



Upcoming Events

Pay Equity Day Event – UWEC - Hibbard Hall
Tuesday, April 17, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM

Attend author **Linda Hogan's keynote speech** at
UW-Eau Claire English Fest
Thursday, April 26, 7:00 PM

AAUW - Eau Claire

April 2012

Recently, social historian Stephanie Coontz reviewed the Liza Mundy's buzzworthy book *The Richer Sex: How the New Majority of Female Breadwinners Is Transforming Sex, Love and Family* in the *Washington Post*. While Coontz liked Mundy's insistence that equality or "role reversal" might be better for heterosexual relationships, she urged caution:

"Mundy may be right that more households will soon be supported by women rather than by men, but in part that is because more women are raising children without male support; few of these women qualify as "the richer sex." In addition, much of the growth in the share of income that wives contribute to households results from the long-term stagnation of men's wages. Thanks to the ban on pay and hiring discrimination over the past 40 years, women's average wages have risen from their much lower starting point, but they do not yet equal men's.

"The increase in the percentage of women in dual-earner households who earn more than their husbands is impressive, but such role reversals seldom last over the course of the marriage. Because working women still tend to make more adjustments to accommodate the demands of parenthood than do their working spouses, even women who out earn

their male partners for several years in a row usually end up with lower earnings over a lifetime."

I anticipate that as we call attention to Equal Pay Day this year, there are going to be some questions about women earning more than men. I think, as Coontz points, out, it is critical to look at *which women* and in *which professions* women are getting paid more, as well as how long those higher earnings last.

We've got a fantastic Equal Pay Day shaping up:

From **11:30am-1pm**, we will be handing out Payday bars and Pay Equity factoids in Hibbard.

At **1pm**, Kim Wellnitz leads a **Pay Equity workshop**, including salary negotiation tips, as part of UW-Eau Claire Career Services "Job Boot Camp." (Davis Center)

From **3:30-5pm**, UWEC students affiliated with 9to5 are holding a **rally on the campus mall**, with speakers, music, and booths. We will staff a booth and hand out more Payday bars.

At **5pm** there will be a **march** to Owen Park. And from **5:30 - 7:30** there will be a **cookout, with live music**, in Owen Park.

Join in on the fun and educatin'!

-Kate Hinnant, AAUW-Eau Claire President



Book Group

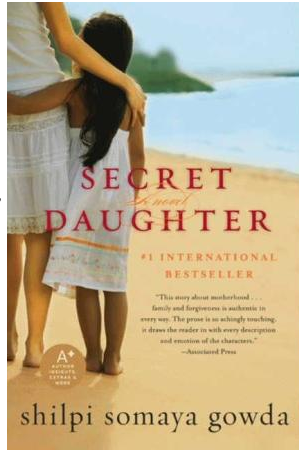
Book group meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 at members' homes.

Upcoming selections are:

April 3rd : **Secret Daughter** by Shilpi Gowda at Pam Hicks'

May 1st: **The Book Thief** by Markus Zusak

June 5th: **The Tiger's Wife** by Tea Obret.



The Board Needs You

Positions needed:

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Development

Contact Kate Hinnant

<mailto:kate.hinnant@gmail.com>



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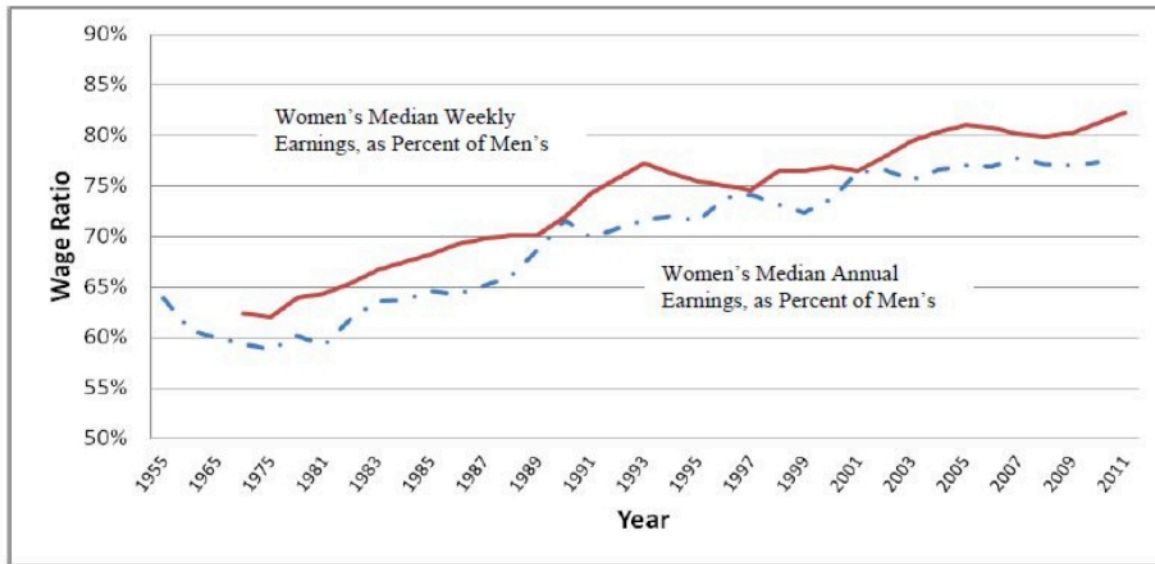
Please check your membership booklet for contact information.



Pay Equity Day

April 17 is the day we recognize that there is still a gender gap between the earnings of men and women. Our information table is a fun event because many of the young men and women we speak with are surprised to find out that this unfair difference in earnings still exists.

Figure 1: The Gender Earnings Ratio, 1955-2011, Full-Time Workers



Graphic from the Institute for Women's Policy Research Fact Sheet, The Gender Wage Gap: 2011.

Data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and the U.S. Census Bureau shows that there is still an **81-82%** difference between the earnings of men and women working full time. Women have been closing the wage gap during the last 30 years, but progress toward equity has slowed dramatically. Since 2001 the gap has only narrowed by about 1% when comparing annual earnings of men and women.

Join us at an informational table in UW-Eau Claire's Hibbard Hall on **Tuesday, April 17**, from **11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** We will be handing out the ever-popular Payday bars and educating students and staff on the gender wage gap. **Please let Mary Hayden know by April 10 if you can help staff the table.**

For more information, check out these sites:

The Gender Wage Gap: 2011

<http://www.iwpr.org/publications/pubs/the-gender-wage-gap-2011>

Women's Earnings as a Percent of Men's in 2010

http://www.bls.gov/opub/ted/2012/ted_20120110.htm

Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2010

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2011pubs/p60-239.pdf>



**Elections: April 3, May 8 & June 5 –
Bring everyone you know!!**

One year ago our Eau Claire AAUW Branch published a one-page informational flyer titled: ["7 ways the proposed Wisconsin Budget is wrong for women -- and their families."](#) Amid the uproar accompanying the 2012 State Budget roll-out, debate and passage, members watched longstanding AAUW public policy gains targeted for cuts or elimination in Wisconsin.

Then one 2011 March Saturday Board volunteers gathered at INFINITEA to agree about what issues to highlight, which research sources and deadlines. At last year's State Convention, our footnoted copies were distributed, and AAUW branches across the state were ready to hand them out at home. This was not a partisan question. AAUW issues are non-partisan and have been supported over the decades by Republican and Democratic office-holders and members.

Our Branch drafting team turned to the AAUW **"2009-11 Public Policy Program"** brochure for guidance in reviewing the proposed 2012 WI State Budget. Remembering how swiftly it passed is instructive to contrast AAUW's policy traditions to that budget process and the legislative record that followed in the past year.

AAUW Branches and States submit legislative issues proposed for action that are then focused for debate and approval by delegates at National Conventions every two years. [The Public Policy Program](#) is related in the first section to AAUW's mission of "advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research

More than a century of AAUW public participation has created a rich history of involvement at national, state and local levels. That diversity of activity is summarized in a section called [Public Policy Principles for Action](#), describing AAUW concerns and emphasis over the decades. (Note that action in the name of AAUW is allowed for any individual or branch on a current issue cited in the **"Principles."**)

Finally, with the benefit and pain of Wisconsin's End-of-Session Legislative Roundups, we should all look at [AAUW's Biennial Action Priorities for 2011](#). While primarily a guide for national policy or legislation, the 17 issues listed here also resonate deeply on the state level. In order to understand the magnitude of dissonance between results of the 2011 WI Legislature and AAUW's non-partisan priorities, take a look at that list now, please. How many AAUW actions or goals do you see that have survived this past year's Wisconsin Legislature unscathed?

Sarah Harder, Public Policy Co-Chair



Rain, Sleet, & Snow...

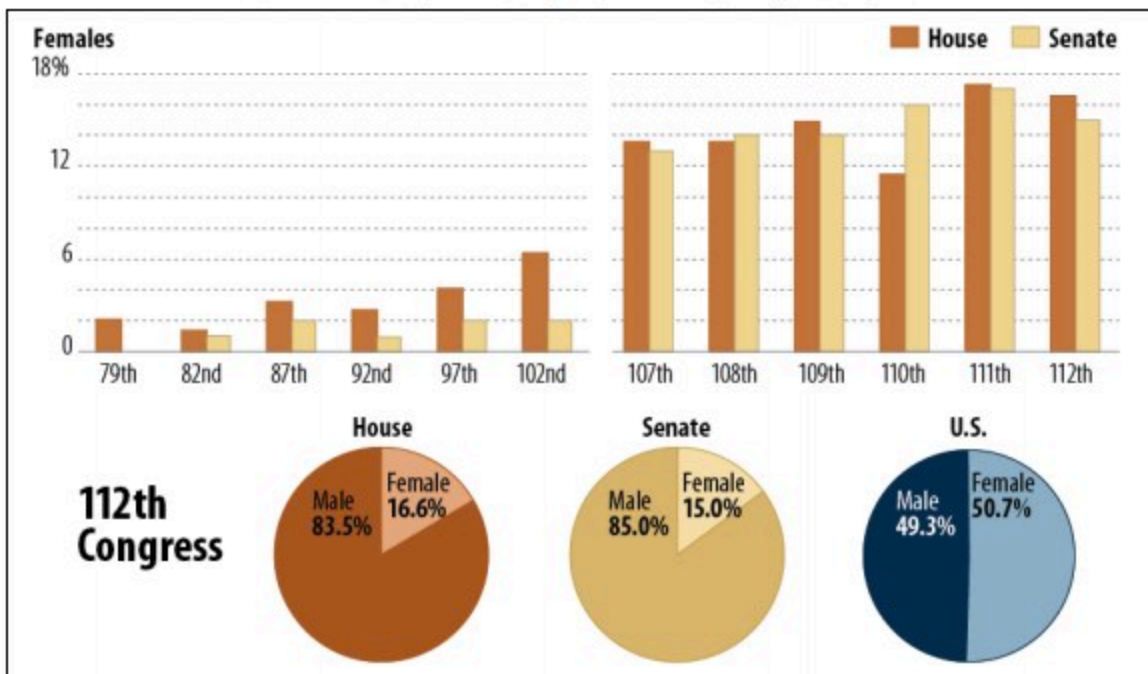
... did not keep viewers away from our February showing of *Miss Representation*.

We had a crowd of 50-60 people, including students and community members. Dr. Nicole Schulz of the Communications & Journalism Department and student Amy Fredman (one of our NCWSSL scholars) introduced the film and held a very lively and passionate discussion session afterwards.

In fact, students have demanded a second showing. The English Fest organizers have incorporated it, with our co-sponsorship, into their programming this year, and it will be shown on Wednesday, April 25th, at 7pm – in the soon-to-be demolished Davis Center (either the Council Fire room or the Theatre).

Figure 5. Women in the House and Senate, Selected Congresses Since 1945

House and Senate, 112th Congress, and the U.S. Population, 2010



Source: CQ Press Electronic Library, CQ Congress Collection; CQ Roll Call, *Guide to the New Congress, 112th Congress*; U.S. Census Bureau; and CRS calculations.

AAUW VISION STATEMENT - AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls..

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

FOLIAGE - Newsletter of the American Association of University Women - Eau Claire Branch

Send or call items of interest to Kate Hinnant, kate.hinnant@gmail.com, 831-0182, 220 Roosevelt Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54701



Pay Equity Day

Tuesday, April 17

- Payday Bar Giveaway – Hibbard Hall, UW-Eau Claire

11:00 AM-1:00 PM

- Pay Equity/Salary Negotiation Workshop

1:00-2:00 PM - Davies Center

Attend author **Linda Hogan's** keynote speech

UW-Eau Claire English Fest

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Davies Center, Council Fire Room

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