# AAUW Maryland Communications VPs Annual Report

# June 20, 2024

*Lydia Alcock, Susana Hernandez Martin, and Susan Wierman*

*Co-Vice Presidents for Communications*

# Officers through June 2024

Lydia Alcock and Susana Hernandez have served as Co-Vice Presidents for Communications since August 2022. They are responsible for the AAUW-MD website. Both are eligible to serve a second two-year term.

Susan Wierman has completed two terms as Co-VP Communications, which is the total allowed by the Bylaws. However, the Board agreed to suspend the two-term Bylaws limit so she could serve one additional year as Co-VP with Lydia and Susana. Susan prepares the Marylander and Counterparts Directory, sets up Zoom calls, and sends communications to members and the Board.

# Accomplishments for July 2023 through June 2024

* The website was updated frequently to provide announcements concerning meetings, the Maryland Woman of Distinction, the Branch Minigrant program, public policy, the Marylander, and other activities.
* The website navigation was improved. The top navigation menus were simplified, and a few redundant pages were combined to provide more clarity while navigating the site. Accessing the AAUW-MD handbook online was made easier by creating a clickable table-of-contents-style list of handbook sections.
* The website posting of the Marylander was improved by providing a blog-style posting of the current issue allowing readers to jump to articles of interest and making it easier to read on phones or tablets.
* Thanks to all who have provided articles for the following issues Marylander:
  + Summer 2023 (Volume 92, #1) July 2023
  + Fall 2023 (Volume 92, #2) August 2023
  + Winter 2023 (Volume 92, #3) December 2023
  + Spring 2024 (Volume 92, #4) March 2024
* Copies of the Marylander were sent electronically to all members with email addresses as well as others on an electronic distribution list Susan Wierman maintained in MailChimp.com. Via MailChimp the most recent Marylander reached 885 recipients, about 350 of whom opened it.
* The Marylander was also copied and distributed to about 50 members via U.S. Mail via a contract with Copyquick (710 Oak Hill Ave. Hagerstown, MD 21740 | 301.791.7400). Paper copies were sent to the AAUW MD Archivist, Terry Saylor, as well as to members unable to access email.
* In addition to the Marylander, email was sent to the MailChimp list nearly every month for various topics, including to encourage registration for various events, help raise funds for the Maryland Woman of Distinction, and provide information about proposed changes to AAUW Bylaws.
* The AAUW Maryland Zoom account continued to be used frequently, including to host the events for Baltimore, Harford County, and Kensington-Rockville Branches as well as for the Diversity/Equity/Inclusion Committee, the Nominating Committee, and to enable the AAUW Maryland President and others to host AAUW Maryland committee meetings and to coordinate in advance of in-person events.

**Activities Planned through June 30, 2023**

* The Summer 2024 Marylander will be issued in June in order to provide advance notice for the July 20 Summer Meeting. The deadline for submitting articles is May 31, 2024.

**How to Reach Us and How to Stay in Touch with AAUW**

* If you would like a branch event posted to the AAUW Maryland calendar or featured on social media, please e-mail [aauw-md@aauw.org.](mailto:aauw-md@aauw.org)
* If you have suggestions about the website, contact Lydia Alcock and Susana Hernandez Martin via [aauw-md@aauw.org](mailto:aauw-md@aauw.org).
* To ensure that all branch members receive AAUW National mailings and the AAUW Marylander, please review and update the membership email and mailing addresses in the AAUW Membership database. In some cases, members have unsubscribed without realizing it. They can check their email preferences at: <https://aauw.us/emailoptions>.
* Contact Susan Wierman if you are aware of members unable to receive the Marylander via email. Furthermore, it’s important to ensure that your email from [aauw-md@aauw.org](mailto:aauw-md@aauw.org) isn’t being sent to spam.