The SIU 2nd Annual Women’s Leadership Conference (WLC) is scheduled for Friday, September 18, 2015 in the Southern Illinois University Student Center. The conference is open registration for undergraduate students and high school seniors focusing on developing future women leaders in our society. The high school invitations give the students an opportunity to visit SIU and gain insight on university programming and could serve as a possible recruitment tool for those students. Target populations include students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematic (STEM), business, and agriculture fields, however all students are welcome to attend.

**About the Conference**
The conference will provide undergraduate students a chance to interact with peers and mentors, form professional networks, prepare for careers, reflect on their educational paths, develop leadership skills, and experience the diversity of women in leadership roles.

**Conference Format**
The WLC includes breakout sessions and/or panel discussions, RSO fair, and a keynote speaker. The keynote is Laurie Landgraf, a Senior Counsel for the Boeing Company.

**Attire**
The conference is a business casual event.

**Conference Proposals**
We invite professional conference proposals from faculty, staff, and graduate students for the WLC 2015 Conference. Remember, target audiences include high school seniors and undergraduate students, therefore, we support presentations from faculty, staff, and graduate students in which co-presenters are undergraduate students.

**Proposals topics may include:**
- Career development (i.e. attire, interviewing skills, resume building, presentations, negotiating, etiquette)
- Leadership development
- Women in STEM, Agriculture, and Business fields
- Mentoring/Professional Networking
- Women in higher education
- Work/school life balance
- Undergraduate/Graduate school preparation
- Personal Branding
- Women’s health, sex education, prevention, etc.
- High School transition to College
- Undeclared students
- Public Speaking and Professional Presentation Skills

*Note: This year we will offer a select # of sessions targeted for high school students. We encourage submission of proposals dedicated to the high school senior population. Thank you.*
Program format options include:

- Presentations provide participants with research driven topics that prove beneficial to support and foster student growth. Presentations should share information and create a space for discussion. We encourage presentations to be educational, informative, and interactive for participants.
- Panel Discussion - a panel discussion provides an opportunity to explore certain topics with presenters and participants in a question and answer format.

Proposals should include:

- Name, title, email, institution, and contact information of presenter
- Name, title, email, institution, and contact information of co-presenter(s) (if applicable)
- Title of presentation
- Program format (Panel or presentation)
- Description of presentation for conference program (3-4 sentences)
- A one page outline of the presentation
- Learning objectives/outcomes for participants
- 200-word biographical sketch for each presenter
- Attach a draft of the conference handout (all session should provide a hard copy handout of their presentation for students that could not attend).

Proposals should be typed and submitted to Tarnisha Green, Director of Success in Engineering through Excellence and Diversity by 11:59pm on Sep 4, 2015. Presenters will be notified by September 11, 2015 regarding selection. Please direct any questions regarding proposals to Tarnisha Green at 618.536.2463 or Melinda Yeomans at 618.521.5621.

**Tentative Conference Schedule**

8:30-9:00 am    Registration/breakfast - Corker Lounge
9:00-9:50am     Keynote Speaker
9:50-10:00am    Break
10:00-10:45am   Session I – Student Center (sessions will run concurrently)
11:00-11:45am   Session II - Student Center (sessions will run concurrently)
11:45-12:15pm   Break
12:15-1:15pm    Lunch - Ballrooms
1:15-2:00pm     Session III - Student Center (sessions will run concurrently)
2:15-3:30pm     Closing session - Ballrooms
3:15-5:00pm     RSO fair - Corker Lounge