



American Association of University Women North Carolina (AAUW NC)
February 19, 2025
Minutes

Meeting Date: February 19, 2025

Meeting Time: 5:30pm

Meeting Location: *ZOOM*

Board Members Present: Pat Ashe (President), Lena Murrill-Chapman (Vice-President), Laura Tew (STEM Ed Chair), Kathy Pearre (Programs Chair), Mary Ann Bents (*Connect* Editor and Website Manager), Tiffany Jacobs (DEI Chair), Sandy Bernard (Carolinas Fund Chair), Elizabeth Pou (Secretary)

Absent:

Guests Present: Catherine Magid

Subject	Discussion/Progress/Decisions
Meeting Opening <i>Pat Ashe, President</i>	Pat welcomed everyone.
Minutes from the Last Meeting <i>Pat Ashe (for Elizabeth Pou)</i>	The minutes from the January , 2024 meeting were provided to the Board members by email for review prior to the meeting. Minutes accepted as distributed.

Executive Committee	No meeting
Public Policy@ <i>No Public Policy Chair</i>	Congratulations to Catherine Magid in her role as new PP Chair. Pat reported that there was sparse attendance at the PP meeting held on December 3, 2024. There was good discussion with Meghan Kissell, AAUW Senior Director for Policy and Membership Advocacy. The proposed biannual AAUW Public Policy Priorities are currently out for comment and will be voted on this spring. Laura reported that they were more narrow and less inclusive than current ones.
Millie	No report this month (due only quarterly).
President Nomination	Pat appointed herself as Chair of the Nominating Committee and discussed with Vice-President Lena Murrill-Chapman the potential of her being a candidate for President. Lena agreed to be a candidate for President. Unfortunately, no candidates for Branch Advocate have been identified. Elections will be held during the Business Meeting on March 22, 2025 as part of the Annual Meeting agenda.
STEM Ed, <i>Laura Tew, STEM Chair</i>	See attached report. Laura asked that the goal of communicating national information to the branches be removed as there is nothing coming from national related to STEM.

Diversity, Excellence, and Inclusion (DEI) <i>Tiffany Jacobs, DEI Chair</i>	Tiffany stated that the national committee name will likely be changed, removing diversity. The committee anticipates the potential of pushback for female only fellowships. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion actions will be prohibited with federal employees likely being laid off from their jobs. The discussion of possible changes by the incoming Administration has been emotionally challenging and the Inclusion and Equity Committee has been struggling as there is anticipated backtracking on ground breaking work we've done. There was a webinar on January 29th on handling difficult conversations. These recurring webinars are recorded and the link will go into the newsletter. Tiffany asked that she and Catherine work together to address the many public policy issues that will come up.
Connect Newsletter <i>Mary Ann Bents, Editor</i>	See attached report
Website Maintenance <i>Mary Ann Bents</i>	See attached report
Programs <i>Kathy Pearre, Programs Chair</i>	Kathy reported that there is a state sponsored program on Climate Change to be held on February 24th at 7:00 p.m. and encouraged board members to attend. She has also received verification that our Keynote Speaker for the Annual Meeting will be Ilya Glavasevic Laussegger, speaking on "Artificial Intelligence."

AAUW Carolinas Fund <i>Sandy Bernard, Chair</i>	<p>Sandy reported that giving by NC members to AAUW Funds surpassed last year's. Information about recipients is finally available. There are 11 NC recipients of Fellowships and Community Action Grants for 2024. None are science or STEM focused. Sandy stated that more work needs to be done to get candidates for Fellowships and Community Action Grants in WNC.</p> <p><i>Correction per email: 8 individual grants and 2 community action grants.</i></p>
Membership <i>Lena Murrill-Chapman</i>	No report.
NCCWSL Update <i>(Pat Ashe)</i>	<p>Pat attended an AAUW Board Liaison meeting last evening. Some state Presidents, including NC, asked for any information about NASPA and whether there will be a college student leadership conference this year. The board members stated they have heard nothing on this issue and advised to continue to check the website for updates. Tiffany stated she had just been made aware of a new website for NASPA, which she would obtain and share by email.</p> <p><i>Tiffany's email addition:</i> Here is the link to the information https://www.naspa.org/events/nccwsl</p>
Update on Annual Meeting <i>(Pat Ashe)</i>	Pat and Kathy will be working on the agendas for the Annual Meeting and will determine whether monetary door prizes will be awarded this year to encourage attendance.
2026 Atlantic Regional Conference <i>(Lena, Kathy and Pat)</i>	Kathy reported that the meeting will be held on September 25-27-2026 in Pennsylvania.

Notetaker	Elizabeth Pou, Secretary
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Appendix A

Updates to the recent AAUW STEM

Education Newsletter

Association of Women Mathematicians
Seminar on

Careers in Financial Mathematics.

A recording of the event is now available on
the AWM YouTube Channel:

<https://youtu.be/hSSXzT3cjo8?si=6VgGTjqXMFxRdhAh>

**Upcoming March 19th Webinar from the
American Association of University of
Women**

SAVE THE DATE

Date: March 19, 2025

Time: 2:30-4:00pm ET

**Join AAUW's expert panel as we delve into
the pressing need for actionable strategies
to support women in STEM fields**

Register Now

Our discussion will explore:

1. **The systemic challenges women face in STEM and AI.**
2. **Proven methods to increase representation, funding, and leadership opportunities.**
3. **Practical steps for fostering equity in education and innovation.**

Christine Marizzi, Ph.D. (Community Action

Appendix B

Connect Newsletter

- Open rate as of February 19th: 34.7% considerably lower than usual (438 opens)
- Open rate as of February 19th with Apple MPP (Mail Privacy Protection) data excluded: 8.5% (107 opens)
- Apple MPP: With Apple Mail Privacy Protection, Apple downloads incoming emails on its own server. This makes it appear as if a recipient opened the email, which inflates the sender's open-related metrics. You have the option to exclude emails opened by Apple MPP from your open-related metrics for emails sent on or after June 22, 2024.
- Click rate as of February 19th: 2.8% (35 clicks)
- 21 bounces (17 soft bounces; 4 hard bounces)
- Link with most clicks - Annual Meeting 2025 Zoom Registration:
https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/cVRob7_SR7eC9Ubbb1Q8KA#/registration
(total clicks 21)
- 2nd Link with higher click rate - The Science of Climate Change Zoom Registration:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/ZIqcOCvrzLiGNxspQk0Zpu7sgsGZeTMYwTA?os=ipad#/registration> (total clicks 14)

AAUW NC Website Maintenance

- The Events webpage was updated:
 - Add more detail about the Annual Meeting in March
 - Remove outdated events
- Add February 2025 STEM newsletter to News and STEM webpages
- Add Post about the 2024 Young People's Literature Award and Author
- Added info about the 2024-2025 Fellowship and Grant Recipients on Main Page and Fellowships/Grants Page
- Added name for new Public Policy Chair to the Board of Directors page
- Deleted 6 Outdated Posts per approval from AAUW NC President; test-case to identify obsolete content to remove and/or archive
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