



## Fall 2018 Nominated Officer Questionnaire

### INSTRUCTIONS

Please attach your **current résumé** and **Fall 2017 schedule** (class, work, other extracurricular activities).

This questionnaire is due **no later than SUNDAY April 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM**. Please send this document and all supplemental materials to [president.apouse@gmail.com](mailto:president.apouse@gmail.com) and cc webmaster.apouse@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 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM** to [president.apouse@gmail.com](mailto:president.apouse@gmail.com). You will not be allowed to pass out additional materials or papers during your speech.

### PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION

Name: Elizabeth Shi

Year: Sophomore (Rising Junior)

Major: Human Development and Aging, Gender Studies

Pledge Class (Year): Alpha Theta (Spring 2016)

**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
- ☐ IC Chair

### PART II: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

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

My vision for APO is to have all our members to have a similar experience I have had – the chance to develop leadership skills in a constructive setting, to create bonds of friendship that provide emotional, academic, and all kinds of support, and to find a passion for service. I hope that through doing community service, members build connections among each other and become more aware about the important social issues that affect our lives and communities. I want APO to be the service organization that all of campus knows about and turns to when they need help with anything. I want our members to feel proud of being in the organization and what it stands for. I hope that members see how APO can provide many different avenues for growth and learning, so they continue to be active and desire to give back to the community and the organization itself.

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

As someone who has gained so much from being in APO, I want to give back to this special community and help others have the same amazing experiences that I have had. Because our chapter will be going through a major transition period with so many seniors graduating, I like how VP of Membership has the flexibility to improve things in our chapter in many aspects. I want to play a role that allows members to feel heard and then feel like they can come to me for help to improve upon their concerns. I value how VP of Membership focuses on every type of member, from actives to associates to pledges to alumni, and works to bring them closer. Ultimately, VP of Membership works towards the happiness of our members and enhancing their APO experience, which is something I want to dedicate time and energy into.

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

My overarching goal is for pledges, actives, and associates to feel supported and that they are getting the most from APO. I want to help facilitate stronger and more connections between fellow brothers, especially those that are outside of pledge class, family line, and clique boundaries. I want to strengthen communication between membership-related Excomm positions (VPs of Membership, SAA, Fam Heads, Pledge Team, Alumni Liaison, and President) to improve the quality, consistency, and structure of all membership-related activities. Specifically, I want to be a source of support for pledges and pledge team, whether it means going to pledge meetings to understand the pledging situation or working with pledge team on pledge membership events. I want to use the position to improve our collaboration with other campus organizations. I hope that all of the above efforts and more will translate into a better membership retention and organizational culture as a whole. Lastly, I hope to work with my Co-VP effectively and combine our strengths to take the position to new heights.

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

- Professional Groups/Lists – We want to more formally connect people who have similar career interests. This would allow members to communicate with each other and alumni in those fields about classes, research, internships, opportunities, and general advice. Groups could include pre-med, pre-law, engineering, nonprofit work, accounting, Annenberg-related, different grad school fields, etc. Logistically this could be done in groups over social media or a formal list generated after surveying members and alumni.
- Larger Variety of Mixers/Interview Parties – Along with what we have traditionally, we want to expand on the frequency and type of interview parties/mixers we have to better facilitate bonds within the chapter. We want to coordinate with VP of Finance to have these events at Blaze and Yogurtland during their respective fundraisers. Other ideas we have include family specific interview parties (Alpha, Phi, Omega) to help strengthen family ties, associate mixers to help connect pledges to less involved members, and Excomm mixers to encourage people to consider leadership positions.
- Working with other USC Organizations – We would want to obtain a more formal list of student organization that our members are heavily involved in outside of APO to coordinate events with, especially if they are on E-board for those orgs. Past examples include Environmental Student Assembly, Science Outreach, and different cultural organizations, but again we want to make it more structured to maintain these relationship for following semesters.
- Revamp Academic Mentors – With the current system, there is not much structure and a lot of times pairs meet up just once or no times. We want to aid and encourage academic pairs to meet up by booking Leavey rooms or creating events specifically for mentor/mentee study sessions.
- Types of Membership Events – On top of Visions and Voices, cultural events, and events promoting social awareness, we hope to add events that feature speakers from the campus/community, events that feature returning abroad/associate brothers (to expand on the simple and one-dimensional GBM reintroduction), and more Brothers Teaching Brothers/Brother Supporting Brothers events that showcase our members' talents/interests.
- Revamp GBM Activities and More: Love Book, GBM Family games, Rate My Professor/Test Bank are all things we want to improve by adding more awareness and structure because they are little things that enhance APO membership. Love Book we want to go back to the original meaning of writing letters to another brother who has made a positive impact in a usually non-obvious way instead of always writing to your closest friend, plus encourage a

culture where more people to write notes in it when it gets passed around. GBM games will be more structured (at least 5 in the semester during non-busy GBM's).

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.**

- APO VP of Service – After serving as VP of Service this semester, I have concrete experience with running a committee, planning/executing events, and the fraternity in general.
- HSEP Project Manager – As project manager, I created lesson plans for school visits and helped plan campus events. The leadership, teamwork, communication, and organizational skills I learned will help me in this position.
- Dornsife Ambassadors – As an ambassador, I developed interpersonal skills from talking to prospective students and their parents plus serving on panels, so I am in tune with listening to people about concerns/questions/interests and responding to them in a competent manner.
- First Year Advocacy Board Vice President – As VP of QuASA's FAB, I helped program events to promote LGBTQ awareness and a sense of community. The event planning and community building skills I developed will help me to improve quality of membership and making people's needs feel fulfilled.

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 commitments I will have next semester include research, Dornsife Ambassadors, and hospital volunteering. After serving on Eboard this semester, I am confident in my time management skills to ensure that I perform my duties to the best of my ability. Grace and I plan on blocking out specific hours in our weekly schedule to dedicate to VP of Membership duties. We will make sure to maintain good communication and mutual support, especially when we know we have a rough week academically or emotionally. APO will be one of my top priorities and I believe that there will not be issues with me making time for my position because of how much I care about the chapter and the people in it.