

# *LAF Express*

Welcome to the latest edition of *LAF Express*, LAF's monthly e-update to keep our states and branches regularly informed on all the latest LAF activities, deadlines, and programming resources. If your branch or state has LAF news or programming ideas you would like to share, please e-mail the LAF program assistant, Joan Jupiter, at [jupiterj@aauw.org](mailto:jupiterj@aauw.org). You can also read the [LAF Express archives](#) for past issues.

## ***LAF Welcomes New Director Lauren Kamnik***

The Legal Advocacy Fund is pleased to introduce its new director, Lauren Kamnik. We anticipate new ideas and initiatives from her and believe that her experience and education will strengthen the effectiveness and efficiency of the Legal Advocacy Fund. Kamnik strongly believes in equality for all and plans to work toward advancing equity for women and girls. Her top priorities include expanding the campus outreach program, improving the LAF Legal Resource Referral Network, and continuing the success of the case support program.

Kamnik attended law school at American University's Washington College of Law in Washington, D.C. Throughout law school, she focused her studies on civil rights discrimination. After receiving her degree, Kamnik worked in the disability rights section of the civil rights division at the Department of Justice and then decided to return to school to focus on policy and management issues. In May 2007 she earned a master's degree in social work from George Mason University with a concentration in organizational leadership and social change. She is ready to embark on her next challenge here at AAUW.

## ***LAF 25th Anniversary Pins Still Available***

If you didn't have an opportunity to purchase your LAF 25th anniversary pin before the AAUW National Convention, don't worry—the LAF limited edition pin is still available. With a donation of \$250 or more, you will not only the platinum-colored pin featuring the 25th anniversary graphic but also the traditional LAF pin given to \$100-level donors. For further information on how to obtain your 25th anniversary pin, please contact the AAUW Development Office at 202/728-3307 or the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund at 202/785-7750.

## ***LAF Celebrates 20 Years of PIE!***

At the 2007 AAUW convention, LAF announced the 2007 [Progress in Equity Award](#) winner—the Women in Transition (WIT) program at Charter Oak State College of New Britain, Connecticut. The WIT program provides higher education opportunities for low-income, underemployed single mothers to make the transition from low-paid work to a college degree through distance education without cost or barriers of time and place. LAF also awarded the 2007 honorable mention to the Leaders in Residence program at the University of Toledo in Ohio, where AAUW members of the local branch work hand in hand with the university on equity issues important to the community.

The PIE Award got its start at LAF in 1987. Stay tuned for updates and features on the Progress in Equity Award and the journey it has taken over the past 20 years, awarding as much as \$111,700 to 30 institutions across the United States to illustrate the ways programs that promote equity can make a difference.

## ***Case Support Applications Due August 15***

If you or someone you know is in need of assistance through the LAF [case support program](#), please submit an application to the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund by August 15 for consideration. Please visit the [LAF page](#) of the AAUW website for further information and criteria.

## ***Plaintiff Travel Grants Due October 15***

Attention state representatives! The deadline is fast approaching for LAF [Plaintiff Travel Grant](#) applications. Thanks to your generous support, the 2007 recipients of these grants raised over \$23,000 in contributions for LAF. If you are interested in having a plaintiff speak at your 2008 state convention, please complete your application by **October 15**. If you have any questions, please contact the LAF office at 202/785-7750 or [laf@aauw.org](mailto:laf@aauw.org).

