

San Diego Branch

March 2022

MISSION STATEMENT

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

DIVERSITY STATEMENT

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

AAUW FUNDS MISSION STATEMENT

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

AAUW VISION STATEMENT

By joining AAUW we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers, so all women have a fair chance.

AAUW SAN DIEGO BRANCH

P.O. Box 262012

San Diego, CA 92196

<https://sandiego-ca.aauw.net/>

AAUW San Diego is a tax-exempt not-for-profit 501(C)3 organization.



EMPOWERING WOMEN SINCE 1881



THE SPHERE

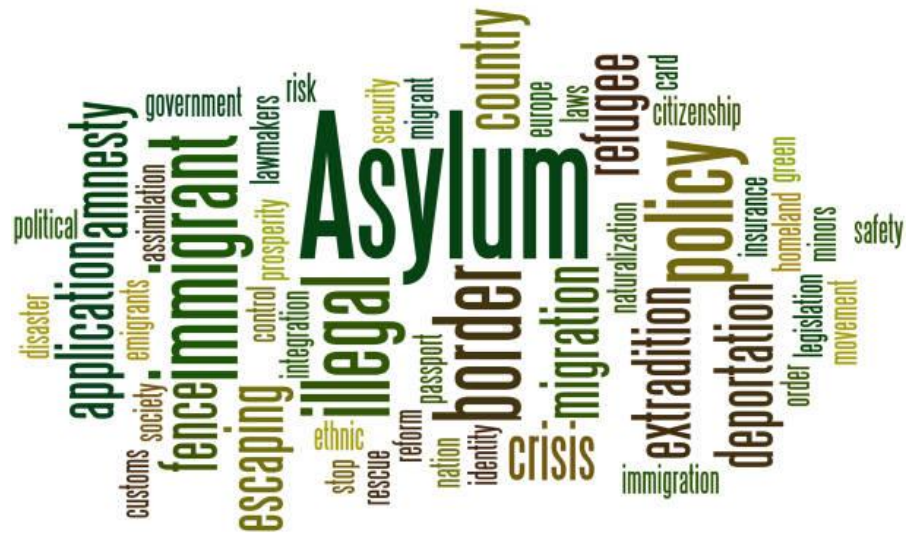
Understanding Immigration and Asylum Seeking

Moderated by Anne Hoiberg

Anne Hoiberg, with the help of Julie McKane, has put together a wonderful panel about immigration and asylum seeking. Please come and bring a friend or two. The speakers:

- Donna Duvin from the International Rescue Committee
- Elizabeth Lou from the Nile Sisters Development Initiative
- Debbie McGraw from Women's Empowerment International
- Carmen Chavez from Casa Cornelia Law Center

This event will take place at the College-Rolando Library, 6600 Montezuma Rd, San Diego, on March 5th at 10 am.



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President's Message

by Jane Niemeier

Women's History Month

Honoring one of our own: ANNE HOIBERG

Last year there was an article in the Union Tribune about Anne Hoiberg that I somehow missed, in the section called "Someone San Diego should know". Here are some of the highlights of Anne's career. After retiring from her career as a research psychologist at the Naval Reserve Center in Point Loma, Anne has devoted herself to women's rights. Before she retired, in 1980, she was asked by NATO to organize a week-long symposium for scientists on "Women in the World of Work" in Lisbon.



She has been president of the Women's Political Caucus, president of the United Nations Association of San Diego, president of the Women's Museum, and she helped create the San Diego Family Justice Center in 2002. This center has been copied around the country and in Iceland.

I could list more accomplishments including her work for the Commission on the Status of Women, because Anne was inducted into the Women's Museum of California Hall of Fame a few years ago for all of her good work.

We are all looking forward hearing about her new book during our May meeting.

Thank you for all that you do for women, Anne!

Join **AAUW San Diego** at the College-Rolando Library
6600 Montezuma Rd, San Diego
Saturday, March 5, at 10 am
for a panel on

Understanding Immigration and Asylum Seeking

Moderated by Anne Hoiberg

Donna Duvin, Executive Director International Rescue Committee in San Diego



After serving in the Peace Corps in Tonga and heading up the Red Cross in California and Michigan, in 2018, Donna proudly joined the International Rescue Committee's flagship office in San Diego as its Executive Director. In this position, Donna oversees the IRC's San Diego-based operations, which helped close to 7,000 refugees, asylum seekers, secondary migrants, victims of human trafficking, and other lower-income individuals to rebuild their lives and thrive in San Diego County in the past year.

Elizabeth Lou Founder: Nile Sisters Development Initiative



Elizabeth Lou came to the United States as a refugee and resettled in San Diego in 1999. Drawing from resources in both her personal background and profession as a community organizer and health educator, she founded Nile Sisters Development Initiative in 2001. The organization's mission is to educate, support, and offer training to refugee and immigrant women and their families to help them overcome barriers to social and economic self-reliance.

Debbie McGraw, Women's Empowerment International



Debbie McGraw has served as President of Women's Empowerment International (WE) since 2019 and fills the lead role for WE's Partnerships & Programs. Previously, she served as the Chair of the Finance Committee and liaison to WE partner project, ESTIMA with Via International. Debbie spent her career at UCSD, where from 1998 to 2015 she was Assistant Vice Chancellor for Resource Administration for the office of UCSD Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. Previously, she was Assistant Dean for Fiscal Affairs for the School of Medicine from 1985 to 1998.

Carmen Chavez, Casa Cornelia Law Center:



Carmen Chavez is the Executive Director at Casa Cornelia Law Center, a pro bono law firm in San Diego. Casa Cornelia Law Center provides direct representation in humanitarian immigration applications, including asylum and related relief and protection, special immigrant juvenile status, U and T visas, and VAWA self-petitions and cancellation of removal. For 22 years, she has worked at Casa Cornelia in various capacities.

Geneviève Jones-Wright

Geneviève Jones-Wright spoke to our branch and the La Mesa-El Cajon Branch via Zoom on February 17, 2022. Her speech was both moving and inspiring. She started out by talking about her life goals:

1) Honoring God through service, 2) Building on her grandmother's legacy, 3) Making her mother proud. Even as a child she wanted to follow in the footsteps of Justice Thurgood Marshall by changing the world through law. She stated that the law is a powerful social engineer.

After working as a public defender for 13 years, Genevieve started her own professional motivational speaking company. She said, "You can't let anyone stop your story" and "Don't relinquish your pen". She also volunteers with the California Innocence Project and is a Community Advocate for Just and Moral Governance.

In addition, she wants to reform the police and is asking people to sign the "Protect" petition. "Protect" is an acronym that stands for Preventing Over-policing through Equitable Community Treatment.

If you would like to hear most of her talk (I forgot to record the first part), here is a link.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Od6qsh3Zc3Y&t=3s>

From Genevieve Jones-Wright - message from 2/17/22

I had a great time engaging with you gals today. We must do it again.

I mentioned a few personal things I have in the mix that some members of your group may be interested in, so if you could share this information that would be great:

1. If anyone wants to join my book club, they can email me at inquiriesgw@gmail.com and I'll add them to the list. We have wonderful discussions. The book we are reading for February is

"No Future Without Forgiveness" by Bishop Desmond TuTu and our session will be held on Saturday, February 26, 2022 at 2pm via Zoom.

2. I launched a new series called "Motivational Mondays." If anyone wants to subscribe to my YouTube channel and be inspired by my conversations with inspirational people every Monday morning, please do. Here's the link to my introduction video and where you/they can go to subscribe to the channel: <https://youtu.be/t2p8MJGie0Q> "Motivational Mondays" are broadcasted at 10am every Monday on YouTube. You can catch the videos at any time once they have been broadcast. We have a few up already. ;)

Thank you again so much for the invite. I look forward to connecting more.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Od6qsh3Zc3Y>



[Genevieve Jones-Wright - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Od6qsh3Zc3Y)

Genevieve Jones Wright talks about her work to make a more equitable justice system.

www.youtube.com

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Elaine Johnson, Director and Janice Lee, DEI Committee Co-Chairs diversity@aauw-ca.org

Submitted by Lenore Gallin, DEI committee member

DO UNCONSCIOUS BIASES AFFECT YOUR LIFE?

While it is well known that people do not always speak their minds, exploring implicit or unconscious bias helps us realize that people do not always know their own minds. Implicit bias refers to the attribution of certain qualities to members of a particular group. Because these biases operate almost entirely on an [unconscious level](#), they are different from prejudices that are intentional and controllable. It is not uncommon for someone to express support for a certain group, behavior, or belief while maintaining the opposite biases on a more unconscious level. Furthermore, implicit biases may not align with the personal identity an individual presents to the public. People can hold positive or negative associations toward their own group and oppose or align themselves with their oppressors or the oppressors of other groups.

The phenomenon of colorism or skin tone bias helps us understand how an implicit/unconscious bias for lighter skin affects equity and inclusion in a racially and culturally diverse society. In the aftermath of Black Lives Matter protests, for example, we continue to face the widespread phenomenon of colorism. Unlike racial bias, where individuals of one race oppose members of another race, colorism can be observed among members of the same ethnic or racial group.

CNN has weighed in on this issue with a new series called "White Lies," which investigates skin whitening practices and the industry that profits from colorism. As often happens with implicit/unconscious bias, people fail to recognize the contradictory messages that occur when companies virtue signaling their commitment to Black and Brown lives are manufacturing and marketing products associating lighter skin with privilege, prosperity, and desirability.

Understanding the nature of implicit bias and self-realization promotes meaningful interactions with people of diverse backgrounds and physical characteristics. Opportunities to see others as individuals, not stereotypes, helps to reveal affinities in the differences between people and to build tolerance and understanding through familiarity. The rewards come in new acquaintances, fresh ideas, more successful problem solving, and the prospect of a more inclusive and equitable world view.

We urge everyone to take the Harvard Implicit Association Test by clicking [HERE](#). It is a great first step in recognizing we all have implicit biases.

The State DEI Committee means what it says about the importance of "inclusion!" The appointment of a Diversity point person in each branch ensures that we hear your voices and enlists your support in AAUW's bold move to build a more diverse, inclusive, and equitable organization in California.

National Membership Dues Increase

National's membership dues will increase \$5 to \$67 for 2022-2023, out of which \$64 will be tax-deductible. California state dues will remain the same at \$20, but state dues are not tax-deductible. Branch dues are \$18. Total dues for 2022-2023 are \$105. However, if someone joins at an event, the national dues are cut in half. The total will be \$71.50 for a new member if he/she joins at the March meeting (or any other meeting).

TECH TREK

Karen Manelis, Tech Trek Program Director, techtrek@aauw-ca.org and Susan Steckclair, Tech Trek Financial Liaison, techtrek-finance@aauw-ca.org

TECH TREK NEWS

- UC Davis and UC Santa Barbara have both provided contracts for 2022 camps.
- Fresno, Sonoma State and Whittier campuses are preparing contracts.
- We are awaiting confirmation of dates from Stanford.
- There will be two weeks of virtual camps – June 19th-25th and July 24th-29th!
- The nomination, application, selection, and registration process will once again be online (as it was in 2021). It will be a hybrid of the program used last year (for MOU, nomination & application processes) and new software for camp registration (once campers are selected). The best news is that the new software will be used for the entire process for the 2023 camp.
- Sponsorship fees for residential camps will stay the same as they were in 2019. Virtual camp sponsorships will be \$500.
- The branch packet has been released and can be found on the AAUW California website.
- We are hopeful that Stanford will invite Tech Trek back to campus this year, but even if they do, we currently only have staff for one week, not two. Unless someone steps forward as co-director ASAP, the Curie camp will not take place.
- There will be no residential camp at UCSD as determined by the UCSD planning committee. We are excited to get Tech Trek 2022 rolling!

Mark Your Calendars

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dates, locations, and times are subject to change

Date	Time	Location	Topics
Saturday, March 5	10 am	College-Rolando Library 6600 Montezuma Road San Diego	Panel of Organizations who work with immigrant women, facilitated by Anne Hoiberg
Saturday, April 9	10 am	TBA	
Saturday, April 30	all day	Zoom	AAUW California state meeting
Saturday, May 14	10 am	TBA	Anne Hoiberg launches her new book!
Saturday, June 4	11:30 am	Casa Guadalajara	Luncheon and Installation - Scholarship winners will speak.
Saturday, June 25			rescheduled IBC Luncheon

MARCH



Kris Downey
Julie McKane
Jane Snyder
Terry Ward