### 2025/27 SoACE Board Election

**Candidate Statements** 

Please vote by Friday, January 24



# **Candidate for Director – Member Services**

## **Kyle S. Poe**

Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech)

#### Why are you interested in this Board position?

I am highly interested in the Director - Member Services position as my background and experience has prepared me to thrive in this role. With a diverse background spanning higher education, entrepreneurship, consulting, and community leadership, I am confident in my ability to contribute significantly to membership engagement, growth, and development in this role. My commitment to serving communities, building strong networks, and ensuring equitable access to opportunities will help advance the mission of the association through strategic leadership. Given my experience in both the public and private



sectors, I am confident in my ability to balance strategic leadership with hands-on involvement. I will bring a collaborative, results-driven approach to each committee I oversee and work diligently to support the association's mission of membership growth and development.

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

Current Role in Higher Education - Georgia Institute of Technology: In my current role, I focus on enhancing the value of liberal arts degrees by connecting students with employers, alumni, and community partners. I develop programs that support student success and prepare graduates for the workforce. This aligns with the Director - Member Services role by emphasizing the importance of meaningful connections, mentorship, and member engagement. Entrepreneurship and Consulting Experience: I own and operate a marketing/graphic design company and career consulting business, where I have refined skills in strategic planning, business development, and stakeholder engagement. My entrepreneurial background equips me with a creative, business-oriented mindset that will support innovative methods for recruiting, retaining, and engaging members. Leadership and Supervision Expertise: I have over nine years of experience supervising and mentoring undergraduate students, interns, graduate students, and professional staff, including program creation and management. This leadership experience ensures I can effectively oversee multiple committees, align their work toward common goals, and manage diverse teams.

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

From 2018 - 2020, I actively served as a volunteer member on this along with the D&I committee, gaining firsthand experience with the strategic goals and processes that drive membership engagement and recruitment. This tenure provided me with insight into member needs, operational challenges, and the importance of collaboration among sub-committees. Similarly, I currently serve as the Community Service Director for my alma mater's Atlanta Alumni Chapter. I have successfully engaged alumni by connecting them with community partners for impactful service projects. This role required coordination, relationship-building, and strategic engagement skills that directly translate to fostering strong networks within an association's membership base. Successfully managing diverse teams and engaging with alumni provided me with the opportunity to approach leadership with humility, flexibility, and emotional intelligenceâ€"critical qualities for serving a varied membership base.