Meet the Presenters

Robert Krause is Practice Lead for Gray & Pape’s Disaster Management/Recovery Services program. Krause has 15 years’ experience as an architectural and environmental historian in state and local government and has led CRM and historic survey reviews for Disaster Recovery programs in Texas, Florida, and South Carolina. Operating out of the company’s Southeast Region office in Houston, Texas, Krause helped secure DM/DR contracts in 2019 with the City of Houston’s Hurricane Harvey Recovery program, with FEMA flood control efforts in Fort Bend County, Texas, along with the statewide RebuildFlorida CDBG program administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Prior to joining Gray & Pape, Krause worked for Ardurra Group as the lead environmental project manager for HUD and FEMA efforts under the Texas General Land Office and South Carolina Disaster Recovery Office. He has worked as an historian and project manager at the Florida SHPO, the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, and the National Park Service at Horseshoe Bend National Military Park in Daviston, Alabama.

A native of St. Petersburg, Florida, Krause earned his Ph.D. in United States History from Ole Miss in 2010. His work on New Deal projects in the Gulf South has been published in the Journal of Mississippi History and the Florida Historical Quarterly. Krause is pursuing an M.S. in Ecology and Environmental Sustainability at Texas Tech University, where his current work focuses on the impact of climate change and extreme weather events on cultural, environmental, and historic resources. He lives in Houston with his wife Sheila, son Cameron, and chihuahua Milo. He enjoys saltwater fishing, disc golf, and Houston Rockets basketball.

Mason D. Miller, M.A. is a senior land and marine archaeologist with Austin-based AmaTerra Environmental, Inc.. He received his Bachelor’s in archeology from the University of Texas at Austin and his Master’s Degree in underwater archeology from Texas A&M University (though he is an Orangeblood at heart). Mr. Miller’s field experience includes historic and prehistoric terrestrial projects and underwater investigations in the United States, Central America, Portugal, and the Azores. Mason also serves as AmaTerra’s lead geophysical remote sensing specialist, using magnetometers, ground penetrating radar, and other tools for non-invasive investigations. He has developed a strong reputation in the archaeology community for excelling at public outreach and engagement, utilizing new technologies to reach diverse audiences including interactive publications on
the iBooks store and weekly YouTube livestreams from archeological excavations. Mason lives in Austin with his wife, Amanda, and two sons: Davis (10) and Elliott (4).

**Nicholas (Miki) Schmidt** is chief of the Science and Geospatial Division for NOAA’s Office for Coastal Management. Program initiatives in that division include leadership for the Digital Coast, data acquisition and delivery, and economics. An expert in applying geospatial technologies, Schmidt has had a long career with the federal government. From 1988 to 1991, he served as a civilian remote sensing scientist for the U.S. Army’s Strategic Defense Command. He then joined NASA’s commercial remote sensing program, working with private industry to develop new remote sensing products and services. Schmidt’s work with NOAA began in 1996. He first served as the manager of the NOAA Coastal Services Center’s GIS program for four years, then became deputy chief of the Coastal Geospatial Services division. In 2004, he was named division chief or the organization that now calls itself NOAA’s Office for Coastal Management. Schmidt holds a master’s degree in geography and a bachelor's degree in marine science, both from the University of South Carolina.