

**Spring 2020 Nominated Officer Questionnaire**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

Please attach your **current résumé** and **Spring 2020 schedule** (class, work, other extracurricular activities).

This questionnaire is due **no later than** **SUNDAY, November 24th 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 November 24th 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: Clare Cho

Year: Sophomore

Major: Economics/Mathematics

Pledge Class (Year): Alpha Nu (Fall 2018)

Have you finished requirements?: Yes

**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):

Kabish Shrestha

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

**PART II: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS**

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

APO has been a major part of my college experience at USC, and I am so grateful for the community that I have found through this organization. Through APO, I have made some of my life long friends, have become close to those I consider to be my second family, and have been provided the amazing opportunity to give back to our local community alongside other supportive APO members. Especially after dealing with a lot of mental health issues this semester and being supported by my trusted friends that I made through this organization, I want to give back to APO by running for an excomm position. I have met so many people who genuinely care about me and my life, and I hope to show my gratitude and appreciation by giving back to the chapter.

I would love to serve on excomm as the Co-VP of Finance, as it is a role that plays to both my strengths and interests. I consider myself to be very analytical and organized, and I believe that these characteristics can contribute greatly to my position as the Co-VP of finance. Additionally, this past summer, I interned as a wealth management intern at Bank of America Merrill Lynch, through which I learned how to effectively manage client’s money. I believe that managing the chapter’s finances is a significant responsibility and that my prior experience can help me effectively manage our chapter’s finances and budget.

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

As the Co-VP of Finance, my main goals for our chapter would be to establish transparency with the budgeting. During the year and a half that I have been a member of the chapter, I believe that transparency is an important thing that everyone values. Rather than having each active pay dues without knowing the meaning behind the amount they are paying, I want to make sure that everyone understands where the funds are going and how the money will be effectively used. Through this position, I am excited to take every member’s ideas and concerns into consideration in order to shape a more efficient structure of operations. As an organization focused primarily on service, fellowship, and leadership, I want to ensure that financial concerns are the least of each member’s worries and do not prohibit a member from doing service with our organization.

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

Kabish and I have several ideas we would like to implement.

First, we would like to establish transparency with the chapter’s finances and budget by keeping a running count of our funds throughout the semester, whether it be a deficit or a surplus, and have this information be readily available to the active body. We want to make sure that all funds used and all transactions of the chapter are made readily available to the chapter in order to ensure complete transparency.

We would also like to increase collaboration with the Creative Director in order to enhance fundraising events through innovative ideas. We have observed that sticker fundraisers have been successful this semester, and we would like to capitalize on this opportunity by coming up with more innovative custom products such as pencil pouches, bucket hats, and temporary tattoo sticker designs. We believe that fostering creativity for our fundraising is a great way to not only bring in more funds for the chapter but also to collaborate and share ideas with other members of excomm for our fundraising efforts.

Finally, there has been an ongoing issue of accounts being frozen due to non-payment of dues. This is a significant issue, as it prevents members from doing service until they are able to pay and also reduces the number of members that can contribute to our external organizations, which leaves the organizations neglected. Although we do understand that the service events that our chapter puts on does accumulate costs in terms of materials and transportation, we believe that it should still be our top priority to help all of our members be able to serve with our organization, especially since we are primarily a service organization. In order to tackle this issue, we are working on and considering a new payment plan where dues will be shifted back and restructured around main chapter events. Each payment plan due date for dues will be set after a main chapter event, which would allow more active members to participate in the main chapter events regardless if they make the next payment. We do recognize that this change in the timing of the payment plan might not have a huge impact, and we will not implement this plan 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.**

Over the last summer, I had the opportunity to work as a Wealth Management intern at Bank of America Merrill Lynch where I worked with the Ting & Associates team that actively manages over $1.3B in client assets for over 500 clients. Through my internship, I conducted research and analysis on new investment opportunities, performance of current solutions, client accounts and department industry information. My experience in this role has more than prepared me to face the responsibilities of APO’s Co-VP of Finance position by enabling me to enhance my financial analysis skills and to further develop my organizational skills and work ethic.

In addition to my internship, I am also a member of Smart Woman Securities at USC, where I have learned and practiced my skills of strategic analysis, stock pitching, and financial modeling. I am also currently taking Corporate Finance this semester while pursuing my Business Finance minor in the Marshall School of Business, where I have learned how to perform valuation analysis and to effectively manage finances. I am extremely comfortable with analyzing, assessing, and handling financial numbers to achieve a desired long-term result, and I am confident that I will be able to put my financial skills 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?**

As of now, I do not have any other time commitments outside of APO other than the Smart Woman Securities club at USC which meets once a week for 1 hour. Although I do see myself possibly getting busy with an 18-unit course load, I am committed to make APO my priority if given the opportunity to take on this role. I am an organized, meticulous planner who works ahead and time manages effectively. I completely understand the importance of my role and will ensure that my responsibilities are fulfilled in a timely manner.