

## Expanding Our Legacy of Leadership: AAUW's Bold Move into the Future

*Members have spoken. AAUW's boards have listened. And now your support is needed*

For 125 years, AAUW has been advancing equity for women and girls through education, advocacy, philanthropy, and research—and through community action by strong branches throughout the country.

During the past 18 months, AAUW and the Educational Foundation have been engaged in an extensive strategic process to address shared challenges and opportunities. More than 11,000 members' voices were incorporated through surveys, online conversations, and discussions at the branch, state, regional, and national levels. Several principal findings have emerged as the result of this process:

1. **Members' commitment to promoting equity for women of all ages is as strong as ever.**

We continue to work on issues that affect women today, because equity is still an issue. To focus our strength and reaffirm our commitment, the AAUW and Educational Foundation boards have adopted a single, shared mission that encompasses the legacy of both:

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

2. **We need to adapt AAUW's organizational structure to meet current and future challenges.**

The strategic process found AAUW's current structure a barrier to attracting new members, strengthening our revenues, and accomplishing our mission. The boards heard the members' voices that we need to adapt our structure

as a necessary first step toward reclaiming our legacy as a relevant, vibrant organization.

3. **AAUW needs your engaged support now and your vote at the Association Convention in June.**

We *must* adapt our structure and send a mandate to the new boards for immediate, bold action to move forward. Please take time to research the proposed structural changes for yourself and talk with other members at the local level about our collective direction.

Visit the AAUW website and click the Strategic Process link on the home page at <http://www.aauw.org>.

- Read the Joint Boards' Report (October 31, 2006).
- Study the chart outlining the proposed bylaws changes to be voted on at the Association convention.
- Get your questions answered and the facts by bookmarking, visiting, and revisiting the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

In addition, contact your branch and state leaders as well as others who will be voting at Association convention and let them know you support the proposed changes.

Let's support the proposed bylaws changes and send a clear, strong message to the new board members. Let's tell them we're ready to put them to work to reenergize and refocus the AAUW we love and to which we've given so much, because as we know, equity is still an issue.