

Candidate for President-Elect

Alicia Smyth

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Why are you interested in this Board position?

When I joined SoACE in 2015, I immediately felt welcomed and at home. I was encouraged to run for a board position when my time on the FloridaACE board was nearing an end. Serving with professionals from around the Southeast has been a life-changing experience for me. Through SoACE, I have had the privilege and opportunity to work with and get to know some of the most outstanding college career professionals in the country. SoACE has been a critical resource for its members and a shining example to other regional associations since its existence - but especially this year. Seeing how quickly SoACE leaders and KGs responded to the needs of membership has been a beacon of hope in a time when hope has felt scarce. There was never a moment this year when I felt alone in my work because the entire SoACE community is so strong and so willing to support its members. I want to contribute to this legacy. SoACE means so much to me, as a source of professional and leadership development, knowledge-sharing, mentoring opportunities, and friendships. I believe that all the experience I have gained leading up to now has prepared me for the gravity and responsibility of this role and it would be my sincere honor to someday lead this trailblazing organization.



What qualifications do you have that would make you a strong fit for this Board position?

With 21 years of experience in all aspects of Career Services and 10 years of board service experience that includes a term as President of FloridaACE, I believe I am a strong fit for the role of SoACE President-Elect. I have served as Executive Director, Career Services at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University's Daytona Beach campus for over 6 years, leading a team of 9 outstanding professionals who continue to level up year over year. When I served on the FloridaACE board, I put my heart and soul into the work because I enjoyed it and felt a responsibility to our members and the profession. I am proud to see FloridaACE continue to evolve and thrive. I feel the same way about SoACE. I have jumped at every opportunity to positively contribute to this organization: presenting webinars and at conferences, serving on task forces, leading committees and Knowledge Groups, managing the blog, filling in where needed, taking on new responsibilities, engaging on social media, helping new members feel as welcome as I did, etc. - and, if elected, I will bring that same energy, enthusiasm, and care to my work on the executive board.

What leadership roles have you held within SoACE and other similar organizations?

- SoACE Director, Targeted Knowledge Groups, 2019-2021
- SoACE Employer Relations Summit Board Liaison, 2020-2021
- SoACE Director, Communications & Marketing, 2017-2019
- FloridaACE Past President, 2017-2018
- Volusia/Flagler SHRM, Vice President, Communications, 2018
- FloridaACE President, 2016-2017
- FloridaACE Vice President, 2015-2016
- FloridaACE Annual Conference Chair, 2016
- FloridaACE Director, Information Management, 2011-2015
- FloridaACE Private College/University Member, 2010

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