**We Still Have a Long Way to Go…**

The New England Sister Society held our first meeting of 2018 with a luncheon in Framingham, Massachusetts on Friday, June 8th. Over 60 credit union women (and one man!) from across New England gathered to network, trade stories and learn together. We welcomed Senior Scientist for the Women's Studies Research Center at Brandeis University, Rosalind C. Barnett, to speak about gender stereotyping. Dr. Barnett’s pioneering research on workplace issues and family life in America has resulted in the publication of nine books and countless research articles.

Barnett used her research as the backdrop for her presentation on, “We Still Have a Long Way to Go.” Through her use of graphs, quotes, and her quiet wit, Barnett brought to light the subtler, and harder to identify, gender stereotyping and prejudices women face regularly in the workplace. While women in the workplace have made great strides and we no longer face the most obvious and overt forms of gender discrimination, we now must recognize and confront these subtle prejudices if women are to continue to move towards equal treatment in the workplace.

Barnett’s presentation wrapped up with a lively question and answer session about where to go from here and how to effect change. Consensus from attendees was we must focus on creating opportunities for inclusive discussion. We must make our meetings more welcoming to both genders.

The New England Sister Society is offered regionally to all people who wish to participate in local meetings in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island. We extend a special thank you to our meeting sponsors, PSCU, CU Direct, CUERRA, Open Lending, the Credit Union League of Connecticut, and the Cooperative Credit Union Association. Without the financial support of these organizations, this meeting would not have been possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte Whatley on behalf of the NE Sister Society

Organizers:

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