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**Fall**

**Spring 2014 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** **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH at 5:00PM.** Please send this document and all supplemental materials to [president.apousc@gmail.com](mailto:president.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 28TH at 11:59pm** to [president.apousc@gmail.com](mailto:president.apousc@gmail.com). You will not be allowed to pass out additional materials or papers during your speech.

**PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION**

Name: Cameron Plunkett

Year: Sophomore

Major: English/Economics

Pledge Class (Year): Alpha Beta, Spring 2013

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

[ ] President

[ ] Pledgemaster

[X] VP of Service

[X] 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?**

I see the Alpha Kappa chapter of Alpha Phi Omega serving as something of a role model both to other organizations at USC, and to other chapters of the APO. I envision strong member dedication fostered by a familial bond to not only other brothers, but also the fraternity as an establishment. This dedication then creates an APO culture in which the identity of the chapter on campus is inextricably tied in with the identities of each individual member—informed by the many diverse personalities of the chapter while also contributing to each individual brother’s personality in a unique but significant way. Then, with this strong APO culture established internally by way of membership policies and externally by way of publicity and visibility, a visible, broad, and effective Service program can serve as an example for other chapters of APO and inspire other student groups at USC. In this way, we can serve the fraternity on multiple levels by improving the general impact of APO, the campus by improving the quality and contribution of other student groups, each other by reaffirming the significance of the Alpha Phi Omega fraternity to each individual member, and the community—indirectly by the coordinated combination of all of these factors and directly by the enhanced Service program that accompanies them.

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

I feel that each of these positions is at the heart of APO’s stated mission. I also feel, somewhat oddly, that their relevancy and exact role are not fully defined. VP of Membership functions almost as an amalgam of VP of Fellowship, President, Pledgemaster, and guidance counselor. VP of Service is more well-defined, but seems to act primarily as a behind-the-scenes force. I feel that I can contribute well to the chapter by establishing a clear role for the VP of Membership (Detailed later), and by increasing the presence and visibility of the VP of Service and the Service program. Though each of these improvements will have an immediate impact on the Fraternity, I see the real value being down the road. The newly-established roles for the positions will improve their general effectiveness no matter who holds the positions. The changes I bring in do not leave with me, but continue to assist the Fraternity for years to come.

In short, I intend for my contributions to the positions to have both an immediate and longstanding impact on APO.

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

VP of Membership: Define membership, define the role of the VP of Membership, continue to improve the outreach programs to little-involved members, reestablish family lines, enhance the contribution to APO each member makes, and enhance the contribution APO makes to each individual member.

VP of Service: Create more diverse service opportunities, identify which service events are under-attended and actively encourage participation in them, help to establish a service project for which APO is known around campus, and be an active force for the fraternity.

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

VP of Membership:

Reestablish titled family lines by identifying them based on the involved (Active/Associate/Abroad) member from the oldest pledge class for each line, then allowing that member and their descendants to pick a family line title.

Create a clearly defined role for the VP of Membership by (1) Defining Membership as involvement in the structures that define the Fraternity. (2) Defining Membership Events as events that solidify the link between member and chapter, rather than member and member (which is fellowship). That confirms the current role of many Membership events, but clarifies what exactly makes them Membership events. For instance, a family movie event would count as a Membership event (as it currently would), because it is participation in a definitive structure of the AK Chapter (families). A general movie night would be a fellowship event (as it already is), because it does not. Obviously, this would not change much about the already-established Membership events, but it would better identify what makes a membership event, and thereby allow for the creation of new, broader events. (3) Rewarding points based off of contribution to the Fraternity as a whole, either by attending Membership events, or by providing service to the chapter (like by contributing to the test bank).

Create a Family Line Cup.

“Brother of the Week,” either every week, or on the weeks there is no family game. It would be much like the Historical Figure of the Week, but would feature actual current Alpha Kappa brothers, particularly those that are not as involved as they would like to be due to outside forces, and therefore are not as familiar to other members.

VP of Service:

Open up outdoors/environmental service events. Much of our service is based around education, homelessness, and animals. Those three encompass a wide variety events, but I feel that there is an under-representation of events based around the environment or the general outdoors. Events done through groups like the Culver City Rain Garden, trail clean-ups, and park refurbishment have the potential to broaden APOs impact and attract more diverse members. There are already events like these, but they are few and far between (three this semester). I intend to make such service a more integral part of our chapter.

During GBM each week, highlight a particular event that is under-attended or little-known. Doing so would more actively encourage involvement, which is not currently a real role of the VP of Service.

Work with the Service Committee to establish a service or philanthropy event that can function as a signature event to increase publicity and solidify our identity.

Work with Publicity to highlight our service in the view of USC as a whole. We are known to be a “Service Organization,” but the specifics of what we do are not really public knowledge, especially amongst USC student, which is where we want to be most well-known.

1. **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 served as the Sergeant-at-Arms in Fall 2012, which granted me experience handling some background work for Membership (like sending out care packages to members abroad), updating the Master Doc, and communicating effectively with the Executive Board and the chapter body.

I Coordinated with other volunteers and a service group to help run a neighborhood youth soccer league for two years in high school.

I have private experience encouraging persistent participation in programs from which it can be easy to grow distant or uninvolved. For instance: maintaining a long-distance relationship for 1.5 years and running the student section at every football game my senior year of high school for a losing team.

I am currently serving as the Co-President of Improvtu, which involves coordinating events and reaching out to under-involved members.

I Workshopped with Commedus Interruptus for 6 weeks in Fall 2012, which gave experience in thinking on my feet, which would be useful for handling unexpected issues like those that arose this semester, and in entertaining an audience, which is incredibly important to the role I want to see the VP of Service take on as an active encourager of participation in service events.

1. **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 intend to play on the ultimate Frisbee club team, which demands about 2.5 hours every Tuesday and Thursday. I co-host an improve workshop club called Improvtu on Monday nights at 10:00. I also may audition for an improve troupe, but their rehearsal schedule fluctuates with members’ commitments, so while I do not know when I would have rehearsals other than definitely *not* during APO obligations. I intend to balance my extracurricular activities with a tiered system of importance in which APO occupies the top spot, followed by Frisbee, Improvtu, then the troupe. If there are ever overlapping events, I will dedicate my time to whichever group is more significant. This system worked well in the Fall, when I was work-shopping, serving on A-Board, and doing Frisbee.

***Don’t forget to attach your résumé and schedule.***

Thank you for taking the time to complete the Elected Board Questionnaire. Please be sure to send in your election slide(s) no later than Sunday, April 28th at 11:59PM. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact [president.apousc@gmail.com](mailto:president.apousc@gmail.com).

Good luck! ☺