



## Fall 2014 Nominated Officer Questionnaire

### INSTRUCTIONS

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

This questionnaire is due **no later than THURSDAY, April 24<sup>TH</sup> at 5:00PM**. Please send this document and all supplemental materials to [webmaster.apousc@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:communications.apousc@gmail.com). You will not be allowed to pass out additional materials or papers during your speech.

### PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION

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Name: Judith Garcia  
Year: Junior  
Major: Human Biology and American Studies  
Pledge Class (Year): Alpha Gamma (Fall 2013)

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

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

### PART II: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

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

There is great beauty in our organization in that we have the ability to draw individuals from all backgrounds and corners of the world. Yet, no matter how different we all may be, we all share the same passion—service. We are a service organization and that is what bonds us together. Therefore, my vision for Alpha Phi Omega reflects this idea, in that as a chapter we are to establish and maintain an inclusive

and safe environment that allows our members to thrive all while serving others. As we serve, we connect with others, either with our brothers from the chapter or the individuals that we work with and serve in the field, and in the process we come to better understand not only ourselves but those we serve and the world around us. My desire is that the contributions that we make as a chapter ignite a ripple effect that will not only benefit the people that we help but encourage them to turn around and do the same for others. I believe that we are capable to making great impacts and I would love to have that energy burn within the rest of the chapter as well. Therefore, my desire is that our chapter be a home for all our members that provides them with the opportunities to develop and grow as individuals while they help others to do the same. My goals as pledgemaster are therefore, to prepare the incoming pledge class and to share this vision with them. I would like to provide pledges with the most rewarding experience that both welcomes them to our chapter and allows them to grow as individuals. At the same time I would like to lead them in the most organized and effective manner to ensure that the pledging process stays true to its purpose.

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

As I am sure most people have noticed, I am not always the most assertive individual around. This has been the quality that I have most developed as an RA but it also one that I continue to work on. In general however I tend to compensate for this shortcoming by being open and understanding to others. I attempt to be respectful and communicate with others in a way that is clear and that allows me to gain their respect and hopefully avoids any misunderstandings or conflicts in the future. This is in order to prevent situations where I must be more firm or aggressive. However, I recognize that assertiveness is a characteristic that is essential in leading a pledge class but I also believe that when necessary I can step up to the situation. I also believe that my role as pledge aunt did not always require me to demonstrate this side of me to APO. I do however, recognize that as pledgemaster I would have to pull out this characteristic more often to enforce the rules and requirements to pledges. I am willing to do so. In general, I also tend to worry too much about others and struggle to say no to others when help is asked for. However, by being clear with others about what is expected in the first place and what the given deadlines are as well as setting my priorities I try to compensate for this shortcoming.

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.

I believe that my experiences as a Resident Assistant for a freshman hall this year as well as the positions of Pledge President and Pledge Aunt in our Chapter, have provided me with skills relevant to the position of Pledgemaster. As an RA I have had the opportunity to work with a diverse group of individuals and have developed qualities essential to leading and overlooking a group. The role of an RA is to enforce housing and university policies all while being a first resource and form of support for residents. As a result over the year I have learned how to best be an authority figure throughout my community while still being someone who is approachable and supportive. I believe the balance between the two is key among a pledgemaster. The RA position has also allowed me to further develop my organization, time management, and communication skills. Throughout the experience I have learned how to better handle conflicts between two or more parties by serving as a mediator. I have therefore worked with different groups of people to ensure that a safe environment exists for all parties to be heard and together we have worked towards finding the best arrangement that benefits everyone. I also have experience with building community through programming and limited budgets. More importantly as an RA I am also familiar with the resources available to students on campus. I believe information of these resources are beneficial to a pledgemaster since we must remember that our pledges are students before anything and therefore it is important to help them balance their school work and outside activities with their own commitment to APO. Being pledge president and pledge aunt has also allowed to become more familiar with the pledging process and has given me a view of the behind the scenes work that is required to run a pledge class. Throughout this last semester I had the opportunity of working closely with the Pledgemaster and have witnessed the amount of work that is required for the position.

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 commitments outside of APO this year often prevented me from fully devoting myself to the chapter. As an RA for 66 freshman while holding a work study job and an intense class schedule, I did not have the opportunity to fully commit to our chapter and our community as I would have liked. However, I will not be returning as an RA next year for several reasons. One of the reasons is my wish to have more time for APO. Therefore, the amount of time that I will have to available to dedicate to APO within the next year has greatly increased. Another than my course work and perhaps a few hours per week at my current work study job, I have no other commitments outside of APO preventing me from serving on executive board. Of course, the amount of hours I dedicate to my work study job will also be dependent on whether or not I have the opportunity to serve on executive board.

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

My experiences as a current RA and pledge aunt continue to show me how much I enjoy working with people. I really do care about those around me and it has been a great honor to serve as one of the pledge aunts for the Alpha Deltas this semester. I have taken on the positions that I have simply because I love taking care of people and would like to help them along their own paths. I also consider myself a responsible individual. As an RA I have learned how important it is to be an example for those who look to you for guidance. I believe that I can bring my previous experiences together to do the same for the incoming pledge class as Pledgemaster. I am passionate about this organization, our purpose, and position. Therefore, if elected I would dedicate the time and effort necessary to provide clear instructions and guidance to the pledges to offer them a rewarding pledging experience and introduction to our chapter. The pledging process has great room for growth and it would be an honor to work with our new pledge class to guide them along the way.

***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](mailto:president.apousc@gmail.com).

Good luck! ☺

# Judith Garcia

## Experience

1/2012 - 05/2014      **Student Computer Services**      Los Angeles, CA  
**Computer Lab Assistant**

Is currently a computer lab assistant for the computer lab of student services in the USC Gould School of Law Library. Is responsible for the maintenance of all printers and computers in the lab, and answers any questions individuals might have.

8/2013-05/2014      **Resident Assistant**      Los Angeles, CA

Is currently a Resident Assistant for a freshman dorm at the University of Southern California. Serves as a mentor and advisor for 66 first year students. Develops and implements programs to strengthen community on the floor.

## Education

8/2011 - 5/2015      **University of Southern California**      Los Angeles, CA

Some college coursework completed

Currently a junior at USC.

Major: B.A. American Studies and Ethnicity & B.S. Human Biology

G.P.A: 3.3

8/2008 - 5/2011      **Mesa High School**      Mesa, Az

High School

Graduated within the top 1 percent of her graduating class.

## Activities & Affiliations

1/2012 - 3/2012      **TIRP-Teaching International Relations Program**      CALIS

Participated in service learning TIRP (Teaching International Relations Program). Every week, along with two other students, paid a visit a to a local high school--Belmont high. The group taught different lesson plans to a Sophomore class every week over topics concerning International Relations.

9/2011 - 5/2013      **A USC Latino Alumni Scholar**      USC Latino Alumni Association

The organization provides scholars with support, leadership training, service opportunities, and networking.

8/2009 - 5/2011      **Service Learning**

S.H.Out, or Students Helping Out, the service learning club at Mesa High School.

**Vice president** (2009-2010):

Organized new projects and activities, led meetings when president was absent.

**President** (2010-2011):

Lead meetings and events, organized projects and activities, and provided guidance to new club members.

## Skills

### Communication Skills

Can communicate effectively with others in a respectful and courteous manner. Can work individually or as part of a team.

### Computer Skills

Experience with Microsoft programs such as Word, Excel, and Powerpoint.

### Organization

Great organization skills, is precise, on time, dependable and responsible.

## Awards/Honors

5/2011                      **Citizenship Award**                      Mesa High School  
Awarded the Citizenship Award of the Mesa High School class of 2011.

5/2011                      **Leisure World Lions Club Service Award**                      Leisure World Lions Club  
Awarded a \$1000 scholarship for excellent service around the community.

## References

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