

Candidate for Director - Professional Development

Carlena Harris

Luminex

Why are you interested in this Board position?

I'm interested in the Director - Professional Development position because the person in this position identifies and recommends workshop, orientation, and other educational and training programs and research activities to contribute to the professional development of the membership and advancement of the profession. I am a life learner that currently leads the professional development at Luminex, a member of the Association for Talent Development, and contributes as a facilitator for NACE's Recruiter Leadership Institute. I would love to bring my passion to work for SoACE. I have first hand experience as a contributor to the SoACE conference when I was one of the facilitators to deliver a session. I was impressed with the organization of the process and the support I received to ensure my session was a success. I believe in this role I can give back that service as we roll out sessions that will need a different format due to the current Covid-19 situation.



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

The qualifications I believe I have that make me a strong fit for the Director - Professional Development are the following: 1) Strength Finders confirmed the following are my key strengths: Strategic, Relator, Maximer, Arranger, and Positivity. I believe those key strengths in addition to my ability to build working relationships and my passion for learning makes me a great candidate to consider for the position. 2) I have experience identifying and recommending workshops, orientation, and other educational and training programs for my employer and the NACE Recruiter Leadership Institute. 3) I also have experience in researching activities to contribute to the professional development of the employees and advancement of their professions. 4) I hold a masters degree in Organizational Leadership and have experience creating curriculum and facilitating sessions for over 20 years. 5) I also have experience in solicitation of members for volunteer involvement in various associations (NACE, Girls on the Run, SWE, etc)

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

I have held a number of leadership roles within my employer's organization and within my profession or community. Here's a short list of a few of those roles that I have held:

- Former Director-Employer for NACE's Board of Directors
- Chair and co-chair for a number of NACE committees
- Facilitator for the NACE Recruiter's Leadership Institute
- Former board member for Girls on the Run-Austin and Society of Women Engineers-Central Texas
- Manager roles for IBM, National Instruments (NI), and now Luminex Corporation.
- Former Vice President for IBM's African American - Diversity Resource Group.
- Committee co-chair for the NI's Women Diversity Group and Luminex's Diversity Council

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