

**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 14THat 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: Alex Konovnitsyna

Year: Senior

Major: Human Biology

Pledge Class (Year): Alpha Kappa/Spring 2017

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

[  ]  President

[  ]  Pledgemaster

[  ]  VP of Service

[ X ]  Co-VP of Membership

[  ]  VP of Fellowship

[ ]  Co-VP of Finance

[  ]  VP of Communications

[  ]  IC Chair

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

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

**PART II: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS**

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

When I first joined APO, my friends and family asked me why I joined an “Asian Fraternity”. While this is something we often joke about in the chapter, as a pledge I occasionally felt excluded because I was the only one in my pledge class that wasn’t that comfortable with various Asian cultures. Unfortunately, it’s human psychology that we gravitate towards people who share similar cultures and experiences growing up. I want to run for Co-VP of Membership because I want to make others feel included regardless of their backgrounds. I understand that often it is difficult to have conversations with people you think you have nothing alike with, thus I want to continue to provide opportunities for all members of APO to continue to know each other. It was through 46 questions to fall in love that I learned I had more similar with my p-bro and close friend, Sunjay, then we ever thought we did. Some of my favorite events have been membership events because they brought me closer to people I thought I had nothing in common with. Whether I was cheering on my pbros at friends and fam events or supporting members of the chapter at brothers supporting brothers events, membership events helped me grow closer with the chapter.

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

I want APO to be a chapter where everyone feels like they belong, no matter what their background is. I want every brother to feel like they have friends who care about them and for no one to feel isolated and alone. I signed up for one big happy family and although I understand that that is hard to do with such a large group of people, I want APO to stay as inclusive and welcoming as possible.

I would like to place more focus on making associates and alumni feel more included. Unfortunately, many of my Alpha Mu pledges have gone associate in the last few semesters which seems to be the trend for all pledge classes. You finish pledging, stay active for a semester, maybe pick up, and then after another semester or two, you leave. As one of the last few Alpha Kappas still in the chapter, I would like to focus on bringing back a lot of the associates that are less active in the chapter. Additionally, I want to work closely with the alumni liaison to fix the email issue as some alumni have mentioned that they don’t get any emails. Further, as one of the oldest members in APO, I feel like I can bring in more alumni just by virtue of having known them in the past.

Additionally, I want APO to continue learning and improving the diversity in the chapter. As diversity is technically under membership, I plan to work closely with the new diversity chair to come up with new diversity events and how to include more members of the chapter and to provide general support for the diversity chair.

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

As mentioned above, I want to focus on including associates and alumni into the chapter. This semester has seen some success with member spotlights which I would like to continue. Additionally, the use of competitive sports was also really great at connecting pledges and actives. Expanding upon that idea I would like to do active v associate events and reach out to associates and see if they are doing anything in other organizations that membership can turn into a brothers supporting brothers event. Additionally, I want to include alumni into more aspects of APO. Currently, we have alumni penpals as well as alumni visits at GBM. However, our alumni are invaluable resources and can help us develop connections. I would like to continue the leadership workshops that were started this semester and expand them into alumni workshops. For example, we have an alumni that works with biomedical equipment and another that is a successful business owner. These leadership events would not only provide APO members with invaluable resources and information, but also include alumni in APO events.

Another idea I have is to have an APO Olympics which would not only be a fam competition, but also a chance for alumni, associates, and actives to bond with the pledges and be reminded of the wacky things they had to do as pledges during DTA. It would also be a great way to showcase individual members skills and abilities.

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.**

Serving on excomm Alpha Mu semester, has given me a lot of experience and insight into the chapter. Primarily, I learned how to understand others and adapt to 34 wildly different personalities. My pledges taught me a great deal about how to be an active listener and how to understand and support any situations and struggles they were having. I extended what I learned from my pledges into the Alpha Xi semester as Co-VP of Finance. Since money and financial situations are often hard to talk about, learning what I did from my pledges helped me to better listen to the struggles of anyone that reached out to me and help them through the financial aspects of APO.   
 Additionally, when I was Pauntie I was tasked with ordering the pledge shirts and letters, I wasn’t sure who to go to, but membership that semester - Elizabeth Coughlan and Pann were incredibly helpful in showing me who they order membership shirts and gifts from. This semester, I’ve worked closely with membership and understand more of what goes into their budget and how they maintain it.

Finally, as a TA now for several semesters, I’ve helped foster students into becoming more confident in their foreign language abilities and have worked closely with many of them to ensure that they have a successful semester. I feel like by being a TA, I will be better equipped to handle midsemester reviews and working out specific plans with the members of APO to ensure that they have a successful semester in APO.

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?**

Next semester, I will be continuing undergraduate research and working at the natural history museum as well as enrolling in 16 units. I had these responsibilities when I was Pauntie for the Alpha Mu’s and Co-VP of Finance this semester and was still able to fulfill the goals of my position with strict time management and planning.