

Current Draft Slate – 2021/2022 (additional information to be posted)

President –

A. Kieth -

VP – Communication –

Uldarico Sarmeinto -

Secretary –

Jennifer Saxton –

Jenny Saxton is an Associate Professor in the Theater department, where she teaches costume design and construction, script analysis, theater history, professional internship and other courses. She holds a BFA from Tarleton State University (hey, Oscar P!) and an MFA from Minnesota State University Mankato. She has been involved in a variety of costume-related endeavors from the Midwest, Northeast, and Texas, most recently serving four summers as the assistant costume shop manager/cutter/drafter at Chautauqua Theater Company.

Favorite designs at UTRGV include scenery and costumes for *She Stoops to Conquer* and *The Hobbit*; costumes for *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Chemical Imbalance*, and *She Kills Monsters*; and scenery for *A Year with Frog and Toad*. Directing credits include *Out of the Canon: A Celebration of BIPOC and LGBTQ+ and Women's Voices*, *The BFG: The Big Friendly Giant*, and *The Vagina Monologues*. While she claims Leelanau County, Michigan; Galena, Illinois; and Stephenville, Texas as her hometowns (depending on what she's feeling nostalgic for at the moment), she now calls the Rio Grande Valley home.

Treasurer Elect –

Nic Graves

Nicholas Graves is an Associate Professor of Scenic Design and the Coordinator for the Design and Technology area at Sam Houston State University where he moved after previous faculty appointments at the University of Northern Colorado and at St. Gregory's University in Shawnee, OK. He completed his Bachelors of Fine Arts in Theatre Design and Technology at Abilene Christian University then received his Masters of Fine Arts in Scenic Design at Indiana University. His Scenic and Lighting design work has been seen onstage at Lake Dillon Theatre Company, Bigfork Summer Playhouse, Granbury Theatre Company, Mainstreet Theatre for Youth, Unity Theatre, Lees McRae Summer Theatre, The University of Northern Colorado, Oklahoma City Theatre Company, Indiana Repertory Theatre, Indiana University, Brown County Playhouse, and Abilene Christian University.

Director at Large positions 1/3 –

Christopher Cole, -

Giovanni Salinas, -

Giovanni Salinas, based in McAllen, Texas, is a long time supporter of USITT Southwest. Attending his first Southwest Symposium in 2013, he would be awarded the Don Child's Award

in 2014, and Excellence in Prop Design in 2015. His education at the University of Texas - Pan American (now: Rio Grande Valley) and Stagecraft Institute of Las Vegas, prepared him for a career as a lighting technician with Walt Disney Parks and Resorts in Orlando, Florida, The Palazzo Hotel and Casino (working on Baz: Star Crossed Love), and abroad with Cirque du Soleil: Events and Experiences Division. Giovanni is now on a new chapter, teaching Technical Theatre at McAllen High School, wanting to bring a message home that no matter where you're from, if you have a passion for this industry and you're willing to work hard, you can have a successful and adventure filled career in entertainment. He'd like to thank you for considering him to serve as a Director-at-Large for the community where his life and career began.

Madison O'Brien

Madison O'Brien is beginning her 8th year in education, she has been the Technical Director for Gregory-Portland High School five of those years previously teaching in Pasadena, Texas and Corpus Christi, Texas. She most recently completed her Master's Degree in Educational Administration at Texas A&M University Corpus Christi, but holds her Bachelor's Degree in Theater Arts from Texas A&M University College Station (Gig 'em). Madison lives in Corpus Christi, Texas with her wife, Krystal and their two year old daughter, Amelia. In her free time she enjoys being outdoors and curating books for her Little Free Libraries.

Director At Large Position 5/6 (student) –

Juanita Salazar -

Jay Salazar is a senior theatre major at Sam Houston State University. She has been a member of the SHSU student chapter and has served as an officer for two years: first as secretary and later as vice-chair. Jay hopes to contribute to SWUSITT and facilitate communication between student members and the officers.

Casey Durham –

Director at Large 7 – vendor –

Alex Roberts (Schuler-Shook) -