

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. You can also read the [LAF Express archives](#) for past issues.

Last Call for Plaintiff Travel Grant Applications!

Attention state representatives! The deadline is fast approaching for [LAF Plaintiff Travel Grant applications](#). If you haven't yet applied, it's not too late to get in your application. 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.

LAF to Release Report on Title IX Sexual Harassment

Keep a look out for the official release of LAF's newest research report, which is scheduled for publication this fall. The report examines complaints of sexual harassment filed with the Department of Education Office for Civil Rights (OCR) by students from higher education institutions and studies how OCR responds to these complaints.

Two Court Wins for LAF-Supported Plaintiffs

On September 6, the Tenth Circuit ruled in favor of LAF-supported plaintiff [Lisa Simpson](#), concluding there was sufficient evidence for a jury to return a verdict in her favor and overturning the summary judgment in favor of the University of Colorado. Then, on September 20, Laura Violand prevailed against George Washington University's appeal when the appeals court judge upheld her \$280,955 jury award for back pay damages. This decision is a major victory in light of the recent Supreme Court decision in *Ledbetter*. Visit [LAF on the web](#) to read more about [Violand's](#) and [Simpson's](#) cases.

LAF Celebrates Anniversary of Title IX at Virginia Tech

On September 26, LAF Director Lauren Kamnik and LAF Program Manager Sarah Warbelow participated in a panel presentation on Title IX at Virginia Tech. At the presentation, Kamnik and Warbelow discussed the past, present, and future of Title IX. LAF is proud that it was able to help the university celebrate the 35th anniversary of this important piece of legislation.

LAF Celebrates Women in Transition Program and 20 Years of PIE!

LAF will honor the Women in Transition (WIT) program at Charter Oak State College in Connecticut as our 2007 [Progress in Equity Award](#) winner. Program coordinator Delores Bell says, "It is such an honor for the WIT program at Charter Oak State College to receive the 2007 PIE Award and be recognized for its work in providing educational opportunities for women who are underserved." The program will be honored during a ceremony on November 16. Visit [LAF on the web](#) for more details.

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 historic legacy of 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.

LAF 25th Anniversary Pins Still Available

Don't forget—the LAF limited edition pin is still available. With a donation of \$250 or more, you will receive not only the platinum-colored pin featuring the 25th anniversary graphic but also the traditional LAF pin given to \$100-level donors. So far this year, LAF anniversary pin donations have raised over \$38,000 for LAF! 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.

