



Spring 2015 Nominated Officer Questionnaire

INSTRUCTIONS

Please attach your **current résumé** and **Spring 2015 schedule** (class, work, other extracurricular activities).

This questionnaire is due **no later than FRIDAY, November 28th at 11:59PM**. Please send this document and all supplemental materials to webmaster.apousc@gmail.com . PDF is preferred.

You may present one slide per position you run for at the time of your speech. Slides are due by **SATURDAY, November 29th 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: Richard Li
Year: Sophomore
Major: Public Relations
Pledge Class (Year): Alpha Delta (Spring 2014)

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> VP of Service	<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising Chair
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VP of Membership	<input checked="" 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?

My main vision for APO is to bring forth the enthusiasm, the passion and the excitement Alpha Kappa has had for service in past semesters. I want to ensure that beyond identifying as the premier service-based leadership development organization on campus, we truly live up to our intended vision. One of my main hope for Alpha Kappa is to encourage all members to not only do service just for the sake of fulfilling requirements but to actually be passionate about our service program. By running for elected board, I hope that my efforts, my passion and my dedication to APO can instill a positive and radiant energy back into Alpha Kappa. I hope our chapter can radiate our cardinal principles to all of our current members and for future generations. Thus, I strive for our organization to not only excel at community service but also shape our members to be well round individuals through our leadership opportunities and to emphasize the importance of brotherhood.

With that being said, these hopes and visions for the future can only be possible if we tackle some of the issues that face Alpha Kappa in terms of our internal structure and our external structure.

Internal Structure:

Regardless of which elected board position I may receive, my goals as an elected board member are: to work closely with all the e-board to ensure that the Alpha Zeta semester runs smoothly, to plan all events well in advance, as well as being widely available and accessible to any active, associate or pledge when ever they need my assistance.

My one goal as an e-board member is to focus on communication. In order to be an effective organization, e-board, the active body and the pledges must work together as one cohesive team. I believe some of the downfalls that can occur with this chapter are the direct result of poor communication. It is extremely important that all members of our fraternity are involved in the future of our chapter. I feel it is extremely necessary for all members to be well informed of the decisions, the plans and the goals e-board sets out for Alpha Zeta semester and beyond. Sending out e-board minutes, using GBM's to update, inform, discuss and address ideas or issues, creating simple newsletters, e-board having office hours and utilizing a common Google Calendar (to effectively plan events in advance and to prevent clashes or over abundance of events on one calendar date, as well as giving members the opportunity to plan in advance) can tremendously improve our internal communications. Furthermore, it is vital for the future of our chapter that all members understand and can properly understand our chapter bylaws to understand the potential changes to our chapter. I would like to find a way to allow our entire chapter and future members to be better acquainted with our bylaws. Whether this should be implemented into our pledging requirements starting from Alpha Zeta semester, or finding another method is something I would like to propose integrate into our chapter with the help of e-board and our members.

External Structure:

Beyond the internal vision, my external vision is for APO to gain the positive recognition from the USC community, all of our service partners and other APO chapters for our dedication to leadership, friendship and service. As a Public Relations major, I hope to help e-board work on its PR efforts not only during rush but also during the semester. One of my hopes is to utilize what I've learned in my classes to key push APO in a positive light on campus and beyond. Whether its applying for recognition by nationals, or getting attention to our events, I intend to help facilitate all PR efforts as a member of e-board.

VP of Service:

As I have mentioned before, I truly want all of our members to be passionate, excited and dedicated to our service program. In order for that to happen, I as VP of Service will do my best to ensure that the service program at Alpha Kappa is diverse, engaging and rewarding.

To start off, I would like to create a service committee will give members of our chapter the opportunity to understand the fundamentals of planning service events for Alpha Kappa. With a service committee I hope to bring forth a wide range of individuals with passions in different fields of service to help me enhance our service program. With the service committee, I also hope the combined effort can help Alpha Kappa plan and execute our required National Spring Service Day as well as creating our Service Invite. The importance of having a service committee in my opinion is to make our service program more transparent, more engaging and more rewarding. By doing so, it would give our members and pledges alike the opportunity to develop leadership skills though service. Hopefully, this will create more interest in service for our chapter and to create a sustainable future.

In addition, I would like to work closely with IC Chair, Philanthropy Co-Chairs and Pledge VP of Service to enhance our service program. With IC Chair, I would like for us to use service as a way to know our fellow brothers in Region X. Not only will this give us an opportunity build on our relations with our IC's but it gives every one in our chapter the chance to create new friendships and to experience how other chapters provide service to their communities. With Philanthropy Co-Chairs and Pledge VP of Service, I want to provide them with any possible resources for them to effectively plan out their events. Not only will I be their support system, but also I intend to be highly involved in their goals for the semester.

My last point about being VP of Service is being dedicated to the chapter. As VP of Service I will promise that I will be there for the chapter and any members. Communication is key to this position and I intend to be consistently communicating with the chapter on a weekly basis at GBM. At GBM's I will provide

update to the whole chapter in regards to all new events, events to look out within the next two weeks or month and the progress service committee is making during the semester. I will further ensure that I will have office hours twice a week at HQ to address any questions, issues and problems that any active, associate or pledge may have. I will go on to further emphasize that I will respond to all emails within one day of it being sent and that all hours for any service event will be updated on the MasterDoc twice weekly. I plan personally contact all members each month (starting February) on their progress with service to ensure that they have all the available resources to complete requirements smoothly.

VP of Membership:

For VP of Membership, my mission is to be openly available to all of members of this chapter: actives, associates, abroad and pledges and to be able address their personal concerns, foster brotherhood within the chapter, streamline a constant channel of communication between e-board and all members and to help transition the incoming pledge class into our chapter.

As VP of Membership I promise to ensure that all members are well updated of the requirements on a monthly basis beyond the regular mid-semester review period. Communication between the VP of Membership and the chapter is extremely important and I guarantee to: be present at HQ twice weekly for office hours to address any concerns, issues and problems any member may have; respond to all emails within one day of the message being sent, to attend all pledge meetings, to facilitate rush week and over see all operations run by IC, Alumni, Sargent-at-Arms and Family Heads. With all these responsibilities I look to utilize a common Google Calendar to help facilitate all events created by e-board. This will help e-board efficiently plan for the future and not cause any day to be overwhelmed with events, which will causing tremendous stress for the pledge class and pull away attendance.

In terms of promoting brotherhood, my goal is to help facilitate events and activities to engage all members. I am also hoping to start an appreciation committee to help provide the chapter with constant support and love for all of our brothers. This committee would strive to help promote simple birthdays celebrations, celebrating holidays, family appreciation week, driver's appreciation week, big little appreciation week and various activities to help engage in brotherhood. Another important thing I strive to do as VP of Membership is to help our abroad brother feel connected to the chapter during the semester way. Beyond sending out love cards, postcards and care packages, I am hoping to get Alpha Kappa to send them personalize videos. In addition I am hoping to get the pledge class and the abroad brothers to interact with each other via YouTube. By creating a private video that gives each party an opportunity to learn more about our pledges and our abroad brother will help narrow in the gap caused by the distance.

IC Chair:

If I become IC Chair, my mission is to continue to enhance Alpha Kappa's relations with our IC brothers within Region X. Hopefully as IC Chair I can help promote friendship and brotherhood between Alpha Kappa and our IC brothers.

In order to accomplish my mission as IC Chair for the Alpha Zeta semester, my goals for the upcoming semester include: creating and establishing Alpha Kappa's iconic IC event, successfully getting Alpha Kappa to attend Project Mataguay and ICDC, to work closely with our VP of Service to create various ICService events that our chapter can host to further the bond between meeting new brothers through service, creating a IC Committee and laying down the foundation to host Sectionals or Fall Fellowship at our chapter in the very near future.

As of right now, Alpha Kappa has made tremendous strides to increase the interactions with our fellow IC brothers. My hopes with these goals are to enhance the quality of our interactions and to get our chapter excited about meeting new IC brothers. With the formation of an IC Committee, I intend to utilize an additional opportunity for the members of our chapter to be involved in the creation of our own IC events. Our fellow IC chapters have signature events such as: Rho Gamma's Broomball or Lambda Mu's Dodge Ball Tournament, with our own signature event we can encourage more of our IC brothers to visit us at USC. Besides our own IC signature event, I want to create more opportunities for us to have intimate interactions with our IC by creating smaller events. While I can organize all these events, I want to utilize the help of a committee to garner more interest, to get more of chapter involved in the planning process,

to take initiative and to develop leadership skills. In respects to long term planning, my goal as IC Chair is to research the feasibility of hosting either sectionals or Fall Fellowship at USC. My hope by the end of the semester we can figure out when in the near future hosting and creating these events would be possible.

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

I tend to be a very determined and sometimes slightly stubborn leader. Over the years I've realized because I think fast and plan things in advance, therefore I often am very set in my ways of doing things. I realized over the years that in order to be an effective leader, I have to be more open minded to suggestions that are polar opposites to mine and to appreciate the value these difference have to my own. Now a day I learn to lead with my ears and to be compassionate to everyone's needs and suggestions to create an even better solution to any problem.

My second shortcoming is that when I get overwhelmed I tend to space out and become very quite. When my stress levels are high I try to overcompensate and try to internalize everything instead of externalizing them as I should be. Due to this shortcoming, I learned to plan everything far in advance and to ensure that everything is accounted from the start. I also plan out any possible consequences and possible resolutions needed to fix any potential issues. My time management skills have not only come in handy but have pretty much resolved this short come.

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 terms of APO experience, I was Pledge VP of Fellowship during my pledging semester (Alpha Delta). While my main mission was to help facilitate the Fellowship Program for the Alpha Delta pledge class, I also worked extensively in helping the pledge class organize our IC event, our fundraising event and the coordination of invite on the pledges side.

I've had many opportunities where I had to lead effective organizations with member numbers similar to APO. I was Student Council President for two years, Executive Director of Student of Events for two years (organizing prom, winter formal and etc,) Talent Show Director, Nightingale Charity Club President for three years and USC CASA Culture Show Assistant Director. These experiences have given me a wealth of knowledge on how to lead an organization, how to run multiple committees, direct and facilitate teams to achieve a desired goal, work on member retention rates and to coordinate multiple large scale service events. I believe the combination of the two will make me a great candidate for the positions I am currently running for. These experiences are not only a great asset to me but I hope to be able to utilize them as an e board member.

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?*

With the exception of classes, my next semester is purely dedicated to APO. As you can see with my schedule, I have ample time to dedicate myself to our chapter and APO.

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

I believe I am the best candidate for each of the three positions due to my dedication, passion and my past experiences required for these positions. As you can see with my questionnaire, I am not running for these positions for the sake of running, but for the sole reason that I can see myself bringing forth positive growth and change to this chapter. In addition, I have had many opportunities in my lifetime where I have been able to grow my leadership skills and team working skills. I know how to resolve problems and address issues effectively with compassion as well as being able to think quick on my feet.

Don't forget to attach your résumé and schedule.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the Elected Board Questionnaire. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact president.apousc@gmail.com.

Good luck! ☺