



March 2019

Dear AAUW member,

Thank you for attending your state convention and for the work you've done to create a better future for women and girls. That future has already begun. With unprecedented numbers of women in Congress and even running for president, women have never been more poised to change the world. This is our moment.

It's your moment too. We've set big goals to achieve full equity for women and girls—which includes equal education, pay and leadership roles—and we've created exciting opportunities for members to take action.

Economic security is our biggest focus. It's vital to women throughout their entire lives, whether they're going after their dreams in the classroom, paying off student loans, negotiating for a raise, or deciding when to retire.

As the only organization tackling the gender pay gap on all sides—working with policymakers, employers and individual women—AAUW is making a real difference. Our advocacy has led to the passage of a dozen equal-pay laws and the introduction of bills in 40 states plus the federal Paycheck Fairness Act. In addition, we're rapidly expanding our Work Smart program, which teaches women how to negotiate for higher salaries.

But we need every AAUW member to pull together for lasting change. As a top priority this spring, we're counting on you to help us train 100,000 women through Work Smart by August. We've got a long way to get to "100K for Equal Pay," as one of our members cleverly called this effort, but you can get us one person closer right now. It's as simple as registering for Work Smart online at [salary.aauw.org](http://salary.aauw.org) and encouraging your network to do the same. Please take the course so you can serve as an equity ambassador.

You can also fund the future. By raising money for AAUW's Greatest Needs fund or one of our three areas of focus—education, leadership and economic security—you will be helping us address our greatest challenges as they arise. Whether our members must mobilize to support fair pay legislation or respond to threats to Title IX, Greatest Needs funds enable us to act quickly and effectively.

As you work on your programs and listen to the talented speakers you've invited to your convention, I hope you'll reflect with pride on your role in elevating women to this pivotal point in history. Then let's work together to get the rest of the way to equity.

We've waited long enough for change. The time has come. This is your moment.

Yours in AAUW,

Julia T. Brown, Esq.  
AAUW Board Chair