



## Fall 2016 Nominated Officer Questionnaire

### INSTRUCTIONS

Please attach your **current résumé** and **Fall 2016 schedule** (class, work, other extracurricular activities).

This questionnaire is due **no later than SUNDAY April 24<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 24<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: Sia Fillie-Faboe

Year: Sophomore (Fall 2016 – Junior)

Major: Psychology and Neuroscience

Pledge Class (Year): Alpha Zeta (Spring 2015)

**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?**

My vision for APO is to create an environment where actives, associates and pledges alike can come together to do service, get to know one another and cultivate leadership skills that will grow and expand. I want to be apart of creating an Alpha Kappa chapter where our dedication to Fellowship and Leadership is as apparent to our commitment to Service. I want to be apart of an Alpha Kappa chapter where everyone feels welcome and free to both speak their minds and be who they are without fear of being judged or not accepted by their Brothers. I want to contribute to an Alpha Kappa where there is an atmosphere of communication, understanding and Brotherhood and make sure that that atmosphere is strong and undeniable. In recent semesters there's been a worry about losing our focus of Service as a chapter and I believe and know how easy it can be to lose sight of what's important. That being said I plan to be apart of the solution of redirecting our energy towards Service. I plan to be here to see Alpha Kappa on the path to being the amazing chapter we have the potential and desire to be.

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

I am running for Pledgemaster because I know that I would be an excellent Pledgemaster. I honestly think I'm the best candidate for the position. I believe that I can cultivate a class of pledges with a passion for service while still having an emphasis on Leadership and Fellowship. I'm not saying that I would run a flawless semester because I think it's impossible to 100% cater to the needs and the wants of the Active Body, E-Board and the Pledge Class. But I do believe I could lead a class of Pledges down the path to becoming strong and dedicated Actives in the Chapter. I want to be Pledgemaster because I want the best for this chapter and I want to be more involved in the process because I feel like I can add a different perspective, a fresh set of eyes on the concept of a pledging semester here at Alpha Kappa. I want to be Pledgemaster because I want to grow and develop as a person, a leader and a Brother in APO, while being of service to others and also growing with them.

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

My goals in being Pledgemaster would be to contribute to and lead a class of Pledges who are strong in their desire to do service, motivated to get to know their Brothers and anxious to become the best leaders they can. My goal is to ensure that the Pledging class is as prepared for Active-Hood as they can possibly be, to know what is expected of them and for them to be ready to take on the responsibility that comes with being a Brother at Alpha Phi Omega, Alpha Kappa Chapter. In addition to that goal I hope to open their minds to all of the diversity that is present within our chapter and on our campus. I want to help them be as open as possible to all the different and new experiences and opportunities APO, the campus, and the world has to offer.

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

I don't believe that the past semesters warrant major changes to the Pledging process as a whole. Yes, there have been issues and situations that got a little sticky but that's to be expected because Pledgemaster is an exceptionally human position that is affected by the Pledges, Actives and Associates alike because it is a huge determinant in the Chapter's future so everyone wants to be involved. That being said as Pledgemaster I would channel my energy into Execution, Communication and Passion. The past Pledgemasters I have spoken to mentioned that one of the hardest aspects to navigate as PM is making sure you don't bite off more than you can chew but still ensuring that your Pledges have the most well-rounded pledging semester possible.

Taking that into account these are my ideas if I were elected:

Execution, sitting down with Pledge Team once a week to make sure the schedule in place is acceptable and achievable. As well as having those meetings open to the Active body (for half of the meeting) so that they have a space where they can come in and find out in detail where the Pledges are and what's going on as well as raise any questions, comments, concerns or suggestions they may have. The second half of the meeting would be restricted to just Pledge Team for us to talk about any issues or comments that may have been raised and figuring out a plan to approach them. I would also still only have 1 Funitivity where priority would be given to Actives and Associates who may not have had too much contact with the Pledges, as well as assigning Pledge groups in a way that Pledges interact with and get to know all of there Pledge Brothers.

Communication, too often there is concern from the Active body that they don't know what's going on with the Pledge class and past PM's have told me that even with their Pledges occasionally the Pledges don't come to them with issues or problems they may be having until it's too late. Being the direct person that I am I think this is an area where I would excel, I would always be open to hearing from and answering any questions the Active body may have. I would encourage E-Board, Actives, Associates and Pledges alike to approach me as well as Pledge Team with any questions that they may have, or explanations for certain actions they may want. And I would also like to Implement consistent check-ins with the Pledges. So halfway between Pining and Mid-Semester reviews, Pledge Team would meet with the Pledges one-on-one to find out how they are feeling about the process as well as any negative or positive comments they may have. And there would be another check-in halfway between Mid-Semester reviews and Final Boards. (Not all of Pledge Team would have to be present for all of the meetings, but each Pledge would have to attend, they would last at least 10 minutes).

Passion, a worry in recent semesters has been a lack of dedication to Service, a shift of focus from Service to Fellowship. In order to ensure that Pledges keep their eye on the prize of bettering the Fraternity, Campus, Community and Nation, I would like to implement Pledge Missions where the pledges would have to submit a short response explaining what LFS means to them in terms of the four fields of Service, and then provide examples of Service Events, Fellowship Events and opportunities to grow as leaders they would like to see the chapter participate in that we aren't already doing. So that way there are fresh ideas in the Chapter, and there are options that they are genuinely interested in and excited about. So there would still be the Pledge Mission Video (in groups) and then 3 individual responses, the responses would need to be at least 250 words.

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.**

In my time in APO, I've attended committee meetings here and there and contributed where I felt necessary and qualified to offer my opinion. I believe that I have stepped up as a leader in the Fraternity on occasion, when it was needed and I felt I could help my Pledge-Brothers and Brothers achieve a goal. Outside of APO I also have experience that I feel is relevant to the position of Pledgemaster. This past semester I participated in JEP and ran a mini-course by myself for a group of 30 fifth-graders, typically a team of 4 to 5 students runs a mini-course. I was responsible for planning out their lessons (in Italian) every week, getting the lesson plan approved and then actually teaching them. It was challenging but rewarding and 100% worth it. Since June of 2015 I've had an internship in New Jersey, working with the Essex County Department of Education helping students with college related information as well as tutoring and overall just filling in as necessary. I also have years experience as a camp counselor. I was both a counselor at my church's Bible camp for a number of years working with a group of about 20 children ages 5 to 12. And I worked as a counselor at a camp in my neighborhood for disadvantaged youth. The program aimed to open their minds and expose them to new opportunities and there were approximately 100 students, ages 9 – 14, being handled by a group of 9 counselors.

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?**

I am a member of Black Student Assembly, we have weekly meetings on Monday, which are not mandatory, and BSA on a whole doesn't take up a lot of my time because I am not as active. I also participate in the Organizing for Action USC Chapter, they meet a couple times a month and that commitment will not be a problem at all. I do work on campus; typically around 8 hours a week and I have easily managed that the past three semesters, but I won't have a finalized work schedule until after next semester starts so I would be able to plan my work schedule around any responsibilities I might have. I would place priority on being Pledgemaster if elected. I do not hold any executive positions in any of my other clubs and it would be easy for me to fully allocate my time, energy and attention to being Pledgemaster, if elected.