



September 2011

## New Information

### LAF Informational Conference Call

On Thursday, September 29, at 7 p.m. EDT, you can hear case updates and program information during a conference call with LAF staff that is open to all AAUW members. Please **RSVP to [laf@aauw.org](mailto:laf@aauw.org) by Tuesday, September 27**, to receive the call-in information. A transcript of the call will be available on request starting September 30.

### AAUW Signs Two New Amicus Briefs

In March 2009, Quinnipiac University announced plans to cut three sports teams and to compensate for the lost opportunities by counting competitive cheerleading as a varsity sport. Members of the volleyball team and their coach filed a lawsuit, *Biediger v. Quinnipiac University*, and in 2010, [the district court ruled](#) that competitive cheerleading is not a sport under Title IX and that the university failed to provide equal athletic opportunities to its female students under the law. Quinnipiac appealed the decision, and the case is before the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. AAUW signed a brief written by the [National Women's Law Center](#) to support the athletes in the case.

AAUW also filed an amicus brief in support of two female middle school students who were banned from wearing bracelets promoting breast cancer awareness in school. The plaintiffs in *B.H. and K.M. v. Easton Area School District*, represented by the ACLU Foundation of Pennsylvania, filed a lawsuit in November 2010, claiming violation of their First Amendment rights. In April 2011, the district court judge entered a preliminary court order prohibiting the school district from enforcing a ban on the bracelets. The school district appealed to the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. In August, AAUW signed onto a brief written by the Women's Law Center.

### Case Support Travel Grants

Apply by October 15 for grant funds to have an LAF-supported plaintiff or lawyer speak at your spring state convention. Information and the application are [available online](#).

### October 15 Summit on Workplace Sexual Harassment

[AAUW is a co-sponsor](#) of "[Anita Hill 20 Years Later: Sex, Power, and Speaking Truth](#)," a [daylong summit and evening performance](#) on workplace sexual harassment to be held October 15 at Hunter College in New York City. Hill will deliver the keynote speech at the summit, which will commemorate 20 years since she testified before Congress about her experience with workplace sexual harassment. Eve Ensler will curate the evening performances. [Register online](#); attendance costs \$20 and free for students!

### Crossing the Line Report Enters Editorial Review

LAF Program Manager Holly Kearl and AAUW Director of Research Catherine Hill have written a report on sexual harassment in grades 7–12. The report has been passed on to the editors and is scheduled for release in November.

## Reminders

### Apply for Funds to Hold a Campus Program

AAUW members [can 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.