

The SWU UW Business Meeting of 2024 was called to order at 1:13 pm by President Becky Warren.

1. The SWU UW Mission Statement was read.
2. A motion was made to approve the Business Meeting Minutes of 2023. The Minutes were approved.
3. Treasurer Katie Womack presented the January Treasurer's Report and then presented the SWU UW Budget for 2024-25.

The treasurer's report for January, 2024:

Truist Bank

\$ 3,908.37	Beginning balance on 1/1/24
20,000.00	Transfer from PayPal
<u>254.00</u>	Conference registration paid by check
24,162.37	
<u>-176.00</u>	\$126.00 for Mailerlite; \$50 DJ deposit
\$23,986.37	Ending balance on 1/31/24

PayPal

\$21,946.45	Beginning balance on 1/1/24
<u>7,245.00</u>	Payments Received
29,191.45	
-251.00	Payments Made (refunds for discounts and scholarships)
-262.66	PayPal fees
-20,000.00	Transfer to Truist bank account
\$ 8,677.79	Ending Balance on 1/31/24

\$32,664.16 TOTAL BALANCE OF ACCOUNTS
– 1/31/24

Respectfully submitted,
Katie Womack, Treasurer

4. SWU UW 2024-2025 Proposed Budget

Income

Conference Registration	\$ 20,600
Vendor Fees	\$ 450
Scholarship Fund	\$ 1,000
Fundraising	\$ 500
Misc.	\$ 750
	\$ 23,300

Expenses

Conference Expenses	\$ 18,150
Admin/Staff	\$ 2,000
Scholarships Awarded	\$ 1,000
Insurance	\$ 350
Misc./Fees	\$ 500
Accounting	\$ 300
Board Conference Planning Workshop	\$ 1,000
	\$ 23,300

Door prize donations + scholarship donations –
scholarships awarded = scholarship fund.

*** The scholarship fund is a designated self-supporting
line item within the budget.

This budget is based on a 3-year average of actual
income and expenses (2020, 2022, & 2023), anticipated
additional expenses and inflation.

The 2024-25 Budget was approved

5. The Slate of Officers for 2024-2025 was presented and
accepted.

Proposed SWU UW BOARD 2024-2025

President: Celeste Kennedy

President-Elect: Donna Dier

Past President: Becky Warren

Treasurer: Katie Womack

Secretary: Vicki Verinder

Board Member-At-Large 1: Open

Board Member-At-Large 2: Open

Board Member-At-Large 3: Open

Board Member-At-Large 4: Open

6. Recognition of the volunteer SWU UW Administrators

- . Mary Ellen Blohowiak
- . Kathy Johnson-Throop

New Business:

Presentation by Katie Womack

7. Board members Recognition:

Each one of the board members has served over the past year (or more years) because they came to a SWU UW conference and knew they wanted to come back. They agreed to serve on the board because someone asked them to. If you know you want to come back, consider this message as us asking you to become a member of the board.

8. At-Large Board members needed:

We have 4 at-large positions open. These are voting positions and round out the planning and advisory decision-makers that make up the 9-member board.

9. New Adjunct Board Member positions:

We are taking another step this year to expand the board by creating Adjunct Board Member positions. We envision the adjunct member role as someone who attends the

monthly Zoom call meetings and adds their voice, their opinions, and their skills, whatever they may be, to the conference planning process. These positions are non-voting, and attending the meetings is highly encouraged but not required for a quorum.

10. Rationale for new Adjunct Board Members:

10 a. Rationale #1:

There are a couple of reasons for moving in this direction. Board members, typically by their nature are very busy, highly involved, and dedicated volunteers. Life happens and over the course of a year the chances are one or more board members at some point may have to step back, take on less, and lean on the sisterhood to pick up the ball.

We are supportive of each other and the cause, but this is one reason we need to add to our numbers -- for the work that has to get done.

10 b. Rationale #2:

Reason two is because we earnestly want to expand the representation on our working board to include women from a bigger variety of churches and states. We are a bit Texas-centric for now, but that isn't what we aspire to be. We need Arkansas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma women too, at the conference, and also at the organizing table.

10 c. Rationale #3:

A third reason is, quite frankly, to ensure the continuity of SWUJW. We want to perpetuate our legacy and impact and we need a steady stream of new energy on the board.

So...we are going to make it easy for you to say yes. No pressure and no strings attached. Try it out. Contribute by being an adjunct member. We are betting you will love it as much as we do.

11. Planning a Conference: presentation by President-elect Celeste Kennedy

In the 2023 Minutes Item #6 was highlighted
It identified the variables used for determining non-discretionary costs.

This information allows for registration fee determination and preparation for promotion of the conference.

Item #7 was highlighted.

It cited paradigms for planners: A Congregation plans the conference; Board plans the conference; hybrid of Board mentoring a Congregation and helping to plan it... were highlighted in the presentation: "Try it, You will Like It"

How to Plan a Conference

11 a. Conference Planning (Item 6)

. How to estimate registration fees:

- identify non-discretionary cost items:

 facilities, meals, AV, conference rooms, sleeping rooms

- this yields per person costs

- it's easy

11 b. Types of Conference Sites:

- hotels
- large churches with detached hotel rooms for sleeping
- retreat centers

11 c. Paradigms SWU UW has used for Conference Planning: (Item 7)

- Congregation plans the conference
- SWU UW Board plans the conference
- Hybrid: Congregation and SWU UW Board plan the conference.

We hope we have energized you to try Conference Planning.

Try it — you'll like it... SWU UW Con 2026 is not that far away...

12. Donna reported on the status of SWU UWCon 2025 and SWU UWCon 2026

12 a. SWU UW Con 2025

Galveston UU is interested - Contacts: Kathy Johnson-Throop and Geri Carr. They are seeking a location in March, 2025 that is in our price range.

12 b. SWU UW Con 2026

Horizon UU in Carrollton, Tx is interested. Contacts: Donna Dier and Menaca Padakandia.

The SWU UW Business Meeting of 2024 was adjourned at 1:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Celeste Kennedy, SWU UW
Secretary