

THE SPOKESWOMAN

March 2019 Volume 55 Number 3

UPCOMING UNA DAVIS EVENT

We are co-sponsoring International Women's Day with UNA Davis and several other organizations. The date is March 31, from 3 – 5 pm at I House. The speaker is a UCD Hubert H. Humphrey Fellow, Angelina Davydova, a Russian environmental journalist. The tentative title is UN Climate Negotiations, Country Climate Actions, and Grassroots Initiatives. A reminder will be sent mid March. The actual International Women's Day is March 8.

SPEAKER MARTY WEST

After her talk at the Women's History Month Luncheon last year, Marty West, UCD Professor of Law, Emeritus, offered to recap and focus her talk for students. The AAUW Board then worked to make that speech happen. We asked WRRRC to co-sponsor, and after several applications, were able to secure a room and date on campus. We met on February 12, at 6:30pm in the MPR of the Student Community Center.

Titled "Nevertheless She Persisted: a personal perspective of Women's History", her talk took us through the ways that being a woman, a student, a mother, and a professor were being affected by political times. Title IX, the E.R.A., and the importance of Ruth Bader Ginsberg were part of Marty's history. She also encouraged the students to work on some of the continuing and current needs that women face.

The student group was small, but interested and attentive. Student President, Sahiba Kaur, acknowledged the group and introduced Marty. We gathered around as Marty spoke of marriage, childbirth, academic challenges around pay, and childcare. She was challenged by the system when she wanted natural childbirth, breastfeeding, and childcare options while she went to law school, where women were a definite minority.

Title IX started giving women athletes rights, which increased their self-confidence and this spread worldwide, where women then moved from competing on the track and court into other fields of work and education.

One of Marty's key points for the students was that they not postpone having children. The older a woman is, it is less healthy for both mother and child. The issue of childcare and lack thereof is still a major concern, as is the fact that Kindergarten is mostly 1/2 day. Women are still behind in equal pay (84%).

She urged the students to be involved, and offered her mentorship where needed.

Special thanks to Rhonda for her writing and computing, for Mia Santos for the flyer, the students for advertising, WRRRC for arranging the event, Marty for sharing, and Juliana for following through with Marty's offer. It was a worthwhile group effort.



THE BOARD MEETING

Shahla ran the meeting on the 13th. Student Intern, Denise, has been updating the website and social media for AAUW Davis. Estelle joined us by phone from Hawaii. Appreciation for the tasks completed or undertaken and calendar events were discussed. We noted two new members. The next meeting is in March on the 14th at 6:30pm, in the library small conference room.

QUILT RAFFLE

Soon you will be getting some raffle tickets to sell or purchase for yourself. The drawing will be held April 8th, at the business meeting. Thanks again, Marti Abbott and Verena Borton for your donations.

EQUAL PAY DAY

April 2 is the actual Equal pay Day, but we will have a special luncheon, visit with lobbyist, and tour of the capital on April 1. If you are interested in participating, please contact Estelle estelle.shiroma@gmail.com

FILM

This Friday, the 1st, is the film, "The Insult". This was described in last month's Spokeswoman. The next film will be on the 15th.

STUDENT RECRUITMENT EVENT

On February 21, the student organization met in the Plant Sciences building. Mia wrote the following:

Sahiba Kaur – President
3rd year transfer, Managerial Economics

Marlene – Vice President
5th year transfer, Double major in Chemistry and Communications

Monica Vasquez – Director of Communication

4th year transfer, Environmental Science and Management

Jamila Alani – Treasurer
4th year, International Relations

Mia Santos – Director of Communications
3rd year transfer, Agricultural and Environmental Education

On February 21st, the AAUW UC Davis chapter held their first social of the year. They invited students to a night of networking, hot cocoa, tea, and pastries to deliver the message, inspiration, and empowerment that AAUW has to offer. The board members shared stories and personal experiences with the organization to show new members the magic that happens when women work together. The student chapter gained some excited, ambitious, and driven young members who are ready to make changes in their community. They are looking forward to a new year of friendships, opportunities, and leaving a lasting legacy of AAUW on campus.



BOOK CLUB MEETING

By Celida

Book Group

On Saturday morning, February 9, several members including Juliana, Rhonda, Estelle, Marti, Celida, and Trish Wright met at Mishka's cafe for warm tea and coffee. The discussion opened with remarks about Michelle Obama's book *Becoming*. Everyone agreed that it was a terrific book and shared their thoughts. A great discussion around the impact that educators can have on students ensued when a question was posed about Mrs. Obama's encounter with her school counselor. Marti shared about an experience her son had when he was a senior in high school with his counselor as he was planning his future. The conversation, as always, was lively and thought provoking.

The group discussed upcoming selections and agreed to read Estelle's suggestion *A Spark of Light* by Jodi Picoult. Several of the members commented that Jodi Picoult is a well-liked author and are eager to read her latest release. The group will meet in early April to discuss this book allowing for busy schedules. Meeting date and time to be determined and published at a later date. After *A Spark of Light*, the group will read the New York Times best-seller, *Circe* by Madeline Miller. The group welcomes readers to join in the literary journeys and interesting conversations. For more information or to suggest future books, please contact Celida at cgjohnson@ucdavis.edu.

THE WOMEN'S MARCH –PART 2

Participating, feeling part of a community, having fun, being active politically: these are some of the feelings attendees experienced during the Women's March on January 19th.

By Ramona

I, Ramona, went to women's march as well. We started with the women of color rally and merged with the rest. It was interesting to hear the even greater challenges faced by trans women, black women, Muslim women.... but we are all sisters.



Inspired by some handouts at that rally encouraging us to support black women, a friend and I also marched in the Black Lives Matter March in MLK day. These strong women and men reminded us that MLK was more than the image of gauzy peacemaker icon that mainstream press has softened over the years, but truly a radical revolutionary leader who opposed war and injustice. It was important for me to acknowledge the privileges I enjoy just because of my color.

CALENDAR

March 1- film

March 14- Board Meeting

March 15- film

March 19- Celebrate the 19th at Ket Mo Ree, 5:30- March 19-21 Tech Trek Interviews at

Rhonda's April 1- IBC Luncheon at the Capital

April 8- Business Mtg and Quilt drawing

April 11- Board Meeting

April 19-20 (TBD) Celebrate and Book Club

Officers for 2018-2019

Co-executive Officers:

Estelle: 758-8603

Shahla: 304-2844

Rhonda: 297-0460

Membership- Treasurer:

Gail-756-1207

Board Members:

Ramona: 297-5673

Celida: 707-540-4663

Leslie: 707-217-7166

Verena: 756-0632

Laleh: 400-8633

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Juliana: 758-3011