

**Fall 2019 Nominated Officer Questionnaire**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

Please attach your **current résumé** and **Fall 2019 schedule** (class, work, other extracurricular activities).

This questionnaire is due **no later than** **SUNDAY April 14th at 11:59 PM.** Please send this document and all supplemental materials to [president.apousc@gmail.com](mailto:president.apousc@gmail.com) and cc webmaster.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. If you are running all or nothing for a co position, you may share a speech with your running mate and have **up to** **two slides**. If you are not running all or nothing, you must have a separate speech and slide. Slides are due by **SUNDAY April 14th at 11:59 PM** 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: Matthew Lee

Year: Junior

Major: Economics, Psychology

Pledge Class (Year): Alpha Lambda Fall 2017

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

[  ]  President

[  ]  Pledgemaster

[  ]  VP of Service

[  ]  Co-VP of Membership

[  ]  VP of Fellowship

[ x ]  Co-VP of Finance

[  ]  VP of Communications

[  ]  IC Chair

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

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

**PART II: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS**

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

APO has played a huge part in shaping my college experience and I cannot even begin to imagine how different things would be without it. Through APO, I have made some of my closest friends and have had the opportunity to pursue my passion of giving back to the community while establishing new relationships. I had already known since my pledging semester that I wanted to run for an excomm position to give back to this chapter that I care so much about, but never had the time due to my other previous commitments.

I want to run for the Co-VP of Finance as it is a role that plays to my strengths as someone who is analytical and organized by nature. Managing the chapter’s finances is a responsibility that is often overlooked due to the existing structures in place and the fact that most of the work put in goes unnoticed behind-the-scenes. However, I do think that a lot more can be done to better this chapter with this position, and it is something that I definitely want to explore.

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

In the context of finance, there are two key goals which I hope to establish for APO – Transparency and Flexibility. Having been an active member of the chapter for almost 2 years, I believe that transparency is something that everyone values. The amount that each of us pays in dues is by no means little; it is important to understand where the funds are going and how they are being used. In terms of flexibility, I believe that feedback is an essential necessity for any successful organization. Complacency breeds stagnancy and while there might be a traditional way of how things are usually conducted, it does not mean that it is the best way. Through this position, I want to take every member’s ideas and concerns into account in shaping a more efficient structure of operations. For an organization that is principled on service, financial concerns should be the least of our worries and I want to ensure that this will never be a reason for a member to leave the chapter or be prevented from doing service for the community.

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

We have several ideas we would like to implement.

In terms of transparency, this is just a minor thing but we will be tracking our spending by semester with a running count of our funds, whether it be a deficit or surplus. We will also be using a tracking sheet for the chapter’s Venmo transactions that will be made public, for anyone to see where our funds might be going to in terms of reimbursements, etc.

Fundraising points have also been a prevalent issue. Currently, most fundraising opportunities simply items which actives buy from the chapter. Hidden dues, essentially. We are aiming to reduce this by conducting more external fundraisers, be it with other campus organizations or external sponsors. Actives will be able to participate in these fundraisers to help the chapter, instead of having the chapter fundraise from within itself. We will also be considering outside referrals to our chapter’s fundraisers as a way to earn fundraising points as well.

Lastly, there is the issue of accounts being frozen due to non-payment of dues. This is an issue as it effectively prevents members from doing service and has the external service organizations we work with neglected as well. While we do understand that service events cost the chapter in terms of materials and transportation, it should still be our utmost priority given that we are still primarily a service organization at the end of the day. To tackle this issue, we are working on and considering a new payment plan where dues are restructured around main chapter events where you would make separate payments for each event you wish to attend. The initial payment would allow an active member to participate in non-special events across the rest of the semester, regardless if they make subsequent payments or not. Of course, we recognize that this might be a huge change and it is not something we will implement without input from the rest of the chapter.

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.**

For the past year, I have been the Chair of Funding for USC’s International Student Assembly where I oversaw budgetary spending of over $70,000 for 23 member organizations. In addition to this, my role included establishing new relations with corporate sponsors for our campus events that see an average attendance of 300 people, as well as helping our assembly’s member organizations with their fundraising efforts. My experience in this role has more than prepared me to tackle the responsibilities of APO’s Co-VP of Finance position by instilling in me a meticulous, organized work ethic.

In addition to this role, I am also a part of Global Brigades and USC’s Marshall Case Team where I have learned and practiced my skills of strategic analysis and financial modelling. Assessing financial numbers to achieve a desired long-term result is something I am extremely comfortable with, and I know that I will be able to put this to use when considering the future of the chapter.

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?**

For now, I do not have any other commitments outside of APO other than the Marshall Case Team which meets once a week for 3 hours. While I do see myself perhaps getting busy with schoolwork on 18 units, I fully intend to make APO my priority if given the opportunity to take on this role. I am someone who plans and works ahead by logging everything I need to do in my calendar; I understand the importance of my role and will ensure that my responsibilities are fulfilled in a timely manner.