**SPEAKER BIOS**

SARAH WHITFIELD

Sarah Whitfield is the Assistant Director for Careers in Law, Government, and Policy at the Career Center at Colby College. She joined the Career Center in July 2014 after five years in Washington, DC. She graduated from Colby in 2009 with a major in government. While earning her master of public policy at American University, Sarah started working at the Brown Center on Education Policy at the Brookings Institution. At Brookings, Sarah served as the co-chair of the Women's Mentoring Network and co-founded the first junior/senior staff mentoring program at the organization. After more than three years at Brookings, she moved back to Maine, where she was born and raised. At Colby, Sarah co-founded the Women's Leadership Seminar series, a combination of facilitated discussions, skill-based workshops, networking sessions and more, that aim to increase leadership skills and confidence in the workplace. As part of this series, Sarah teaches the StartSmart negotiation workshop.

SENATOR SHENNA BELLOWS

Senator Bellows (D-Manchester) represents 11 towns in southern Kennebec County. She serves on the Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development Committee. She is the owner of Bellows & Company, a nonprofit consulting firm.

Shenna was the 2014 Democratic candidate for United States Senate in Maine. Prior to running for US Senate, Shenna was Executive Director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Maine. She was a key leader of the successful 2012 ballot campaign to pass same sex marriage in Maine. She co-chaired a successful 2011 statewide ballot campaign to expand voting rights.

Shenna served on the Coalition for Maine Women and the Maine Choice Coalition and has received numerous awards for her work to advance women’s health and reproductive choice. Shenna is a former volunteer with the Peace Corps and AmeriCorps VISTA. She lives with her husband, Brandon, in Manchester.

MOLLY BOGART - MODERATOR

Molly grew up in Brunswick then left Maine just long enough to know she had to come back. She's worked with several advocacy organizations, including the Maine Women's Lobby and Maine Conservation Voters, and worked on several State House campaigns during the 2016 election cycle. Molly works now as an aide to Speaker of the House Sara Gideon. Her professional interests include human and civil rights, equality, and economic justice. She is a 2013 graduate of the Maine NEW Leadership Institute and a 2015 graduate of the Emerge Maine training program. (Molly has been a very active member of the Bath-Brunswick AAUW and was named Member of the Year in 2016).

DOT MCLANE  
Dot is a member of the AAUW Lansdale Branch and the AAUW Empire State (NY) Virtual Branch, and is also President of AAUW Pennsylvania. She has served as chair of the AAUW Branch Program Resource Committee and AAUW STEM Task Force, served on the AAUW Public Policy Committee and as a director on the national AAUW Board from 2011-2013 and from 2015-2017, and is a trained $tart $mart facilitator. Dot earned her bachelor’s from Rutgers University, her master’s and Ph.D. from Drexel University, and was a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Pennsylvania. She has worked in the pharmaceutical industry and as a part time public school secondary biology/chemistry teacher. Dot focuses on the issues of the gender wage gap and promoting leadership roles to women in government, business, and industry, especially STEM occupations.

SENATOR ELOISE VITELLI

Senator Vitelli has been active in her community of Arrowsic, serving on the zoning board and RSU 1 school board. She has served on the Mid Coast Economic Development District and currently serves on the board of the Kennebec Estuary Land Trust. She has a Bachelor’s Degree from the University of Pittsburgh and a Masters Degree from the University of Southern Maine. She has been an early childhood education teacher and in recent years, has helped women, and now men, participate in the economic community through Ventures, once known as Women, Work and Community. She has served on the Maine Economic Growth Council and has been recognized by the Small Business Administration. In 1995 she was inducted into the Maine Women’s Hall of Fame. She was elected to the Senate in a special election in 2013 to fill the unexpired term of Senator Seth Goodall. Arrowsic has been her home for the last 40 years. After attending the Shelter Institute, she built the home she and her husband now live in, surrounded by gardens and her chickens. She believes that working hard for what you have is important and together we can do great things!

SENATOR CATHY BREEN

Senator Breen serves as the Ranking Minority Leader on the Joint Standing committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. She was elected in 2014 and served as the Ranking Minority Leader on the Joint Standing committee on Environment and Natural Resources. Before serving in the State Senate, she served on the Falmouth Town Council from 2005-2011, elected twice a Chair by her peers on the Council.

DIANE ANDERSON

Diane Anderson, Assistant Director of Career Services at Thomas College, has been a career educator for over 15 years. She holds a BS in Public Administration from the University of Maine at Augusta and has been a Global Career Development Facilitator since 2003. First introduced to AAUW when assisting with arrangements for a Start Smart event in February of 2012, Diane is passionate about working with students on career planning, raising aspirations, and building job seeking skills. Raised in Vassalboro, and currently residing in Sidney, Diane is a member of the Waterville Branch of AAUW, an AAUW campus representative for Thomas College, and serves as the treasurer on the board of the Maine Career Development Association.

LISA RIDEOUT