



AMERICAN  
ASSOCIATION OF  
UNIVERSITY  
WOMEN

# Branching Out

*Breaking through Barriers*

Tahlequah (OK) Branch Newsletter

November/2010

President	Amy Aldridge Sanford
Program VP	Renee Cambiano
Membership VP	Louise King
Finance Officer	Cathy Turner
Secretary	Amber Cowan

**NOVEMBER MEETING  
GATES SCHOLARS  
NOVEMBER 11  
5:30**

**VIDALIA'S CAFE  
319 N. MUSKOGEE AVE.  
TAHLEQUAH, OK**

Dr. Allyson Watson and other Gates Scholars will be presenting the program November 11 at Vidalia's.

The Gates Millennium Scholars Program, a \$1 billion initiative of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, was launched in partnership with UNCF. As the world's largest private scholarship effort in the world, awards are given to African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian Pacific Islander American, and Hispanic American students who demonstrate academic excellence, community service, and strong leadership skills.

Northeastern State University is a national leader in the

number of Gates Scholars who enroll here. Since the inaugural year of the Gates Millennium Scholarship, NSU has welcomed over 100 scholars to our campuses. NSU currently has 29 Gates Scholars on campus. Over \$1.5 million in scholarships have gone to NSU Gates Scholars since the program's inception.

This is a prestigious award that is only granted to distinguished high school students who have proven to be leaders of the future.

Dr. Allyson Watson was awarded the Gates Scholarship 10 years ago during the inaugural year. She graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 2002 with a doctoral degree in Educational Administration, Curriculum & Supervision, and currently teaches on the Broken Arrow campus in the College of Education.

## **2010 TOUR OF HOMES**

The Tour of Homes is coming up fast on December 12 (1:00-5:00). Six homes will be on the Tour.

Homes to be highlighted are Shannon & Melissa Goodsell, Mike & DeeDee Hensley, Randy & Sheryl Rountree, Jim Roaix & Karen Coody Cooper, Mitchell & Melody DuVall, and John & Michelle Geasland. The reception site will be the Bacone House.

**SAVE THE DATE** to serve as a hostess. A sign-up sheet will be available at the November 11 meeting. Thirty-two AAUW members are needed on that day. We also will need donations of homemade goodies for the reception site and goodies or other homemade items for the Goody Shop.

A homemade laptop Christmas quilt has been graciously donated by Bonnie Giese. Donations will be accepted for a chance to win the quilt.

To volunteer to help with the Tour, please contact Jeanna Wing at 444-3742, 456-9355 or 822-4527.

## **JERUSALEM WOMEN SPEAK**

Thanks to the efforts of Dr. Sara Brown, a delegation from the Partners for Peace Office consisting of three women from different faiths, one Muslim, one Christian, and one Jewish, were brought to Tahlequah to share their experiences in Israel-Palestine.

One of the three women who spoke at the W. Roger Webb Educational Technology Center on the NSU campus November 4 was Ruth Hiller, a Jewish Israeli peace activist who was born in the U.S. and immigrated to Israel and became an Israeli citizen.

A mother of six children, four of her children have refused to serve in the Israeli Military in the Occupied Territories in Palestine. Her oldest son, Yinnon, was the first Israeli pacifist to receive an exemption from the military via an appeal to the High Court of Justice.

Another of the women who spoke was Mirianna Khoury, a Christian Palestinian who was born in Nazareth in Israel, but emigrated to the United States and is now an American citizen.

Marianna said that she belongs to two communities that are often under-represented when discussing the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. She is a Palestinian Christian, and also a Palestinian citizen of Israel. They were the community that managed to stay inside the community of Israel after

the 1948 war, and so were granted Israeli citizenship.

The third woman, Reem Mustafa, a Palestinian Muslim, was denied a visa to leave the country. Instead Samira Hussein, an American Muslim who was born in Palestine spoke in her place and described her experiences when she and her family were driven from their home by the Israelis in the 1967 war. In 1972, she and her family moved to the U.S. She still lives in Maryland, and is an active citizen there.

“Their program, “One Land, Two Peoples, Three Faiths: Time for Reconciliation, Justice and Peace,” brought together three cultures the women say should have common ground in improving Israeli-Palestinian relations.

### **AAUW 2011-2013 Public Policy Program Now Open for Input**

As part of AAUW’s new One Member, One Vote process, AAUW members have the opportunity to make comments and offer amendments to the Public Policy Program. The system for accepting recommendations will be available until November 15, 2010, at which point no more proposals or comments will be accepted. The AAUW Public Policy Committee will then finalize the proposed Public Policy Program that will go before the membership for a vote in 2011. AAUW Public Policy Committee Chair Nancy Mion has submitted the committee’s recommended

amendments, which you can see on the Public Policy Proposal Amendments page of the website.

To access the One Member, One Vote online system, log in to the AAUW Member Center using your AAUW member ID and then select One Member, One Vote from the left navigation menu. To review, propose amendments, and discuss the AAUW Public Policy Program online, select Public Policy Program from the left navigation menu.

## **Calendar**

### **Business Meetings**

12:00 noon  
Vidalia’s

November 29  
December 27  
January 31  
February 28  
March 28  
April 25  
May 30

### **PROGRAMS:**

5:30 p.m.  
Vidalia’s

November 11  
December 9  
January 13  
February 10  
March 10  
April 14  
May 12  
June 9

**American Association of University Women**

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TDD number-hearing impaired	202-785-7777
AAUW Educational Opportunities Fund	<a href="mailto:foundation@aauw.org">foundation@aauw.org</a>
Fellowships and Grants (for applicants only)	<a href="mailto:aauw@act.org">aauw@act.org</a>
AAUW Oklahoma Division	<a href="http://www.aauwoklahoma.org">http://www.aauwoklahoma.org</a>
AAUW Tahlequah Branch	<a href="http://arapaho.nsuok.edu/~aauw/">http://arapaho.nsuok.edu/~aauw/</a>

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

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

AAUW's voice has long influenced legislative debate on critical social issues such as education, sex discrimination, civil rights, reproductive choice, affirmative action, Title IX, welfare reform, vocational education, pay equity, family and medical leave, and health care reform.

AAUW provides millions of dollars in fellowships, grants, and awards for outstanding women in the United States and around the globe and for community action projects. AAUW also funds pioneering research on women, girls, and education.

AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund works to combat sex discrimination in higher education and workplaces.

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