



(MAL) Member-At-Large; Publications & Communications Committee

Dr. Andy Markelz, Ph.D.



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Watch Andy Markelz Candidate Video

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Candidate Statement:

TED is a wonderful organization! I have been involved in TED in some capacity since my doctoral program. I first attended Kaleidoscope meetings and presented during the poster sessions. I wanted to get more involved, so I applied and was elected as student representative of Kaleidoscope. I believe Kaleidoscope is a fantastic branch of TED that welcomes doctoral students into the community of teacher educators and scholars. As a student representative, I was able to attend TED board meetings and become familiar with other committees, caucuses, and SIGs. After serving as student representative, I still wanted to be involved in TED in a leadership capacity. In 2019, the position of Publications and Communications chair opened up and I accepted an appointment by the presidential line. I am interested in serving a second term as chair of the Publications and Communications committee.

The mission of TED is to be a professional organization that leads and supports teacher education on behalf of students with exceptionalities and their families. To accomplish this mission, TED brings value to its members in a variety of ways. Conferences are a major touchpoint for members to connect, network, build relationships, share research and best practices, gain knowledge, and have a little fun. *TESE* is a premier journal in teacher education research. Professional learning networks (e.g., Early Career Facebook page) are active and full of answers and resources. From legislative summits to syllabus shares and webinars, resources for TED members are growing.

I hope to continue working with the Board of Directors to further these efforts, build on new initiatives, and realize the mission of TED.

Two initiatives that I have been working on that meet TED's mission and work towards TED's strategic plan are annual conference proceedings and a new peer-reviewed journal for special education teacher educators.

In 2019, TED's first annual conference proceedings were published following the conference in New Orleans. The goal of these conference proceedings is to allow further distribution of important research and practices to TED members. Conferences are jam packed with sessions and often times attendees have to miss presentations due to conflicting schedules. Conference proceedings overcome this obstacle by summarizing sessions and presenting important content in a format that all TED members can consume. Wider distribution of session content also allows for greater opportunities to identify common interests and foster collaboration among TED members. Conference proceedings will resume in 2021 following the Fort Worth Conference.

The Journal of Special Education Preparation (JOSEP) is an open-access, peer-reviewed journal that features research-to-practice information and materials for special education faculty in higher education settings. JOSEP is filling a niche in the field of special education by providing a medium for special education teacher educators to publish and read evidence-based practices in a practical, immediate application format.

Another term as Publications and Communications chair will allow me to continue and expand on these initiatives for the betterment of TED members. Thank you for considering my application!