



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: Judith Garcia

Year: Senior

Major: Human Biology & American Studies and Ethnicity

Pledge Class (Year): Alpha Gamma, Fall 2013

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

☐ Fundraising Chair

☐ IC Chair

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?

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 binds us together. My vision for Alpha Phi Omega reflects this idea, in that as a chapter we are to establish and maintain an inclusive environment that allows our members to thrive in the areas of leadership and friendship 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. In the process we come to better understand not only ourselves

but those we serve and the world around us. And the contributions that we make as a chapter have the ability to ignite a ripple effect that can not only benefit the people we help but encourage them to reach out and do the same for others. The work that we do impacts our community in ways that we cannot imagine. Therefore, my goal for our incoming pledge is that our chapter be a home and foundation for them as they grow through service and go on to help others to do the same. As pledgemaster I hope to prepare the incoming pledge class for active membership of APO 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 thrive 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?

In the past I have had trouble delegating tasks to other team members when in a leadership position. In an effort to not bother or provoke any unnecessary stress to others, I have not always asked for assistance in completing tasks. In previous experiences, I have been willing to take on additional work to meet the team's goals by given deadlines while saving others the trouble. However, I have learned that doing so not only hurts me but those who I attempt not to bother since it deprives them of an opportunity to grow. As a result, I am currently working on reaching out to others and holding them accountable for their own responsibilities as a team member. I believe that with some more work my previous experiences and development of skills such as communication can help me find the way to work best with different individuals to ensure that they have all the resources and support they need to complete their contribution to the team.

I am not always the first individual to come up with new creative solutions. However, I am a great listener. I am always open to new ideas and perspectives and I do my best to take them into consideration when working out a plan. As a result, when I am part of a team I tend to ask for the input of other group members before making a decision. While I realize that this could be a weakness in a pledgemaster, I also believe that more heads are better than one. Taking into consideration the thoughts of others before making a decision can also help check and balance the power that one individual may hold over a group.

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 during my junior 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 had the opportunity to work with a diverse group of students and through the experience 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, I have been in a position of an authoritative figure that must still be approachable and supportive. I believe the balance between the two is key in a pledgemaster. The RA position also allowed me to further develop my organization, time management, and communication skills. I have experience in serving as a mediator between two or more parties in time of conflict. I also have experience with building community through educational programming under limited budgets. More importantly as an RA I have also become familiar with the resources available to students on campus. I believe information of these resources can be 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, outside activities, and their own commitment to APO. Being pledge president and pledge aunt have also allowed me to become familiar with the pledging process and have given me a view of the behind the scenes work that is required to run a pledge class. Throughout the spring of 2014 I had the opportunity of working closely with the Pledgemaster and 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 only commitments outside of APO for the following semester include my participation on the planning committee of Dance Marathon, a few hours at my work study job, and of course academics. Dance Marathon consists of a few flexible hours per week. And the hours of at my work study job are also flexible and will depend on whether or not I have the opportunity to serve on E-board next semester.

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

My experiences as pledge aunt, an RA, and a member of APO have tested just how much I enjoy working with people. I love assisting others, and I can't think of a better way to help and guide the new pledge class. As an RA I 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 this position. Therefore, if elected I would dedicate the time and effort necessary to provide clear instruction and guidance to the incoming pledge class to offer them a rewarding pledging experience and introduction to our chapter. The pledging semester provides great room for growth and it would be an honor to work with our new pledge class to assist them through that experience.

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! ☺