



August 2011

New Information

U.S. District Court Says UC Davis Violated Title IX

In early August, a U.S. District Court [delivered a mixed decision](#) in the AAUW-supported case [Mansourian v. Regents of the University of California](#). The [court found](#) that the University of California, Davis, failed to comply with Title IX during the time that plaintiffs were students and ineffectively accommodated female student athletes by not expanding the athletic program. The judge also ruled, however, that the defendants' actions relating to the wrestling team were meritless, saying that "plaintiffs have not prevailed on any other theories of Title IX liability. Moreover, plaintiffs have not prevailed on their claims for Equal Protection Clause violations against any of the individual defendants."

AAUW applauds the long-awaited partial victory but is also extremely disappointed that the judge did not hold the university officials responsible for the violations and awaits further developments in the case. AAUW provided nearly \$100,000 to the plaintiffs over the last six years. We are proud that many Sacramento-area AAUW members attended the district court trial in June to support the plaintiffs.

AAUW's Amicus Brief Support Impacts New Case

Earlier this month the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals [ruled](#) that San Diego State University had the right to enforce anti-bias rules when deciding whether to recognize religious student groups. This ruling builds upon the 2010 [U. S. Supreme Court case](#) *Christian Legal Society v. Martinez* that [AAUW supported by signing an amicus brief](#). In that case, a 5-4 decision, the Supreme Court found that the University of California Hastings College of Law's policy denying school funding to a religious student organization because the group bans gays and lesbians was "a reasonable, viewpoint-neutral condition on access." AAUW supported the university's policy. The recent 9th Circuit decision shows the long-term impact AAUW can have by signing amicus briefs.

Crossing the Line Report Underway

LAF Program Manager Holly Kearn and AAUW Director of Research Catherine Hill are producing a research report on sexual harassment in grades 7–12. Survey data from nearly 2,000 students was completed in July, and Kearn and Hill are currently writing the report, which is scheduled for release later this fall.

Save the Date: AAUW to Co-sponsor Summit on Workplace Sexual Harassment

AAUW will co-sponsor a summit at Hunter College in New York City on October 15, 2011, that will focus on workplace sexual harassment. Anita Hill is the keynote speaker. Local AAUW members are invited to attend, and we expect the summit to be broadcast online. Look for details in September.

Reminders

Apply for Funds to Hold a Campus Program

AAUW members [can now apply](#) for up to \$750 to help hold a campus event on a sex discrimination topic. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. For event ideas, review the [LAF Campus Outreach Program in a Box](#).

Please consider making a [tax-deductible donation to LAF](#) to help balance the scales of justice for women.

