parents forced to pay for 'compulsory items' like uniforms, books, pens, extra lessons, exam fees or funds to support the school buildings. In other places, the lack of functioning public (government) schools means that parents have no choice but to send their children to private schools that, even if they are 'low fee', are unaffordable for the poorest families who risk making themselves destitute in their efforts to get their children better lives through education.

The Global Partnership for Education's primary purpose is to help strengthen the national education systems of the poorest countries, building their capacity to deliver quality affordable education for all citizens.

### Scotland Announces Free University Tuition for EU Students after Brexit

It sends a "strong message" that EU students are "welcome" in Scotland.

The Scottish government has been praised for an announcement on Friday that EU students will still be able to get free tuition after the UK has officially left the EU.

It makes it the "first government in the UK to make such a commitment," according to Scotland's higher education minister, Shirley-Anne Somerville.

The announcement means that EU students who start their course in the academic year of 2019-2020 — the autumn after the UK exits the EU in March 2019 — still won't be charged tuition fees.

## **River Falls Branch: 2018-19 CALENDAR OF EVENTS – SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

Monthly meetings are usually the second Tuesday of each month September to May with business meetings at 6:30 and programs open to the public at 7:00 at the River Falls Public Library. Exceptions are noted.

**September 5** – City Sampler at UWRF, 11-1 pm

**September 11** - Regular Meeting: COMMUNITY ROOM at the First National Bank, 104 E Locust Street, **6:00** Pot Luck Dinner, our business meeting at **6:30 PM**, program presentation at **7:00** by our NCCWSL delegates, Jillisa Solberg and Temitope Abiodun

**Early September** – Book donation barrels placed in Family Fresh, Dick's Grocery store and County Market in Hudson.

**October 6** - Sorting of book donations, 9-noon - place TBD

**October 29 (Monday)** – Regular Meeting: 6:00 promptly at the River Falls Library. 6:30– Presentation by Craig Dudnick about Alice Tregay, unsung heroine of the Civil Rights Movement. Film and Discussion.

**October 11** - BOOK SALE - October 11, 12, 13 and October 17, 18, 19, **109 North Main Street, River Falls**

**November 6** – Election Day

**November 11** – Sunday Moose Lodge Breakfast Fund raiser

**November 13** - Regular Meeting: Speaker, Madeline Urameck, Wisconsin Educator and author of How to Make a Life about her friendship with a Tibetan family.

**December 7** – Deadline for Middle School Science Essay contest

**December 11** - Regular Meeting and Holiday Auction at Suzanne Hagen's House, 2464 Golf View Dr. Bring a meat-less appetizer or cookies to share. Starts at 6:30.

**January 26, 2018** (Saturday 1 p.m.) – Regular meeting and STEM presentation with Science and Math Essay Awards at the River Falls Library. Katharine Hagen will be speaking about her career in biochemistry.

**February 12** - Regular Meeting at 5:01 at Junior's (to take advantage of HAPPY HOUR). Grace Coggio and Krista Cleary will help us learn about Radical Civility.

**March 12** - Regular Meeting and Women's History Month presentation in conjunction with the River Falls Public Library. There will also be a presentation of the Role Equity Award. Ruth Bader Ginsberg film to be shown and discussed

**April 9** – Annual Meeting, Election of Officers, Program is a presentation by Agnes Ring, Executive Director of the Family Resource Center of St. Croix Valley.

**April 13**– 2019 STEM Girls in SCIENCE

**April 14** – Equal Pay Day

**April 26-27 - State AAUW Convention in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin**

**May 14** – Installation and Celebration 5:00 Wine Tasting Fund Raiser, 6:30 Pot Luck Dinner at Suzanne Hagen's House, 2464 Golf View Dr. with a 5 - 6:30 wine tasting for those who would like to participant.

**June 10** – 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment by Wisconsin



### **AAUW's MISSION STATEMENT**

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

### **AAUW's VALUE PROMISE**

By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance. AAUW empowers all women and girls to reach their highest potential.

### **VISION STATEMENT**

AAUW empowers all women and girls to reach their highest potential.

### **DIVERSITY STATEMENT**

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