#### 2025/27 SoACE Board Election

**Candidate Statements** 

Please vote by Friday, January 24



# **Candidate for Director – Targeted Knowledge Groups**

# **Mason Murphy**

**Texas State University** 

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

I look at running for a board position as my next step at being involved with SoACE. Over the years, I have presented both sessions and roundtables at the annual conference. I believe this specific board position fits with my career development background, and the day-to-day work that I do with students. My goal would be to assist the knowledge groups leaders in providing quality professional development content for their members. I would seek to facilitate further discussions on both



current trends and topics impacting the work of our members. Also, I view my role as being the voice of those knowledge groups back to the board and expressing any concerns they might have.

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

I have been a career counselor for twenty years having worked at four different institutions throughout my career. I have focused my career counseling work on meeting the needs of various special populations which include international students, students with disabilities, and students that have aged out of the foster care system. I have career counseled students that range from the first-year student who is exploring his or her major all the way to the returning adult who is making a career transition. I am currently pursuing my Ph. D in Adult, Professional, and Community Education. My dissertation research focuses on the career transitions of pastors and clergy.

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

I have been a member of SoACE since 2014. I have presented at multiple conferences on career development topics such as working with international students. I was the Chair of the Career Advising KG from 2015-2016. I was the 2015 Champion of Diversity award winner and the 2020 Professional Development Scholarship winner. In NCDA, I currently serve as a Field Editor for the web magazine Career Convergence.