



The Empire State Virtual (NY) Branch

Empire State (NY)
Virtual Branch

Founded 2012



Empire Virtual Times

Winter 2016

Quarterly Volume 4 No. 1



Happy Valentine's Day!



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2016 AAUW NYS Emerging Leader Award



Michelle Messenger is a member of the Empire State Virtual NY Branch who was approved by the AAUW NYS Board during our 2016 Fall board meeting to be the 1st member of the AAUW NYS Student Advisory Board. Michelle will be participating in our AAUW NYS Convention in Saratoga Springs, NY and will also be working with the Empire State Virtual Branch and the New York Institute of Technology on a one day joint conference on Friday, April 22, 2016 featuring the Start Smart workshop and a Career Fair.

Michelle is a senior at the New York Institute of Technology and will be graduating as an Engineer in May 2016. She loves Math and Science and she founded the Society of Women Engineers at the NYIT. She was drawn to engineering because both her mom and grandmother were computer programmers. Michelle's career aspiration is to create better things for people who need them. Michelle interested in bionics and would like to work on creating a device to help people walk or hear again!

**AAUW– Empire State
Virtual Branch**

973 216 4181

<http://empire-ny.aauw.net>

“Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality.”



A LETTER FROM THE EMPIRE STATE VIRTUAL BRANCH PRESIDENT, MARIA ELLIS



Dear Friends,

I am looking forward to seeing you all at the AAUW NYS Convention in Saratoga Springs, New York on April 15-17, 2016. The theme of the Convention is AAUW Women on the Move: Achieving Women's Economic Justice and we have some great speakers including Saratoga Springs Mayor **Joanne D. Yepsen**. I am particularly looking forward to participating in the **Student Track Workshop** and welcoming **Dean**

Nada Marie Anid, Ph.D., the first female dean of the New York Institute of Technology's School of Engineering Education and STEM K-12 Outreach. Please refer to pages, 4-6 for Student Track details and register to join us on Saturday, April 16th. This is a unique event for Mothers and Daughters to learn and have fun together!

This fiscal year, our Emerging Leader is Michelle Messenger, a senior at the New York Institute of Technology. Michelle was also approved by the AAUW NYS Boarding during our 2016 Fall Board meeting to be the 1st member of the AAUW NYS Student Advisory board. She will also be working with the Empire State Virtual NY Branch on a joint program with the New York Institute of Technology featuring **Start Smart workshop** and a **Career Fair on April 22, 2016**. Congrats, Michelle!

I am also pleased to report that we are making progress with our new mentoring program for **Middle and H.S. Girls**. **Special thanks to Joan Monk**, who is working very closely with Mary J Blige Center in Yonkers, and she will bring up to twelve 7th grade students to the **EYO Explore Your Opportunities: The Sky's the Limit™ Conference** being held on April 16, 2016 at the College of Mount Saint Vincent in Riverdale, NY. For more details about the conference, please refer to our Empire Virtual Times, Winter issue, page #6.

In closing, I would like to invite you to join us for our upcoming **Great Decisions** program at the Harvard Club on Thursdays, starting February 11, 2016 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm for tea and conversation. Some of the topics for Great Decisions include the Middle East, The Future of Kurdistan, Migration, the Koreas, The United nations, Climate Change, Cuba and the US and the Rise of ISIS.

Kindest Regards,

Maria Ellis, MBA
Empire State Virtual NY Branch President
https://svc.aauw.org/RECore/wMembership/NewJoinBranch_Enter.asp
AAUW NYS College & University Director
AAUW Strategic Communications Task Force
<http://empire-ny.aauw.net>
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Twitter: AAUWVirtualNY
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"The future belongs to those who believe
in the beauty of their dreams!" ... ER

Explore Your Opportunities: The Sky's the Limit!™



Explore Your Opportunities: The Sky's the Limit!™

13th Year Conference

April 16, 2016

College of Mount Saint Vincent
Riverdale (Bronx), New York

Cool Workshops (13 of 18) for EYO 2016: are listed below:

1. **Playing Games in Alice World**: Learn to create interactive games using "Alice" programming.
2. **Brain Games**: Learn about some of the mind boggling things a brain can do from making memories to controlling emotions.
3. **Flower Hour**: Observe and describe flowers and discover similarities that group them and differences that make them unique.
4. **It's a Sugar...It's a Base...It's DNA!**: Discover the structure of DNA and learn how to isolate DNA from your own cells painlessly.
5. **Acoustics & Wildlife - Sound Can Save Animals!**: How do scientists track whales, recognize birds, and count tigers and frogs? They use sound!
6. **What Color is a Rose?**: Roses are red, violets are blue, ever wonder how plants get their color? See which plant pigments are hiding in your favorite plants using paper chromatography!
7. **Datalogging-A-Bot**: Learn how to program a robot to analyze sounds using a sound sensor.
8. **Plant Superhighways**: An introduction to the vascular system of plants with real-life applications in the food and florist industries.
9. **Grrrrrrs Leading the Way in Animal Science**: Learn how you can enhance animal lives and wellbeing in a hands-on enrichment workshop.
10. **Blizzard in a Bottle!**: Create a "snowflake crystal" scene in a jar using Chemistry!
11. **Cool Web Design**: Learn the basics of HTML and JavaScript by making your own "Web Page".
12. **Paper Engineering + Origami = (Fun)** Use paper and geometry to build a spherical container to store jewelry and other small items.
13. **Play Doctor**. Learn the physical exam components and tools that the doctors and Pas use to ...



Programming a Robot in
Build-a-Bot



Kitchen is Full of Chemistry Too?

2016 Great Decisions

Topics for Great Decisions* 2016	Dates	Reviewers
1. Middle East: From a proxy war in Yemen to an ongoing civil war in Syria, a number of ongoing conflicts have shaken the traditional alliances in the Middle East to their core. As alliances between state and non-state actors in the region are constantly shifting, the U.S. has found itself between a rock and a hard place. In a series of conflicts that are far from being black-and-white, what can the U.S. do to secure its interests in the region without causing further damage and disruption?	2 nd Thurs, Feb. 11	Julie Kleszczewski
2. The Future of Kurdistan: Kurdistan, a mountainous region made up of parts of Turkey, Iraq, Iran, Armenia and Syria, is home to one of the largest ethnic groups in West Asia: the Kurds. Now, most in the West know them for their small, oil-rich autonomous region in northern Iraq called Iraqi Kurdistan – one of the U.S.’ closer allies in the Middle East and a bulwark against the expansion of the so-called Islamic State. What does the success of Iraqi Kurdistan mean for Kurds in the surrounding region?	4 th Thurs, Feb 25	Ruth Wong
3. Migration: As a record number of migrants cross the Mediterranean Sea to find refuge in Europe, the continent is struggling to come up with an adequate response. Although Europe’s refugees are largely fleeing conflicts in Syria, Iraq and parts of Africa, their struggle is hardly unique. Today, with the number of displaced people is at an all-time high, a number of world powers find themselves facing a difficult question: How can they balance border security with humanitarian concerns? More importantly, what can they do to resolve these crises so as to limit the number of displaced persons?	2 nd Thurs, March 10	Dr. Elaine Fenton
4. The Koreas: At the end of World War II, Korea was divided in two. The northern half of the Korean peninsula was occupied by the Soviet Union, the southern by the United States. Today, North and South Korea couldn’t be further apart. The North is underdeveloped, impoverished and ruled by a corrupt, authoritarian government, while the South advanced rapidly to become one of the most developed countries in the world. With such a wide gap, some are asking if unification is possible, even desirable, anymore?	4 th Thurs, March 24	TBA
5. The United Nations: On the eve of the international organization’s 70 th birthday, the United Nations stands at a crossroads. This year marks a halfway point in the organization’s global effort to eradicate poverty, hunger and discrimination, as well as ensure justice and dignity for all peoples. But as the UN’s 193 member states look back at the success of the millennium development goals, they also must assess their needs for its sustainable development goals – a new series of benchmarks, which are set to expire in 2030. With the appointment of the ninth secretary-general in the near future as well, the next U.S. president is bound to have quite a lot on his or her plate going into office.	2 nd Thurs, April 14	Maria Ellis
6. Climate change: In the past few years, the American public has become more aware of the damage wrought by climate change. From droughts in the west to extreme weather in the east, a rapidly changing climate has already made its footprint in the United States. Now, it’s expected that the presidential election in 2016 will be one of the first ever to place an emphasis on these environmental changes. What can the next president do to stymie this environmental crisis? And is it too late for these efforts to be effective?	4 th Thurs, April 28	Dr. C.S. Rani
7. Cuba and the U.S.: The U.S. announced in December 2014 that, after decades of isolation, it has begun taking major steps to normalize relations with Cuba, its neighbor to the south. The announcement marks a dramatic shift away from a policy that has its roots in one of the darkest moments of the Cold War – the Cuban missile crisis. Although the U.S. trade embargo is unlikely to end any time soon, American and Cuban leaders today are trying to bring a relationship once defined by a crisis in the 1960s into the 21 st century.	2 nd Thurs, May 12	Dr. Carol Huie
8. The Rise of ISIS: Born out of an umbrella organization of Al Qaeda in Iraq, the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) burst onto the international stage after it seized Falluja in December 2013. Since then, the group has seized control of a number of critical strongholds in the country and declared itself a caliphate, known as the Islamic State. Still, the question remains: What is ISIS, and what danger does it pose to U.S. interests?	4 th Thurs, May.26	Jayne Herrick
<p>Charles Room, The Harvard Club, 27 W 44th St., 5:30–7:30 p.m. For more information, email Julie K: juliek@msn.com *Check back with us for a finalized list of authors and titles for each topic.</p>		

Winter 2016 News

Do you have concerns about handling
your finances and college loans after college?



SAVE THE DATE:
STUDENT TRACK ANNOUNCEMENT

**THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
NEW YORK STATE CONVENTION
HOLIDAY INN, SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY**

APRIL 16, 2016 10:30 AM - 5:30 PM

The American Association of University Women New York State Board is pleased to announce and welcomes ALL College and University students to join us for a day of learning and inspiration!

Come and hear great speakers including our keynote speaker, Dean Nada Marie Anid, Professor and Dean of the School of Engineering and Computing Sciences at New York Institute of Technology (NYIT). Her expertise includes Industry-academic partnerships; Entrepreneurship and Innovation; Emerging Technologies; Sustainability; Global Engineering Education and STEM K-12 Outreach.

Dean Nada Marie Anid, Ph.D., is the first female dean of NYIT's School of Engineering and Computing Sciences (SoECS). In this role, she oversees 77 engineering and computing sciences faculty members and approximately 1,700 graduate and undergraduate students at campuses located in Manhattan and Old Westbury, N.Y., the Middle East, and China.

To pre-register for this educational and fun event, email Maria Ellis, AAUW NYS College & University Director at melis@fsacap.com or for more information call 973-216-4181.



Do you have concerns
about handling your finances and college loans
after college?

This student conference includes a workshop
with financial counselors.

Winter 2016 News

REGISTRATION - AAUW-NYS Convention, April 15-17, 2016 Next Generation Leadership Track

Credentials:

Student Track - College & University Partners and Students

Saturday Workshops:

NEW LEADERSHIP TRACK FOR COLLEGE AND GRADUATE STUDENTS – The student program includes keynote speaker, Dean Nada Marie Anid, Professor and Dean, NY Institute of Technology, and a workshop with financial consultants to address financial concerns students may have (student loans, budgeting, etc.).

Convention Fees:

Online registration for Student Track \$20. (There is a complementary registration for College Professors and/or staff providing transportation for the students for the Saturday workshop).

Registration Deadline March 30!!!

Please fill out the form online

<http://www.aauw-nys.org/RegistrationForms/convention%20student%20form.htm>

then click the "submit" button at the bottom. If you receive an error message, please click the "back" option on your browser. Then correct the error and click the "submit" button again.

First Name:	<input type="text"/>	Last Name:	<input type="text"/>
E-Mail:	<input type="text"/>	Phone:	<input type="text"/>
Street Address:	<input type="text"/>	Apt:	<input type="text"/>
City & State:	<input type="text"/>	Zip:	<input type="text"/>
School:	<input type="text"/>		
Student Year in School:	<input type="text"/>	OR	Faculty Position: <input type="text"/>
Comments:	<input type="text"/>		
	When you have completed the form, please click on the "submit" button to the left. If you receive an error message, simply click your "back" button to make corrections.		

Winter 2016 News

Meet the keynote speaker!



Nada Marie Anid, Ph.D.
Dean of School of Engineering and Computer Sciences
New York Institute of Technology

Nada Marie Anid, Ph.D., is the first female dean of NYIT's School of Engineering and Computing Sciences (SoECS). In this role, she oversees 77 engineering and computing sciences faculty members and approximately 1,700 graduate and undergraduate students at campuses located in Manhattan and Old Westbury, N.Y., the Middle East, and China. Dr. Anid embraces NYIT's forward-thinking and applications-oriented mission and is working on several strategic partnerships between the School of Engineering and the public and private sector, including the creation of the School's first Entrepreneurship and Technology Innovation Center (ETIC) and its three labs in the critical areas of IT & Cyber Security, Bio-engineering and Health, and Energy and Green Technologies. She has been named one of the top 50 most influential women in business in recognition of her business acumen, mentoring, and community involvement by *Long Island Business News* and as a third-time honoree, was recently inducted into the *LIBN* Hall of Fame. Dr. Anid also received the 2010 Long Island Software and Technology Network (LISTnet) Diamond Award in recognition of her significant contributions toward the advancement of women in technology on Long Island as well as for her professional achievements in the technology field. She is also the recipient of the first-ever Ad-

vocates for Science and Technology Award by the Science Museum of Long Island, and is an active member of the Long Island Regional Council's Education and Workforce Committee, the NY State STEM Education Collaborative, and the Intrepid Museum's STEM Advisory Committee.

Dr. Anid is a board member of several organizations including the Greater Long Island Clean Cities Coalition (GLICC), LISTnet, the Institute for Sustainability (IfS) of the American Institute for Chemical Engineers (AIChE), the Riverdale Conservancy, and the Environment and Public Health Network of Chinese Students and Scholars (ENCSS). Dr. Anid is a Program Evaluator for the Engineering Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board of Engineering and Technology (ABET), and holds leadership positions in AIChE, the New York Academy of Sciences, the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE), the US Deans Engineering Council and its Public Policy Committee, among others. She is a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the *Journal of Environmental Progress and Sustainable Energy* and an expert reviewer for the federal government and several engineering journals.

Dr. Anid earned her Ph.D. in environmental engineering from the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor), and bachelor's and master's degrees in chemical engineering from the Royal Institute of Technology (KTH-Stockholm). She is among the first engineers to study the role of vitamin B12 and other organometallic coenzymes in the dechlorination of important toxic molecules such as carbon tetrachloride and polychlorinated biphenyls. Prior to joining NYIT, she was chair and graduate program director of the Chemical Engineering Department at Manhattan College.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY

10:00-10:30	Registration/continental breakfast
10:30-11:15	Welcome, Introductions, Introduction to AAUW, Getting to Know You exercise
11:30-12:45	Keynote: Nada Anid - Dean, NY Institute of Technology (see above)
1:00-2:45	Join AAUW members for LAF Luncheon
3:00-4:30	Meet with financial consultants to address financial concerns students may have (student loans, budgeting, etc.)
4:30-5:30	Reception

Start Smart Workshop

Learning to Negotiate the Wage Start Smart Workshop
 Sponsored by
 AAUW's Westchester and Empire State Virtual Branch!
 Place: New York Institute of Technology
 Date: April 22, 2016



Suzanne DeChillo/photographer, The New York Times Annie Houle of the WAGE Project uses \$1 bills and play money to show men's pay advantage over different groups of women. Her program teaches women how to negotiate for better salaries. Did you see the article on the wage gap on the front page of the business section of the New York Times? If you haven't read the article, click on the link below for details:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/12/16/business/to-solve-the-gender-wage-gap-learn-to-speak-up.html?ref=business&r=1>

Celebrating Mentorship at the College of Mount Saint Vincent!



Maria Ellis' Mentee, Katherine Moreira and Maria Ellis; Joan Monk and her Mentee, Kimberly Gomez

Mentoring Day at The Button Show, the Rushphilonthropic Art Foundation
 Sat, Feb 12, 2016



Below: Lady in the Button Bath Tub!

Dr. Rani and her mentee Jhanelle Daley

Ask the President

How does AAUW recognize Title IX Champions?



The Title IX Champion award celebrates the vital Title IX advocacy work of AAUW supporters across the country. In the 40 years since Title IX was passed, AAUW members and supporters have done amazing work to promote gender equity in education. They have investigated Title IX compliance, cheered on women athletes, supported educators who called for fairness, lobbied for equitable school policies, and helped teach students, parents, educators, coaches, and administrators about the law's requirements. We have much more work ahead of us to fulfill Title IX's promise, and AAUW Title IX champions inspire us to press on! To nominate a title IX Champion, email laf@aauw.org.

Student Leadership Development and Career Fair at the NYIT



The Empire State Virtual NY Branch AAUW & The New York Institute of Technology (NYIT) invite you to join us at

Student Leadership Development and Career Fair at the NYIT on

April 22, 2016, 9:00am – 4:00pm

Free for all students!

NYIT, 16 W 61st St, New York, NY, 10023, 11th floor Auditorium

Come join us to learn how to negotiate your first job and learn about what employers are looking for in potential employers.

Register at <http://goo.gl/forms/eBWMRZXrYO>

For more information, email
 Michelle Messenger at mmesseng@nyit.edu
 Or Maria Ellis at mellis@fsacap.com

New Mentoring Program for Middle & H.S. Girls!

We are pleased to announce a new Empire State Virtual Branch Leadership program for middle and high school girls as part of the New York State Project, Leadership: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow. Leadership, character development, feminism, advocacy and philanthropy are all essential parts of this project. We are calling this piece of the project, "Standing Tall with Eleanor and Michelle." This project is being funded by the Empire State Virtual Branch and a \$500 grant for AAUW NYS.

Rationale:

"Girls on the Go" is a great way to introduce young women and girls to AAUW as well as for the Empire State Virtual Branch to work with new coalition partners. Public transportation plus entry fees will be covered for girls and their teachers for events held in the NY metropolitan area. Here are the events we will encourage these girls to attend:



Listening to her heartbeat



Learning how our brain works



Creating a blizzard in a bottle



Observing flowers



Robots playing ultrasonic cricket!



Hands-on cosmetics chemistry

What is happening in Diversity?



In September 2015, **Governor Andrew Cuomo** announced a new "Diversity, Equity and Inclusion policy" for the State University of New York. It was immediately adopted by the SUNY Board of Trustees. The plan requires a chief diversity officer in each of the 64 SUNY campuses. The officer will promote inclusiveness and implement best practices for diversity. Included in the policy's plan is a tool where students can voluntarily self identify their sexual orientation and gender identity. The goal of the plan is to **define diversity broadly** to include race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression. It also includes more options for registering age, socioeconomic status, status as a veteran, disabilities, first generation students and whether or not a student plans to work on or off campus while in school. The policy includes plans to **increase diversity among students faculty and staff.** ((Democrat and Chronicle, Saturday, September 12, 2015, p. 9a)

There has been a **surge of protests** nationally from colleges and universities about racial discrimination and lack of diversity. Across the nation, students demand an end to systemic and structural racism on campus. The top 7 most common demands at 51 U.S. campuses are: 1) **Increase diversity of professors**, 2) **require diversity training**, 3) **fund cultural centers**, 4) **require classes for students**, 5) **increase diversity of students**, 6) **track race related offenses**, and 7) **expand mental health resources**. These has been collected on a website called **THE DEMANDS**.

<http://fivethirtyeight.com/features/here-are-the-demands-from-students-protesting-racism-at-51-colleges/>

Locally, in Rochester, New York, the University of Rochester medical students focused their protest on racism as a **public health concern**. "We, as future physicians, could not stay silent because we know that medicine is not immune to the racism that is rooted in our education, housing, employment and criminal justice system." Guylda Richard, president of the Student national medical education.

Where is AAUW in all of these?

On December 15, 2015, a Webinar was held to take a first look at **AAUW's New Tool Kit**.

How many of NYS Board of Directors attended, branch leaders, diversity officers?

What is a follow-up in public policy?

Where do we get the information?

At ESVB we continue to have a Facebook page. I recruited a **new member of our diversity team**. Her name is **Dr. Doris Meadows**. I will do a formal introduction in our next newsletter. I welcome suggestions for our diversity team and active participation in our membership in diversity and inclusion.

Heide Parreño
Diversity Director
Empire State Virtual Branch

Public Policy Announcements by Donna Seymour

Wed., March 9 – 7:30 pm: AAUW Member Retention Made Easy
Learn the key elements of member retention from your fellow AAUW branch members, including best practices for when, where, and how you should be retaining current members. Also hear tips about how to use AAUW's mission and programs to renew member enthusiasm. This webinar will outline the role that everyone plays in retaining new members.

Sign up at <http://www.aauw.org/event/2016/03/member-retention-share-and-learn/>

Women In Tech: Working to Boost The 22%

More women are adding terms like "coder" and "game developer" to their résumés, but the industry still has a long way to go to reach gender parity.

Last year, women made up 22 per cent of the game developer workforce, double the 11.5 per cent of females in the field in 2009, according to a recent study by the [International Game Developers Association \(IGDA\)](#).

[Girl Develop It \(GDI\)](#), a national non-profit organization, is trying to change that disparity. Through in-person classes offered by chapters around the country, GDI provides opportunities for women interested in learning web and software development.

The women are keen to learn from each other's first-hand experience and build self-confidence in the process. They also are optimistic and say that with time, the number of women in the industry will improve drastically.

"We have a couple of beginner classes and we have classes that sell out every time we host them, like HTML CSS, Intro to Web Concepts, Intro to JavaScript – so all the basics that you need for pretty much any coding job," says Lena Levine, founder of GDI's Buffalo chapter. Levine created GDI Buffalo in early 2013. She offers scholarships to help members who can't afford the cost of the typically full-day workshops. The organization also teaches advanced classes, and there are plans to offer more lessons on creating mobile apps and developing games. The team is already seeing the results of their efforts.

"One lady got a job as a junior programmer after taking a series of classes with us," says Jessica Tornabene, Buffalo chapter co-leader. Canas is a member of the chapter and says it was a male colleague who told her about GDI after finding the group's website. She's relieved that nowadays young girls are being introduced to coding in elementary school, and women no longer have to fear technology. "A lot of times we focus on the younger generations, but I'm like, 'What about the women?'" says Canas.

<http://wxnews.org/post/women-tech-working-boost-22>

With Computer Science Ed. Gaining Momentum, Girls Still Well Behind

The stars may very well be aligning for proponents of K-12 computer science education.

At least that was the overarching sentiment at a panel held this morning at the Google offices here and co-hosted by the Center for American Progress.

The event came on the heels of [President Obama's announcement that his fiscal year 2017 budget proposal would include \\$4 billion for states](#) and \$100 million for districts to expand access to K-12 computer science. "In the new economy, computer science isn't an optional skill—it's a basic skill, right along with the three Rs," the president declared Jan. 30.

Females continue to be severely underrepresented in both computer science courses at all levels and in the technology workforce. Ten states had [fewer than 10 girls take the Advanced Placement computer science exam](#) in 2015.

A [recent study by Google and Gallup found that boys are more confident than girls](#) in their ability to learn computer science, and more likely to believe they'll have a job one day in which they'll use the subject.

Public Policy



UN announces first-ever High-Level Panel on Women's Economic Empowerment

by Donna Seymour
AAUW NYS Public Policy VP

The United Nations [announced](#) the first High-Level Panel on Women's Economic Empowerment. The panel will give recommendations for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to improve economic outcomes for women globally and improve women's leadership in sustainable economic growth.

"The empowerment of the world's women is a global imperative," said UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. "Yet despite important progress in promoting gender equality, there remains an urgent need to address structural barriers to women's economic empowerment and full inclusion in economic activity. If the world is to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, we need a quantum leap in women's economic empowerment."

<http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2016/1/wee-high-level-panel-launch>

Cases Settled!

by Nancy Mion, Public Policy Director
Empire State Virtual NY Branch

It is exciting to know that three cases supported by LAF have been recently settled. The cases are: Moshak, Mason, Schlosser vs University of Tennessee which was successfully settled for over a million dollar in January 2016 found; Jaureguito and Wartluff finally settled with Feather River Community College after ten years. Check the LAF Webpage at http://aauw-nys.org/laf_casesupport.htm and the Spring 2016 Focus.

Thank you to the following members of the Empire State Virtual NY Branch for their generous contribution to LAF Fund: Dorothy McLane; Heide Parreno, Chigurupati Rani & Maria Ellis.

Heartfelt Thanks to Friends!

Thank you for your generous and thoughtful donations to the AAUW NYS LAF!

Maria Ellis

Dr. C.S. Rani

Dot McLane

Joan Monk

Heidi Parreño



CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY - MAY 2016

Day	Date	Time	Event	
Thurs	02/11/16	5:30-7:30pm	2016 Great Decisions, Middle East, The Harvard Club, Julie Kleszczewski	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Enjoy Winter ... Keep Warm</i></p> <p>***** ** Members interested in scheduling an event/meeting for the branch please contact the Program VP to reserve dates and confirm before publicizing the event/meeting. ** *****</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Maria Ellis & Dr. C.S. Rani mellis@fsacap.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Save the Dates:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thurs, Feb–May 2016 Great Decisions 02/11, 02/25, 03/10, 03/24, 04/14, 04/28, 05/12, 05/26 The Harvard Club, 5:30–7:30pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fri-Sun, April 15-17, 2016 AAUW NYS Convention Saratoga Springs, NY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sat, April 16, 2016 13th Year EYO Conference 8:00am–2:00pm, CMSV</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fri, April 22, 2016 Start Smart & Career Fair New York Institute of Technology</p>
Fri	02/12/16	1:30-3:30 p.m.	EYO Planning Meeting, Hudson Heights, Cafeteria	
Sun	02/14/16		Valentine's Day!	
Mon	02/15/16		Presidents' Day	
Thurs	02/25/16	5:30-7:30pm	2016 Great Decisions, The Future of Kurdistan, The Harvard Club	
Thurs	03/10/16	5:30-7:30pm	2016 Great Decisions, Migration, The Harvard Club, Dr. Elaine Fenton	
Thurs	03/24/16	5:30-7:30pm	2016 Great Decisions, The Koreas, The Harvard Club	
Sun	03/27/16		Easter Sunday	
Thurs	04/14/16	5:30-7:30pm	2016 Great Decisions, The United Nations, The Harvard Club, Maria Ellis	
Fri-Sun	04/15-17/16		AAUW-NYS Convention, Saratoga Springs, NY	
Sat	04/16/16	8:00am-2:00pm	13th Year EYO Conference, CMSV	
Fri	04/22/16	9:00am-4:00pm	Student Leadership Development: Smart Start Workshop & Career Fair at the NYIT	
Thurs	04/28/16	5:30-7:30pm	2016 Great Decisions, Climate Change, The Harvard Club, Dr. Rani	
Thurs	05/05/16	6:00-7:30pm	Mentoring Closing Dinner at the CMSV	
Fri	05/08/16		Mother's Day	
Thurs	05/12/16	5:30-7:30pm	2016 Great Decisions, Cuba and the U.S., The Harvard Club	
Thurs	05/26/16	5:30-7:30pm	2016 Great Decisions, The Rise of ISIS, The Harvard Club, Jayne Herrick	
Mon	05/30/16		Memorial Day	

Empire State Virtual Branch Membership

Join or renew your membership with Empire State Virtual Branch!

AAUW national dues are \$49, AAUW NYS dues are \$13.00, and the Empire State Virtual Branch dues are \$5.00. The branch dues year is July 1 to June 30, and if you join now, your membership is good through June 30, 2016. See the various memberships below and to join, please visit our website at <http://empire-ny.aauw.net/membership/>

- § **Not currently a member of AAUW:** \$67 (\$49 for national dues, \$13 for NYS; \$5 for Empire)
- § **Current branch member:** \$5 for a dual membership
- § **Current member-at-large:** \$18 (\$13 for NYS; \$5 for Empire)
- § **Current student member :** \$17 per year (The C/U is not an AAUW Partner)
- § **Current student member:** Free per year (The C/U is an AAUW Partner)
- § **New Graduate:** first year free
- § **Graduate Student:** member \$18.81 a year
- § **Primary Member & Donor** for \$100* a year including a generous contribution of \$33

Membership *dues can be paid by a credit card or check.* This feature is available on our website. Go to: <http://empire-ny.aauw.net/PayPalMemForm.html> or simply fill out and mail the coupon below:

MEMBERSHIP FORM	Name:	Please click on the link below to join us: http://www.aauw.org and follow the steps for online registration. If you prefer to write a check for your membership, please issue a check payable to AAUW and mail it to Angela M. Cooper, AAUW Membership Dept, 1111 Sixteenth Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036. If you have any questions, please call Angela at 202 785 7782 or Maria Ellis at 973 216 4181.
	Address:	
	Telephone:	
	Email:	
	College Attended:	



AAUW Executive Director: Linda Hallman
 AAUW President: Patricia Fae Ho
 AAUW NYS President: Edwina Frances Martin
 AAUW Empire State Virtual Branch President: Maria Ellis
Websites: National: www.aauw.org
 State: www.aauw-nys.org
 Empire State Virtual Branch: <http://empire-ny.aauw.net/>
 Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/EmpireStateVirtualNY>
 EYO: www.aauw-eyhconference.org
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AAUW EMPIRE STATE VIRTUAL BRANCH

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Membership VP: Open
Educational Opportunities Fund VP: Open
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Ellis & Friends Fund
 Any individual donations to the Empire State Virtual Branch will be matched by the fund.

Members will kindly send in their articles for the Empire Virtual Times at the beginning of each quarter (January, April, July, October) to mellis@fsacap.com & csrani.rani@gmail.com. Send your ideas and letters to Maria Ellis and Dr. C.S. Rani.

American Association of University Women advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

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.



American Association of University Women

Empire State (NY) Virtual Branch
<http://empire-ny.aauw.net/>



Moving the Mission Forward
 The Empire State Virtual Branch is the first virtual branch in New York State.

THE EMPIRE STATE VIRTUAL (NY) BRANCH

