



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 24th at 5:00PM**. Please send this document and all supplemental materials to president.apousc@gmail.com and 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 26th at 11:59pm** to president.apousc@gmail.com. You will not be allowed to pass out additional materials or papers during your speech.

PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION

Name: Karen Chen

Year: Sophomore

Major: IRGB

Pledge Class (Year): Alpha Epsilon (Fall 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 checked="" 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

1. What is your vision for APO?

I initially rushed APO because I felt that I had lost my dedication and love for community service in the midst of transitioning and adapting to college as a spring admit. I remember back in high school, I did something called English Service Project where I taught the bus drivers, guards, and cafeteria workers how to speak English. At the

end of the four years, it was so rewarding to always see my students communicating with me in English and using all the things that I had taught them. For me, transitioning into college made service a much lower priority, but joining APO has helped me find that again. My vision for APO is to either help those who have lost their passion for service or are first timers who are still finding what service means to them. With the numerous service events that we offer, I know that there is definitely something there for everyone whether it's environmental restoration or tutoring. I feel that our chapter has focused a good amount of PR on our organization, but not much has been done for our service events. I want to feature the organizations that we partner with, especially the service events that we do weekly, both on our website and our social media platforms. Brotherhood is also such an important aspect for APO and we should put a greater emphasis in integrating the different pledge classes because sometimes after pledging, it can be very overwhelming to be a part of the active body.

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

As VP of Communications, I think that the main goal is to have transparency in communication within and outside of the chapter. One of reasons I want this position is that I want to show the USC community what APO has to offer and make sure that communication within the chapter is spot on. I believe that with my skills, I will be able to send out EBM and GBM minutes in a timely manner and send emails from the respective VP to the chapter. This role gives me a chance to be both behind the scenes, yet also show others what the organization is about, with the help of the COMM Team. I tend to work well with teams and I feel that this position requires communication with other positions in order to execute our vision and goals for the chapter. Although I don't have much experience in communication, I am willing to learn and I know that there's a lot that I can gain from talking to the previous VPs and through working with ExComm.

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

My goal for this chapter is to make APO more prominent in the USC community through social media. I think that as a chapter overall, we do a decent job with public relations within our chapter, but I believe that we have room for improvement with it outside of the chapter. For this upcoming semester, I want to be more active on our various social media platforms such as Facebook and Instagram. Especially with Facebook, I want to make Brothers of the Week a weekly responsibility because I think that it's important to feature our brothers and what they've done both inside and outside of the chapter. I also want to share our bigger events that are open for the public such as our Arts Carnival Service Invite that we have this semester through our official APO AK page, so the USC community can also participate in our events, as well as our fundraisers both for the chapter and the pledge class. In the bylaws, it states that the VP of Communications oversee chapter participation in Regionals and Sectionals and although Sectionals is occurring in the following spring, I want to encourage everyone in our chapter to attend as you get to meet new people in the workshops and some of the leadership workshops really teach you skills to improve as a leader. I have no doubt that majority of the chapter will attend since it is at our campus; I want to work with the IC chair and highly encourage the members of our chapter to participate in coming up different workshops that can teach us and other chapters more about leadership and communication.

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

One of the newer things that I want to do is to bring back to the chapter is our blog. During my pledging semester, we had the opportunity to write blog posts about our pledging process and big events in this chapter such as our pledge service event. This semester I felt that I wasn't sure what the pledges were doing, so I want to work with the pledgemaster to have a couple of pledges write about their experiences on a biweekly basis. This will help the pledges reflect on their pledging process and also give transparency to the chapter of what the pledges are doing. In addition to the blog and with the help of the historian, I want to post photos of our weekly events, as well as the recap videos (if appropriate) to the official Facebook page. Since the launch of our new APO website, we haven't done much with it, so I also want to publicize our bigger and signature events on the page such as KEDS and possibly the pledge service event. Stated in my vision for APO, I think we should PR more about the service events that APO does, as we are a community service organization. So I would like to use our APO website and Facebook to share the type of service events we are involved in.

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.

This semester, I was in Delta Sigma Pi's Internship Boot Camp program and we learned many tools that would help us grow professionally. One of the things we learned in IBC was writing networking and thank you emails to

professionals at appropriate times. With this, I would be able to send out the EBM and GBM minutes in a promptly manner to make sure that the chapter gets information in a timely manner. Being a part of the COMM Team during my pledge semester helped me see how these meetings were facilitated and gave me a better understanding of the different roles that worked under the COMM Team and how all each of the roles interconnected with each other. Having some experience of how the meetings work gives me a better understanding of how I would facilitate them myself, if I were to get this position. I am also very willing to learn and would seek help from previous VP of Communications if needed.

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?

Other than APO, I will be interning in the fall and they require that I go into the office about 12-15 hours a week. For now, I am allocating most of my internship hours on Thursdays and Fridays and so it wouldn't interfere with GBMs or EBMs on Mondays and if I do get this position, I would still have a flexibility to choose a weeknight (Tues-Friday) since I don't have night classes or a weekend for the COMM team meetings. My schedule for next semester is rather flexible and I mostly have classes during the day, so it wouldn't interfere with any of my APO commitments.