



June 2011

## New Information

### AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund Accepts Two New Cases

In May, the AAUW Board of Directors voted to accept two new, important, and exciting cases, *Cioca v. Rumsfeld and Gates* and *Parker v. Franklin County Community School Corporation*. AAUW will also award them \$3,000 and \$4,200, respectively.

- ***Cioca v. Rumsfeld and Gates***: Sixteen veterans and current members of the U.S. military who were allegedly raped, sexually assaulted, and harassed while on active duty filed a lawsuit in February 2011 against the Department of Defense. The plaintiffs charge that the agency violated their constitutional rights by allowing a culture of assault and by failing to act on complaints. Read more on the [AAUW website](#).
- ***Parker v. Franklin County Community School Corporation***: The primary issue in this case is whether the scheduling of girls' basketball games on less desirable days violates Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. This case could set significant precedent on whether school districts are arms of the state and therefore immune from suit in federal court. Find more information on the [AAUW website](#).

### Board Votes to Disburse \$30,800 to Ongoing Cases

In May, the AAUW Board of Directors voted to contribute funds to five ongoing LAF cases. The board gave the Mansourian Title IX case the largest amount to help cover the plaintiffs' current trial costs.

- [Jaurequito v. Feather River Community College](#), California, \$4,000
- [Mansourian v. Regents of the University of California](#), \$14,800
- [Sun v. University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth](#), \$4,000
- [Thein v. Feather River Community College](#), California, \$4,000
- [Wartluft v. Feather River Community College](#), California, \$4,000

### AAUW Members Show Support at Mansourian Trial

[Mansourian v. Regents of the University of California](#), a case LAF has supported for six years, just wrapped up a three-week trial in federal court in Sacramento, California. More than a dozen AAUW members from the area attended. AAUW board member Alicia Hetman attended daily and hosted a potluck dinner for the plaintiffs and lawyers. Hetman said she arrived during Mansourian's testimony. "At lunch [Mansourian] told me that she was so happy when she saw me come in as it helped calm her down. ... I wish all AAUW members could feel the pride of hearing those kinds of comments from a litigant. It warms my heart and makes me dig deeper into my purse," said Hetman.

## Reminders

### Campus Outreach

Starting July 1, AAUW members [can apply](#) for up to \$750 for a campus event on a sex discrimination topic.

### Case Support

LAF is actively reviewing new case support applications. If you would like to make a case recommendation, please contact [laf@aauw.org](mailto:laf@aauw.org). Recommendation forms are accepted on a rolling basis.

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

