



## Fall 2015 Nominated Officer Questionnaire

### INSTRUCTIONS

Please attach your **current résumé** and **Spring 2013 schedule** (class, work, other extracurricular activities).

This questionnaire is due **no later than FRIDAY APRIL 24<sup>TH</sup> at 5:00PM**. Please send this document and all supplemental materials to [president.apousc@gmail.com](mailto:president.apousc@gmail.com) and [webmaster.apousc@gmail.com](mailto:webmaster.apousc@gmail.com).

**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 26<sup>TH</sup> at 11:59pm** to [president.apousc@gmail.com](mailto:president.apousc@gmail.com). You will not be allowed to pass out additional materials or papers during your speech.

### PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION

**Name:** Stanley Tsui

**Year:** Junior

**Major:** Biochemistry

**Pledge Class (Year):** Alpha Beta (Spring 2013)

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

☒ President

☐ Pledgemaster

☐ VP of Service

☐ VP of Membership

☐ VP of Fellowship

☐ VP of Finance

☐ VP of Communications

☐ Fundraising Chair

☒ IC Chair

## PART II: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

### 1. **What is your vision for APO?**

I want APO to be an organization that inspires others to do service and give back. I think back to my pledging semester and remember all the actives who influenced me. Their dedication and selflessness to the fraternity was truly inspiring and really taught me the meaning of what it means to be an active and a brother of APO. If someone were to see APO at an event, I would want them to see the camaraderie between all the members and the member's desire to be at that event. Throughout the semesters, I have seen many members lose sight of why they loved and joined APO in the first place and an increasingly flippant attitude towards the chapter. There has been a shift of culture where people take what APO has to offer for granted and not give back to the chapter. What makes APO unique is that it is more than just a normal service org. APO not only an organization that brings people from diverse backgrounds together, but also an opportunity for people to forge life-long friendships and memories – this is something I truly believe in. There is so much potential for APO and I want to play an active role in shaping it into an even better organization.

### 2. **Why do you want the position(s) you are running for?**

I am running for the positions of president and IC Chair. I want the position of president because I think that being president will allow me the opportunity to change APO for the better. The president is an important figure within the organization and plays a huge role in setting the tone for the semester. I think that leading by example is a great way to encourage and inspire others to be better. I want the opportunity to give back to APO because it was through APO that I found a network of individuals with similar mindset and goals. The people that I have met within APO have been hugely influential with regards to my college career, but the culture of the organization has been declining and has started to be toxic to some. As president, I would have the chance to lead the next executive board and hopefully guide the chapter into developing a better culture and mindset.

I want to run for the position of IC chair because I've always loved going to IC events and being IC chair would allow me to form even better relationships with some of our IC chapters. As of recently our chapter has been improving with regards to going to IC events and welcoming IC brothers whenever they come to our GBMs. However, with Sectionals being hosted at our chapter next year, I think that our chapter needs to do even more in terms of familiarizing ourselves with how other chapters run and the cultures and traditions that many other schools have adopted. Also, I feel like our chapter still has the "exclusive" feeling to it when it comes to IC events, and I would love the opportunity to break down the divide between our chapters and others, and I think our chapter has a lot to learn from other chapters as well.

### 3. **What are your goals for the position(s)?**

My goals for being president are as follows.

- 1) I want Eboard next year to be more integrated and cohesive as a board. As of now, the members on Eboard work very hard to put together their respective events. However, when looking at the masterdoc, I see that many of the Eboard members who plan events are so focused on promoting and going to their own events, that there is disparity with regards to attendance at other events. I realize that part of it does have to do with time, but I think Eboard members should be supporting other Eboarders at events, thus fostering a more cohesive and productive board.

- 2) I also think that it's important for Eboard members to have more of a presence as role models. Eboard members should be exemplifying the qualities of LFS and should act as motivation and encouragement for active members to do better. Our names are highlighted on the masterdoc for a reason and it's a little disappointing to see that they haven't met all their requirements yet, much less go above and beyond. In order to not appear hypocritical and simply preach to be better, I think Eboard itself has to step it up and show what it means to go above and beyond.
- 3) I want everyone in the chapter to feel comfortable bringing up issues that they believe are pertinent to the chapter. The anonymous evaluations sent to eboard are helpful in terms of raising awareness about issues that are occurring within the chapter, but I also see that there is a huge abuse of it. People with anonymous evals tend to be more negative with regards to the complaints, and some can be downright petty issues. It's also not as effective because the evals simply contain negative comments directed towards certain people, and don't offer any solutions or suggestions of what they would like to see instead. I understand that some issues are perhaps more sensitive than others and that some actives wouldn't feel comfortable putting their names to it, but I would like to see actives at least comfortable reaching out to any Eboard member to speak about the issue. This way, the Eboard member can bring up the matter to Eboard and the general body and the active can feel confident in trusting in Eboard to take matters seriously
- 4) I really want to improve on chapter transparency – between Eboard members and between Eboard and the active body. A lot of the evals are only brought to the attention to the respective board member who it affects. I think that there's a lot to be gained from Eboard members knowing what other board members should improve on, since Eboard should be a unified unit that supports each other. When dealing with sensitive issues and if appropriate, I want there to be open discussion. I do not wish to see the active body, or even board members, left in the dark about issues that could potentially have a huge impact on the chapter. Everyone is a part of the organization and we all worked to become actives, it's only fair everyone also gets a say as to how the chapter functions.

My goals for IC Chairs are as follows:

- 1) If I am elected as IC Chair, I want to first and foremost improve attendance at IC events. I think this past semester, there was a huge boost in attendance at IC events. This was due to an increased variety of events and an increased encouragement to continually push people to come out and meet new brothers. I want to continue the trend by working even more with other chapters and maybe even collaborate on events so that it's more of a joint effort rather.
- 2) I want to change the attitude and exclusiveness of our chapter with regards to IC events. Part of the culture of our chapter is to be very "self-loving". I don't mean it in a negative way, it's just that at events we tend to stick together to people we know. I think this stems from the fact that we as a chapter have not been exposed to enough IC events and therefore it's hard to push ourselves out of the comfort zone. I want to encourage people who go to IC events to actually meet other members and even have productive conversations from it. Personally, I still talk to my penpal from pledging semester and I

stay in consistent contact with friends that I have made at previous events. That's part of the motivation for me to go out to events, so that I can keep seeing friends that I have made and to make even more friends – and that's the attitude I want our chapter to have as well. Meeting members from other chapters not only expand and enhance our experience being in APO, but also there's a lot to be learned from talking to other members and seeing what works well in other chapters.

- 3) I want to work with the sectional co-chairs to plan the upcoming sectionals for 2016. Having been to sectionals myself recently this semester, there are many ideas I want implement to make it a successful event. It's been a while since AK has had such a huge opportunity to host an event for so many ICs, and I would love to be a part of this process and make it a successful event.

**4. What new ideas can you bring to the position and organization as a whole? Please provide examples.**

I think for both positions, I want to focus mainly on revamping what is existing and improving on the effectiveness of Eboard rather than jumping in and implementing new ideas. For example, I want to bring back the use of committees to brainstorm and plan events for each respective VPs. The bylaws denote that we have standing committees in an effort to include more members of the chapter in the process of chapter business and I think it's a great way to utilize the committees to increase transparency between Eboard and the active body. Also, we don't have an advisor or an advisor committee, and I think that goal setting at the beginning of the semester is very important in terms of setting the proper tone for the semester. Currently, the EBMs every Monday have been exclusively board members, and I think that if possible, actives should also come to EBM. An idea I want to implement for EBMs is to have focused discussion on evals and issues that appear as the semester appears. Rather than waiting for town hall to discuss issues that have been occurring throughout the semester, I would like to have a continual discussion of the issues and make announcements to the active body as to what issue we're talking about at EBM so that they can make an appearance and have their opinions heard.

I think as IC chair, our board members would benefit from having interactions with board members in other chapters and see if there are things that are done differently or more effectively. This could be an effective way to brainstorm and see things from a different perspective. In addition, I would like to host more joint events with other chapters were the planning isn't on just one chapter, but rather a collaborative effort. For example, I think the IC picnic was a great idea, but if we were able to coordinate with another chapter to host it, not only would we be able to gather more resources, but we would also have a larger attendance at events from the PR push from two chapters.

**5. 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 the semesters I've been in APO, I've had experience working with fellowship, special events, and membership as well as a year's worth of experience being on eboard. Throughout the two years of being in APO, I've been to over 40 IC events and so I have a pretty good grasp of how other chapters function and which events are popular. I've participated in a lot of large IC events at other chapters like Project Mataguay, IC Dance Comp, and Sectionals, and from that I have formed connections with a lot of other chapters. I believe that all these experiences will help me run a good semester of IC events.

**6. 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?**

Next semester, the only main time commitment I will have outside of academics and APO is my work at Leavey Library. I estimate that I will work 16 hours a week at Leavey, but I don't think that it'll have any major impact on how I balance board duties. I have been working at Leavey for 2 years now and have been on Eboard for while also working at Leavey, so I think time management will not be an issue.