



## Elected Board Application Fall 2021

### INSTRUCTIONS

Please attach your **current résumé** and **Fall 2021 schedule** with this application (class, work, other extracurricular activities). All executive board members must be able to accommodate executive board meetings (EBMs) and general body meetings (GBMS) in their Monday night schedules unless this is later changed by the **Fall 2021** Executive Board.

Applications are due **no later than Wednesday, April 14th at 11:59 PM PST. NO EXCEPTIONS.** Please send this document with all supplemental materials to President ([president.apousc@gmail.com](mailto:president.apousc@gmail.com)) and cc Sergeant-at-Arms ([sergeantatarms@gmail.com](mailto:sergeantatarms@gmail.com)) and Webmaster ([webmaster.apousc@gmail.com](mailto:webmaster.apousc@gmail.com)).

**Election Day:** Candidates for President and New Member Educator will have 3 minutes to give their speeches. Candidates for all other positions will have 2 minutes.

You may present **1 slide per position** you run for at the time of your speech. If you are running all or nothing for a co position, you may share a speech with your running mate and have **up to 2 slides**. If you are not running all or nothing, you must have a separate speech and slide. Slides are due **no later than Wednesday, April 14th at 11:59 PM PST** to the President ([president.apousc@gmail.com](mailto:president.apousc@gmail.com)). No changes to your slide(s) may be made after this date. You will not be allowed to pass out additional materials or papers during your speech.

## **PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION**

Name: Raymond Machado

School Year (Grade): Junior

New Member Class (Semester & Year): Alpha Pi (Spring 2020)

Major(s): International Relations (Global Business)

Minor(s): Culture, Media and Entertainment

E-mail(s): machado@usc.edu

Phone Number(s): 702-281-6385

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

- ☐ President (1)
- ☐ Pledgemaster AKA New Member Educator (1)
- ☐ Co-VP of Finance (2)
- ☐ Co-VP of Membership (2)
- ☐ Diversity & Inclusion Chair (1)
- ☐ Intechapter Chair (1)
- ☐ VP of Communications (1)
- ☒ VP of Fellowship (1)
- ☐ VP of Service (1)

Name of person you are running with (leave blank if no running partners):

Are you running all or nothing (leave blank if not applicable):

*\* A list of officer descriptions can be found in our [Chapter Bylaws](#) on the APO website.*

## **PART II: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS**

- 1. Why do you want the position(s) you are running for? Why are you the best candidate for the position(s) you selected?**

The reason I want the role of VP of Fellowship is because from the time I joined APO in Spring 2020, I feel that I have improved on the part of friendship the most. I would like to expand my leadership opportunities offered to me by APO and I believe that the role of VP of Fellowship fits me the best. The question of which quality would you like to improve on the most out of leadership, friendship, and service always intrigued me and when I was asked this question at speed dating, I distinctly remember saying that I wanted to improve on leadership. However, I found myself improving in friendship the most as I am typically a pretty reserved

person, but APO made it easier for me to reach out to people and make new friends. As I will be a senior next year, I want to make sure I take advantage of all the opportunities APO has offered me and that is why I want the position of VP of Fellowship.

The first reason why I think I am the best candidate for this role is because this semester I did my best to go out to as many fellowship events as possible to see what people enjoyed and continued going to. I currently have a total of 16.5 fellowship points which allowed me to go out to numerous events including baking and mukbangs which I didn't initially think I'd be fond of. However, going out to these events proved me wrong and showed me how if an event might not initially pique my interest, people hosting the events can make them inclusive to everyone. Being very active this online semester has allowed me to understand what will transition well to in person and what might not. An example of something I would like to continue doing is online game night or study nights so members abroad, who commute, or just don't want to come out in person for personal reasons (being sick, tired, etc.) can still be connected with the organization. This semester showed me how powerful virtual tools such as Zoom can be and having a little who is in another country currently, really hit this point home.

Another reason why I believe I am the best candidate for this position is that I am extremely open-minded. I have a wide range of hobbies including listening to music, skating, video games, sports, and many other activities which I believe is important to the role of VP of Fellowship. I am always looking for new activities to take part in and I think that I can find activities that everyone can enjoy and actively want to participate in.

## **2. What is your vision for APO and what are your goals for the position(s)?**

My vision for APO is to be an all-inclusive service organization at USC that has a strong community of members who can also partake in fun events that the VP of Fellowship hosts. I want APO to be known as an organization that hosts a variety of service events while also maintaining a positive atmosphere in which members are able to truly be themselves. I think that the VP of Fellowship has an important role in keeping members engaged with the organization and ensuring that everyone feels included in different activities. The VP of Fellowship allows people to wind down after a rough week at school and enjoy an activity with people they can

truly call friends. This is something I have greatly appreciated about APO and I plan to continue serving this role if I were to be elected.

One of my main goals for this position is to keep people engaged and bring them back to APO with more enthusiasm than ever. Since COVID-19 hit, it affected the world around us and even APO as the number of active members decreased significantly. I hope that by having an in-person semester, people will want to be more engaged with APO. In order to try and make members more engaged and active I would like to begin hosting socially distanced events such as picnics, outdoor sports, and game nights. I think that getting people together would be a great way to get people engaged, but this would have to all be done in accordance with regulations placed by USC and California of course.

Another goal for this position that I have is to bring back the game of Assassin. I went out to the Fellowship and SEC Q&A and was able to ask some questions about the role and Anne mentioned how this would be one of the activities the VP of Fellowship organizes. I briefly remember watching a trailer about it during my pledging semester, but we never got to actually do it due to COVID. I would love to bring this activity back as it would hopefully get people engaged more in the organization.

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

Something I would want to incorporate for the next semester is a collaboration between membership and fellowship to create more pledge versus active events where there can be a reward at the end of the semester to whoever accumulates the most points. It could be like fam points except it would just be pledges versus actives. Looking back at previous events throughout the years, I think something such as Ultimate Frisbee, flag football, and Spikeball could be good events to host. We could also do online games such as skribbl.io and drawbattle.io depending on how strict COVID restrictions are. I feel that oftentimes it can be hard for pledges and actives to interact aside from interviews and certain events (socials during rush), but having many competitions would hopefully keep new actives coming out to the events to meet pledges.

Another new idea I have thought about is potentially having a big/little retreat or barbeque type event. While this would probably be more of a special event for the SEC to coordinate, I think it would be cool to have bigs and littles bond at specific times throughout the

semester. For me personally, it has been harder over zoom to schedule things with my little since the time zone is 5 hours and I'm typically awake later at night. While this wouldn't be a problem with an in-person semester, I think that this idea could still be a good experience.

Lastly, I think something I can bring to APO is just a more relaxed vibe. I feel that in college and at USC in particular many students become super burned out as the semester goes on and it can be hard to combat this. As VP of Fellowship I would want to emphasize that it's important to take breaks and just enjoy the time we have in college because it isn't that long in the grand scheme of things. I'm always available for people to reach out to and I feel that I'm super easy to talk to which would hopefully help pledges and other actives feel more comfortable within the organization. I know when I was a pledge it could be intimidating at times to reach out to e-board and a-board for things so I would want to try to make sure no pledge feels like this.

**4. 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 don't necessarily have any experiences in other clubs on campus in regards to fellowship, but during my time working for Jumpstart sophomore year, my team and I would have to come up with fun activities for our students to partake in. We would be given a book to read to the children and then have to come up with an activity for them that we thought they would enjoy. Some activities included painting, playing dress-up, building items with legos, and more. We would have to come up with an activity every week and a lot of times it would be challenging to think of something that would be fun and engaging for the kids. I think that this experience would translate well for this position as I would be coming up with activities for members to participate in.

**5. 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?**

I plan on having a part-time job (working about 15 hours a week) next semester, but this is typical for me and I've been balancing school, work, and extracurricular activities since high

school. I also am involved with SCout, FIA, and Couture Collective, but I'm not sure how active the latter 2 clubs will be. Regardless, I plan to have my Monday nights free and use Google Calendar to keep track of everything I have to do. This worked extremely well during my pledging schedule and although my schedule was busy, it worked out. My classes should be fairly light as well and although I'm taking 18 units, I've basically done this every semester in the past. I will likely have to spend more of my weekends working on school work, but that's a sacrifice I'm willing to make for this position.

***Don't forget to attach your résumé and schedule!***

Thank you for taking the time to apply for APO's elected board. You will be contacted shortly after the submission deadline with more information about elections. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to email [president.apouse@gmail.com](mailto:president.apouse@gmail.com).