

Director - Finance

Ralph Leal

Texas State University

[Resume](#)



Why are you interested in this board position?

I first became interested in this organization because of the comments and feedback I received from the numerous colleagues I met at a conference. After spending time with the great members that make up the SoACE, I wanted to find a way to do more to help SoACE achieve its goals and objectives. The search led me to the Director of Finance position. After my initial research into the position, I spoke with the current Director of Finance to get more information on the duties and responsibilities. After completing this very important informational interview, I became even more confident that my prior experiences, background, and skills have prepared me for this position. I have always sought to be more than a member of any organization with which my interests align. The position of Director of Finance for SoACE feels like a natural next step to my contribution to the profession while also challenging me to improve the amazing organization that SoACE has become by the hard work and dedication of many others. I would love to continue to be a part of the growth of SoACE through supporting the organization in managing and tracking its finances and subsequent reporting to the SoACE membership.

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

Primarily, I have the support of my family and my employer, Texas State University, to take on the Director of Finance position if selected to be given the opportunity to hold the position. I hold an undergraduate degree in Healthcare Administration and a graduate degree in Healthcare Human Resources both from Texas State University. These two degrees paved the way to work in human resources and operations for an assisted living facility network in Austin, Texas, and an applied science and engineering organization in San Antonio, Texas. These two positions led me to my current position where I am the Associate Director of Career Services at my alma mater - Texas State University. As Associate Director of Career Services, I oversee Employer Relations and Outreach, Marketing, and Operations of a centralized career center serving over 38,000 students. These responsibilities have allowed me to work with great individuals and to gain a unique perspective at Texas State University and witness how SoACE assists employers and colleges to work together to meet the always-evolving career development of our students as future employees. I have also been fortunate enough to participate in the NACE Management Leadership Institute.

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

I have served on the SoACE Knowledge Group for Administration and my current SoACE role is the Co-Chair of Local Arrangements for the 2017 SoACE Annual Conference. I was also on a NACE Annual Conference Planning Committee as well as on First Destination Surveys Task Force. In addition to these roles, I have been the Fundraising Chair and Board Member for the United Way of Comal County (New Braunfels, Texas), President of the San Antonio Colleges and Universities Career Centers Association, and President of the Greater San Antonio Chapter of the Texas Diversity Council. All of these roles required similar skills sets that will be transferable and applicable to the role of Director of Finance. I have also served in leadership roles in our church that has included Lay Leader, recruiting volunteers for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign, and golf tournament organizer. It has been a true privilege to serve in these roles and I would love to bring the same passion and commitment to the role of Director of Finance for SoACE.