



Fall 2014 Nominated Officer Questionnaire

INSTRUCTIONS

Please attach your **current résumé** and **Fall 2014 schedule** (class, work, other extracurricular activities).

This questionnaire is due **no later than THURSDAY, April 24TH at 5:00PM**. Please send this document and all supplemental materials to webmaster.apousc@gmail.com . PDF is preferred.

Election Day: Candidates for President and Pledgemaster will have three minutes to give their speeches. Candidates for all other positions will have two minutes.

You may present one slide per position you run for at the time of your speech. Slides are due by **SUNDAY, April 27st at 11:59AM** to communications.apousc@gmail.com . You will not be allowed to pass out additional materials or papers during your speech.

PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION

Name: Nikita Zolotykh
Year: 2016 (Sophomore)
Major: Business Administration
Pledge Class (Year): Alpha Alpha (Fall 2012)

Please mark which elected position(s) you are running for with an X:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> President | <input type="checkbox"/> VP of Finance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pledgemaster | <input type="checkbox"/> VP of Communications |
| <input type="checkbox"/> VP of Service | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising Chair |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VP of Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> IC Chair |
| <input type="checkbox"/> VP of Fellowship | |

PART II: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. What is your vision for APO and what are your goals for the position? What new ideas can you bring?

I see APO as a group of friends and self-motivated leaders that share a passion for community service. Members of APO not only love serving others, but also love inspiring others to serve. They strive to be kind and to do good everywhere at all times – even outside of official events. By constantly demonstrating kindness and passion for service and friendship, APO will set a leading example to people, ultimately

having the potential to improve not just our campus or city, but the entire nation or even the world. Although this vision is an ideal, I believe that it is possible.

As the VP of Membership, I would aim to do the following:

- Continue working on the Leadership aspect of the fraternity.
 - Offer incentives to members for organizing their own events or workshops.
 - Utilize campus resources by attending speaker sessions, and leadership development activities around campus.
 - Take advantage of LEADS and offer the first course to the members.
- Continue fostering good relationships among families, but with a dose of healthy competition.
 - Continue Families Appreciation Day and regular Family Heads meetings.
 - More casual family contests: Spelling Bee Contest, Family Jeopardy, Karaoke Competition.
- Personalized updates for members.
 - With the help of the Membership committee, send out requirement updates to members (traditionally done by the VP's, sometimes).
 - Utilize the Membership committee to keep a pulse on the chapter.
 - Bring back birthday announcements and obviously continue the Love Book.
 - Serve as a resource for all members to channel their APO-related feedback.
- Take a more active role in Rush planning and execution.
 - Besides from organizing a membership event, actively participate in Rush.
 - Either help to plan, or simply run events to alleviate Rush co-chairs' duties.
 - Though not rush-related, but, likewise, have a more active presence for the pledge team during the semester.

2. What are two positive qualities that you lack and how do you compensate for these shortcomings?

Like everyone else, I have imperfections. One major one is my “inability” to plan far ahead. Unless I force myself, I would never plan anything more than three weeks in advance and sometimes that is not enough time to come up with concrete plans. I would sometimes procrastinate planning and in those cases I ultimately have to work under pressure of time, even though I could have prepared well in advance. Of course, I realize that this is one of my flaws, and particularly this semester I’ve been trying hard to fix it. As the VP of Fellowship, for example, I set a rule for myself to plan events at least three weeks in advance, and every weekend I would force myself to sit down and work on planning events for three weeks ahead. While this practice worked, it is still not my habit and it is still something I need to keep working on.

Another important shortcoming that I have is my difficulty with making concrete decisions. For example, I often have to decide where to go for dinner with my fellow brothers, and more often than I’d like to admit, that decision takes me over ten minutes to make. Though the example is a bit silly, it illustrates my problem: when I have no preference or no decisive opinion, I have a hard time picking and sticking to one option. Sometimes it’s a harmless shortcoming, but sometimes it costs me in extra time planning an event (when I have to decide between two seemingly equal dates, for example). But just like my first flaw, I am also working on being a better decision-maker. As the VP of Fellowship, I would force myself to think about the situation, make a decision, and stick with it – even if I change my mind two minutes after I made it. This helps me get rid of this habit, but I still have to continue working to train myself in being more decisive.

3. What relevant experience, if any, have you had working in committees or other organizations for the position(s) you are running for? Please be specific.

In high school, I was in charge of several organizations that developed my leadership skills. As the captain of the math team for three years, I had to develop the team from scratch, setting the tone for team meetings and practices and creating enthusiasm among the members. I believe I can muster similar enthusiasm among APO members to come out to more events, while keeping the tone animated and respectful at the same time. As the president of a major volunteering organization for one year, I managed over one hundred people and organized community service events. I had to find organizations or clubs that would potentially need our help, contact them, and, if help was truly needed, agree on logistics for the event and communicate them to my members. As a philanthropy co-chair, I similarly organized events from scratch, keeping in constant communication with other e-board members and volunteering organizations. Lastly, as the VP of Fellowship, I had to work with my committee in order to organize large-scale fellowship events. This kind of preparation and effort is exactly what fuels fun family competitions that so many of our members enjoy. Lastly, since the job of the VP of Fellowship required a lot of communication with members in order to find out their preferences and opinions, I am prepared to listen even more to the concerns of our members about the chapter as a whole. I am also prepared to listen to members and talk over any problems they might have – be it inside or outside the fraternity.

4. What other time commitments will you have next semester (i.e. other student organizations, work, research, etc.)? How do you plan to balance APO executive board duties with those commitments?

My other time commitments next semester will include: work-study (~10 hours/week), judo club (~3 hours/week), and maybe a Marshall organization (shouldn't take up more than 3 hours/week). Evidently, my time commitments outside of APO are not that great and balancing workloads should not be a problem. Regardless, in case of work conflicts, I will prioritize my e-board duties over duties in other organizations.

5. Why are you the best candidate for this position?

I am the best candidate for this position because of my experience and my dedication to APO. Like it was mentioned above in question 3, I have plenty of leadership and organizational experience both from APO and outside of it. I served several semesters on e-board and I am familiar with the procedures and efforts it takes to run our chapter. In terms of organizing events, my Philanthropy Co-chair and VP of Fellowship experiences will make it easy for me to work with active and other e-board members in order to create enjoyable family and leadership events. My dedication to APO, and my desire to promote enthusiasm among all members of our chapter, will help me inspire our members to be more active in the fraternity affairs. I will come out to even more events and spend even more time at HQ in order to talk to and listen to our members. This way, I could better gauge why some members are more active than others and what I can do to help them stay involved. Lastly, I care about all our brothers and I will do whatever it takes to improve our fraternity and everyone's experience in it.

Don't forget to attach your résumé and schedule.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the Elected Board Questionnaire. Please be sure to send in your election slide(s) no later than Sunday, April 27th at 11:59AM. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact president.apousc@gmail.com.

Good luck! ☺