

**Candidates for 2019-2020 President Elect  
Texas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators**



**Taryn Anderson, Director, University of Dallas**

**Statement of Candidacy**

Thank you to the TASFAA membership for the nomination for President Elect. I would like to formally accept the nomination and understand the commitment involved if I am selected. I have the support of UD administration and my family in accepting this nomination.

**Biographical Statement**

Taryn Anderson is currently the Director of Financial Aid at the University of Dallas (UD) in Irving, TX.

Her career in higher education started while she was a senior at UD and completed a work-study internship in the Office of Admission and Financial Aid. Shortly after earning a Bachelor's of Arts with a major in Psychology from the University of Dallas, Taryn was asked to return to UD as an Admission Counselor. She recruited students from the West Coast, Southeast, Houston, and Dallas/Fort Worth regions for 4 years and was promoted to Senior Admission Counselor. She also supervised the Campus Visit Program Coordinator during this time. The Office of Admission and Office of Financial Aid work in unison to recruit and retain students, and she had the opportunity to learn about undergraduate financial aid awarding and leveraging while she worked in the Admission Office.

In the Spring of 2011, the University of Dallas started a search for a new Director of Financial Aid and Taryn was asked if she was interested in being considered. She switched from Admissions to Financial Aid in June of 2011 and began an arduous first year of on-the-job learning. It did not take long for her to realize that financial aid was where she was really meant to be. As the Director of Financial Aid, she manages the financial aid staff and oversees the awarding of over 55 million dollars in financial aid. She is also a member of the Enrollment Management Leadership Team at UD, which develops and implements the annual undergraduate recruitment plan. She has also served on the Retirement Plan Oversight Committee, Administration Building Planning Committee, 5-year plan Enrollment Committee, University Data Council and several hiring committees. In 2014, Taryn was awarded the Outstanding Leadership Award given to one University staff member annually.

Taryn maintains memberships in TASFAA, SWASFAA, NASFAA, TACAC, NACAC, and College Board and regularly attends annual conferences and meetings for these organizations. She has been a presenter at both TACAC and TASFAA conferences. In 2015, she served as a Vice Chair for the TASFAA annual fall conference and was a Co-Chair for the 2016 Conference. She also served on the SWASFAA Local Arrangements Committee in 2017 and is currently on the TASFAA 2019 Conference Committee.

The past 2 years she had the privilege of serving on the TASFAA Board as Vice President. The opportunity to work with TASFAA leadership and network with financial aid reps across Texas has allowed her to continue to grow in her understanding of the many areas of financial aid. If given the opportunity to serve as President Elect, she would like to see an increase in membership and membership participation. She would work to help educate the Texas financial aid community about the mission and purpose of TASFAA. She also would like to foster integration with other higher education professional organizations like SWASFAA, NASFAA, College Board, TACAC, ICUT and TACRAO.

When not at the office, Taryn enjoys spending time with her husband Mike and three boys, Kayden, Kellen, and Robert. She also enjoys coaching and playing volleyball. She and her family also volunteer with the DFW Labrador Retriever Rescue and have fostered and found forever homes for more than 20 labs over the last 9 years.



**Diane Todd Sprague, Executive Director, University of Texas – Austin**

**Statement of Candidacy**

During the past few years I have had the privilege to work on the Conference Committee, the Legislative Issues Committee and the TASFAA Board as Member at Large. I have been deeply impressed by the dedication and level of commitment that have been continually exhibited by the colleagues that have volunteered to serve in their various roles within TASFAA. This is truly a vibrant, well run state association and the members of TASFAA should be proud of what this organization has become.

It is my intent, should I be elected to serve as President, to keep up the great work that has been accomplished and work with the Board to continue to develop the role of TASFAA as knowledge experts on financial aid in higher education for the State legislature; to continue to develop the working relationship between TASFAA and THECB; and to develop the ties between TASFAA and high school counselors throughout the state. I am humbled by the potential opportunity to serve the members of TASFAA and thank you for your support.

**Biographical Statement**

Diane is a 30+ year veteran in the financial aid arena. Diane started her career in Michigan working in the Student employment unit at Central Michigan University. From there she progressed to the Assistant Director over Scholarships position and then on to the Financial Aid Director for Northwood University where she over saw the Office of Financial Aid at the main campus in Midland Michigan as well as the financial aid activities at the Cedar Hill, Texas and West Palm, Florida campuses. She was then the Director of Financial Aid Director at Ferris State University and moved to the Director of Scholarships and Grants for the State of Michigan. While at the

State she moved to the Director of the State Guaranty Agency where she was responsible for the Federal Loan programs and Audit Division. She moved to the University of Texas at Austin in 2009 where she is now the Executive Director of the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid.

Diane originally hails from the east coast and received her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Rutgers University. She has held leadership positions in the Michigan Student Financial Aid Association including being President for the 1997-78 academic year as well as being an active member in MASFAA, NASGAPP, NCHELP, and a Board member at larger for TASFAA.