

TACRAO 2024-2025 Nominations Committee Report

Committee Members:

Samantha Taylor, Chair – Tarrant County College
Rene Zamora, Chair-Elect – Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
Hannah McDonald – Texas A&M University – Central Texas
Anne Delgado – UT Health Sciences Center at San Antonio
*Latoya Whitaker – Baylor College of Medicine
*Tiffany Lipscomb – University of North Texas
Bobbie Brown, ex officio member – Texas Tech University

*Latoya Whitaker was elected last year as an alternate for the committee, and she was formally asked to join when Tiffany Lipscomb accepted a nomination for TEC Secretary. Tiffany stepped down from Nominations on 07/01/2025 and Latoya agreed to serve 07/03/2025. Tiffany did not have information about any nominees, nor did she participate in Nominations Committee activities.

Nominations Committee timeline of activities

- 06/12/2025- Nominations Committee members met with TEC leadership to discuss the nominations and elections process.
- 06/13/2025 – 06/25/2025 Electronic form in MemberClicks open for the TACRAO membership to submit nominations.
- Active TACRAO members received an email announcement 06/13/2025 to inform them that nominations were open. A reminder email was sent 06/23/2025 to solicit nominations.
- Candidates nominated by the membership were notified via email 07/01/2025 and asked to submit an activity form to accept their nomination. The form has been standardized, and it is completed electronically through MemberClicks.
- 07/14/2025 – activity forms due to Nominations Committee chair.
- 07/17/2025 – Nominations Committee meeting to create the slate of nominees for open positions
- Follow up questions were discussed via emails among the committee, and the proposed slate was sent to TEC 07/24/2025
- 08/05/2025 – TEC informed of the final ballot
- 9:00am, 08/11/2025 – 8:00pm, 08/18/2025 – Vote Now Election open
- During the election period, emails were sent as follows:
 - 08/11/2025 – election opening announcement to all eligible TACRAO members
 - Reminders to anyone who didn't vote on 08/13.
 - 2 reminders to non-voters on 08/18. One was earlier in the day, and the last reminder was just before the election closed.
- 08/19/2025 – 08/21/2025 TEC candidates were contacted by the President and new Nominations Committee members were contacted by the Nominations Chair
- 08/22/2025 – Election results announced to the membership

Nominations Summary

The following nominations were sought this year: President-Elect, Vice President for Admissions, Secretary, and 2025-2026 Nominations Committee

Nomination Counts:

- President-Elect: 5 nominees
- Vice President for Admissions: 7 nominees
- Secretary: 5 nominees
- 2025-2026 Nominations Committee: 19 nominees
- Total Individual Nominees: 33

- Total Nominations Submitted: 44
- Total Nominators: 18

One nominee missed the notifications regarding the requirement for the activity form, due to technical error. Institutional email servers had blocked and/or classified emails from the Chair as junk, which she saw after the deadline. The committee agreed to review this late submission via email. The committee ultimately decided to put 17 candidates who accepted their nominations forward for the ballot. The committee determined that one nominee did not get listed on the ballot. That individual self-nominated and does not have much TACRAO experience yet. We decided to ask her to get involved in other ways first—such as serving on a committee, presenting, or facilitating before running for TEC office.

2025 TACRAO Election Ballot

President-Elect

Scott Branum, Galveston College

Brenda Schumann, University of Texas at Austin

Vice President for Admission

Rene Andre, Texas Tech University Health Science Center

Anam Iqbal, Southern Methodist University

Andi Scott-Buncik, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Secretary

Tiffany Lipscomb, University of North Texas

Troy White, University of Texas at Tyler

Nominations Committee

Moses DeLeon, University of the Incarnate Word

Ashley Fleeks, North Central Texas College

Alejandra Holt, Texas A&M University, San Antonio

Zaria Kelley, Southern Methodist University

Cyndi Klausmeyer, Blinn College

Casey Martinez, Texas State University

Ashley Mason, University of North Texas

Kayla McDowell, University of Texas at Dallas

Ben Milum, Texas A&M University

Noah Murray, University of Texas at San Antonio

Election Results

President-Elect: Scott Branum, Galveston College

Vice President for Admission: Andi Scott-Buncik, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Secretary: Tiffany Lipscomb, University of North Texas

Nominations Committee:

Rene Zamora, Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi (Chair, elected in 2024)

Cyndi Klausmeyer, Blinn College (Chair-Elect)

Casey Martinez, Texas State University

Ashley Fleeks, North Central Texas College

Alejandra Holt, Texas A&M University, San Antonio

Noah Murray, University of Texas at San Antonio (Alternate A)

Ashley Mason, University of North Texas (Alternate B)

Voting numbers:

- 3,719 eligible TACRAO members were sent codes to cast their ballot
- 381 votes were cast (10.2% of members) & 6 abstentions

This year's Nominations Committee fulfilled our duties to the best of our abilities, despite delays and unexpected circumstances. Efforts were made to engage with the membership to solicit nominations. At the 2024 TACRAO Annual Meeting, nominations and elections for this year were promoted. TACRAO members who wanted to seek leadership positions in the organization were asked to get engaged and involved. When the nominations and election cycles opened, we used Facebook in addition to emails and listserv announcements to inform and encourage TACRAO to nominate and vote. Nominees were provided with information about the position they were nominated for, referencing the TACRAO governing documents to give details of how they were agreeing to serve the organization, if elected. We collaborated with our VPIT to use Memberclicks for the nomination form, the activity form, and to communicate with the membership about the nomination and election processes. She provided the collected data to us in electronic format, and we easily reviewed the data in a TEAMS meeting and through email. The committee also agreed upon a rubric for evaluating nominees. We modified AACRAO's version to meet the needs of TACRAO. It turned out we didn't need it this year because all accepted nominations but one were put on the ballot.

Some ideas we wanted to try but did not accomplish this year include a webinar to explain nominations and offices (AACRAO has an example of this on their website). We'd also like to see social media engagement with the membership to learn about the candidates on the ballot. We recommend TACRAO socials share relevant information about candidates and why they want to serve, rather than have candidates "campaign" on socials. It's the committee's recommendation to future committees to try these ideas to boost nominations and votes.

Based on the committee's activities this year, I am humbly requesting a review of both the Bylaws and Procedures Manual for Nominations and Elections. Edits are attached for the procedures manual and comments are listed for possible amendments to the bylaws. I am also requesting TEC consider giving the Nominations Committee space on the TACRAO Sharepoint to store documentation for continuity year to year. The Chair and Chair-Elect should be granted access.

It was my honor to serve TACRAO as Nominations Chair this year. I commend the committee for their good work and appreciate their service. Special shoutout goes to Jodie Rexroat for her prompt assistance with all things IT in support of our committee activities. And finally, I thank TACRAO President, Chris Reed, and Past President Bobbie Brown for their guidance and support.

Respectfully submitted 11/09/2025

Samantha Taylor, 2024-2025 Nominations Chair
Tarrant County College