



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

CRYSTAL LAKE BRANCH
Crystal Lake, Illinois
60014

November 10, 1979

Dear Branch President,

After much deliberation, the Crystal Lake branch board has voted to express dissatisfaction with the decision to increase national dues by 50%. We feel the voting process by which the Albuquerque convention reached this decision was confused and of questionable legality.

General voting procedures were poorly organized throughout the convention. At various times there were shortages of vote cards, suspicions of ballot-box stuffing, re-voting for president, etc. By parliamentary maneuvers that even confused the parliamentarian, the national leadership avoided a vote on a smaller dues increase. The result of the voice vote was not clearly in favor of the increase to \$12.75. On a matter as important as this, a voice vote is inadequate. A vote by the established card system should have been required. A true expression of the delegates' sentiments was not obtained.

Branch feelings about a 50% increase are very negative. After making difficult budget cuts to maintain our local dues at \$4.50, a national dues increase of \$4.25 would be a severe burden. We do not relish asking our 17 new members as well as older members for such an increase. While we recognize the effects of inflation, this hardly seems the way to retain members. It would be counter-productive for fewer members to pay increasingly higher dues.

Our branch board plans to leave the national dues at \$8.50 in our by-laws to be submitted by December 1, 1979. In addition, we are considering some alternative actions:

- (1) continue to pay current dues declaring the June 1979 vote at Albuquerque not valid
- or
- (2) pay the new dues in 1980 under protest (at least partially absorbing the increase by reducing the branch contribution to the Educational Foundation)

We would very much appreciate hearing reaction of other branches throughout the state to our action. We recognize that many of our outstanding state officers have some national influence--we do not want to embarrass them. However, we think it is ultimately for the good of the organization that these points are made. May we hear from your branch by December 15, 1979. We would like to forward all responses, whether pro or con, on to the national office.

Sincerely,
Crystal Lake Branch

Lorraine Tacke
Lorraine Tacke, President
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cc: Illinois Branch Presidents
ISD President & Treasurer
Association President & Treasurer