**chanGe: A conversation about gender equity**

**AUBG meets ChangeMakers**

A conversation with change makers working “toward a society free from bias, in which all have equal rights and opportunities.”\*

* March 26th, Monday, 7:30 to 8:30 PM, Panitza Library, followed by socializing and snacks.
* A Women’s History Month/Distinguished Speaker Series (DSS) event
* Panelists are women’s rights/gender equity change makers who can be from any sector—public, private, government—with an emphasis on Bulgarians change makers   
  o Speakers are encouraged to engage the audience in discussion
* The physical set up will foster the notion that this is an informal conversation, with speakers sitting in armchairs with coffee tables, no desks, podiums, or visual aids like PowerPoint.
* Primary audience: students, Secondary audience: staff, faculty
* Co-sponsors: TBD, possibly SAGE, Logos, Women in Business, Better Community, other interested clubs
* An on-stage discussion, with topics TBD through pre-event conversations and informed by students (in class, Toastmasters, other clubs) followed by a Q&A and engagement.

**Timeline/Organization**

* March 9 – March 20: Communicate with and select speakers. Interested individuals can contact Diane Rubino drubino@aubg.edu to arrange a brief phone chat to see if the event is a good fit for those individuals.
* March 21-22: Question list will be circulated, expect four to six questions focusing on:
  + Positive changes in equity that have occurred in the past five years or so either officially via laws and state agencies, the private sector, civil society
  + What ways young people are the beneficiaries of these changes.
  + Work that panelists or their agencies are involved in/witnessing that could yield positive change.
  + Given that gender creates artificial constraints harmful for all, how are you/colleagues engaging men as partners in supporting gender equity.
  + How are you/partners engaging disability activists and individuals across race/ ethnic groups, sexual orientation, and income groups to ensure inclusive equity
  + Actions that young people can do to participate in social change
* The second portion of the event will be efforts to exchange students in conversations. They can ask questions, of course. But let’s look to ask them questions, poll them, etc.
* March 23 – 24rd The panel will have a conference call/skype exchange to clarify possibly answers, what they’d like to talk about, brainstorm ideas

 Note: Speakers receive a per diem and the cost of a meal, transit, and a hotel stay, as necessary, will be covered.

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| *Event vision statement: A hopeful Bulgaria  Mission statement:  Connecting students to change makers / change makers to students Core values - Event will:*  *• be a unique opportunity to for the students to engage with topics and change makers  • be designed to illuminating, positive, thought-provoking, entertaining • be an exchange of ideas between change makers and students • underscore the change that is already happening* |

Rubino, D. (20 December 2017). “How Gender Mainstreaming Helps Fight Inequality.” *ThoughtCo.com*. https://www.thoughtco.com/gender-mainstreaming-4156494.