

## Branches Host Distinguished Professor from Costa Rica, Celebrate Partnership

Mary Jo Pribble, Past AAUW NC President, collaborated with Bonny Marsh and Shirley Quisenberry for this article

THE HENDERSONVILLE BRANCH of AAUW NC hosted Thaís Córdoba of Costa Rica, April 25-May 14. Costa Rica is the partner branch of AAUW NC via a Bina Roy Partnership through the International Federation of University Women (IFUW). Bina Roy from India was a former IFUW president and the partnership program was named in her honor.

Professor Córdoba is a full professor of international affairs at the School of International Relations, Universidad Nacional, Heredia, Costa Rica. She was president of the San Jose Branch, 1998-2000, and is the current president of the Cartago Branch and was the secretary-general of the Central American Federation of University Women. She is a graduate of Tulane University and also holds master's degrees in political science and English literature from Tulane. She held the position of chancellor of the Consulate of Costa Rica in New Orleans. Since 1998, she has worked toward the introduction of Asia-Pacific studies at the Graduate School of International Relations at the Universidad Nacional and she is currently coordinator of Asia-Pacific Studies.

While in North Carolina, she stayed with Dr. Mary Jo Pribble, past president of AAUW NC

and the current international relations chair of the Hendersonville Branch, and Dr. Bonny Marsh, current Hendersonville president. She had the opportunity to visit members of the Asheville, Greensboro, and Hendersonville Branches. Charlotte Branch hosted her May 15, and took her to the airport on May 16 for her return flight to Costa Rica.

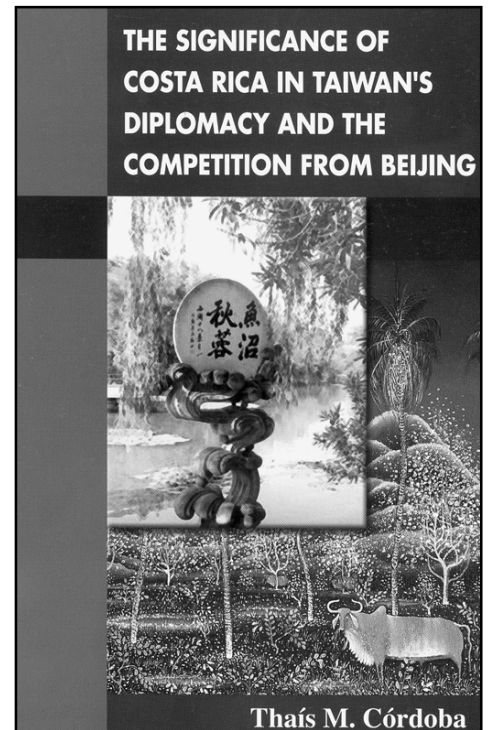
Professor Córdoba recently published a book *The Significance of Costa Rica in Taiwan's*

*Diplomacy and the Competition From Beijing* (shown at right) during her sabbatical year. She conducted research in Hong Kong, Taipei, Beijing, and other Asian countries.

In February, Mary Jo and Bonny visited Costa Rica to visit their three branches and to visit schools that have benefitted from their most successful dental health program. It is our sincere hope our partnership with Costa Rica will continue to prosper.



INTERNATIONAL FOCUS: During their visit to Greensboro Branch, Dr. Mary Jo Pribble, Dr. Bonny Marsh, and Thaís Córdoba made a presentation about the Costa Rican Branch, and Thaís gave background information about her book. They also listened to students from UNC-Greensboro, who were either foreign students to UNCG or had studied in a foreign country. Diagonally from top left in white jacket, Jamie Dominque, Elaine Morehead Hughes, Marilyn Cotten, Dr. Pribble, Sue Metz (in back), Dr. Marsh, Professor Córdoba, and Dr. Penelope Pynes, director of study abroad and exchange programs at UNCG. Betty Urban is seated at left front. Not shown: Greensboro members Clea Baker and Mary Anne Grant, who is also president of the International Student Exchange Program in Washington, D.C. planned the meeting.



Thaís M. Córdoba

## Annexstein Speaks at Legal Advocacy Fund Breakfast

Lillian Van Order  
AAUW NC LAF Chair

Leslie Annexstein, Legal Advocacy Fund director, was the featured speaker for the LAF breakfast during convention in Asheville. She spoke to raise funds and awareness. Leslie is a graduate of the Boalt Hall School of Law at the University of California at Berkeley. Prior to joining LAF, she was a senior counsel at the National Women's Law Center. She is well-published in the field of law and equity issues and a real asset to the team at AAUW. Her comments centered on several recent cases and the merger of the Educational Foundation and the Legal Advocacy Fund.

She spoke very optimistically of the merger and how it is working now. However, as she said, this is one of the few organizations that would love to not have a job! Because equity is still such an issue in higher education, much work remains to be done. Her comments helped us realize the importance of this work and our fund-raising for this endeavor.

The breakfast itself was a fund-raiser for LAF and we had some very generous sponsors and supporters that need special recognition. Karla Atkinson (Brevard), Doris Bernlohr and Mary Paterson (Chapel Hill), Mary Fran Shickedantz in Memory of Kathleen Ehlers (Greensboro),

Grace Knechtel, Nancy Shoemaker (Raleigh/Wake County), Jo Gilbert (Sandhills/Southern Pines), Virginia Owen, Pat Abell, and Virginia Palmer (Statesville), Twin Rivers Branch, Phyllis Guberman and Lill Van Order (Wilmington), Judy Atkinson and Lois Ward (Winston-Salem) all helped make the breakfast the success that it was. Thanks to all.

The funds donated to the breakfast are credited to branches; therefore, many of these branches are well on their way to their goals for 2005. The total raised is \$680. Thanks to all!

Has your branch started thinking about ways to raise money for LAF? *It is not too early.*

## Membership Notes: Dialogue, Dues, New Committee

Evelyn Mercer  
AAUW NC Membership Vice-President

### Membership Dialogue

The membership dialogue concerning who may join the organization continues and will hopefully be settled at the AAUW convention in Washington, D.C., in June. As state membership vice-president, my input will reflect the wishes of you who have communicated to me in different ways – e-mails, notes from those in attendance at the state convention, telephone calls, and personal conversations. A detailed report on the on-line dialogue is available in the member center of <http://www.aauw.org/> - member

numbers (on the mailing label of *Outlook*) are needed to access it.

### Dues Schedule

During the 2003 AAUW Convention, delegates voted to increase branch members' dues by two dollars per year for six years, beginning July 1, 2004. The following schedule is in effect through 2010:

July 1, 2004-June 30, 2005 .....	\$41
July 1, 2005-June 30, 2006 .....	\$43
July 1, 2006-June 30, 2007 .....	\$45
July 1, 2007-June 30, 2008 .....	\$47
July 1, 2008-June 30, 2009 .....	\$49
July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010 .....	\$51

In 2008-2009, the Association executive committee shall be directed to review if the annual fixed-amount increase concept will be continued, consider other options, and make a recommendation to the Association board of directors. The recommendation will be published in an every-member publication for action by the members at the 2009 AAUW convention.

### Committee Being Formed

Branch membership vice-presidents should be aware a AAUW NC membership committee, which reflects representation from all sections of the state, is being formed. Its focus is to

## AAUW-IFUW Forum Planned for Convention

AAUW made the decision not to pay 2005 IFUW dues, based on the Association financial situation. AAUW can no longer afford the dues, raised 50 percent during the 2004 IFUW Triennial Conference in Perth. 2005 dues would probably have exceeded \$300,000.

Under the bylaws, the Association board must oversee the financial health of the AAUW. This duty supersedes all other board responsibilities. Ann Terry, SAR director, led a dialogue on this issue during the AAUW NC convention in Asheville to more fully inform the members of the situation. Additional information was published in the Fall 2004 *Outlook*, and is available at [http://www.aauw.org/search/index\\_action.cfml](http://www.aauw.org/search/index_action.cfml)

A forum will be held on this issue during the convention in June. AAUW remains committed to the women's and girls' issues in the international arena.

improve the recruitment and retention of members. The committee will be comprised of one or more persons from each cluster, with a preference for volunteers, rather than recruits. Contact Evelyn Mercer, 704.341.9155, eme6040086@aol.com or 4101 Rye Mill Court, Charlotte NC 28277 if you wish to serve.

## AAUW NC History

Commemorative book celebrating the 2002 75th anniversary of AAUW NC. Contact Clara Allen, 42 Crossvine Close, Fearington, Pittsboro, NC 27312. \$17 includes shipping.