

Celebrating 40 Years of the Program on the Status and Education of Women

The year 2011 marks the fortieth anniversary of AAC&U's Program on the Status and Education of Women (PSEW), the oldest office of women in a higher education association. In its history, PSEW has had only two directors: Bernice Sandler (1971-1991) and Caryn McTighe Musil (who became director in 1992). *On Campus with Women* (www.ocww.org), PSEW's newsletter about women in higher education, has been published continuously since 1971. To honor four decades of leadership in advocating greater equality for women in higher education, the year-long PSEW celebration is called Beyond Limits.

If 1971-2011 represents victories achieved in eliminating many barriers, 2011-2051 should represent eliminating all the others. Doing so will require men and women alike to invest anew in shaping conditions that tap the talents and leadership of women and girls across colors, classes, and cultures. Societies flourish when women and girls flourish.



Caryn McTighe Musil and Bernice Sandler

AAC&U invites your participation in the following:

Beyond Limits Registry

Tell us what you are doing on and through your campus to erase the barriers to women's and girls' full equality. Please visit <http://www.aacu.org/psew/BeyondLimitsRegistry.cfm> to submit your program.

Beyond Limits Fund

Make a donation to the Beyond Limits Fund so PSEW can continue to champion women's equality in higher education and provide resources to the field in the coming decades. Please visit <http://www.aacu.org/psew/BeyondLimitsFund.cfm> to contribute.

Photos courtesy of: Stephens College; Whittier College; Allegheny College; Sweet Briar College; and Effat University

Current Projects

The Association of American Colleges and University's (AAC&U's) **Program on the Status and Education of Women** conducts projects and sponsors publications on such priorities as curriculum and campus climate, women's leadership, and new research on women and gender. It also seeks to integrate gender as an illuminating mode of analysis across all AAC&U programs. Current projects include:

On Campus with Women (OCWW), the longest uninterrupted national newsletter about women in higher education sponsored by a higher education association. *OCWW* provides readers with the most up-to-date information on women in higher education, with a focus on women's leadership, the campus climate, curriculum and pedagogy, and new research and data on women. Most issues are available in full at www.ocww.org.

Campus Women Lead (CWL), a multicultural alliance promoting a women-led agenda for the sustained transformation of higher education for the twenty-first century. An affiliate of AAC&U, CWL advances women's inclusive leadership for excellence through workshops, publications, and a community listserv. CWL includes leaders across all campus levels and divisions, within research centers, and from non-governmental organizations. To learn more, visit www.aacu.org/campuswomenlead.

Periodic monographs, including, most recently, *A Measure of Equity: Women's Progress in Higher Education*.

Project Staff

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ABOUT AAC&U

AAC&U is the leading national association concerned with the quality, vitality, and public standing of undergraduate liberal education. As AAC&U's board statement on liberal learning notes, such an education is "by its nature... global and pluralistic," recognizing that "diversity in all its forms is both an intellectual commitment and a social responsibility." AAC&U's members are committed to extending the advantages of a liberal education to all students, regardless of academic specialization or intended career. Founded in 1915, AAC&U now comprises more than 1200 member institutions—including accredited public and private colleges and universities of every type and size.

PROGRAM ON THE STATUS AND EDUCATION OF WOMEN

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Association
of American
Colleges and
Universities



Beyond LIMITS

Women's Progress in Higher Education—and the World 1971-2011



College enrollment Among high-school graduates, 70.1% enroll in college within one year (66.0% of men, 73.8% of women). (2009)

Diversity of bachelor's degree recipients Of bachelor's degrees conferred on women, 70.4% are earned by white women, 11.2% by African American women, 8.4% by Hispanic women, 6.7% by Asian or Pacific Islander women, 0.8% by American Indian women, and 2.5% by foreign-born nationals. (2007–08)

Undergraduate STEM degrees Women receive more than 41% of bachelor's degrees in the physical sciences. (2007–08)

Graduate degrees Women earn 59% of master's degrees, 49% of first professional degrees, and 48% of doctorates. (2004)

First professional degrees Women earn 44.6% of dentistry degrees, 49.2% of medical degrees, and 47.6% of law degrees. (2007)

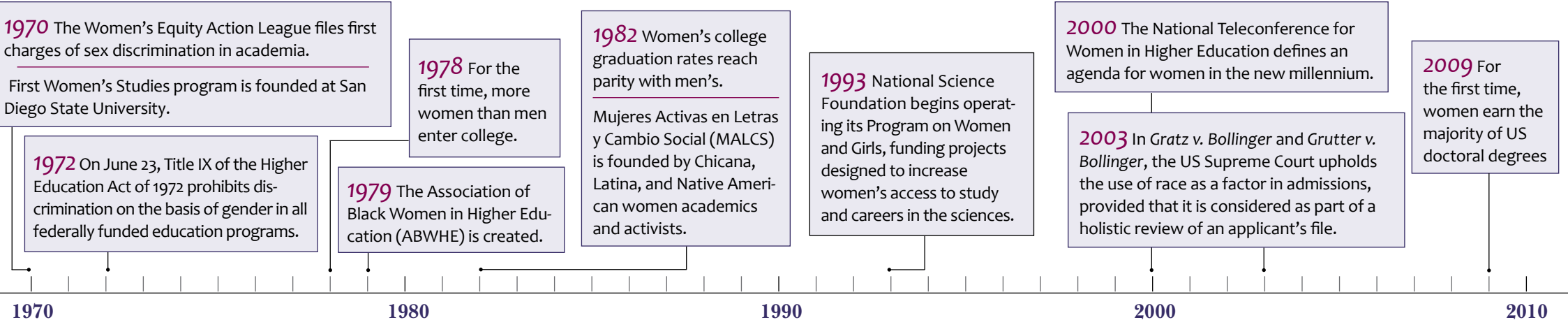
Doctoral STEM degrees Women earn 41% of doctorates in agriculture and natural resources, 51% in biological sciences, 22% in computer science, 21% in engineering, 31% in mathematics and statistics, and 30% in the physical sciences. US-born minority women earn 11% of degrees granted to women in agriculture and natural resources, 18% in biological sciences, 11% in computer science, 15% in engineering, 10% in mathematics and statistics, and 13% in the physical sciences. (2007–08)

Diversity of doctoral degree recipients Of doctorates conferred on women, 62.1% are earned by white women, 8.0% by African American women, 4.0% by Hispanic women, 6.1% by Asian or Pacific Islander women, 0.5% by American Indian women, and 19.2% by foreign-born nationals. (2007–08)

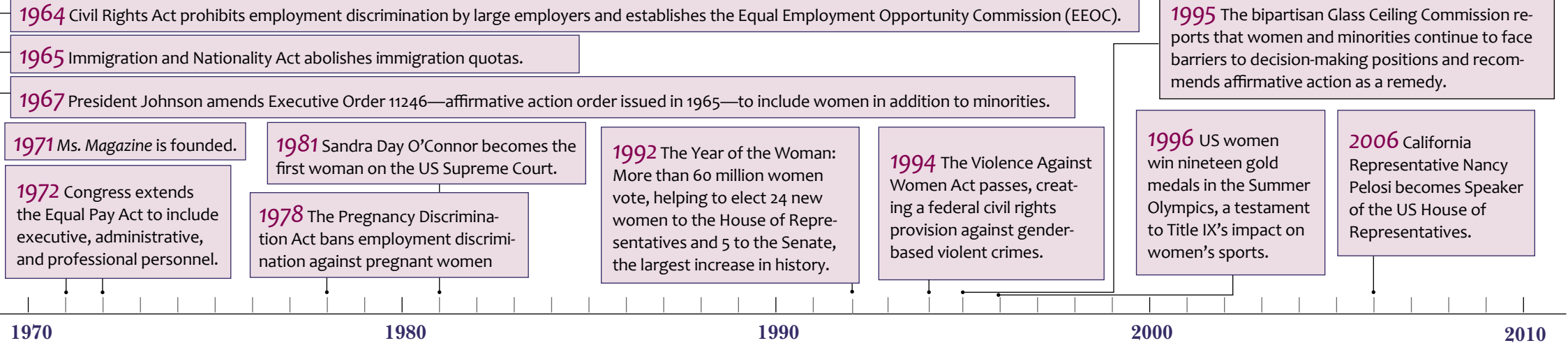
Faculty Women account for approximately 50% of assistant professors, 38% of associate professors, and 24% of full professors. (2003–04)

Presidents Women account for 23% of college and university presidents. Among women presidents, 19% are racial or ethnic minorities. (2006)

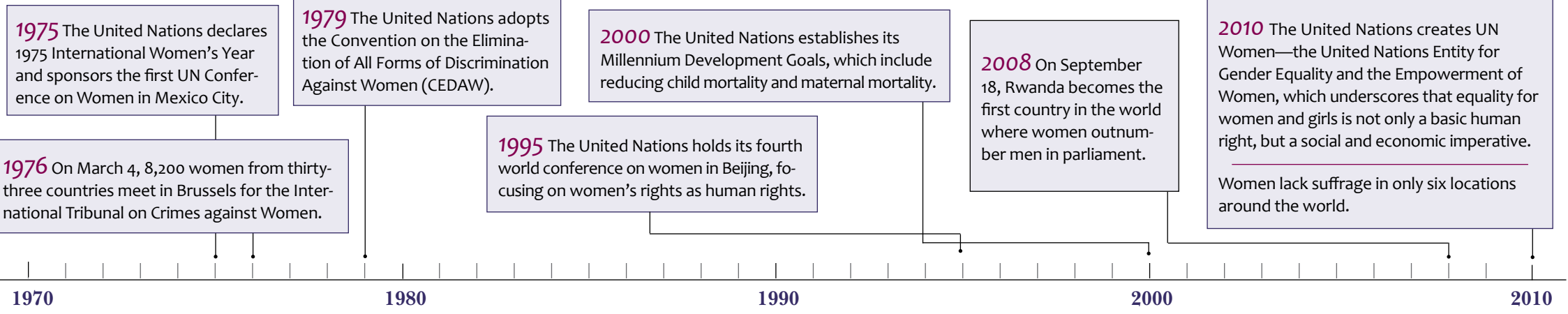
Higher Education



United States



The World



A full reference list is available online at <http://www.aacu.org/psew/brochurereferences.cfm>

College enrollment Among high-school graduates, 48.8% enroll in college within one year (47.2% of men, 50.3% of women). (1976)

Diversity of bachelor's degree recipients Of bachelor's degrees conferred on women, 87.3% are earned by white women, 7.9% by African American women, 2.0% by Hispanic women, 1.5% by Asian or Pacific Islander women, 4.0% by American Indian women, and 1.0% by foreign-born nationals. (1976–77)

Undergraduate STEM degrees Women receive 15% of bachelor's degrees in the physical sciences. (1971–72)

Graduate degrees Women earn 41% of master's degrees, 6% of first professional degrees, and 16% of doctorates. (1972)

First professional degrees Women earn 0.9% of dentistry degrees, 8.4% of medical degrees, and 5.4% of law degrees. (1970)

Doctoral STEM degrees Women earn 3% of doctorates in agriculture and natural resources, 16% in biological sciences, 2% in computer science, 1% in engineering, 8% in mathematics and statistics, and 6% in the physical sciences. Comparable data for racial and ethnic minorities are not available. (1970–71)

Diversity of doctoral degree recipients Of doctorates conferred on women, 84.3% are earned by white women, 6.0% by African American women, 1.7% by Hispanic women, 1.5% by Asian or Pacific Islander women, 0.3% by American Indian women, and 6.2% by foreign-born nationals. (1976–77)

Faculty Women account for approximately 25% of assistant professors, 17% of associate professors, and 10% of full professors. (1974–75)

Presidents Women account for 5% of college and university presidents. Comparable data for racial and ethnic minorities are not available. (1975)