CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The 2022 SIU Conference on Women: Advocates and Allies is now accepting proposals. This year’s theme of “Advocates and Allies” aims to address how people may ally with and advocate for one another. How might women best support one another? How can groups most effectively and compassionately build coalitions? What can the campus and community learn from each other? What events and issues are most in need of advocates and allies? What cautions should we take in using the terms “advocate” and “ally”?

The SIU Conference on Women is for people of all genders who are interested in identifying and counteracting misogyny, especially as it intersects with racism, classism, ableism, cissexism, and heterosexism. We encourage proposals to think critically, creatively, and broadly.

Submissions are open to all, whether affiliated with SIU or not. Sessions are 45 minutes each. The conference will take place on March 18 from 12-8 PM and March 19 from 9AM-7PM in the SIU Student Center. The planning committee remains attentive to pandemic conditions and will adjust to a virtual format if necessary.

We welcome a variety of proposed formats. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Interactive workshops: one or more presenters lead participants in a hands-on, interactive workshop designed to address a topic, build a skill, or engage an issue.

- Discussion panels: 3-4 panelists offer a few minutes each of opening thoughts around a theme/idea/issue, and the rest of the time is devoted to discussion amongst panelists and audience.

- Research/paper panels: 3-4 people present research for around 7 minutes each, and the rest of the time is devoted to Q&A/discussion. Proposal may be for a singular paper that will be scheduled with others, or may come from several people who wish to submit as a group and whose papers/presentations center on a common idea.

- Performance sessions: Sessions devoted to showcasing poetry, narrative writing, performance, monologues, etc. Proposals may be for a singular, long-form performance, a singular short-form performance that will be scheduled with other submissions, or may come from several people who wish to submit together.

- Community conversation: A moderator presents questions for reflection on a specific topic or issue, and provides the audience time to reflect. The moderator then facilitates a discussion on that topic/issue.

- Media session: Presentation of film, audio selection, or other digital media work with time for discussion after.

- Some other creative format not listed here.
Proposals are due January 31. Accepted presenters will be asked to complete a conference registration form and will be able to participate in all other portions of the conference. Conference registration fees will be waived for all presenters. Individuals will be notified on or before February 4, 2022.

Conference details

- March 18 and 19, 2022
- SIU Student Center
- All parts of the conference are open to anyone, regardless of SIU affiliation

The 2022 SIU Conference on Women will include:

- Two keynote addresses (Friday and Saturday evening)
- Four spotlight panels throughout the conference
- One-on-one career coaching from SIU Career Services (sign-up ahead of time)
- Quiet room open for the duration of conference
- Family break room (open for caregivers and children in case a break is needed)
- Community organization and vendor fair
- Chance to meet and interact with southern Illinois community leaders and SIU administrators

We are currently planning for an in-person conference, though will be prepared to switch to a virtual format if necessary.

Refer to our conference website to see historical details and for more specifics on keynote and spotlight speakers, proposal examples, schedule, and other conference updates as they are posted.

Any questions can be directed to the Programming Committee:

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