Legal Advocacy Fund Convention Report 2006 New Bern, North Carolina

LAF- North Carolina had a better year this past year. For the past several years we have had a goal to raise \$10,000 in a fiscal year. Again, this year we have not made this goal, however, we did better than last year. Many branches worked hard and raised quite a bit of money, and to all we thank them for their efforts. Whether your branch raised five or five thousand dollars, each dollar helps raise awareness of equity and we all thank you. It is such a joy to see how the different branches raise their money for LAF. The total earnings for the LAF, NC were \$7818.25, which is a \$679.56 increase from 2004. Congratulations and thank you to all who helped in this effort.

Our state fundraising went well and the various branches contributed on a fairly steady basis throughout the year. By the end of 2005, 19 out of 22 branches joined the crusade to help make equity a viable part of higher education. At the banquet we will honor the top 10 ranked branches by contribution and per capita as are listed below. Included in this report is a listing of branches, their total contributions and rankings by total contributions and per capita.

(+= An increase from last year)

Top Ten by Contribution

Asheville \$1221 (1) +
Hendersonville \$1045 (2)+
Raleigh/Wake \$905 (3)
Brevard \$824 (4)+
Winston-Salem \$696.75(5)+
Tryon \$650(6)+
Chapel Hill \$500 (7)
Greensboro \$445 (8)+
Wilmington \$369 (9)

Statesville \$273.50 (10)

Top Ten by Per Capita

Raleigh / Wake \$21.55 + (1) Winston Salem \$15.83 + (2) Tryon \$12.04 + (3) Jacksonville Regional \$11.87+ (4) Gaston Regional \$11.00 + (5) Asheville \$8.31+ (6) Hendersonville \$7.92 + (7) Brevard \$7.77 + (8) Chapel Hill \$6.94 + (9) Statesville \$6.84 (10)

Of the nineteen branches giving, eleven made the \$5.00 per capita goal. That is one more than last year. Tryon Branch that has not been in the top ten in the past two years ranked 6th in contributions and 3rd per capita. Congratulations to them along with all the others.

LAF Plaintiff Travel Grant: We applied for the grant for the fourth year in a row and were delighted to get a travel grant for our LAF breakfast. We are all looking forward to hearing and learning from Dr.Ricky Hirschhorn. This grant is given by the national organization to branches or states that wish to have an LAF plaintiff speak to the group on her experiences in the field of legal advocacy. The association pays for her travel and lodging. In the past these speakers have been very educational and the same should be true this year as well. It should be a very interesting breakfast.

Word about the Educational Foundation

In the fall we received a new introductory LAF brochure that I sent to many of the branches and I have a few available here at the convention. I also have the newest publication from EF, *Drawing the Line, Sexual Harassment on Campus*. The press coverage of this important issue was quiet extensive. This vital study is a forerunner in the field and should help start discussions and work toward less harassment on campuses. Both of these publications are available from the association office.

Looking Forward

I still believe that a goal of \$10,000 is within our reach. With 1079 members, at last count, it would mean we need to give \$9.26 per person. Not all give to LAF; however, this too could be a goal. Many branches do major fundraisers for EF. Now that LAF is part of EF and it is **advertised properly** part of this function's profits could go to LAF.

With the new configuration of the Contribution Report Forms from the association and changes in the state board we are looking at making a few changes in the way one reports their giving. We will keep you aware of these changes as they occur.

Again, the branches that have a woman willing to commit some time to LAF seem to have a good record of giving. The branches that commit some time and effort directly to LAF, in fundraising and education are the ones that give regularly. Please make it a goal of all branches to give some to LAF. Remember we would like all to contribute.

Contributions to helping raise awareness of sexual harassment on local campus in coalition with the university, searching for a program on a local campus that works toward Progress In Equity, supporting a local plaintiff, and raising money for Legal Advocacy are some of the many ways we can all help LAF. As long as Equity is Still an Issue, it is part of our mission to help the cause.

Lillian B. Van Order, AAUW-NC LAF Liaison

ID	Branch	2005 Contributio n	Contributi on Rank	Member Base	Per Capita Contributi on	Per Capita Rank
1	Asheville	1221	1	147	8.31	6
2	Brevard	824	4	106	7.77	8
3	Bryson City	75	15	17	4.41	14
4	Chapel Hill	500	7	72	6.94	9
5	Charlotte	25	18	52	0.48	19
6	Gaston Regional	220	11	20	11.00	5
7	Greensboro	445	8	70	6.36	11
8	Hendersonville	1045	2	132	7.92	7
9	High Point	40	16	20	2.00	16
10	Jacksonville Regional	190	12	16	11.87	4
11	Kinston	34	17	23	1.48	17
12	Raleigh Wake	905	3	42	21.55	1
13	Salisbury	180	13	37	4.86	12
14	Sandhills Southern Pines	115	14	39	2.95	15
15	Statesville	273.5	10	40	6.84	10
16	Tryon	650	6	54	12.04	3
17	Twin Rivers	25	19	21	1.19	18
18	Wilmington	369	9	81	4.56	13
19	Winston Salem	696.75	5	41	15.83	2
20	Cherokee	0		7		
21	Eden	0		20		
22	Franklin County	0		17		
	Total	7818.25				