



COAST
CONNECTIONS
monthly newsletter

A flyer graphic with a light beige background and a faint world map. The text is centered and framed by a decorative border. The main title is 'INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S WELCOME'. Below it is a bullet point: '• A POTLUCK DINNER TO WELCOME INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS TO UCSB •'. The date and time are 'TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17 | 6:30 PM'. The location is 'MULTIPURPOSE ROOM STUDENT RESOURCE BUILDING'. At the bottom, it says 'BROUGHT TO YOU BY: THE WOMEN'S CENTER OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN EDUCATION ABROAD PROGRAM'.

JOIN US

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S WELCOME

• A POTLUCK DINNER TO
WELCOME INTERNATIONAL
STUDENTS TO UCSB •

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17 | 6:30 PM
MULTIPURPOSE ROOM
STUDENT RESOURCE BUILDING

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:
THE WOMEN'S CENTER
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
EDUCATION ABROAD PROGRAM

The UCSB Women's Center, the Office of International Student Services, Education Abroad Program, and AAUW-SBGV are excited to announce a joint welcome for new UCSB international students. International cuisines, good company, and great conversations are promised! Please see the flyer for details.

President's Message

Fall is here and we started the year with our annual Tech Trek Ice Cream Social to celebrate all 28 of our 2017 campers. Thank you to the entire Tech Trek committee for all your hard work through the year! We also held our official branch kick-off event last Sunday. It was a wonderful event with a performance by the DramaDogs called *From Eve's Fair Hand* which highlighted some of the accomplishments and struggles of women writers through history.

Watching the performance reminded me how much ground women have gained over the last several centuries and also that we still have work to do. Even as we make progress other rights are questioned and need to be defended. As you've probably heard from AAUW CEO Kimberly Churches, Title IX is under attack in its 45th anniversary year. Our programs chair, Carol Koch, already had a Title IX program in the works and the timing could not be better! In our November 7 program, we will join with the community and UCSB students to look at the history and importance of Title IX. Watch for more details soon!

AAUW has been empowering women as individuals and as a community since 1881. I am excited we are part of this organization and continue to fight for women's rights together!

Jill Kingdon, Co-president
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Here are a few photos from our very successful and well attended Kick-off Event on Sunday, September 24. The Drama Dogs presentation of "From Eve's Fair Hand" was inspiring and entertaining. Thank you to everyone involved in putting on this great start to our year!

Photos courtesy of branch member Martha Lannan.



Tech Trek Celebration Was a Great Success!

Our Santa Barbara-Goleta Valley AAUW branch held our annual Tech Trek Celebration on Sunday, September 10. Our 2017 campers told us of their experiences, and a few campers from earlier years reported on what Tech Trek had meant to them as they progressed in school and in life. Branch members, families of campers, and Tech Trek camp staff enjoyed hearing from all the girls.

Here are a few photos of the celebration.





Without the financial support of these generous donors, we could not have sent 28 local girls this year to Tech Trek, AAUW's STEM camp.

We are grateful to each and every one of them.

2017 TECH TREK SUPPORTERS

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*Member of AAUW Santa Barbara – Goleta Valley

Get Involved with Tech Trek!

We are looking for members to join our Tech Trek Committee. This committee finds and selects our Tech Trek campers from the four local junior high schools. If you are interested, **please contact Barbara Levi, our Tech Trek Chair, bglevi@msn.com, or (805-962-8900.**

Being a part of this committee is extremely rewarding and allows members to work directly with the girls in our area who get to experience Tech Trek. It's also a great way to contribute to the success of our branch, as well as a way to meet other branch members, and have fun at the same time! We hope to hear from you!



WASHINGTON — American Association of University Women (AAUW) Chief Executive Officer Kim Churches issued the following statement responding to Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos' announcement concerning interim Title IX policy at the Department of Education.

"Today's announcement confirms our suspicions: the U.S. Department of Education's intent is to roll back critical civil rights protections for students.

AAUW is disappointed that the Department of Education has withdrawn the 2011 Dear Colleague Letter on Sexual Violence as well as the 2014 Questions and Answers on Title IX and Sexual Violence. Both were critical guidance tools schools requested to clarify their responsibilities under Title IX when responding to sexual violence. In their place, a new, less robust Questions and Answers guidance document is to be used. This is a blatant rollback from the strong and much-needed guidance that was in place. This ever-changing landscape could potentially sow confusion for schools, administrators and staff, students, parents, and communities.

The Department of Education should have heeded the comments submitted this week—including more than 10,000 from AAUW advocates—urging them to protect Title IX. The department's willingness to ignore the overwhelming grassroots to national support for Title IX, its regulations, and prior guidance is proof that the agenda was not to listen and take into account input from the community but rather to move forward with a predetermined plan of action.

AAUW looks forward to weighing in as the Department of Education engages in its stated rule-making process. In the meantime we call on schools to continue to uphold students' civil rights. AAUW stands with survivors and will vigorously defend Title IX and the protections it affords all students."

October, 2017 Calendar

"I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers."

— L.M. Montgomery, *"Anne of Green Gables"*

October 3, Tuesday – 2:00 p.m.

Writing Group - Bring a story to Dena Stein's house, 1272 Bel Air Drive. Please R.S.V.P. so we can tell you how many copies of your stories to bring. Contact Dena at denastein0@gmail.com or 650-269-3666.

October 9, Monday – 7:00 p.m.

Smart Talk - We'll meet at the home of Kathy Piaseski, 5059 Walnut Park Drive, SB. The topic is "How Should We Remember History?"

October 10, Tuesday – 12:00 noon

Lunch Bunch - We will meet at Saigon Restaurant, 3987 State Street in the Five Points chopping Center. Please call Claire VanBlaricum at 967-7523 or email clairevanb@cox.net by Monday afternoon for reservations.

October 13, Friday – 10:30 a.m.

Outings - We will meet for a tour of the Fernald House with lunch to follow at a nearby restaurant. The tour is \$10. **We need at least 4 people.** The Fernald is located at 414 West Montecito Street. The small driveway is very close to the intersection of Montecito St. and Carrillo St. leading to 25 parking spaces. Please contact Tanda Jacobs at 805-896-7873 or tandaj21@gmail.com to let her know if you'll be attending.

October 16, Monday – 10:00 a.m.

Craft Group - The group meets the third Monday of every month at Beverly Kowalsky-Ching's home, 462 S. San Marcos Rd., Santa Barbara. Call Beverly at 964-5411 for more information.

October 17, Tuesday – 6:30 p.m.

International Women's Welcome at UCSB - Join us at this branch sponsored event. See flyer at the beginning of the newsletter for details! We will send out directions and carpool info next week. For questions, contact Jill Kingdon, jill@dowitcherdesigns.com.

October 18, Wednesday, – 7:00 pm

Book Ends - We will meet at the home of Dena Stein, 1272 Bel Air Drive, SB, to discuss *Euphoria* by Lily King. **Please note the change of day just for this month!** Our book for November will be *The Vanishing Velazquez* by Laura Cumming.

October 24, Tuesday

Movie Night - Please watch for an email the weekend before with information on the film, time and theater location.

Looking Ahead...

Please Save These Evenings on Your Calendar!

Tuesday, November 7 - A Celebration and Reaffirmation of Title IX.

Thursday, December 14 - Holiday Party!

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 and girls have a fair chance.

Membership in AAUW is open to people who hold an associate degree or higher. Branch membership offers friendship with like-minded people and an arena for making a positive contribution to your community. Benefits include a subscription to California PERSPECTIVE, our quarterly publication. You can join our e-mail lists and attend our annual convention. Membership dues at the branch level include California and National dues.

If you know of someone who you believe would appreciate the opportunity to join our branch, please send them the link to our [website](#) and give her name and contact information to Ginny Capra at ginnycapra@cox.net.