



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

2004

21st Century Recognition

- Silver | AAUW NC
- Platinum | Brevard
- Platinum | Hendersonville
- Platinum | Statesville
- Gold | Gaston Regional
- Gold | Greensboro
- Gold | Raleigh/Wake County

AAUW NC

Gold 2003 | Platinum 2002

5-Star 2001

7-Star 1996 - 2000

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The American Association of University Women promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

AAUW NC Website:
<http://www.aauwnc.org>

Tar Heel News

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN OF NORTH CAROLINA

Vol. 50 No. 4

“Speak to the Mission”

Fall 2004

AAUW NC Goes Back To School!

Nancy Shoemaker
AAUW NC Technology Coordinator



WHAT DO YOU call a group of 35 women (with a couple of male guests) figuring out a brand new way to communicate with each other? Excited? Happy? Verging on giddy?

The atmosphere in the Forsyth Community College computer lab on July 24 was absolutely fabulous! With only 16 workstations, not everyone had a chance to “drive,” but they did catch the spirit of this new technology and how it could be used to support AAUW NC meetings without forcing us all to travel to the same place.

Nancy Shoemaker, AAUW NC Technology Chair and member of the Raleigh/Wake County and Winston-Salem branches, started the session and went through an agenda so everyone could view in the “standard” way, as it was projected from her workstation to the screen at the front of the room. She then connected Laura Rumbley, AAUW NC past-president, working from her home in Jacksonville, and the fun really began!

Laura was connected to the event in two ways:
1) with an open phone line to Nancy's cell phone.
2) with an Internet connection, so that she could see Nancy's screen as easily as any of those present in the FCC computer lab.

Nancy went through a sample PowerPoint presentation describing the AAUW NC 100 club for the benefit of those who hadn't attended Friday's board meeting. Laura was able view the presentation “in real time” and participate in the discussion. Laura and Nancy demonstrated some

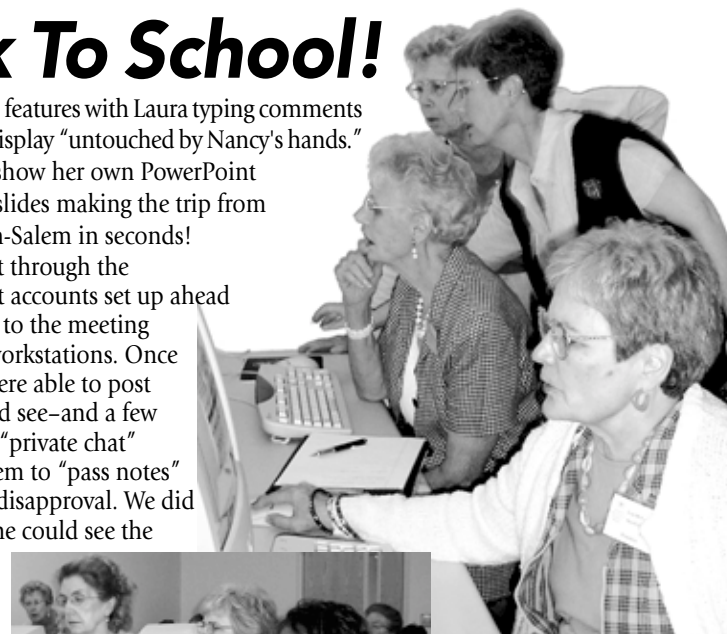
of the “remote meeting” features with Laura typing comments that showed up on the display “untouched by Nancy's hands.” Laura was also able to show her own PowerPoint presentation—with the slides making the trip from Jacksonville to Winston-Salem in seconds!

The group then went through the login process, using test accounts set up ahead of time, and connected to the meeting from their individual workstations. Once connected, they, too, were able to post comments that all could see—and a few experimented with the “private chat” feature that allowed them to “pass notes” without fear of others' disapproval. We did a test “vote,” so everyone could see the others' opinions, and a

“private poll” where only the moderator could see how others voted. We did a “web tour” that pointed out some of the features of the AAUW NC web site and we could have brought up other applications (e.g. Excel

for a discussion of the budget), if we'd had more time. The session ended in a free-for-all of folks experimenting with the tools for marking on the white board—and everyone was convinced the software was “working” when they saw their changes appearing on their neighbors' screens and on Nancy's screen, still projected at the front of the room. The only thing missing was a gavel!

The software has excellent facilities for keeping the meeting on track. Documents can be posted ahead of time and accessed during the meeting with just a couple of clicks. Text for items like motions can be entered in several ways so that they can be saved as with a permanent record of the meeting. Along with the voting, there's a “raise your hand” feature that could help sequence the comments if everyone were connected via conference call. The features appear to work well with what would be needed to have a productive virtual AAUW NC board meeting. Expect to hear more in the next few months.



Nancy Shoemaker (above, wearing dark vest) led the ISOPH workshop. Judy Atkinson is shown in the bottom photo at right. She worked with Winston-Salem Branch and Shoemaker to arrange the well-received session at Forsyth Tech.

- Cost: \$9.00/participant/hour for the web conferencing, plus long distance charges for the accompanying telephone conference. The board must consider its feasibility based on our policy of reimbursing for travel costs and charging registration fees.
- Requirements: Windows PC with an Internet connection (sorry, Macintosh folks) and a separate touch-tone phone line for audio.
- Folks may want to “buddy up” and participate with someone who has better connectivity.
- If you want to “test drive” the software or have an application where this web conferencing would help your branch, go to <http://www.aauwnc.org> and [click on conference technology](#) for instructions.

If you weren't able to make it to Winston-Salem, review the ISOPH documentation at <http://www.isophinstitute.com> sometime soon. Contact Shoemaker if you have questions.



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Addendum to article on July 24 workshop

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Back issues:

[Summer 04](#)

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[Earlier](#)

1. Go to www.isophinstitute.com and click "Log in" at the top.
2. Register to set up an account
3. Contact Nancy Shoemaker, shoemaker@acm.org, and let her know
 - a. Your e-mail address and the addresses for all the others who want to participate in this test.
 - b. A few good times for a test of the software (evenings after 8:30 or Saturday mornings are usually free)
 - c. Whether you have your own agenda or whether you want to use one of hers (AAUW and AAUW NC web site features, AAUW NC 100 club, AAUW NC ReConnection Project, Pictures from 4/25/04 March for Women's Lives)
 - d. How long you expect the session to last and if you have any funding for the event. [AAUW NC may provide some funding, but longer or larger meetings may need you to cover some of the cost.]

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