TACRAO 2020 Nominations and Elections Committee Report

November 2020

The TACRAO Nominations & Elections Committee members for the 2019 – 2020 year were: Becky Lothringer, Chair; Michelle Walker, Chair-elect, Debbie Gilchrist, Paige Bussell and Irene Robinson.

Nominations for the outgoing positions of President Elect, VP Registration, VP Technology and Treasurer and the slate of Nominations and Elections committee members for 2020-2021 were solicited from the TACRAO membership via the listserv on May 4th 2020. Membership was given until June 1, 2020 to submit their nominations. A reminder e-mail was sent on May 28th to request final nominations be submitted prior to the June 1 deadline. Nominees were contacted via e-mail to confirm their willingness to proceed in the nomination process. Each nominee was asked to submit their Bio Forms for use during the election.

N&E met virtually on Aug 16 to review qualifications of the nominees, to put forth a final slate for the election of TEC and N&E positions by the membership and submitted our recommendations to TEC on Aug 21st . Aug 24th the final slate of candidates was once again contacted by e-mail to confirm their willingness to proceed to the election stage. The following were submitted to the membership for final vote and to elect officers and committee members for the vacant positions:

**TACRAO Executive Committee Officer Candidates**

President Elect (select one):

1. Paige Bussell, University Registrar, Texas A&M – Commerce
2. Lee Owns, Associate Registrar, Navarro College

Vice President - Records & Registration (select one):

1. Tana Miller, Assistant Vice President, Student Enrollment, Engagement & Success, West Texas A&M University
2. Troy White, University Registrar, East Texas Baptist University

Vice President – Technology (select one):

1. Jodie Rexroat, Assistant Director-Academic Records, Dallas College
2. Justin Schilke, Senior Associate Registrar, Rice University

Treasurer:

1. Lori Zerr, Sr. Business Systems Analyst, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (lone nominee)

**TACRAO 2021 Nominations & Elections Committee Candidates (voter selects 4):**

1. Sam Carrell, Associate Registrar, The University of Texas at Tyler
2. Amie Cato, Registrar, Paris Junior College
3. David Edwards, Sr. Manager of Admissions & Records, Dallas College – Eastfield Campus
4. Sheila Gray, Associate Director, Undergraduate Admissions, Texas Tech University
5. Becki Griffith, District Director of Admissions & Records, Tarrant County College
6. Blanca Guerra, University Registrar, The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
7. Joe Papari, Director of Enrollment Services for Student Systems & Technology, Southern Methodist University

The slate was submitted for final vote to the membership with the results complete and announced on Sept. 14th. Just over 30% of the membership submitted a vote. The following were elected by the membership for the vacant positions and announced to the membership via the listserv by TACRAO President Bobby Lothringer:

**TACRAO Executive Committee Results:**

**President-Elect:**                                                              Paige Bussell, Texas A&M University – Commerce

**Vice President for Records & Registration:** Tana Miller, West Texas A&M University

**Vice President for Technology:** Justin Schilke, Rice University

**Treasurer:**                                                                           Lori Zerr, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

**Nominations & Elections Committee Results:**

Becki Griffith, Tarrant County College, *Chair-Elect*

Joe Papari, Southern Methodist University

Sheila Gray, Texas Tech University

Blanca Guerra, The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio

Based on the N&E process this year, the committee would like to humbly request the following changes to the By Laws and Procedures Manual be considered.

TACRAO By Laws, Article 2, Section c, last sentence reads, “During service on this committee (N&E), a member shall not be eligible for nomination to an association office , not become eligible by resigning from the committee.” This past year we did have such a case and took the issue to TEC for a vote to grant an exception. The N&E member was excluded from all conversation concerning the position to which they were nominated, was not allowed to know who the other nominees were and was excluded from all voting. The TEC allowed N&E to proceed this way but the committee requests a change be made to alleviate such issues in the future. We request two changes be considered. First, allow for the “election” of two alternate N&E committee members who may step in at such a time as they might be needed, whether it be to a vacancy on the committee or a situation like the one above. The two alternates would be the runner-up candidates to the 4 that receive the highest number of votes. To accommodate the larger number being “elected,” we recommend the slate move from 7 to 9 nominees. The alternates will be required to attend all N&E meetings but will not vote nor add to discussion unless they are called upon to fill a vacated position. The second change recommended is to change the language in the last sentence of Article 2, Section c to read, “During service on this committee (N&E),if a member receives a nomination to an association office, and if the member agrees to accept the nomination, the member must resign their position on the committee and an alternate committee member will be appointed in their place. The nominated committee member may not discuss the other nominees nor be privy to that information prior to make their decision to resign.”

I have attached a mockup of the TACRAO By Laws and the Nominations Committee portion of the Procedures Manual with changes for your review.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Lothringer, University of Texas at Arlington