



Hampton Branch



July 23, 2023

Although the State AAUW Conference is behind us, it was a topic at our April meeting. Joan Jenkins, our president, shared a few highlights from the conference. She shared that nine members attend. The conference bags appeared to please everyone and that the branch received a round of applause for a job well done. The president recognized Laura Greenfield for the amazing gifts boxes she created for the keynote speaker and other presenters and AAUW State Board members who had completed their term in office. She also announced that Laura was running unopposed for State Membership chair, and encouraged everyone to vote before the polls closed.

With the exception of our home-bound members, stuffing the bags was an activity that every member, and a few guests, had fun doing. By unanimous agreement, the extra bags were given to the members and the guests who participated. Bags were hand-delivered or mailed to each home-bound member.

The election of officers was held during the April meeting. The slate include the president, program vice president, secretary, public policy chair, DEIB chair, and the STEM chair. The slate of officers for the FY24 program year is:



PRESIDENT
Carolyn Stewart



VP PROGRAMS
Dr. Sarita McCoy Gregory



VP MEMBERSHIP
Laura Browning Greenfield



SECRETARY
Joan Jenkins



VP PUBLIC POLICY
Justine Robertson



DEIB CHAIR
Dr. Margaret Bristow



STEM CHAIR
Dr. Tonya Brown

The branch members were treated to a wonderful presentation at the May meeting. Based on her up-close and personal travels last summer, fall, and winter, Dr. Margaret Bristow presented what was a diverse look at women leaders in other countries. Her title was: *Strong But Kind: Women in Leadership in Ghana, Tanzania, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Fiji Islands, and Angola*. Dr. Bristow began by reminding us that no woman has ever held the office of President in the United States, France, Nigeria, Mexico, Japan, Italy, Spain, Sweden, Malaysia, or Singapore. She contrasted that by stating that in Peru, Australia, Dubai, and Chile (countries you would least expect) women have held or are in leadership. As she spoke, with a slideshow to strengthen her presentation, Dr. Bristow shared the following about women:

- As of June 2019, Fortune 500 was made up of 6.6% of women (a number that is far too small).
- Only 15 women have won the Nobel Prize in literature, it has been awarded to 101 men.
- Since 1901 the Nobel Prize for Peace has gone to 900 people, only 53 were women.
- It will take 95 years to close the gender gap in politics (FYI: There are now 42 women in the Virginia General Assembly, which is 30 percent of the state’s legislators)
- The first National Women’s Congress was held in Havana in 1923, a country that ranks 73rd out of 191 countries on the Gender Equity Scale. (In the United State, Virginia ranks 31st, with a score of 54.61 on the scale for the United States in 2022).
- The United States ranked 27th out of 146 countries for the Global Gender Gap Index. The five top ranking countries were Iceland, Finland, Norway, New Zealand, and Sweden.

Dr. Bristow’s presentation made it clear that other countries are more accepting of women in leadership positions than the United States. In closing, she suggested that members read *Women and Leadership: Real Lives, Real Lessons* by Julia Gillard and Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala.

AAUW membership was the focus of the June meeting. Laura Browning Greenfield, the membership vice president, reminded everyone that the branch received two memberships from national because of the five new members recruited during the year. The memberships were given to two of our senior members in recognition of their continued commitment to the branch even though they were unable to actively participate. One of them, Norma Pinkleton, was present; she thanked the branch for the generous gift and stated that she would like to come out as often as her health would allow. Ms. Greenfield had AAUW information and membership applications on each table for members and guest to take with them. The room had the atmosphere of aboard room, replete with a computer and white board, and lent itself to her presentation on the history of AAUW and the Hampton branch, why AAUW is relevant today, and what inspired her to become a member. The two college students were in attendance and were told that should they choose to join the Hampton Branch there membership dues would be paid for them.



Dr. Tonya Brown & Guest



L. Greenfield speaking



Guest



L. Greenfield speaking



Guest



- July 25, 2023, AAUW –VA Public Policy Meeting: Webinar at 6:00 p.m. Join Zoom Meeting at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82756407017?pwd=b2xsb3ZDM0x5REFJmzR4MzhjWUk2QT09>
- July 27, 2023, Black Women’s Equal Pay Day
- August 9, 2023, AAUW –Hampton Branch Board Meeting, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Piggly Wiggly community meeting room, 3101 Jefferson Avenue, Newport News, VA. Lunch will be provided.
- August 15, 2023, Webinar at 3:00 p.m. entitled, Fighting for Working Mothers; A Mom’s Equal Pay Day Conversation
- August 26, 2023, Women’s Equality Day
- September 22, 2023, Early in-person voting begins.
- September 28, Pre-Election AAUW VA Public Policy Zoom Meeting
- September 30, 2023, Virginia Women’s Conference, September 30, 2023, Old Dominion University. Free, but registration is required.

Carolyn Stewart
Co-Editor

Anjanette Sheppard Taylor
Co-Editor

MISSION: *To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.*

DIVERSITY STATEMENT: *There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographical location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.*

<https://aauw-va.aauw.net/branches/hampton/>